

# Writer pens own success story

MACKAY-BORN teenager Hollie McKay is a young novelist with a big future.

Her book *Sworn to Secrecy* was recently released and is available from Mega Books and Angus and Robertson stores in Mackay.

About five years ago the talented 14-year-old writer left Mackay and headed with her family to the town of Muswellbrook in New South Wales.

On Australia Day this year she was awarded with the town's first youth award for her achievements.

She started the novel when she was 12, writing her plots into a small scribble pad she took everywhere.

When she had enough plots in the pad she went to her teacher who inspired her to write *Sworn to Secrecy*.

The novel was sent away for assessments and subsequently published by Seaview Press.

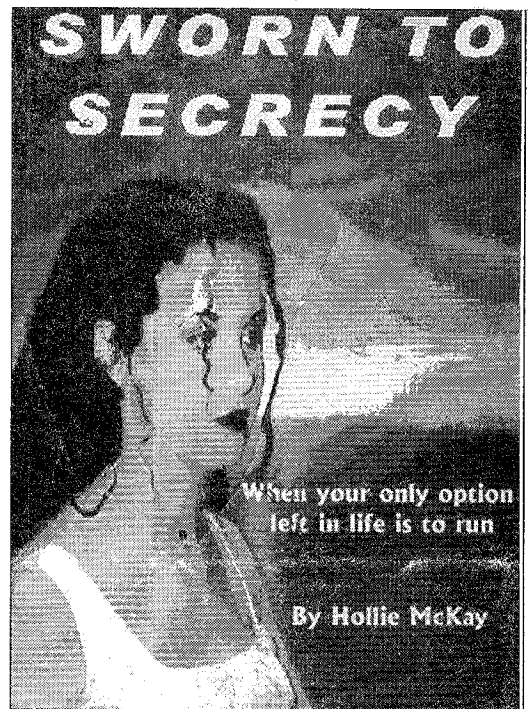
The book is dedicated to Hollie's grandmother Rita Gordon who lives in Bowen and her older sister Sarah and friend Kirra.

Hollie's other passions include dancing and drama which she has also won awards for.

She has just begun Year 11 at McDonald Performing Arts College in Sydney and hopes to advance her dancing and drama interests and write a sequel to her book.

Publicity released for the book said it was a sad and romantic story, written in the changing and intriguing language of the younger generation.

It is about a 17-year-old girl called Lacey who confronts the world after running away from home.



YOUNG WRITER: Hollie McKay, who was born in Mackay, has recently had her first book published. RIGHT: *Sworn to Secrecy*.