

**THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION  
QUEENSLAND BRANCH**



**THE 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS  
CITIZENSHIP AWARDS PRESENTATION**

**2015**

Parliament House, Brisbane  
The Old Legislative Council Chamber  
(The Red Chamber)

**Friday, 18 September 2015**

Commemorative plaques presented by  
**His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC**  
**Governor of Queensland**

Certificates of Community Service  
presented by  
**Tim Fairfax AC, Sponsor**

*Compered by Bruce Howden OAM*

*Music by St Joseph's Nudgee College*  
*Clarinet and Guitar Ensembles*

**Proudly sponsored by**

*Tim Fairfax AC*



Our 2015 Award students –Back two rows from L to R – Tony Lagaia (Woodridge State High School); Madina Inayat (Yeronga State High School); Caitlyn Goodhew (Mareeba State High School); Ben Rada Martin (St Joseph’s Nudgee College); His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland sharing a lighter moment with Angus Woods (Brisbane Grammar School); Finley Mijnarends (Nambour State High School); Mitchell Currie (Glenala State High School); Nathanael Honnef (Gordonvale State High School). Front Row from L to R – Kaitlyn Read (Toooloa State High School); Chloe Baré (Noosa District State High School); and Emily Barlow (Cavendish Road State High School). Absent: Daniel O’Brien (Moreton Bay Boys’ College).



The Official Party upstanding for the singing of the National Anthem – from L to R – Mr Tim Fairfax AC, (Awards Sponsor); His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland, (Guest of Honour); and Associate Professor John Harden AM ( Chairman, Queensland Branch, The Order of Australia Association).



The historic and ornate surroundings of the Old Legislative Council (Red) Chamber of Parliament House

# 2015 Commemorative Plaque Winners

## Student Profiles



**Chloe Baré**

**Noosa District State High School**

**Member, Student Leadership Team**

Through her involvement in a wide range of activities, inside and outside of the school, Chloe has demonstrated active citizenship of the highest order.

When not assisting at the local nursing home with setting up dining tables, feeding residents and washing up, she is organizing the knitting of beanies and blankets for the homeless people of Nepal.

At school, she is greatly esteemed by staff and fellow students not only because of her exceptional leadership of groups such as the Interact Club but also because she possesses a character that is polite, considerate and selfless.



**Emily Barlow**

**Cavendish Road State High School**

**School Vice Captain**

This award is made to Emily as a result of her strong commitment to the welfare of others.

In this regard, she has worked tirelessly for a variety of charities – exemplified by her efforts for ‘She Rescues Home’, an organization that rescues Cambodian girls from human trafficking, and the Kokoda Youth Foundation.

In addition, Emily has been most active in her local church, helping to prepare and supply food, blankets and hampers for the homeless and families suffering in poverty.

She is a passionate young woman who is determined to play a significant role in facilitating change in the world.

# 2015 Commemorative Plaque Winners

## Student Profiles



**Mitchell Currie**  
**Glenala State High School**

**Senior Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leader**

The citation, submitted by Glenala State High School, commences with these words ... '(Mitchell) is an exemplary student and a role model for all students at our school' ...

However, his leadership and commitment extend well beyond the school setting to include assistance with such programs as the PCYC Blue Light Discos, breakfast meetings for local community leaders, the Brisbane Bangarra Rekindling Community workshops and the Men's Warrior Program.

For a young man, living independently of any family, this is exceptional.



**Caitlin Goodhew**  
**Mareeba State High School**

In so many ways, Caitlin has used her musical ability for the benefit of her community.

As the School's orchestra leader, she has taken ensembles into the town of Mareeba and the surrounding areas to support local events.

So frequent have been these occasions that it is often said that few, if any, people in Mareeba would not know Caitlin and appreciate her contributions.

Not content to provide joyous music, Caitlin has immersed herself in other community activities.

For example, she is a Junior Leader with the local Girl Guides while, on the international scene, she has worked as a volunteer at an orphanage school in Cambodia.

In all respects, Caitlin is an exemplar of civic spirit.

# 2015 Commemorative Plaque Winners

## Student Profiles



**Nathanael Honnef**  
**Gordonvale State High School**

### **School Captain**

It is no surprise that Nathanael is highly regarded inside his school and across the Gordonvale area because he has been unremitting in his commitment to the welfare of others, working with a variety of community groups such as Landcare, the local Lions Club, and the Leukaemia Foundation.

Added to this is the manner in which he shares his greatest gift – his love of classical music.

Audiences, such as those attending the Gordonvale Carols by Candlelight and the Festival of Lights, have been thrilled by his performances.

All of this has been undertaken by him in a spirit of humility, respect and exemplary behaviour.

By so doing, Nathanael has provided marvellous role modelling for the younger students of his school.



**Madina Inayat**  
**Yeronga State High School**

Prior to her arrival in Australia as an unaccompanied minor with three siblings in July 2011, Madina had been denied formal schooling.

Realizing the opportunities that now presented themselves in her new country, Madina embraced not only her education but also the chance to assist others.

Consequently, she has become a leader in the multi-cultural Social Network program helping at a reception centre for students new to Australia to transition to school.

Madina has also been significantly involved in the Queensland program for Survivors of Torture and Trauma.

In this regard, she has led campaigns against racism and bullying. A truly inspirational young woman.

# 2015 Commemorative Plaque Winners

## Student Profiles



**Tony Lagaia**  
**Woodridge State High School**

### School Captain

As School Captain, Tony has dedicated himself to bringing greater harmony and interaction among the ethnic groups within the school. A young man of many attributes, from keen rugby player to talented dancer, he has used these attributes to best advantage. For example, Tony has organized lunchtime dance performances by students of various cultures, coordinated the painting of a mural to represent the school's cultural diversity, and arranged lunchtime sports and games for groups of students of different ethnic origins. In addition, he has led teams of between 20 and 60 students to develop, learn and perform various dance routines for the House of Champions dance competition. When not engaged in these pursuits, Tony has found time to give invaluable help to 'at risk' students and their families to gain structure and goals to their lives. At Woodridge State High School, it is said that this is a young man who will be long remembered at the school for his leadership and selflessness.



**Finley Mijnaerends**  
**Nambour State High School**

### School Captain

Finley embodies community spirit. Her passionate, mature and thoughtful nature has resulted in her making a huge contribution to her school and to the Nambour locality.

Today, we present just a few highlights to reveal the level of her devotion to others. At the local children's hospital,

Finley works in the schoolroom and at the bedsides of the sick children. She utilizes her considerable artistic talent to enable children to find their own creativity and thereby express their thoughts and feelings.

Finley has been an ambassador for the BEACON program which helps young people to make a successful transition to the world of work, while, at school, she has initiated a sponsor-a-child program which will now carry into future years.

A marvellous example to others.

# 2015 Commemorative Plaque Winners

## Student Profiles



Daniel was unable to attend the Presentation because he was performing active community service with the College raising funds for Camp Quality on the day. **As such there is no photo of Daniel.** This photo is Mr Tony Wood, Head of College, Moreton Bay Boys' College receiving the award on Daniel's behalf.

### Daniel O'Brien

**Moreton Bay Boys' College**

#### School Captain

Daniel has proven to be a marvellous role model in a new, and developing, college.

Personally, he is a young man of truly fine character. He has used his personal attributes to enrich the lives of fellow students, exemplified by his mentoring of younger boys, in both the instrumental programs and theatrical productions.

Furthermore, Daniel stays back after school to provide guidance to fellow students at Study Lab, an afternoon homework club. While you might think these are significant acts of generosity, it is out in the wider community that we witness the real level of Daniel's commitment to others.

Indicative of this is the manner in which he volunteers at soup kitchens in the city on Saturday nights. There, he assists in the serving of over 100 meals per evening then stays well into the night to complete the washing up of utensils. This is a young man who embodies the concept of a 'servant leader'.



### Ben Rada Martin

**St Joseph's Nudgee College**

#### College Captain

When asked to comment on Ben Rada Martin, the College's Director of Justice and Peace stated ... 'He is an extremely conscientious student, a caring, compassionate, generous and active citizen, a dedicated and reliable volunteer for various groups and events, and an outstanding leader and a thorough gentleman'.

The list of school and community activities where he has demonstrated these attributes is wide-ranging.

From the Refugee Welcome Hub to the St Agatha's Clayfield Youth Ministry, Ben's involvement shows no bounds.

Today, we are delighted to affirm his wonderful example of practical citizenship with this award.

# 2015 Commemorative Plaque Winners

## Student Profiles



**Kaitlyn Read**  
**Toooloa State High School**

### **School Captain**

Kaitlyn's positive influence upon others is experienced in a wide variety of fields.

In addition to her School Captaincy, she is a Junior Girl Guide Leader, a Red Cross ambassador and an Interact President – to name just a few of her leadership roles.

And, Kaitlyn has used these positions to enthuse others to join her in community fund-raising activities, including the Cancer Council, Operation Christmas Child and the Rotary Shelter box scheme.

Her tireless efforts to encourage blood donations has seen a marked increase in the number of donors from the Toooloa area. Her school summarized Kaitlyn's commitment with these words ... 'her involvement is not something she does for recognition, it is a natural part of her everyday life.'

She is a fantastic young leader with a great deal to offer to society.'



**Angus Woods**  
**Brisbane Grammar School**

### **School Prefect and Music Captain**

Angus has used his position as Music Captain to create something truly remarkable.

Through his participation in musical events, he became aware of the disparity of music education opportunities between indigenous students and non-indigenous students.

He wanted to provide more music education avenues for indigenous singers and thereby help to play a role in closing the gap. He encouraged other Brisbane schools, the Queensland Conservatorium and Griffith University to join in a fund-raising event that might enable talented indigenous singers to attend a two-week National Choral School in Sydney next year.

The result was a concert of 300 musicians, playing to an audience in excess of 650 people. Angus secured 25 sponsors to support this event, and through ticket sales, individual donations and a silent auction of indigenous art, he raised over \$26 000. Now, at least seven indigenous scholarships will be available for the National Choral School in 2016. We congratulate Angus on this achievement.

## PHOTO GALLERY EXTRA



His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland addresses the gathering after presenting the awards



The St Joseph's Nudgee College Guitar and Clarinet Ensemble members who provided the musical accompaniment at the Presentation and their musical directors share a moment with His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland (*third left in back row*). Also joining in the moment is Ben Rada Martin, the award winner from St Joseph's Nudgee College, displaying his award (*first left in front row*).



The nine students selected to receive their Certificates of Community Service at the Presentation from award sponsor Tim Fairfax AC – from L to R – **Kayla Stevenson** (Cavendish Road State High School); **Millicent Brand** (St Rita's College); **Olivia Williams** (Wellington Point State High School); **Georgina Digby** (Moreton Bay College); **Mr Tim Fairfax AC** (Awards Sponsor); **James Brannigan** (St Joseph's College Gregory Terrace); **Dulan Gunawadana** (St Joseph's College Gregory Terrace); **Liam Pettigrew** (Coorparoo Secondary College); **Jasraaj Singh** (Nambour State High School); and **Thuy Nguyen** (Glanala State High School).



**Awardees delivering their inspiring acceptance speeches**



*This highlights package has been produced by  
Geoff Cowles OAM  
Queensland Branch Secretary and Awards  
Coordinator -September 2015*