



Australia Day

Australia Day 2018

Citizen of the Year Award Winner

Brendan Beahan

Brendan Beahan is the Officer Commanding of the 124AU Cadet Unit in Biloela. Through this program Brendan dedicates his time to the development of local youth. Under Brendan's leadership young cadets learn decision making and leadership skills, field craft, self-discipline, and the ability to both be challenged, and challenge themselves, in a physical environment. Brendan leads cadets in ANZAC Day services each year, contributing to this solemn remembrance day which ensures this important part of history is passed down to future generations. With over 50 cadets, the Biloela unit is one of the largest in the region.



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Citizen of the Year Award

Mavis Carter

Mavis Carter has been an active volunteer for a number of organisations in the town of Goovigen since 1951. As the Treasurer of the Goovigen Bowls Committee for over ten years Mavis has been a significant member of the Goovigen community. Mavis has volunteered for not only the Bowls Committee, but is also involved with the Queensland Country Women's Associations (CWA) Goovigen Branch and the Goovigen Progress Association. She is always willing to help others in public or private life.



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Citizen of the Year Award

Michelle Carsburg

Michelle Carsburg is the Director of the Biloela Community Kindergarten. Since taking up this position in 2002 Michelle has worked tirelessly to foster community spirit, improve the kindergarten's facilities, and provide high quality education for her students. Michelle's dedication to the progress of the kindergarten has ensured the Kindergarten Committee is filled with new positions each year. This achievement is testament to Michelle's pro-active persona and her ability to bring a group of individuals together to provide a sound, safe and enjoyable early education facility in Biloela.





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Citizen of the Year Award

Ruth Fisher

Ruth Fisher is a volunteer at the Lions Club of Moura and has served the Lions Club for over fifty years. Her community-minded nature is evidenced through her volunteer work. Ruth is a tireless worker for the people, forever helping out with the Moura Lions Club. Her efforts are great at all functions and gatherings and even though her contributions often go unnoticed, she is always giving to the people of Moura and the Banana Shire.



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Citizen of the Year Award

Sarah Morris

Sarah Morris is a swim instructor and director at the Moura Memorial Pool. Sarah is passionate about water safety and aqua fitness. In 2017 Sarah spent eight weeks in China teaching children how to swim. Sarah is a valuable member of the Moura community who contributes positively to the area, Sarah's dedication as co-host to the Biggest Morning Tea in Moura for the past five years, is testament to this commitment. This yearly event brings together the entire Moura community and to date has raised over \$65,000 for Cancer Council Queensland.



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Citizen of the Year Award

May Campbell

May Campbell has been a valued member of the Goovigen Queensland Country Women's Association Branch for 46 years serving as a trusted President and Treasurer during that time. May has volunteered for a number of organisations during her many decades in Goovigen and is an active member of the community.





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Citizen of the Year Award

Christie McLennan

Christie McLennan is Taroom born and bred and wears many hats including Vice President of the Taroom Show Society. In 2017 Christie was awarded the honour of being crowned Queensland Rural Ambassador and in 2010 she was awarded Queensland Miss Showgirl, the first person in Queensland to win both titles. Not only is Christie a Pharmacist and owner of the Taroom Pharmacy, she is also a beef producer along with her husband. Christie is an advocate of a healthy and active lifestyle, as well as being a diabetes educator.



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Young Citizen of the Year Award

Kain Radburn

Kain Radburn is a very respectful young citizen, standing up for others around him within his community. Kain overheard a racial comment and felt he needed to take a stand against racism. In a brave and courageous move Kain engaged with those he felt were in the wrong. Kain's actions and compassion were acknowledged by those affected, a great example of how one can help others in the community and how young Australian's can contribute towards a Reconciliation process.





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Young Citizen of the Year Award Winner

Gabrielle Byrne

Gabrielle Byrne has been very involved in her local community for much of her life. Her pursuits are across many aspects: sporting, cultural and academic. Gabrielle has represented Biloela in netball, as a player and umpire as well as assisting at coaching clinics. She has participated in the Biloela Eisteddfod since a young age, and now passes on her skills to others, teaching drama to young students who have gone on to perform as well. On top of teaching commitments Gabrielle performs in the local group The Betties and is also ambassador for local charity JBOYS. Gabrielle was Biloela State High School Captain in 2017.



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Young Citizen of the Year Award

Rebecca Warren

Rebecca Warren has been an active member of the local youth group GGGB GIRLACTS Inc. (Great Girls Giving Back) for the last 5 years. This has involved coordinating workshops for youth, assisting at large community events, fundraising and volunteering towards many different causes. Rebecca achieved well academically at school, successfully balancing many commitments. Rebecca works tirelessly to improve and achieve goals, all the while dedicating her time towards making our community a better place. She is a mature young lady who lives with integrity, carving her own path through life.





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Young Citizen of the Year Award

Kristen Cavanagh

Kristen Cavanagh has played a strong role in breaking down barriers and changing the community's perspective towards mental health. She has coordinated the GGGB GIRLACTS Inc. (Great Girls Giving Back) R U OK? Day campaign for the last 2 years. This has involved raising money and giving out care packages within the local community and encouraging discussion of our mental health. Kristen is strong and independent; she sets an example to others as to how one can give back to their community, even in the smallest of ways.



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Cultural Award Winner

Alarna Pallot

Alarna Pallot is the principal of Alarna's Dance Academy in Biloela (established in 2013). She is qualified through the Royal Academy of Dance Teachers and Commonwealth Society of Teachers of Dancing. Alarna teaches many styles to all age groups and ability levels, with students performing regularly at community events, and at competition level. Alarna is a brilliant mentor, sharing her passion for dance and dedicating much of her time towards the development of her students. Alarna is humble and much adored by her students.



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Junior Cultural Award Winner

Matthew Heit

Matthew Heit is passionate about making and sharing music. Matthew plays the guitar and trumpet, and also sings. Matthew shares his talents with others, performing at many community events, concerts and functions, these commitments requiring many hours of practice. Matthew also passes his knowledge on to others through tuition of other students. Matthew not only achieves on the music stage, but balances his musical interests with sporting commitments, academic studies and community involvement.



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Volunteer Award

Cindy Cooper

Cindy Cooper's passion for the Shire is demonstrated through her long-term commitment to the Queensland Heritage Park and the Callide Dawson Machinery Preservation Club. Cindy was the driving force behind the now 48hr stay at the Queensland Heritage Park. Cindy's work has brought economic benefit to the community through successful events such as the National Historical Machinery Rally in 2007. This event attracted 30,000 visitors to our region and over \$1.8m in local expenditure. Cindy has also delivered the Queensland Heritage Rally in Biloela in 2004, 2010 and will again in July 2018.





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Volunteer Award

Harold Ball

Harold Ball has been a volunteer for the Taroom SES since 1993 and has been a group leader for nine years. In those 24 years of volunteering he has performed many land search and rescue operations, attended car accidents and provided flood boat assistance. Harold has dedicated this time to others whilst also working full time for the local Council or running his own business and property with his wife.



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Volunteer Award

Hazel Reid

Hazel Reid has volunteered at the Queensland Heritage Park and Biloela Bowl Club for numerous years. Her involvement with the Bowls Club has included Provedore for eleven years, Secretary of the Ladies' Bowls Section for three years, President of the Ladies' Bowls Section for two years; and executive positions on the Management Committee going into the sixth year. Hazel is always one of the first to arrive for working bees, cleaning, catering and selling raffle tickets and is recognised as a true stalwart of the Biloela Bowls Club.



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Volunteer Award

Peter Kurtz

Peter Kurtz is a dedicated member of the Biloela Rugby Union Club fulfilling roles of Coach, President, bus driver and groundsman for several years. Peter is passionate about rugby union, supporting its players and families as well as giving back to the wider community. Peter has been instrumental in the development of the sport with the Biloela community and the local region. Peter's achievements include the Queensland Rugby Union 2017 St. George Queensland Volunteer of the Year and Australian Rugby Union 2017 HSBC Volunteer of the Year.





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Volunteer Award

Gregory Shearer

Greg Shearer is selfless and always happy to put his carpentry skills to good use to maintain and improve the town of Taroom. Greg volunteers with the Taroom & District Historical Society and Taroom District Development Association. Greg has been a member of the Taroom & District Historical Society since 2012, and currently holds position of President. Greg has been a driving force behind the Taroom Museum, preserving and promoting the collection and historical buildings. Greg, along with his wife Glenys, has been recognised by the Iman people for their contribution towards preserving local Indigenous history.



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Volunteer Award Winner

Glenys Shearer

Glenys Shearer volunteers with the Taroom & District Historical Society, Taroom District Development Association and the Taroom Show Society. Glenys has made a significant contribution to the Taroom Museum, she is a hands on volunteer cleaning and maintaining the Museum and collection, as well as building networks and strengthening membership. Her work on social media has increased the Societies membership from 8 to 45 people. Glenys has been instrumental in the 'Moving the Teaching Room' project to have a historic Taroom State School building relocated from its original site to the Taroom Museum. Glenys, along with her husband Greg, has been recognised by the Iman people for their contribution towards preserving local Indigenous history.



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Volunteer Award

Geoff Price

Geoff Price's selflessness and unwavering willingness to continually give is inspirational. Geoff has been instrumental in the resurrection of the Biloela Scout Group. His efforts are tireless in the support and leadership he provides the youth and leaders within the organisation. Geoff spends countless unrecognised hours on administrative tasks and is consistently engaging with the wider community. Geoff also volunteers his time through musical commitments and as a lighting technician.





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Volunteer Award

Ruth Fisher

Ruth Fisher is a volunteer at the Lions Club of Moura and has served the Lions Club for over fifty years. Her community-minded nature is evidenced through her volunteer work. Ruth is a tireless worker for the people, forever helping out with the Moura Lions Club. Her efforts are great at all functions and gatherings and even though her contributions often go unnoticed she is always giving to the people of Moura and the Banana Shire.





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Senior Sportsperson Winner

Danielle Wust

Danielle Wust commenced training in the Martial Art of Ju Jitsu in her childhood. Since then she has gone on to become the first female and first junior in Biloela to come up through the ranks to achieve her black belt, an incredible accomplishment at just 21 years of age. Danielle has been a role model and mentor to many of the students, regularly volunteering her time to the club assisting at events, classes, student gradings and public demonstrations. Danielle has made many sacrifices to achieve her goals and contributed to the community through many other avenues during this time.



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Junior Sportsperson

Shaun Cavanagh

Shaun Cavanagh is an enthusiastic and compassionate young man from Goovigen. His love of all sports has seen him succeed at Local, District, and Regional Championships where he competed in athletics, rugby union, rugby league, touch football, netball, volleyball and soccer. In 2017 Shaun was selected to compete at the Rugby Union State Championships and the Queensland Athletics Championships. He is highly regarded in his community for his positive attitude and continual encouragement to others. Shaun regularly volunteers at the Goovigen State School, assisting with sporting activities and events.



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Junior Sportsperson

Shakira Johnson

Shakira Johnson is a driven young woman who succeeds at both dancing and gymkhana. Shakira is a member of the Biloela State High School Dance Group and has danced at many community events. Shakira has represented the Callide Valley Hack and Pony Club at numerous State Formal Gymkhana and Sporting Gymkhana events. Shakira has travelled all over Queensland to qualify to attend State Championships in Rockhampton, Oakey, Roma and Taroom. Shakira purchased her horse Charlotte herself and has invested many hours training her to reach a State level competition standard.



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Junior Sportsperson Winner

Travis Streeter

Travis Streeter began clay shooting in August 2016 and is now, two years later, competing in the 2018 Australian National Trap Championships and the 2018 World Championships in Wagga Wagga in March. Travis not only forgoes his spare time to train, he also contributes to his local club by mowing the grounds to ensure they present neat and tidy for all to enjoy. Travis is not only a gifted sportsman but an active Junior Associate of Apex Biloela. Travis volunteers his time assisting at numerous events and fundraisers throughout the year including the Callide Valley Show, St Joseph's Fair and Day for Daniel.



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Junior Sportsperson

Katie Bunker

Katie Bunker is a lover of sport and will participate in any sport regardless of what it is. Katie has competed at many sporting competitions at a high level throughout her schooling. Katie has represented South West Queensland at the Queensland School Championships for; softball, netball, touch football, rugby league and athletics. Katie has competed at State Pony Club competitions since she was 8 years old and her results reflect her high achievements. Katie is a member of the Taroom Swimming Club, Pony Club and Touch Football Club.



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Sports Coach, Official and/or Administrator Winner

Luke Siegmeier

Luke Siegmeier is a personal trainer and nationally accredited Ju Jitsu Martial Art Instructor with the Australian Sports Commission. Over the past 15 years Luke has devoted himself to teaching his students not only self-defence skills but also general life skills including respect, confidence, discipline, humility, self-motivation and team work. Students under Luke's guidance have achieved success at State and local level competitions and reached personal goals working their way up through the grading system. In 2013 Luke was awarded life membership from the Queensland Police Citizens Youth Club as recognition for his many years of volunteer service.



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Community Group or Team Winner

GGGB (Great Girls Giving Back)

GGGB GIRLACTS Inc. (Great Girls Giving Back) is a local group that has been 'giving back' to the local community for six years. The group has a vision to create a culture of giving back to the community and a mission to help each other be confident, caring and courageous. GGGB started out targeting school-aged teenagers and as membership has grown it has developed into an independent community group. The group address social, community and environmental issues and fundraise for many causes.



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Community Group or Team

Robert Kummerfeld and Maree Tucker

Robert Kummerfeld and Maree Tucker have together created Golden Park Retreat, a peaceful setting in Goovigen which is enjoyed by both locals and visitors. Built on Robert's farm, it consists of four acres of attractive gardens, pathways, seating, old machinery, a billabong, a Japanese garden, a fire pit and an outdoor eatery. Not only do visitors get to enjoy Robert and Maree's hospitality they also enjoy Robert's fresh fruit and vegetables. Golden Park Retreat hosts many functions and regularly holds billy tea and damper mornings for visitors.



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Community Group or Team

Baralaba and District Historical Group Inc.

Baralaba and District Historical Group Inc. was formed in 2003 with the purpose of collecting, recording and restoring and preserving Baralaba's history. The group operate from the Baralaba Landcare Office and maintains a strong membership base. The group have produced a book and a calendar from which proceeds go towards new projects. The group understand that to stay current and move into the future they will need to attract members who not only have an interest in collecting and preserving history, and presenting it in an interesting way, but also have a technological background.



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Community Group or Team

Callide Dawson Machinery Preservation Club Inc

The Callide Dawson Machinery Preservation Club Inc. have a passion for collecting, restoring and preserving vintage machinery, collectables and items from a bygone era. Over the last 21 years the club have hosted many events, including hosting the National Historical Machinery Association Rally, which has put Biloela on the map as a 'must see' for machinery enthusiasts Australia wide. These events have provided major economic benefits over the years for local business and community groups. An example of this is the \$43,000 which was donated to local community groups in 2007 after the National Historical Machinery Association Rally.



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Community Group or Team

Theodore Early Childhood Centre Committee

Theodore Early Childhood Centre Committee is run by five country ladies who are all mums with children at the Centre. The small Committee organised and ran the Theodore Bulls N Barrels Bonanza held in October 2017. The event was held to primarily raise much needed funding for the Centre but to also provide entertainment for the community and to attract visitors to the town. The committee surpassed their goal to raise enough funds to improve the outdoor play area at the centre, raising over \$15,000.



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Community Event of the Year Award Winner

Theodore's Xtreme 1 Servo Bulls N Barrels Bonanza

The Theodore Xtreme 1 Servo Bulls N Barrels Bonanza was the first Rodeo event to hit the Theodore community for many years. This event was organised by the community group Theodore Early Childhood Centre (TECCA) made up of 5 volunteer parents. The group's dedication paid off with a smooth running event, attendance exceeding well beyond expectations and over \$15,000 raised for the local early Childhood Centre. The event also supported the community through boosting local businesses and providing a social, family friendly night out. The success of this event is evident with the announcement of a return in 2018.



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Community Event of the Year Award

King & Queen of CQ Boar Competition

The 2017 King & Queen of CQ Big Boar Competition was the first of its kind in the Banana Shire. The competition was a huge success with over 160 nominations and 400 attendees, nominees travelled from all across Central Queensland and beyond to participate. Held at Jambin, the event put this small town on the map, supporting local business by bringing patrons to the local hotel. Much time and planning by the organising committee saw challenges overcome, and the event will be back in 2018 with plans to be bigger and better.





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Community Event of the Year Award

Australia Day in Baralaba 2017

Baralaba know how to throw a brilliant Aussie party, the local community hosted the 2017 Banana Shire Australia Day celebrations set on the scene of the Dawson River. The celebrations saw around 300 local residents travelling from across the Shire to attend the official awards ceremony and to enjoy the many games and activities planned into the afternoon. Barefoot skiing demonstrations highlighted the town's love of the Dawson River, and of course local legend Corey Oates returning provided much excitement for football fans. The event was a great showcase of Baralaba and it's perfect patch of the Dawson River as a fishing and camping destination.





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Community Event of the Year Award

Baralaba Centenary Celebrations, 29th and 30th July 2017

On the 29th & 30th of July 2017 Baralaba celebrated 100 years since the official naming of the town and the railway coming to town. The weekend celebrations saw many former residents return to reminisce on the towns history and to catch up with old friends. Local artists, historians and collectors showcased their town through exhibitions and displays. The event showcased how small town community members collaborate and multi task, with a small volunteer community many having to fulfil many roles. The event was a huge success providing a wonderful social weekend, while also financially supporting local businesses.



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Community Event of the Year Award

R U OK? Girls' Night In (Mental Health Month)

R U OK? Girls' Night In was a community event with three phases coinciding with Mental Health Month. The first aspect was delivering care packages to local businesses, the second was selling R U OK? merchandise, and the third was the Girls' Night In 2017 event; A Night With Patti Williams. The event raised over \$3,600 for R U OK? and created awareness amongst the high school and local business communities about the purpose of this foundation. This event helped spread R U OK?'s vision; a world where we're all connected and are protected from suicide.



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Community Event of the Year Award

Moura Coal and Country Festival's Cocktail and Canape Evening

The inaugural Moura Coal and Country Festival's Cocktail and Canape Evening was a huge success. 2017 saw the event take on a fresh format from the former Ball which has been held annually for over 40 years. The committee invested time in the planning and execution of the event which they adapted to appeal to a broader audience, by giving the event a more contemporary feel whilst still celebrating the entrants and their fundraising efforts. The event's profit was over \$10,000 which goes to the festival. Attendance was increased by more than 50 attendees on the previous year with approximately 170 guests enjoying the night.



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