




Speech by

Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

Hansard Thursday, 14 February 2013

COOMERA ELECTORATE, AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (2.57 pm): In keeping with Australia Day II being celebrated on 23 February, it gives me great pleasure to announce the Coomera electorate Australia Day dedicated commitment award winners. There are five categories. The young person award went to Fiona Row. Fiona is the school chaplain at Eagleby South State School. I think she is paid for three days a week—quite poorly, as we all know is the case with chaplains—but Fiona is involved with the community virtually 24 hours a day seven days a week.

The citizen of the year award went to Ann Livingstone. Mrs Livingstone has been an Ormeau Lions Club driver/reviver/site worker for approximately 16 years. The site opens at the beginning and end of each school holidays, every long weekend and Easter, Christmas and New Year holidays. They are open for 69 days a year, and she spends about 36, four-hour shifts there and she has been doing that for the last 16 years, serving around 100 cups of tea or coffee each shift. So good on her for her hard work and congratulations to her.

I coined the term OBE for the next recipient—OBE meaning 'over blinking eighty'. Frank Barnes is the senior citizen Australia Day awardee for the Coomera electorate. Frank has worked in and around the community for the last 35 years. In fact, he was the first chaplain, I would suggest, in Queensland. He was certainly the first chaplain in our area. He does an absolutely magnificent job. He is 86 years young now. Congratulations to Frank.

We also have two organisation awards. One is for a non-government or not-for-profit organisation, and that is for MAD—they really are mad—Mothers Against Drugs. The program they run is Smart Arts. Smart Arts has this year recruited mentors for 151 Coomera young people aged 11 to 18 years. They have done a wonderful job with those young people and they are to be congratulated.

Finally, the community group of the year is the Twin Rivers Lions Club. The Twin Rivers Lions Club serves the community in the Albert and Logan rivers area around Beenleigh. I congratulate all nominees and look forward to hosting them at my electorate on the 21st at morning tea.