



Speech By  
**Leanne Linard**


**MEMBER FOR NUDGEES**

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Record of Proceedings, 16 February 2016

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Lilley Australia Day Awards**

 **Ms LINARD** (Nudgee—ALP) (10.09 pm): It is a pleasure to rise to draw attention to the generous contribution of so many wonderful volunteers across the Nudgee electorate. The Lilley Australia Day Awards are a much celebrated institution on Brisbane's north side, as my colleagues the members for Sandgate and Stafford would attest. Hosted by Wayne Swan, the federal member for Lilley, and celebrated each Australia Day, the Lilley Australia Day Awards recognise the invaluable contribution that volunteers make to the fabric of our communities. Conservative estimates of the economic value of volunteering to the Queensland economy were \$11.6 billion in 2014. Volunteers make an extraordinary contribution in financial terms but, more importantly, volunteers so often engender the qualities of compassion, kindness, generosity of spirit and commitment that make our communities richer, healthier and kinder.

I could never do justice to all of the local constituents and businesses nominated and honoured from across my electorate in the time allotted, so I will mention as many as time will allow. The North-East Community Support Group in Zillmere works tirelessly to alleviate poverty, homelessness, distress, disability, isolation and unemployment. It provides a safe place for those who need it. Ron and Lyn Bird of Ron Bird's Geebung Hardware have long been an institution in the Geebung shopping village. Ron and Lyn always provide a warm smile and have been extremely generous with their time and resources, supporting local schools and charities. Theresa Appleton is a local treasure of St Pius primary school and a thoroughly delightful lady. Melissa Ashford was recognised for her service to Geebung State School but also provides support to Wavell State High School and Zillmere State School. Devinder and Gurjeet Bains have both been integral in establishing the Banyo District Community Group and coordinating local Diwali festivals and Harmony Day celebrations. They are two of the kindest people you could ever meet.

Ian and Kathleen Gordon have made a tremendous contribution to Nundah Lions and the Nundah Activity Centre over many years. Shannon Kelly, Rachel Michalski and Karyn Ngatoko were recognised for their tireless contributions and personal dedication to Earnshaw State College over many years respectively. Melita Lawrence has contributed enormously to youth in the local area, offering gymnastics programs for children from three years to high school students for 50 years. Robyn Morris never misses an opportunity to lobby elected representatives on behalf of the community. She is a treasure and someone who gets things done. She has volunteered for Nudgee Meals on Wheels since 1990, Earnshaw Swim Club, St Oswald's church and is a founding member of the Banyo District Community Group. Ray Wilson has been a member of the North Brisbane Lapidary Club for 17 years and holds the position of Gem Show Convenor. Darrel Margerison and Ruth Wilson were recognised for their tireless fundraising efforts on behalf of the Cancer Council and Scott Stanford for dedicated service to St Kevin's school community. As I indicated earlier, I could never do justice and acknowledge all of the extraordinary volunteers across my electorate. I know that they would want no recognition, but on behalf of all of our community I thank them sincerely for their generosity of service.