



## QJA Community Engagement Program

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As a Justice of the Peace or Commissioner for Declarations, we took our Oath for a reason. For many of us, it was simply to **SERVE THE COMMUNITY**.

Along the way we have done our duty in lots of different ways. We have served on a “one on one” basis, we have served at Signing Centres and we have joined the QJA to ensure best practice and to keep our knowledge up to date to **SERVE THE COMMUNITY** better.

Many members ask why it is not mandatory to be a member of an association, and how can we reach other honorary justices in Queensland. Dedicated members are always looking for ways to improve their knowledge and their reach into the community in order to **SERVE THE COMMUNITY** and for the betterment of their service.

In order to reach these honorary justices, we need to use many different tactics.

As part of the QJA Board Strategic Plan, the Board recognised that it can be difficult to reach Justices in our own communities. The Board understands this would be best done by engaging at a local level.

In 2016 the Board launched an engagement program to assist branches connect with the community it was servicing. The program has been established to also help grow your branch and engage with current and past members. As a result, keep meetings and networking events fresh and inviting.

The idea behind the initiative is to give ideas, suggestions and measurement tools to identify initiatives that work at a local level in your branch’s own community and a manner in which to measure your success. Opportunities will be different throughout Queensland, so it will be up to your branch to trial initiatives you believe will work in your own community. Results may take some time to be visible as some events may be annual where others may be spasmodic or may be a stand-alone event.

The board is interested in your initiatives and successes, so please send your measurement results as part of your normal minutes to [admin@qja.com.au](mailto:admin@qja.com.au) .

The Board would encourage all branches to take up the challenge. Support and guidance is available from your regional Director. If you don’t know who your regional director is, take a look at the website or drop the team at head office an email.

There are many resources available to branches, including a YouTube QJA Video, brochures, pamphlets, membership forms and fun quizzes to test your knowledge, all available on the QJA website branch and members sections. Branch funds should be used for set up resources such as banners or marques, projects and tables etc. Giveaways, such as QJA pens or note pads are available on request for your event.

QJA website contains information specific to branches that puts you in touch with all other branches, so branch executive can network with branches throughout the state, share ideas and get feedback on events held by other branches.

Make a difference in your community by growing the branch membership, engaging with those long lost JPs who feel they are alone, grow the knowledge of honorary justices in your area, network with Justices JUST LIKE YOU and SERVE THE COMMUNITY all at the same time.

On behalf of the QJA Board

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Marian Vierveyzer JP(Qual)

QJA Vice President