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Volunteers win Australia Day Award

Eighteen years and 250,000 hours of service has earned the Reef HQ Volunteer Association the Achievement Award at the 2006 Townsville City Council Australia Day Awards.

Ranging in age from 15 to 82 years, Reef HQ volunteers come from various backgrounds. The association currently has seven husband and wife teams, one family team and 18 student volunteers.

Since the opening of the aquarium, the hours of service provided by the volunteers has been valued at \$4.25 million.

With 140 active volunteers, the role of the association is certainly wide and varied. Volunteers assist the aquarium with everything from talks and tours, special events and school programs through to marketing and promotions.

Reef HQ Volunteer & Public Programs Manager Julie Spencer says "Reef HQ Volunteers decided to submit for this award as their 250,000 hours was a significant milestone.

Their work in promoting the appreciation and conservation of the Great Barrier Reef is assisting in preserving one of Australia's most important natural assets."

The Achievement Award is presented to a person or organization that has made a significant contribution or exceptional achievement in a chosen field.

Photo Opportunities:

- Volunteers celebrating with their award at Reef HQ Aquarium

Further Information:

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