



# Ghanaians Queensland

Annual Report 2015-16





## Events

### End of Year Party

The end of year party is an annual event held by Ghanaians Queensland to gather all members to recognise our achievements as an association, while also serving as an avenue for members to interact and socialise. Last year's event was no exception; it brought together over a hundred attendees from different parts of the state to celebrate the past year. The event featured a winning combination of musical entertainment provided by the DJ and Ghanaian food prepared by various community members and served buffet style. Guests were able to exchange pleasantries with one another and also engage with the incoming executives. Opportunities were made available to register new members as well as renew existing memberships. The enthusiastic youth leaders organised a dancing competition for the young ones and adults alike. Overall, it achieved its purpose of bringing the community together, in anticipation of the coming year.

### Independence Day

The Independence Day Celebration is an annual event held by Ghanaians Queensland to commemorate the independence of Ghana from British rule on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March, 1957. This year's event was held on the first Saturday of March in 2016. Over a hundred guests attended the event. This year's event followed a different format compared to previous years, which was well received by those who were present for the occasion. It was a night filled with entertainment, music, cultural events, recitals and Ghanaian cuisine. Cocktail-style items were on the menu and event-goers were treated to table service by the young, keen volunteer wait staff. The event's line-up was well constructed, featuring endless hits selected by the DJ, poetry readings including an original piece authored by none other than this year's Treasurer, Ghana-centric trivia, prizes and live musical performance by local talent. Manasseh Official – thriving young fashion

design duo - thrilled the audience with a runway fashion show session showcasing rich African fusion styles which was followed by a live stage performance by LnJ.

The event was well patronised by members as well as friends of the association. It offered the executives the opportunity to update the members of the association on recent activities and plans for subsequent events.

### Africa Day

Held at Africa House this year was the annual Africa Day festival of which Ghanaians made a notable appearance, boosting the community presence of the association and providing the masses with our unique and delicious cuisine. The Ghana Chop Bar was present once again to deliver favourites including Jollof rice and side salad. Africa Day supplied another spectacular showcase of the Africa's traditions through dance performances, music, arts & crafts, fashion and of course, food. As usual, Ghanaian music as blasted from the stage for the enjoyment of the crowd that turned up to celebrate our great continent.

### Republic Day Football Match

This year's Republic Day celebration centred around a football match battle between the youth and the adults within the Ghanaians Queensland, in combination with a whole range of individuals from various African backgrounds. Numerous individuals and family members participated by playing on the field, cheering on the sidelines or manning the barbecue – as well as the all-important role of eating the free sausage sizzle available on the day. It was a vibrant display, with the highlights being the penalty shoot-out finish as well as the enthusiastic pep rally display led by the event's showrunners. Overall, it was an excellent day with great discussions had on the planning for the GH@60 event, both locally in Brisbane and hosted interstate by the Australian National Committee with the High Commission.

## Community involvement

Ghanaians Queensland has also upheld its commitment to the wider African community by sending delegate(s) to QACC meetings and participating in planning upon invitation.

### Young Ghanaians

Young Ghanaians Queensland has been quite active this past year with a number of exciting activities aimed at engaging the youth sector. The standouts included a group trip to both WhiteWater World and Dreamworld in the same day. From the photographs captured during this event, it is clear that all of the youngsters had a memorable time. In addition to this, an ice skating event also occurred earlier this year, with many youth in attendance, some of whom trying their hand at ice skating for the first time, with varying degrees of success.

The youth coordinators also played a major role in the conception of the Republic Day football match, as well as ensuring a decent turnout of enthusiastic players were there on the day. We've got a lot of exciting events as well for next year so keep up with us on Facebook (Young Ghanaians Qld).

### Facebook

Facebook remains a great way to build positive relationships between Ghanaians Queensland and the broader community. The Ghanaians Queensland page has become a platform allowing members of the community to partake in hearing the latest news, trivia from the homeland. It also acts as a vital portal for advertisement of the many events hosted by the Association each year. Facebook is a platform which continues to grow in engagement. In the past month, the page has reached 761 'likes', which is nearly 100 net likes more than last year.

## Administration

### Management Committee

The 2015/2016 committee members were collectively the youngest assortment in the association's 20+ year history. With the assistance of key members of the community, the group has achieved their collective goal of making the past 12 months a success.

### Association membership

GQ continues to strive to reach its target, year after year, in the area of obtaining financial membership from each of its members. This is vital to ensure that Ghanaians Queensland has the funds it requires to continue to run events and cater to numerous expenses incurred throughout the financial year.

### Financial Statement Item

Starting financial position (a)	\$1,922.25
Overall Income	\$4,055.30
Overall expenditure	\$4,747.02
Overall profit/Loss	-\$691.72
Cash at bank as at 31/10/2016	\$1,430.53
Funds to be credited to the account (b)	\$1,205.00
Current financial position (c)	\$2,635.53
Net profit (d)	\$.713.28

### Notes

- Funds we had at the beginning of the new Management Committee in October 2015.
- Funds owing to the association since last year's financial statement (2014-15)
- Funds the association will have in bank once credits in Note B are made
- Based on comparing the starting financial position to the current financial position