

Rachel Baggoley



I started going to my local Amnesty Group meetings to find a way to contribute and take action to defend human rights, particularly of refugees and people seeking asylum. As a co-convenor of my local Group and recently as a member of the ALC I have met and come to know local activists.

Activism can take many forms and being a member of Amnesty and involved in my region's leadership has introduced me to other like-minded people and enabled me to grow and learn how to make positive change my way.

During the last few years being involved in Amnesty in the ALC has been a great learning experience and has introduced me to brilliant activists in Amnesty and the other organisations we work alongside. I am nominating to stay on as a member of the Activism Leadership Committee, hopefully continuing to work with existing and new committee members and supporting and contributing to local human rights activism.

Carole Cooper



I am a passionate advocate for human rights, with a history of activism that began at the age of 15 when I first fought against apartheid in South Africa. This early experience sparked my lifelong dedication to justice and equality. Throughout my career as a leader, senior executive, and now as the owner of my own business as a culture transformation expert, I have focused on supporting women in building confidence, securing promotions, and advocating for pay equity.

I am actively involved in written advocacy and continue to contribute to various causes, including my recent support for Amnesty International on critical human rights issues. My ongoing commitment to women's rights remains a burning passion. Additionally, I serve as the Chair for a Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) service in Brisbane, where I provide vital support to victims-survivors of violence. My leadership and dedication to human rights continues to drive my efforts to create meaningful change.

Paige Garland



I have decades of social justice campaigning experience, 2.5 years on the AIA national board and experience on the ALCs predecessor, the Branch Committee. I have participated in the AIA Brisbane Schools Conference for the last four years. I nominated the Brisbane Boys College (BBC) Schools Group for the June Fassina Award and they won it. In 2024 I received an Australia Day Achievement Award from Brisbane City Council for voluntary service, especially for my leadership of the Salisbury SHS Art Collection campaign. My campaign resulted in a substantial collection of Australian art being restored and used for educational benefit in a local state high school, after decades in storage. I am active on Twitter and use it as my primary activism tool - with an international focus eg war on Ukraine, genocide in Gaza/West Bank/Lebanon, climate change, Rwanda, free press, coral bleaching of the Great Barrier Reef. I am connected globally to social justice campaigners including Paul Niland the Founder of Lifeline Ukraine. Paul subsequently was a guest speaker at a BBC event and gave an expert speech on Ukraine. I participate in local marches on social justice and environmental issues.

Ruth Gould



My name is Ruth Gould, member of the Amnesty QLD / NNSW Activism Leadership Committee since 2021 supporting human rights activities across our region. I have been in the Amnesty Chermside action group in Brisbane/Meenjin since 2015 (Co-Convenor 2018-22). I am passionate about equality and freedom for all people. I have supported a range of human rights initiatives including organising events for Amnesty campaigns, advocacy to Government and representing our region at national forums.

An event I am proud of is working with the Eritrean and Ethiopian communities in Brisbane for a Women's Day dinner in 2021 for families impacted by the Tigray conflict. I also have a strong interest in Indigenous youth justice. I have been involved in two Amnesty Schools Conferences held in Brisbane. I work in a non-profit writing tenders and grants and completed social science postgrad studies. I have participated in Amnesty's AGM as a General Meeting Voter four times in 2019-24. As a GMV I carefully consider board nominations and proposed resolutions to make well-informed decisions. I listen to diverse activist perspectives, and I support collaboration in our movement.

Bronwen Kippen



I joined Amnesty because I believe in human rights, equality and a fair community for all. I have been involved with Amnesty for over 10 years and have volunteered in several roles including as a community group member, group convenor and member of the QLD/NNSW Activism and Leadership Committee (ALC). Most recently I have also been co-President of the QLD/NNSW ALC. As an Amnesty activist I'm particularly interested in allyship and building partnerships with community groups and organisations with similar values to increase advocacy capability and impact. In recent years my advocacy has focused on First Nations justice, individuals at risk of human rights violations, and human rights issues in my local jurisdiction (Queensland).

In my professional work I also engage in systemic advocacy about the right to adequate housing, and rights respecting support services to enable communities and people to thrive.

Peter Hanley



Peter has been a member of Amnesty International Australia since 1993 and soon after joining became convenor of the Townsville AI Action Group – a role he has held off and on ever since. He joined the Queensland NNSW Branch Committee of AIA in 2004 and was Queensland NNSW Branch President from 2005-2008. In 2009 at the National Annual General Meeting (NAGM), Peter was awarded the national June Fassina Award for his extensive contribution to the defence of Human Rights.

Peter's participation in the Townsville Amnesty International Action Group is an important part of his life. Activities of the group include organising the annual Palm Sunday Walk for Peace and Justice for Refugees, regular film nights, Refugee Week Activities, stalls at community events, and lots more.

Peter retired in 2014 after more than 20 years working as a Learning Adviser at James Cook University. Outside his involvement with Amnesty, Peter is Vice President of the North Queensland Conservation Council and convenor of the Tropical Kazoos - Australia's premier Kazoo band with a 30 year glorious history. He loves walking, bodysurfing, sea kayaking, and singing.