

Humble teenager wins volunteer honour

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Jack Richardson defies negative perceptions of teenagers.

The 15-year-old from Thornton has been a member of Maitland District Motorcycle Club since 2009 and on top of his riding commitments has worked tirelessly on track maintenance and facility upgrades during that period.

On Saturday he was officially recognised for his efforts when Richardson received the Volunteer Recognition Award at the Motorcycling NSW Night of Champions.

In doing so he beat a host of

others to the top gong, many twice his age, but Richardson was not

expecting to be called up on stage at Penrith Panthers Pavilion.

“My heart started pumping

pretty fast,” Richardson said.

“I didn’t think I would be the one to win the award.”

Richardson was nominated for the award by Maitland District Motorcycle Club president Sean Ramsey, who sung the praises of his younger counterpart and recalled one instance in the pouring rain.

“We were busy clearing an area of the track and noticed that Jack [Richardson] had disappeared,” Ramsey said.

“When we looked around Jack had taken upon himself to start pulling down a 1.5 metre high, 30 foot long tyre wall. It simply blew my mind away that a kid could be this proactive.”

Riders from the greater Maitland district including Richard Sweetman, Josh Pickering, Boyd Hollis, Mackenzie Childs and Sally Smith were also honoured on the night.



Jack Richardson.