GOOD SHEPHERD

Playing mind games

Good Shepherd Lutheran College’s secondary maths engineering team competed at the Australasian Pacific Finals of Tournament of Minds on Saturday, October 24 at Griffith University, Brisbane.

The team of seven students ranging from Year 8 to Year 10 represented Queensland against contestants from all states and territories of Australia as well as the best from New Zealand and Hong Kong.

The teams were welcomed at a civic reception at City Hall in Brisbane for the official opening. Saturday was Tournament Day, and the Good Shepherd team was magnificent in every respect.

The problem assigned to them involved an alien land called LEFT, where clock hands and even the sun moved in different directions to the norm.

The students were required to make a machine that would demonstrate which was the correct direction.

They worked as a close-knit team to solve a brand new problem, designing and constructing an innovative machine and developing a creative scenario to perform their solution in a 10-minute dramatic production.

All this in the space of three hours, as well as completing a five-minute “spontaneous problem” at a random time during this period.

Team facilitator Martin Polkinghorne praised the Good Shepherd students.

“Ther communication, group problem-solving skills, general focus and attitude to the task were inspirational and not only a credit to the college but also to Queensland,” he said.

Good Shepherd Lutheran College has supported and participated in the Tournament of Minds competition for many years because of the additional learning opportunities and skill development that it offers to students.

Tournament of Minds consists of four categories so it is an incredible achievement for the students to be named national champions of one of these.

Good Shepherd Lutheran College is proud of the new national champions.