



Speech by

Peta-Kaye Croft

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Hansard Wednesday, 20 October 2004

ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF COOMBABAH

Mrs CROFT (Broadwater—ALP) (11.00 p.m.): Recently I was invited by the Animal Welfare League of Coombabah to present and speak at the league's first annual Queensland Companion Animal Day Awards. The awards were established by the Animal Welfare League to honour people who promote animal welfare or have performed acts of bravery or service for companion animals. The awards were held at the Southport Yacht Club and were attended by animal lovers, Animal Welfare League supporters and volunteers. The evening was compared by Sarah Wharmby from Gold FM and Murray Shoring of 4KQ who, in their own right, work hard to advocate public awareness of animal welfare.

Amongst the award winners was the Minister for Primary Industries, Henry Palaszczuk, who, on behalf of the Beattie government, accepted the Government Animal Welfare Award for introducing legislation that bans tail docking in this state. The other award winners included Keith Williams, who received a Bravery Award. I also presented an award to a cat by the name of Runty Winn for an Animal Bravery Award. Go Runty! Robyn McKinnon won an Individual Achievement Award, and Valerie Jones from the Gold Coast *Sun* newspaper and Leah Moore from the *Courier-Mail* won the Newspaper Journalism Award. Tamara Pooley from Channel 9 won the TV Journalism Award and Troy Kemp, Rob Allen and Trish Whitehead from the Maroochy Shire Council won the Local Government Education Award. Karen Hallett from Jubilee Primary School won the Primary Education Award and Jusien Yong from Griffith University won the Compassionate Design Award.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the Animal Welfare League committee for this wonderful initiative. I understand that last Sunday the Animal Welfare League held its open day, and I have heard that it was a great success. I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my best wishes to Denise Bradley, who is the president of the Animal Welfare League. I understand that in the past couple of weeks she has not been very well. I know that the members of the Animal Welfare League are very concerned and want to pass on their best wishes to her.

The Animal Welfare League, its founders and its members have contributed significantly to improving the living of many animals, lobbying for legislative changes, increased penalties and promoting responsible animal care. As the state representative for the Animal Welfare League of Coombabah, I am privileged to meet and be inspired by such wonderful people. The awards support the work that is being done by Animal Welfare League volunteers. The work of other people who are able to fight the cause, raise awareness and assist in other domains such as through the media, in schools, in nursing homes and in government agencies is encouraging for the many volunteers who help out at the Animal Welfare League. I congratulate all of the Animal Welfare League volunteers and the committee for putting on the awards. I congratulate all of the recipients and look forward to attending the awards next year.

Time expired.