



Speech by

Jann Stuckey

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

Hansard Tuesday, 6 March 2007

CURRUMBIN ELECTORATE, SCHOOLS

Mrs STUCKEY (Currumbin—Lib) (9.48 pm): I am pleased to inform honourable members of some of the memorable celebrations I have attended in Currumbin in recent times and I wish to convey my heartfelt congratulations to all of these deserving recipients. With schools back in full swing, it was indeed a genuine pleasure to take part in two school leaders' induction ceremonies held at Elanora High and Elanora State School respectively. At the full school assembly at Elanora High School, captains Vanessa Bath and Jacob Reid were presented with their badges. School vice-captains Thirushka Naidoo and Kyle Dunlop, plus a throng of student leaders from house captains to peer mediators, were duly recognised and it was enlightening to see such senior students taking on leadership and mentoring roles.

At Elanora State School the induction ceremony acknowledge new school captains Brittany Hodgkinson and Reid Price, with Madison Hoffman and Brad Cook appointed as vice captains. House captains, student councillors and performing arts representatives were also formally presented. I take a moment to congratulate Mrs Roslyn Wilson upon her recent appointment as principal at Elanora State High School. After serving several years as deputy, this is welcome news as Mrs Wilson is a stabilising influence in this large school.

On 23 February it was a pleasure to join emergency services minister, Pat Purcell, at Bilinga Fire Station for the official commissioning of a new fire truck, a Mercedes Atego type 3, worth around \$490,000. Later in the afternoon I attended the presentation of national medals to long-serving members of the Currumbin Valley Rural Fire Brigade. Clyde Holst, the fire warden at Upper Currumbin Creek; Bill Griffiths, from Piggabeen Road area; and Peter Old, deputy fire warden and first officer have 75 years of volunteer service between them. The National Medal is awarded after 15 years service in organisations that protect life and property at some risk to their members. A clasp is awarded to the holder of a National Medal after each additional 10 years of service. The medal is individually inscribed and is a fine recognition of an individual's dedication to their community. Unlike many government ministers, Pat Purcell acknowledges members when he is visiting the electorate, regardless of their party status. Perhaps other ministers could take a leaf out of Pat's book and show some manners under similar circumstances.

Tonight, Volunteer Marine Rescue members were presented with their National Medals at Currumbin. They were Peter Saunders, who began his service in the Brisbane floods in 1974; Robert Craig, who joined Currumbin Air Sea Rescue as a volunteer in May 1980; and John Nolan, who joined the Currumbin Air Sea Rescue Volunteer Service in May 1990.

I would now like to correct some misinformation put forward by the member for Burleigh. I am on record as supporting low-cost housing in my electorate. It is the government that sold the parcel of land at Elanora, which would have been far more appropriate for this sort of housing than spending big bucks on the Gold Coast Highway. I would welcome more public housing in my electorate. That was a very cheap shot by the member for Burleigh.