




Speech by

Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

Hansard Tuesday, 25 October 2011

TS WALRUS

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (10.07 pm): On Tuesday, 23 August I reported on the success of *TS Walrus*, a training ship based at Eagleby in my electorate. At that time I told members about Sub Lieutenant Tracey Hagan and unit staff, all volunteers, who brought a growing group of naval cadets near to the pinnacle of success. They had just been awarded best unit within their flotilla. As such, they were nominated for national assessment and were up against seven other units from right around Australia, each of them being the best in their respective flotillas.

I attended the inspection on 4 September at which National Commander Captain John Gill ANC and Director of Flotillas Commander Darren McDonald ANC conducted their inspection. The inspection was to determine the training ship that is the premier unit. The success they achieved in winning best in flotilla, which led to this latest inspection, was no surprise really. These naval cadets were well on their way to success as early as around this time in 2010.

At that time I had the pleasure of presenting them with a dedicated commitment award at the Eagleby awards ceremony. At that time they were regarded as the best of the best within their local community. They were up against stiff competition from other community based organisations and shone through. Then it was their time this year to, once again, shine through as the best in flotilla. And now we have this latest inspection to determine the premier unit.

The categories for this latest challenge were from right across the spectrum of their activities: leadership, teamwork, dress and bearing, maritime activities, emergency response procedures and ceremonial standards. I must say that the highlight of the inspection for me was the precision used in a special drill segment by a group named by *TS Walrus* as the F88 Steier Precision Drill Team. This team put on an amazing performance where they demonstrated their skills and talents in a carefully coordinated routine. It is a very entertaining segment of their drill work and it was very well received by the audience.

Once the assessments were done the results were forwarded to the Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Ray Griggs AM CSC Royal Australian Navy, for a final decision. So here we have *TS Walrus*, a training ship in Eagleby in the Coomera electorate, having already achieved so much, up against the best from every other flotilla in Australia. Members, I received correspondence from Sub Lieutenant Hagan just last week, and it is worth using her words to announce the result to this House as follows—

It gives me great pleasure to announce that out of the 92 Training Ships across Australia, *TS Walrus* has been awarded the ANC Navy League of Australia Trophy Award, for the most efficient Training Ship.

So I am proud to announce that the Coomera electorate and the community of Eagleby now have the best of the best training ships in Australia and *TS Walrus* will forever be recognised for that achievement.