



Speech by

# Hon. Campbell Newman


MEMBER FOR ASHGROVE

Hansard Thursday, 23 August 2012

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## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Campbell, Mr C

 **Hon. CKT NEWMAN** (Ashgrove—LNP) (Premier) (9.35 am): It is sad for me to report that a short time ago I heard that renowned and respected garden guru Col Campbell, OAM, passed away last night on the Sunshine Coast after a short battle with cancer. Col was somewhat of an institution—and that is an understatement—with not only his much loved 4BC listeners and *Gardening Australia* viewers but also with gardeners Australia-wide. He was one of the most knowledgeable and respected people in his field. His influence in the horticultural industry spread over some five decades.

Col received many accolades and awards for his contribution to the industry that he dearly loved. Col's gardening show on 4BC consistently rated highly and he was a great advocate of gardeners' rights, especially during the water shortage problems earlier in the decade. As Lord Mayor of Brisbane, I worked with him as did my team. I believe he was inspirational in the way he encouraged people to deal with the drought and still enjoy their gardens. He strongly advocated the health benefits that gardening has to offer people of all ages, especially the elderly, and that there are 'water wise' ways to garden. Colin in particular took it upon himself to stand up for gardeners.

Col Campbell will be sadly missed. I am truly shocked and greatly saddened to have heard this news this morning. On behalf of the Parliament of Queensland, I express my deepest sympathy to Col's wife, Bev, and their family. I acknowledge his contribution to the Queensland and, indeed, Australian community.