



Speech By  
**Ray Stevens**


**MEMBER FOR MERMAID BEACH**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 May 2017

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

**Menefy, Mr J**

 **Mr STEVENS** (Mermaid Beach—LNP) (3.07 pm): I rise to acknowledge a real hero of the Mermaid Beach area—Mr Jayke Menefy, a member of the Mermaid Beach Surf Lifesaving Club. I am proud to have two great surf-lifesaving clubs in my area, Mermaid Beach and Nobbys Beach, and I hope that in the future Miami and North Burleigh will come under my watch as well. Jayke Menefy's family live in Mermaid Beach and he is one of the Ripper Nippers at the Mermaid Beach Surf Lifesaving Club. Jayke was recently on holidays on the north coast and he was surfing at the Sunshine Coast. On Easter Sunday he was returning from his surfing exploits when he noticed a group of people in distress in the water. There was quite a commotion out there, and Jayke's nippers training immediately kicked in. That is why we sponsor and support our nippers clubs. The Mermaid Beach club has just had its fundraiser and Nobbys Beach is having its tomorrow, and we support them at every opportunity. Jayke was on an unpatrolled beach at the time this commotion began. A 38-year-old man was in deep trouble when he became caught in a rip. Without hesitation Jayke grabbed his surfboard and paddled out to the largish 100-kilogram gentleman—Jayke is a 42-kilogram schoolboy—and hauled the man onto his board and waited until help arrived, assuring him and using all of the skills that he had gained through his time as a nipper at the Mermaid Beach Surf Lifesaving Club. I cannot recommend that activity highly enough, because there is great family interaction in the club and they are a wonderful example of what is great about being in Australia and being in a wonderful sport such as surf-lifesaving.

Jayke was one day off his 13th birthday when he undertook this selfless act of bravery, and undoubtedly the skills and confidence that the surf-lifesaving nippers program teaches young people were invaluable in this situation. I would certainly like to offer my congratulations, the congratulations of this House and all of the people of the Mermaid Beach community to Jayke and wish him well in his future surf-lifesaving career, because he has done a great job. He will be forever remembered throughout his life as a rolled gold fair dinkum lifesaver. He is a lifesaver, and that is what nippers and surf-lifesaving is all about. Wherever you can and at every opportunity, I ask all members to please support the surf-lifesaving movement.