



Speech By  
**Jessica Pugh**


**MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY**

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Record of Proceedings, 1 November 2018

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Mount Ommaney Electorate, Small Business Awards**

 **Ms PUGH** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (2.58 pm): I rise to provide the House with an update on the Mount Ommaney Small Business Awards that are happening in my community on 20 November. The response from the community has been nothing short of overwhelming. Next week I will be attending the Centenary & Districts Chamber of Commerce meeting to provide members with an updated on the long-awaited and much anticipated Sumner Road upgrade.

I will be taking a few new members with me to the meeting. I will be taking Michael from Thistle Financial Services. I will be taking Susie Q from Susie Q Painting. She is our very own lady tradie in Mount Ommaney. I will be taking Josh from Reclaim Physiotherapy. Member for Bonney, I understand that you were school mates. He told me a few stories, but I will keep those to myself.

We have been absolutely blown away, as I said, by the community support for these awards. We have had over 2,000 votes logged online, and that number is climbing every day. It was such a pleasure for me to be able to call and personally inform some of these small businesses that they have been nominated as finalists in their respective categories. I was able to call Shane Brown from Brown's Delivery Service; Paul from Knock on Wood Toys; Madders Brothers Patisserie, which has now opened its third patisserie right here in the Brisbane CBD—a fantastic local business kicking goals all over Brisbane; Nick from Robson's Pool Safety Inspections with his awesome Kiwi accent that I crudely tried to imitate being half Kiwi myself; Lou and Gareth from SewMasters; and Jindalee Fresh fruit and vegetable—to name just a few of the businesses that I was able to call personally and inform them that they are finalists and to encourage their loyal customers to keep on voting.

Our local community is 110 per cent behind these local businesses. Our community vote with their feet and they put their money where their mouth is. Mount Ommaney locals know that local small businesses that are healthy and thriving mean local jobs and that boosts our local economy. These awards are just the start of my campaign to promote small business in Mount Ommaney. After the awards on 20 November, we launch into our 12 days of Christmas social media campaign to highlight even more of the wonderful local businesses. In the last week alone I have met with four small businesses and next week I will be meeting with four more—Peter Butler from Prompt Maintenance Services, Nicole from Holistic Business Life and Girl Shaped Flames—to discuss their grant opportunities.

I remind the Mount Ommaney community, because I know that they are really excited about these awards, that voting closes on Sunday, 4 November. There are just a few days left. I urge all residents who have not yet done so to get online and make sure you support your local small businesses. It is going to be a great night and we look forward to having the minister, Shannon Fentiman, there on 20 November.