




Speech By
Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

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ADJOURNMENT

Newton, Mrs J, OAM

 **Mr POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (6.58 pm): Last year our community lost a tireless advocate and fierce political warrior and I lost a dear friend: Joyce Newton OAM. Earlier this year in her memory we launched the Joyce Newton Memorial Bursary, an essay competition for year 12 students from Glass House that focuses on civics—the study of the rights and duties of citizenship. Tonight in the gallery I am joined by Joyce’s daughter, Jennifer Tunley, her friend, Jen Cronin, and the first ever recipient of the Joyce Newton Memorial Bursary, Jessica Perro from Glasshouse Christian College. She is joined by her mum and dad, Lisa and Darren, and her twin sister, Nikita. Good luck telling which one is which!

The topic of this year’s essay was selected by the Newton family and it was: what is the value of the many small businesses and farmers in the seat of Glass House and what is their importance to the state of Queensland? Jessica nailed the answer. I quote—

Since the settlement of the state of Queensland, agriculture has been a way of life and a vital part of the economy ... However, within the agricultural sector, there has been a significant shift in the composition of output ... These trends underline the flexibility and awareness of market in Queensland’s agriculture and food sector.

These new trends have been well adapted by the Glasshouse region with several small businesses pairing with farmers to produce new products and niche markets. Hum Honey and Green Valley Agriculture are a primary example ... Hum Honey’s Cold Fusion Australian Finger lime honey combines the pure raw honey ... and the Fingerlime Pearls

This is done to great success. Jessica continued—

... at Fine Food Melbourne, Hum Honey received the award for “Best New Product for the Australian Made Category, 2018”. Following this Hum Honey was named ‘Regional Food Champion Other Product Category’ at the Sydney Royal Fine Food Show.

...

Green Valley’s finger limes will be showcased in the current season of MasterChef as well as being exported as a fresh fruit product across the world, including Italy, Singapore and Spain; creating a prestigious reputation for small businesses and farms of Glasshouse region amongst the state, country and world.

Maleny Black Angus Beef is another farm which has adapted to the change in the agricultural market ... it is ... producing beef that is grass fed and antibiotic and growth hormone free. This innovation has not only followed market trends ... but has also followed social trends ...

Time does not permit me to read the entire essay so I table a copy.

Tabled paper. Document, undated, titled ‘Joyce Newton OAM Memorial Bursary Essay: Jessica Perro—Glasshouse Christian College’ [1315](#).

Jessica has already received her \$1,000 gift voucher at Concept IT Maleny and we are now off to dinner in the Strangers’ Dining Room. Today would have been the 47th wedding anniversary of Joyce and her husband, Greg. I know she would have been tickled pink to be sharing it with Jessica, the first recipient of her memorial bursary.