




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR THEODORE

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ADJOURNMENT

Theodore Electorate, Bushfires

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Theodore—LNP) (6.24 pm): The northern Gold Coast is truly blessed to have so many dedicated and caring individuals who rally together when the cry for help goes out. No better example was the recent hinterland bushfires. From the very moment the call went out, the local rural fire brigades did not hesitate. They suited up, jumped in their trucks and made their way to Canungra and Beechmont no matter what the time was.

Although all the volunteers are local heroes, I would like to single out the local brigades within the Theodore electorate. Coomera Valley and Guanaba rural fire brigades rostered on crews day and night. Those brigades never lacked enthusiasm to help those in need and, with their finely tuned skills that they have developed over many years of training in fighting fires and back-burning, they certainly made their presence well and truly felt. My community thanks First Officer Brendan Gold of the Guanaba Rural Fire Brigade and First Officer Wayne Teese of the Coomera Valley Rural Fire Brigade for their dedicated volunteers. I wish to table the names of all of those firefighters of those brigades who worked tirelessly to put out these fires so that their names will always be remembered.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, listing members of two rural fire brigades [1575](#).

I would also like to give a huge shout-out to all the residents who came from all over the Gold Coast and even as far south as Kingscliff in New South Wales to donate much needed goods. Thousands of residents rallied for the cause—for food, water, sanitary goods and clothing. That was a true testament to the values of our communities. So many people came to donate goods that it caused a rather large traffic jam around the rural fire brigade station. I also give a big thankyou to Donna Gates for allowing the local park to be used as a staging point. There were so many goods donated that they had to be housed in neighbouring stations. All of those goods were quickly snapped up. They were given to those who needed them—grateful firefighters on the front line and many families who were suffering losses. The kind notes of encouragement attached to these items brought smiles to the exhausted firefighters and hope to those who lost much. I am certainly very proud of all of those individuals who made these kind donations.

I would also like to thank the Beechmont QCWA, the Pacific Pines Residents Group, Ormeau Lions Club, Oxenford Bunnings, Tamborine Mountain Senior Girl Guides, Coomera scouts, State Emergency Service, the Logan House Fire Support Network and many other groups. Their help will never be forgotten. We can certainly all wish for a bit of rain to ease the situation across the state so that nobody else has to lose from fires.