




Speech By
Bart Mellish

MEMBER FOR ASPLEY

Record of Proceedings, 2 September 2021

ADJOURNMENT

Aspley Electorate

 **Mr MELLISH** (Aspley—ALP) (6.15 pm): Tonight I rise to speak about some of the remarkable individuals in the Aspley electorate and about the winners of the inaugural Aspley Local Legends Awards for Queensland Day 2021. After what has been an incredibly trying 18 months for many members of the community, it was great to have the ability to highlight some of our local legends who continue to go above and beyond. The six winners of my Local Legends Awards were: Sharlene, Harley, Holly, Tara, Tamzine and Robyn.

Sharlene was a nominee of Craigslea State School, of which remarked that she had made exceptional contributions to the school community after being a foundation student in 1972. In 2015 Sharlene returned to the school to coordinate its sensitivity unit and had significantly trained up a group of dedicated volunteers in the unit. Now Sharlene is busy serving the school through the P&C, leading the outside school hours care service, redesigning the school library and organising the prep playground. She is currently heavily involved in organising the school's 50th anniversary celebrations.

I was also pleased to honour three exceptionally hardworking individuals in some of our local kindies. Robyn is the lead educator at C&K West Chermside and was nominated by several parents, who said that her care and dedication left a mark on the children so much that, wherever the West Chermside kindy uniform is seen, parents and children ask about how Ms Robyn is going. Tamzine is a teacher aide at C&K Geebung kindy. I take this opportunity to thank all our teacher aides in Teacher Aide Appreciation Week. Tamzine was nominated by parents and peers, who said that she is extremely passionate about caring for all the children at Geebung kindy. This was shown during the height of COVID-19, when she took the initiative to check up on families in their transition to online learning. Tara, who is the Marchant Park P&C president, was nominated by a number of parents in our community due to her full-time devotion to supporting the kindy. She had taken the initiative in her own time to plan for new projects such as their recycling facility, which the children taught me how to use when I was last there. It was great.

The fifth recipient of my Local Legends Awards was Harley, who I have mentioned previously in parliament. Harley is a true local legend who has dedicated 30 years of service to Boondall Neighbourhood Watch, holding a variety of positions, and also seven years at Aspley Classes for Seniors, of which he is treasurer. They do so much in our local community.

The last recipient of the Aspley Local Legends Awards was Holly, who is a volunteer leader at Aspley District Girl Guides, leading two unit groups and assisting with planning unit and district events such as camps and outdoor activities. It was remarked by Laina, who nominated her, that Holly is always the first to lend a hand when help is need. Aspley Girl Guides are a great group in Marchant Park. I am always happy to support them in whatever initiatives they undertake.

I thank all six of these local legends for their service to the community. Of course, there are so many more in our area. I thought it really important to honour these six. They all are very deserving of the title of Aspley Local Legend.