




Speech By
Lance McCallum

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

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ADJOURNMENT

Bundamba Electorate

 **Mr McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (7.09 pm): Our local Ipswich community is once again enjoying a productive and successful year. On Saturday we hosted the inaugural Rugby League Ipswich All Stars game at the iconic North Ipswich Reserve. The clash between the Ipswich All Stars and Indigenous All Stars had humble beginnings late last year.

It was an idea first floated by former players Corey Kirk and Craig Wehrman to raise money for our local clubs that did it tough during a COVID interrupted 2020. Fast-forward a few months, and all of the hard work has paid off. Much more than a celebration of sport, the weekend was all about coming together through community and culture. It is a theme we continue to focus on as a government that is committed to walking the path to treaty and building on our foundation of respect, agreement and truthfulness. That is what our local community is all about. We dig deep for each other, we lend a helping hand and we share successes.

I am proud to say that our Ipswich residents continue to show that very same spirit. Our Citizen of the Year, Bundamba local Glen Smith, is a passionate arts advocate who co-owns small business Vintage Advantage. Glen is president of Arts Connect and was also part of the Community Event of the Year, a cent auction that raised \$3,300 for the Pine Mountain and Districts Rural Fire Brigade. Young Citizen of the Year Blake Wesbro is one of the driving forces behind Riverview's successful Black Coffee network. Blake works with Wesbro Services, an NDIS registered Aboriginal disability service provider that continues to deliver vital support across our community.

This year we have also celebrated the success of self-taught Bundamba illustrator Emma Cracknell. Emma produced the pictures for *Is This Your Egg?*, a children's book that is now part of the State Library of Queensland's Stories for Little Queenslanders program, fostering a passion for reading among our families.

On the subject of literacy and learning, our schools are having a busy start to the new year. I was proud to attend the student investiture at Ripley Valley State Secondary College, and I recently spoke with students at Goodna State School as part of Heroes Day. I had the pleasure of joining my local federal colleague the member for Oxley, Milton Dick, in presenting new flags to students and staff at Goodna State Special School. The school's new \$11.1 million general learning building is now open as part of our ongoing investment in world-class education.

I also caught up with our newest crossing supervisor, Brenton Wratt, at WoodLinks State School in Collingwood Park. Brenton started in term 1 as part of our \$4.2 million commitment to increase the numbers of crossing supervisors across the state. Of course, we are also delivering record numbers of teachers and teacher aides in Queensland schools as our safe and strong economic recovery continues.