




Speech By
Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

Record of Proceedings, 25 March 2021

ADJOURNMENT

Coomera Electorate; Volunteering Queensland

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (6.06 pm): The member for Kurwongbah's speech is a nice segue into what I want to talk about tonight, which is volunteers from right across the spectrum. I rise to pay tribute to volunteers. They are part of the fabric of every community.

Volunteering Queensland was able to give me a few figures earlier today, and they are staggering: 26.5 per cent of Queenslanders over 15 have volunteered their time through an organisation in the last 12 months; and about 1.2 million, or 32 per cent, of Queenslanders over 15 volunteered their time outside of an organisation in the last four weeks alone helping people in their community directly. Volunteering Queensland commissioned an extensive survey and report into volunteering to serve as a benchmark dataset for the state. The State of Volunteering in Queensland report will be released in National Volunteer Week in May. I am told that 900 million hours of volunteering was conducted in Queensland in 2020. In a year where everyone thinks about COVID and its impacts, 900 million hours of volunteering was conducted. Madam Deputy Speaker, can you imagine what it is going to be in 2021 and the years ahead?

Speaking of volunteering in the Coomera electorate, if you are looking for something to do on Saturday morning there is a great place down at Jacobs Well. Come on down to Volunteer Marine Rescue at Jacobs Well and have a look around. You will be able to tour the boats and the base and you can even sign up as a member. Just \$77 a year guarantees they will be there to assist you in the event you have a breakdown and they will not charge you an exorbitant fee to do it.

What sorts of volunteers are we talking about? The member for Kurwongbah touched on one. I just talked about VMR at Jacobs Well Coastguard. The Blue Water Review is coming to look at that. There are rural fire brigades. In the next little while I am going to have a session with the local police and Volunteers in Policing to thank them and present them with certificates. We have JPs, Commissioners for Declaration, SES, Lions Clubs, Rotary Clubs and Neighbourhood Watch. We have a fantastic new organisation, Steps 4208, which is committed to mental health issues in the local community, and the Pimpama Men's Shed. The list goes on and on. I commend all volunteers for everything they do.