




Speech By
Rob Molhoek

MEMBER FOR SOUTHPORT

Record of Proceedings, 14 September 2021

ADJOURNMENT

Goldup-Graham, Ms K

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (9.50 pm): I am pleased to have in the gallery this evening my family: my brother, my sister, my adopted aunt and uncle, my wife, her friend Alice and some very special guests, one of whom has probably been waiting more than 30 years to receive due recognition. That person is Kym Goldup-Graham, who is here with her husband, Steven Hoare. Members, I want you to cast your mind back over 30 years ago when here in Queensland there were investigations going on into serious crime and misconduct. There were significant investigations into paedophilia and illegal prostitution and one very brave woman, who is with us in the gallery this evening, had the courage, with the task force at the time, to investigate and expose some of those crimes.

Can you imagine returning from a briefing with the police commissioner, heading out to dinner to celebrate with your colleagues, and then returning to your office to collect your things and finding all the files had been removed? Back in that era there were no whistleblower laws or protections for members of the police force. Unfortunately, Kym was exposed to all sorts of prejudices over many years. She was also subjected to an inquiry by the CJC, which sought to review some of the actions that had occurred some 10 or 15 years earlier. She has also been the subject of Matt Condon's series of books: *All Fall Down*, *Three Crooked Kings* and *Jacks and Jokers*. I am pleased to advise that two years ago—I have been trying to get Kym here for two years to share this adjournment speech—on 26 February 2019 Kym was recognised at the Gold Coast District Honours and Awards Ceremony for the police. She was awarded the National Police Service Medal. She was also awarded the Queensland Police Service Medal for her service and her courage.

There are so many other parts to the story. Kym talks about on one occasion attending an armed siege in Surfers Paradise as one of the very few female police officers of the day and having to remove a mother and a child under threat from a very angry father. She shares other stories about what it was like to be a female police officer in the force back in the eighties. Kym, I honour you. Thank you for your service, your hard work and your commitment. Steve, I also thank you for your many years of service in the Queensland police force. We need you on the front line and we are grateful for all that you do for us.