



Speech By  
**Rob Molhoek**


**MEMBER FOR SOUTHPORT**

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Record of Proceedings, 16 November 2021

## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **Southport Electorate**

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (7.14 pm): Tonight I rise to speak briefly on some local happenings in my patch of the Gold Coast, and to recognise the hard work of some outstanding members of the community working on these projects. Every Sunday evening for almost 20 years the amazing Angels Kitchen volunteers from Southport Catholic parish have been serving meals to homeless and lonely people from around Southport. The whole team, including Tony, George, Alana and former member for Moncrieff, Kate Sullivan, do a terrific job of supporting underprivileged people in our community. It has been my pleasure to help out from time to time of a Sunday evening. I am always on the lookout for the best specials and bulk buys on Sanitarium Up and Go as I know they always put it to good use. Members can drop some to my office if they have some spare.

Those who have been members of this place for at least a few years will know of my ongoing commitment to the Vinnies CEO Sleepout. I especially want to give a shout-out to fellow ambassadors Col Wheeler, Karen Phillips and Jamie Preston. I also want to thank Kris Martin and Tanya Mohoney from the Vinnie's team for all the great work they do and for surprising me over lunch just a few weeks ago with an outstanding fundraising award. It was not expected, but I am so honoured to be recognised for personally raising more than \$100,000 over the last five years—more than any other Gold Coaster. More importantly, collectively Team Southport and the Vinnies team have raised more than \$2 million, with this year being a record year.

Another great organisation in the electorate is Set Free Care which provides excellent services to disadvantaged people on the Gold Coast. Set Free Care was started in 1996, and today their service offering has expanded to include discounted pantry packs, free haircuts, discounted clothing through their op shop and a free laundry service, amongst others. However, one of the key things they have done is provide opportunity and space for many government and non-government service providers to come in and meet with their clients. I especially want to acknowledge my dear friends Edith and Mal Kennedy for their years and years of sacrificial service. They live and work to support this service and they are an incredible blessing to our community and to Set Free Care.

I also acknowledge the fact that we have a new homelessness space in Southport. The Gold Coast Youth Foyer recently opened its doors. The Foyer model, initially trialled by the LNP government and initiated by Tim Mander as a trial in Logan, is an approach to youth homelessness that attempts to ensure that the experiences of homeless young people do not translate into long-term poverty and disadvantage in adulthood. I understand that just over half of the 40 units are already tenanted. I have been impressed by the hard work of Matt Slavin and Maria Leebeek from the Gold Coast Youth Service. It was my pleasure to host them for dinner in Strangers last sitting week and to present them with Sensational Southport Citations.