




Speech By
Brent Mickelberg

MEMBER FOR BUDERIM

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ADJOURNMENT

Buderim Electorate

 **Mr MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (7.32 pm): On a different note, tonight I rise to celebrate some achievements of Buderim residents. At the recent Sunshine Coast Business Awards I am proud to say the Buderim electorate was well represented with many nominees, finalists and a good handful of winners. Local boutique marketing and public relations firm Organised Creative took out the Small Professional Services category. Netball superstars the Sunshine Coast Lightning won the Large Festivals and Events Award. Their games at the University of the Sunshine Coast are always a sellout and I enjoy them immensely, as do my children. The newly rebranded and upgraded Amaze World took out the Large Experiences group. Well done to owners Robyn and Adam. We visited recently and it was great to experience their new product offering.

I was very pleased to see Stymie win the award for social impact. Rachel Downie, recently Queensland Australian of the Year, does incredible work with schools to empower young people to ask for help if they see or are experiencing harm. It is incredibly moving and incredibly powerful work that Rachel and her team do, and they should be commended for doing so. Travis Schultz and Partners was named 2022 Business of the Year. Travis Schultz and Partners is a great law firm; however, perhaps more importantly I also want to mention the deep engagement Travis has in our community through sponsoring sporting teams, the Sunshine Coast Legal Service and community groups right across the Sunshine Coast.

The Buderim electorate is fortunate to have many great businesses. In fact, retailers in Buderim have recently banded together to organise a Christmas in Buderim day of shopping this Saturday with the involvement of community groups and entertainers. I hear that Santa will be making an appearance too, and I will not be Santa. Although I was asked, I have another commitment. Someone unkindly said that I have his build. The main street of Buderim was once widely known as a destination for shopping sprees, but since the opening of large shopping centres around the Sunshine Coast there has been a decline in out-of-town visitors with cash to spend in Buderim. I applaud local retailers for organizing the event this weekend to boost sales ahead of Christmas. The shops in Buderim deserve to be put back on the map, and I hope that events like this create more foot traffic throughout the year and not just on special occasions.

Lastly, tonight I want to give a special shout-out to everyone who donated to my Guide to Giving in Buderim Christmas campaign. It makes me very proud every year to see how generous the community is, especially during such an expensive time of year and in the middle of a cost-of-living crisis. I took two carloads of donations to IFYS Foster Care last week for kids in care who may not otherwise receive gifts this Christmas. Toys, games, sports equipment and gifts cards were all donated by residents and a large amount from the local day care Milford Lodge. I would like to make special mention of a couple of anonymous donors who contributed numerous gifts, especially the gift cards to support some of the older kids in care who often are overlooked.

We are also collecting dog and cat food and toys for the Sunshine Coast Animal Refuge—so if people would like to donate they are still able to—as well as funds for DV Safe Phone, a worthy charity that repurposes mobile phones for victims of domestic and family violence, which I note many members in the parliament have collection boxes for.