



Speech By Jessica Pugh

MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

Record of Proceedings, 29 March 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Mount Ommaney Electorate

Ms PUGH (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (8.35 pm): As I said during the last sitting week, we all know in this House that when there are flood-affected communities there are so many people we need to thank when it comes to flood recovery. What we so often see is that there are wonderful local small businesses who help out. It is so often those small businesses that get in there and quietly do what they can to help out in times of disaster. Today I want to shine a spotlight on just a few of those in my community. Again, I must stress that this is not even close to an exhaustive list.

However, I would love to shine a spotlight on just a few of those small businesses starting with Darra Bakehouse. They called me and the federal member Milton Dick really early to provide some pies and other baked goods to the people who were staying at the Riverlife evacuation centre. Curry and Cask organised themselves to go out and provide hundreds of hot, delicious curry meals to the good people of Oxley and Corinda each day as they were cleaning up. I have no doubt the clean-up was all the quicker for their assistance. The Australian Fundraising corporation, which is based in my area, helped out with the clean-up at the Jags. Sheana's coffee went out and provided free coffees from their mobile coffee van. They took the coffee van to the people and the caffeinated clean-up meant it went so much faster.

Actively Balanced Kids is a business that operates out of Sherwood State School. They were able to provide bags for flood-affected families. Like the Darra Bakehouse, Middle Park Bakery provided free baked goods, which was incredibly helpful for those families who needed something to eat and did not have a kitchen. Licketysplit Cafe were doing free baked goods, German Sausage House provided hundreds of free meals and Delightful Moments & Balloons provided hampers for flood-affected people.

As I said, there are just so many businesses that helped out during the floods, just as they do all the time. It is our small businesses that sponsor our school fetes and our sports clubs—and I have spoken in this House about the sports clubs that were impacted—and they give those vouchers for events. Several small businesses in my electorate were impacted by the floods. Specifically, the Jindalee Allsports centre was completely inundated and a lot of those businesses are out of those premises and are waiting to go back in. They are doing that work now.

Finally, I give a huge shout-out to my Centenary Chamber of Commerce which is organising a flood relief dinner at the Jindalee Golf Club tomorrow night, which I sadly will not be able to attend. That club was also impacted by the floods. As we know, recovery is a marathon, not a sprint. There are lots of different people and businesses ready and willing to help. I am so blessed in Mount Ommaney to have so many small businesses pitching in and playing their part.