




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

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ADJOURNMENT

Mount Ommaney, Small Business Awards

 **Ms PUGH** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (12.58 pm): Christmas is only two months away—58 days, I am informed.

A government member: Ho, ho, ho!

Ms PUGH: Ho, ho, ho, indeed. I am dressed in Christmas colours and I have already started my Christmas shopping. To get inspired I am looking at the Mount Ommaney Small Business Awards nomination list and what a stellar collection of nominees we have.

Mrs McMAHON: Am I on the list?

Ms PUGH: No, you are on the naughty list, member for Macalister. For the benefit of the House, I can advise that voting is now open for the businesses based in Mount Ommaney to be nominated by locals for the Mount Ommaney Logies, as we like to call them. It has been a really hard year for many of our businesses. I want to pay tribute in particular to businesses in Jindalee who were hit really hard by the February floods. A lot of them were completely inundated. I am so amazed and inspired by the creativity and resilience these businesses have shown, not just in bouncing back and reopening but in some cases bigger, better and different.

The first nominee is Proper Pizza who have opened post floods on the former site of Pizza Capers. Proper Pizza is the brainchild of the former Pizza Capers owners and let me tell members it is going absolutely bananas. I ordered my daughter's birthday pizza from there. By 5.30 it was absolutely pumping. Across the car park is a brand new business, Sensory Playhouse. It is a wonderful space for little people to engage quietly with Montessori toys and play methods. Amazons Family Fresh Markets are a great fruit shop. They have a popular new employee, Mel Habchi, formerly of the Mount Ommaney Fruit Shop which is now closed. This fabulous fruit shop has recently moved into selling meat. There are some delicious pork chops in my fridge at home and I cannot wait to sample them tonight. We also have the fabulous Ronnie's restaurant at Middle Park where I got my dad a voucher for Father's Day. It is named after owner Clare's dad, Ronnie, who was a prolific local real estate agent in my community for many years. It is a fitting tribute to a man who loved great food and wine. Xplicit Kleans are also nominated and why would they not be. There is nothing better than the feeling of clean. They have invited me to visit. I look forwarding to going out on site soon. One of my favourites is Elle's Balcony Garden. Oxley local, Elle, sells beautiful, handpainted pots in gorgeous colour schemes. I bought them as Christmas gifts for my office team last year. They were so excited they could not choose. Last month I was equally delighted to spot them for sale in a Caloundra small business, White Pepper. Finally, Brushed n Co in Riverhills has recently been opened by Tegan, and it has been pretty much flat out since the day it opened. Tegan and her team have done such a lovely job renovating the space and making it so welcoming for everyone, even little humans, who get the red carpet treatment too.

I thank the Centenary Chamber of Commerce for partnering with me on the awards every year. Their energetic and fantastic president, Brent Cue, does a great job. Everyone knows that I could go on and on about small business, but do yourself a favour, if you are a Mount Ommaney local, and vote for your favourite business.