




Speech By
Jonty Bush

MEMBER FOR COOPER

Record of Proceedings, 27 October 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Ashgrove Electorate; Lions Clubs International

 **Ms BUSH** (Cooper—ALP) (8.45 pm): In this House we all value our diverse experiences and values. Despite our political differences and despite our schooling, despite the differences in the electorates we represent, I reckon we can all agree that we believe in and back the work of our local Lions Clubs. Lions Clubs are part of community life, whether in Airlie, Arundel or Ashgrove, in my electorate. This month marks the 75th year of the Lions Club operating in Australia. It is also the 60th year of operation of my local Ashgrove The Gap Lions Club.

I am a member of this Lions club. They are an incredible group full of the most giving and entertaining people you will meet within our community. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at Zegatos restaurant. While I am on that topic, Zegatos is run by Tony, who came into local folklore when working for Il Centro. He created the now infamous sand crab lasagne, which he still does now at Zegatos.

Lions Clubs live by the motto 'we serve', and never has a truer word been spoken. Locally, they are involved in every community project: fundraising for cancer support services; cooking breakfast burgers for trekkers coming in after walking through the national park; providing financial sponsorship to local sporting clubs, including Valley Cricket's All Abilities Program; and hosting the Lions Youth of the Year events, which recognise the outstanding contributions of our local young people.

Our local Lions group is a bit of an amalgamation of clubs over the 60-year period, including Lions Clubs from Enoggera, Bardon, Ashgrove and The Gap, and it is impossible to share that diverse background in the time I have available. All the groups share the ideology that together we can achieve more. Their achievements are incredible. Anyone who is involved in a Lions club knows that you are never off duty. For example, I recently hosted some members of the local Lions club for lunch here at Parliament House. We had about an hour together and in that time they managed to sell Melbourne Cup trifecta tickets to the members for Cairns and Nanango. I have already told the members for Cairns and Nanango that if they win they need to keep me in their thoughts.

The stories and the people behind the stories of The Gap Ashgrove Lions Club are beautiful and vast. They are also about to appear in writing as the club is in the process of publishing its 60-year anniversary history book. I say congratulations to the club and to all those involved in Lions Clubs Queensland.