



Speech By  
**Laura Gerber**


**MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN**

---

Record of Proceedings, 22 June 2022

## ADJOURNMENT

### Threlfall, Mr G

 **Mrs GERBER** (Currumbin—LNP) (7.28 pm): Tonight I put on the record my sincere appreciation of the tireless community advocacy and dedication of passionate Tugun icon Garth Threlfall. Tonight, as a community, we say goodbye. On 17 May this year, at 91 years of age, Garth passed away. Garth was the beloved husband of Glenda; the much loved father of Ian and Peter; the adored grandfather of Cara, Lauren and Erin; and the cherished great grandfather of Carter, Tayla and Goldie.

Garth and his wonderful wife are local champions. They have been pillars in our local Tugun and Currumbin community, dedicating years of service to a number of fantastic local community groups, including the Tugun Progress Association and Friends of Currumbin. Garth will be remembered by our community as an energetic local advocate, an excellent local filmmaker and a quiet and gentle man who never had anything bad to say about others.

Garth loved our Tugun and Currumbin community and had a passion for creating stories. Garth really knew the Gold Coast. He knew its geological history and its environmental history. He witnessed its physical transformation over the years. Garth has left a legacy for the community he loved, documenting its history in his videos.

After making the Gold Coast his home, Garth worked at the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, or the Currumbin Bird Sanctuary as it was known back then. He worked in the bird-feeding arena. That and the sanctuary's other attractions provided inspiration for his own film productions and deepened his curiosity for nature and respect for our environment. Garth spent years in conversation with Alex Griffith, the founder of the Currumbin Bird Sanctuary. Those conversations are recorded in his film *Man of Vision*. Remarkably, that film is still used today by the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary.

Garth's documentary interests are complemented by his wife Glenda's attention to historical detail. They were the perfect couple to research and produce the film and book *The Tugun Story*, which captures the rich history of our community. It brings together footage and reflections from established families such as the Farrells and locals such as Betty Diamond, Eddie Sawden, Wilf Ardill, Ian Hayes, Allan Blenkin, Andy Reynold and his own wife, Glenda. It documents the history of the local Tugun Surf Life Saving Club. The book can be found in the National Library of Australia.

Garth was a true community icon. To Glenda and his family, on behalf of the Currumbin electorate, our sincere condolences. Vale, Garth Threlfall.