




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 1 September 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Rigger, Ms M; Awiyawi, Mr D; Clare, Ms C

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (6.28 pm): It has been a very sad couple of months for the Caboolture region because we have lost three community champions from our region. I would like to pay tribute to each of them tonight. One of the most fulfilling things I find about being a representative of a community is that you get to meet people you would not normally meet. You are impressed by their commitment to community and their dedication to others and you actually form friendships with them. Tonight I pay tribute to not only three community champions but three friends.

The first person is Michele Rigger, who was an outstanding contributor in the area of sports and also child protection. She was a long-term member of the Caboolture Sports Football Club and one of the key directors of the Caboolture Sports Club. In fact, she was one of the club directors of the year for the whole state of Queensland, a very big contributor to junior sports and sport more broadly. Where I think Michele shone was she was also the founder about 11 years ago of the Kids in Care Christmas Appeal. The Caboolture Kids in Care Christmas Appeal grew to be the biggest community Christmas appeal in the state, and that is a fantastic legacy for Michele and her family.

I also want to acknowledge my friend Chief Daniel Awiyawi, a chief of Vanuatu who was also a strong contributor to the community of Caboolture. He was a strong advocate for those who were residents and descendants from people from Vanuatu and went about connecting people to culture as well as making people aware of Vanuatu custom and also the great friendship that Vanuatu has with Australia.

The final person is Carol Clare, a magnificent person who contributed so much to Neighbourhood Watch. She was one of the key people in the Petersen Road Neighbourhood Watch group but also contributed more broadly to district and state Neighbourhood Watch matters. In fact, in recognition of her contribution, in 2018 she was awarded the Neighbourhood Watch Member of the Year for Queensland for that year. That is a magnificent testimony to her contribution, and her contribution was very broad. Not only was she one of the first Neighbourhood Watch members to adopt Facebook as a means of disseminating important community safety messages; she was a mentor to other groups to help them adopt Facebook as a way of disseminating that information. She also was a key leader around the anti-theft screws for numberplates and the Dogs on Patrol initiative. To the families and friends of Carol, Chief Daniel and Michele: we miss them and they leave behind a great legacy.