




Speech By
Robert Skelton

MEMBER FOR NICKLIN

Record of Proceedings, 26 October 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Nicklin Electorate

 **Mr SKELTON** (Nicklin—ALP) (8.51 pm): I rise to provide the House with an update on the many happenings in the Nicklin electorate. Last week I had the opportunity to support our veterans' community on the Sunshine Coast when I attended the inaugural Sunshine Coast Veterans Market. The event was coordinated by the Yandina-Eumundi RSL Sub Branch and featured over 50 stalls showcasing everything from arts and crafts, assistance dogs and animal rescues, cadets, ex-service organisations, woodworking, MMA, snake-handling demonstrations, counselling and nutrition. It was a great day out organised by Tracy Gilmartin and her team of volunteers, with another already being planned in the near future.

Not far from the RSL hall are Yandina Community Gardens, led by president Robyn Matthews. Robyn uses her passion for permaculture to inspire others to learn how to get their hands dirty for all the right reasons. They recently received a Community Sustainability Action Grant of \$43,000 which will be used to expand their already successful Food Waste Loop program. Through this program the garden partners up with local businesses to turn their food scraps into black gold—some of the best compost you will find anywhere in Queensland—helping to close the loop and keep hundreds of tonnes of waste out of landfill.

Last week I also had the honour of representing the Minister for Tourism, Innovation and Sport to congratulate runners finishing the gruelling Blackall 100. The race trail takes participants across the beautiful Blackall Range on the Sunshine Coast Hinterland, where they can experience vibrant ferny forests, subtropical rainforests, tall eucalypt trees, picturesque waterfalls and quiet hinterland hamlets. Congratulations to all of the participants who had a go—especially to Jamie Milne, who broke a Guinness World Record by completing the 100-kilometre run with 20 kilos on his back in just over 21 hours. Jamie did this to raise funds and awareness to support carers and people living with dementia.

The Woombye scout troop celebrated their centenary last Saturday with an open day at their den in Woombye. I would like to thank Henry Turner and Georgie Frost for the invite and the wonderful volunteers who dedicate their time to scouting. I especially enjoyed the historical display and tour given by Marion.

Also on Saturday I had the honour of checking out the second Bunya knockout competition. Thank you to Brad, the committee and the Nambour Crushers. This carnival is helping to create the next generation of First Nations Rugby players on the Sunshine Coast. Well done to the Coastal Blacks Rugby team for winning overall.

Finally, 28 October is Day for Daniel. I implore all, even those who normally wear blue, to don some red and support the Morcombe Foundation in their unwavering work in keeping our children safe.