




Speech By
Bart Mellish

MEMBER FOR ASPLEY

Record of Proceedings, 11 May 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Aspley Small Business Awards; Regional Sitzings of Parliament, Cairns

 **Mr MELLISH** (Aspley—ALP) (5.14 pm): Having the honour of being the last speaker of the Cairns regional parliament, I am going to keep it brief and positive. This year I wanted to show my appreciation for the countless small businesses that make up such a great part of our north side by holding the first ever Aspley Small Business Awards. Small businesses are a pillar of our local community and provide much of the fabric of our local area. We have whittled down the nominations, and since Monday voting is now open for locals to vote for their favourite small businesses in a range of categories. We have had over 1,000 votes already. Voting closes 22 May, so get on board.

In the best cafe category the nominees are: Ahoy Coffee Co, Bald Hills; Deja Bru Cafe, McDowall; Milk & Froth, Aspley; Soultly Olive, Aspley; and Coffee Club, Aspley. In the best restaurants and bars category we have: Aspley Hornets; Cold Rock Ice Creamery, Aspley; DosaHut, Aspley; Ivy's Pizzeria, Bridgeman Downs; and Malaysian Nyonya House, Geebung Bowls Club. Best beauty, cosmetics and hairdressing nominees are: Aspley Skin & Beauty; Bald Hills Hair Design; Hair on Piccadilly, Geebung; Mancave Barbershop, Aspley; Stay Local Barbershop, Aspley.

For the best early education centres we have: Aspley Avenues Early Learning Centre; Flutterbys Childcare, Bridgeman Downs; Goodstart Early Learning, Aspley; Journey Early Learning Centre, Carseldine; and Milestones Early Learning, Aspley. In the best health and fitness category we have: BFT Aspley; Fitness Cartel Aspley; Fitstop Aspley; Relax Yoga, Chermside West; and UBX Aspley. I apologise to all of them for saying that I am going to go to those gyms and I never do. In the best retail and sales category we have: Amcal Pharmacy, Aspley; Aspley Day and Night Pharmacy; Carseldine Quality Meats; Little Fox Lane; and Top Spot Fruit Market. In the final category, best trade and services, we have: Beat Connection; Image Property; McDowall Veterinary Practice; Ray White Aspley; and Shield Tech Locksmiths. Thank you to everyone who has nominated or voted for these categories and recognising these fantastic businesses.

While I have time, I would also like to congratulate the winners of my recent Easter colouring-in competition. We had some brilliant entries. It was very hard to pick the winners out of all the amazing entries. Sadly, I do not have them with me to table. The winners were: Zara, St Dymphna's for prep; Yuvraj, St Kevin's for grade 1; Ivan, Bald Hills for year 2; Krauzer, Zillmere State School for year 3; and Georgia, Aspley State School for year 4. There were some very worthy runners-up.

While I am on my feet I would also like to congratulate Jason, who runs Aspley 10 Pin Bowl in our electorate. Jason is now Australia's pinball champion. Jason won the championship last weekend against 48 players from all around Australia on a Foo Fighters pinball machine. He is now two weeks away from heading to Germany to compete in the European and world championships. Well done, Jason! He runs a fantastic business out there at Aspley 10 Pin Bowl.

As the last speaker in parliament—others have said it much better—thank you to everyone for having us here. It has been fantastic. Thank you to everyone who has had anything to do with it. It has been a brilliant few days. Peace out, Cairns.