



Speech By  
**Dale Last**


**MEMBER FOR BURDEKIN**

---

Record of Proceedings, 14 March 2023

## ADJOURNMENT

### Bowen, Pink Stumps Day

 **Mr LAST** (Burdekin—LNP) (7.01 pm): To quote the McGrath Foundation, ‘pink is the colour’—and I can assure members that it definitely was the colour in Bowen for the recent Pink Stumps Day. When we speak of growth in relation to cancer it is hardly ever good news, but the growth in this event over the last 10 years is definitely good news, with 340 participants at this year’s event. 2023 again saw the hardworking committee achieve its goal of raising awareness about breast cancer, its diagnosis and treatment. With the support of the community they also raised much needed funds.

The McGrath Foundation was established by cricketer Glenn McGrath and his late wife, Jane. Despite fighting her own battle with breast cancer, Jane was committed to ensuring every family experiencing breast cancer would have access to a breast care nurse, no matter where they live. The fact that the McGraths wanted to help people no matter where they live is something that struck a chord with many people in regional Queensland and there is no denying that it has struck a chord for people in Bowen.

In regional areas, the support services that we see in larger centres are sometimes simply not available, but Bowen Cricket and the McGrath Foundation are determined to change that. Despite 193 McGrath breast care nurses having already provided support to over 118,000 families, the McGrath Foundation knows that there is more to do in order to achieve its goal of 250 nurses by 2025.

It is a sad fact that most families in the Bowen community, like in other communities, have been touched by breast cancer in some way. Pink Stumps Day gives those families in the wider community an opportunity to not only fundraise but also learn, remember and celebrate. I assure members that, in true Bowen style, the celebration component is well under control. Challenges like a cricket box throwing competition and ‘pin the box on the cricketer’ were definite highlights and made a great contribution to the fundraising effort.

I am extremely proud of Bowen Cricket Inc. and their efforts to support women fighting breast cancer. I put on the record my thanks and the thanks of the community to Seth, Stacey, Tamika and Hannah for all their hard work. I encourage all members to support Pink Stumps Day in their local community. If a small community like Bowen can put on an event like Pink Stumps Day with 340 participants, it goes to show that there is support right across Queensland. In our rural and regional areas, where we quite often suffer from a lack of services and support, to see the support on that particular day in Bowen—a sea of pink in that great big marquee at the Bowen cricket ground—was certainly a welcome sight.