




Speech By
James Martin

MEMBER FOR STRETTON

Record of Proceedings, 22 August 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Stretton Electorate, Queensland Day Awards

 **Mr MARTIN** (Stretton—ALP) (7.27 pm): I rise to recognise some fantastic Stretton locals, winners of the annual Stretton Queensland Day Awards. Many Stretton locals, individuals and organisations have made a big impact on our community and these awards are a great way of acknowledging them.

Firstly, the major award for Stretton Queenslander of the Year goes to the individual who has displayed the highest commitment to community service. It is local legend Mark Smith, president of the Runcorn Rockets junior basketball club. Mark is a great volunteer who has helped turn the Rockets into one of the biggest and best junior clubs in Queensland. His commitment to the junior players, mums and dads, volunteers and coaches makes the club second to none.

Secondly, for community service for an organisation, congratulations goes to the hardworking team at Stretton Early Years and Kindergarten for providing exceptional community service to families in Stretton. For over 15 years they have built strong community relationships and supported educational development for our local kids. In particular, I commend their Bush Kindy program, which gets children outside and into nature. It is very popular with the parents.

Next, congratulations goes to Queensland E-Watch Chinese, winner of the award for media. I am proud of our multicultural community, in particular, serving members of the Queensland Police and multicultural liaison officers who make up Queensland E-Watch Chinese, translating important community safety information into Mandarin. Next, congratulations goes to the FICQ, the Federation of Indian Communities of Queensland for your service to our community over 25 years.

I know that many members of this place would know members of the FICQ including the current president, Anoop. In fact, they were outside parliament last week, on 15 August, to celebrate Indian Independence Day, with Parliament House lit up in green, white and orange.

I congratulate Peggy Wu for her service to the arts in the Stretton community. She is the president of World Arts & Multi-Culture Inc. and over the last two years she has done a fantastic job with the arts in our community. Congratulations for the sporting award goes to Bella and Lillie Mahoney, who were both selected to represent Australia in the Indigenous Oztag under-21 women's team. They have just returned from Limerick in Ireland, bringing home a bronze medal. Congratulations, girls.

Next, I give a massive congratulations to the selfless and hardworking community champion Habib Jamal. Habib is very well known in my local community. He is president of Queensland Muslims Inc. Habib is a selfless person who does not seek reward or accolades and he has a genuine commitment to our community. Finally, congratulations to Kenny Ma from the Hong Kong Australia Business Association, winner of the multicultural community award. He is very well known in our community, especially with the many young professionals and businesspeople from multicultural backgrounds and members of the Lions Club of Brisbane Chinese.