




Speech By
Jimmy Sullivan

MEMBER FOR STAFFORD

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ADJOURNMENT

Stafford Electorate, Charities

 **Mr SULLIVAN** (Stafford—ALP) (7.10 pm): I rise to talk about the wonderful charity arm of the Prince Charles Hospital, the Common Good. I am proud to represent in this place the Prince Charles Hospital, the Common Good and their staff. Other members might know the Common Good for their iconic Ekka strawberry sundaes. I know that the Premier and the minister for agriculture—the farmer's friend—have spoken about the success of this year's Ekka. I want to reflect on the lasting legacy the Ekka will leave for the important medical research that is underway at the Common Good, co-located at the Prince Charles Hospital.

I thank CEO Steve Francia, general manager Mick Dwane and the entire team at the Common Good who manage a whole matrix of moving pieces, both at this time of year and across the entire year, in terms of building partnerships and getting support for the medical research they deliver. I thank the thousands of volunteers who made it all happen. It was great to work alongside them. To be honest, the Common Good make no apologies: they put us to work. I did my shift on People's Day, on the Wednesday public holiday, as did Darren Mitchell from my office. I still have a few cuts from the strawberry chopping and the scooping, but it is worth it. I am sure he will not mind me mentioning that one of the customers I served—I handed a strawberry sundae to him and his family—was none other than the Clerk of the Parliament. I think he was legitimately shocked at being recognised in his civilian clothing at the Ekka, the poor guy.

An honourable member: He wasn't wearing a suit.

Mr SULLIVAN: I might make a complaint to the Speaker: he was not in a suit. It was terrible! I am yet to hear any constructive feedback as to the quality control on the sundae. I hope that the ratio of strawberry to ice cream was sufficient for Mr Neil. I hope it was fine. In great news, this year a record 150,000 sundaes were served, beating the previous record of 127,000. It was fantastic.

I say a particular thank you to Stone & Wood. The week before, they launched a craft strawberry sundae flavoured beer. Those who know me know that my wife is a professional who has a career in her own right. With kids, sport and everything else, we have to crosscheck our calendars. I had in the diary 'Common Good event'. When I walked out the door and said, 'I'm off to launch the craft beer at Stone & Wood,' I will not repeat what was said; it was not parliamentary! It was a very successful day. Thank you to Stone & Wood and all of our other corporate partners.