



Speech By  
**Laura Gerber**


**MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN**

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Record of Proceedings, 15 March 2023

## ADJOURNMENT

### Fien, Mr RH

 **Mrs GERBER** (Currumbin—LNP) (7.25 pm): Today our surf lifesaving community is in mourning. On 2 March, larger than life local surf lifesaving legend Raymond Henry ‘Freddy’ Fien tragically and suddenly passed away, and I want to dedicate my contribution tonight to him.

Freddy was a loyal and loving husband to Donna and adoring father to his girls Samantha, Taylor, Claudia and Olivia, and he was truly a phenomenal man. Freddy dedicated over 45 years to surf lifesaving. His contribution to our community spans a lifetime and is immense. Freddy mentored countless young lifesavers and helped to build and develop a number of surf clubs. He was a life member of Surf Life Saving Queensland, the Rainbow Bay Surf Life Saving Club and the Point Danger branch, but the one club that I know he was truly passionate about—some would say unashamedly promoted—was the Currumbin Beach Vikings Surf Life Saving Club.

As a former lifesaver at Currumbin Vikings, I know how much Freddy meant to the Vikings. I know how much he was loved, not just as a member or an office bearer, or the official at every carnival, but as a friend. Freddy would always be found at the Vikings, either helping out or drinking a beer, sometimes doing both. He was always at their functions. Whenever I saw Freddy at one of their functions, I knew that that is where the party would be.

His contributions to surf lifesaving cannot be overstated. He was a decorated surf lifesaver. Freddy was a volunteer of the year twice. He received SLSQ’s Andy Frizzell OAM OBE Award and also received the Clive Hammond AOM medal. But his greatest achievement by far was raising his four beautiful girls alongside his beloved wife. His family shared that a highlight of his life—and where his big heart really showed—was walking two of his daughters down the aisle with pride in his eyes.

Freddy’s death was so sudden and so unexpected, and he was still so young. There is still so much shock in our community over his loss, but his life was an incredible one and worthy of celebration. I am very grateful to Michael Hart, the state member for Burleigh, who attended Freddy’s funeral service today on our behalf. Michael said the service was very moving and befitting of Freddy’s character. The words of his daughters and his mates showed just how much Freddy was loved and how his memory will live on. On behalf of the Currumbin electorate, I express my deepest condolences to Freddy’s wife, Donna, and to his four beautiful daughters Samantha, Taylor, Claudia and Olivia.

Freddy dedicated himself to surf lifesaving on the southern Gold Coast, and our community is far richer for his contributions and his great presence. I know our community will wrap their arms around Freddy’s beautiful girls and his beloved wife and support them as they move forward in their lives with the memory of Freddy. Freddy will never be forgotten. Vale, Raymond ‘Freddy’ Fien.