



Speech By  
**Rob Molhoek**


**MEMBER FOR SOUTHPORT**

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **Broughton, Mr P**

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (7.13 pm): I rise this evening to pay tribute to the life of Paul Broughton OAM, an extraordinary elder statesman of the game of Rugby League who unfortunately passed last December. I stand here today to honour Paul's accomplishments and his life. When thinking of Paul my memories of him are filled to the brim with fond recollections of his time with us. He was a beacon of hope and a pioneer of Gold Coast Rugby League. Paul had an unwavering vision for Rugby League on the Gold Coast and worked tirelessly to bring that vision to life. He was a man of dignity and a man of decency. He worked hard to build the great game of Rugby League and build its roots on the Gold Coast.

Paul did not just have a massive impact on the game, he also saw the best in others and inspired us all to achieve our best. In my time of knowing Paul I was moved by the way he devoted his time and energy to mentoring young people, instilling in them a sense of purpose and passion for Rugby League. He worked with the young people to create change and influence them for good through our state's proudest sport, Rugby League. Paul is also one of the founding fathers of the Gold Coast Titans and its inaugural chair. The Gold Coast Titans hold a special place in my heart as one of its fellow founding members. The Titans will continue to bestow the highest honour with the Paul Broughton Medal Award annually to the player who does the most to lift those around him, who makes the sacrifice and models the selflessness required to put their teammates in a better position than themselves. The award encapsulates the essence of Paul Broughton and he will live on with us.

Paul has lived a rich life filled with legacy—the legacy of hope. Without him a piece of the Gold Coast is missing. He will forever be missed by so many. His selflessness was second to none and I am proud to have had the opportunity to have called him my dear friend. In fact, I often thought of him as something of a father figure. Paul, thank you for your selflessness throughout your life and for having had a significant impact not only on me and the greater community but also on Rugby League and inspiring a generation of young people. Though Paul may be gone, his legacy and impact will continue to inspire and uplift our community for years to come. At the funeral it was incredible to see the number of players who came. Every single one of the recipients of the Paul Broughton medal bar one were there to honour Paul and to escort his casket from the church, which I think says an awful lot about the respect and the legacy that Paul has left. Vale, Paul. We will miss you.