




Speech By
Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

Record of Proceedings, 10 September 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Glass House Electorate, Gambling Community Benefit Fund; Piva, Mrs J

 **Mr POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (9.49 pm): This past week there has been a boon in Glass House with the closing of my most recent Local Heroes grants, coinciding with round 121 of the Gambling Community Benefit Fund, meaning a combined total of \$614,767 has been allocated to deserving community groups, individuals and organisations across my electorate. I want to highlight some of the Local Heroes grant applications that I received in this round.

Daniel Boughen is a 12-year-old Maleny boy who is on the autism spectrum. His mum, Chris, put in an application on his behalf as they are fundraising towards an autism assistance dog for Daniel, through Smart Pups. Chris stated that Daniel was her local hero and I was only too happy to support Daniel's endeavour. The Silver Fox Initiative will be using their Local Heroes grant to fund coffee giveaways across the Sunshine Coast on World Mental Health Day.

At the behest of my wife and daughters, sponsorship went to Rosetta Books for their involvement with the Sunshine Coast Hinterland Writers Festival. They have secured best-selling young adult fantasy author Lynette Noni to be a headline author and the funds will go towards her appearance fees. My wife, who is a huge fan, quickly accepted the other offer to be the one to interview Lynette. The Beerburrum School of Arts Association hall, the Eudlo War Memorial and the Maleny Blackall Range Lions Club were also proud recipients in this round and, yes, that totals six. I can never choose just four worthy applicants.

Some noteworthy mentions from the super round of the Gambling Community Benefit Fund include the Woodford Show Society, which is receiving \$94,000 to upgrade their facility. That will do wonders for the annual show. There is a bit of a landslide in Beerwah and Glasshouse Mountains, with the Glass House Country Men's Shed and the Glasshouse Mountains Community Hall receiving \$100,000 and nearly \$100,000 respectively to carry out improvements and fit-outs. The Beerwah State School picked up \$54,000 for a shade shed. That is simply outstanding.

Before I conclude, I want to pay tribute to Mrs Jeannie Piva. Many would know Jean from the time when she and her husband, Bluey, operated the Blue Pacific Hotel on Bribie Island. I am told she was always good for a beer and a hug, with her regulars often needing more of the latter than the former. I got to know her when she retired to Glasshouse Mountains. Jean was a formidable political force. She was a member of the Nationals and then of the LNP. She always had insightful takes on the political environment and gave great advice. I have no doubt that she would have made a fantastic member of parliament in her own right. To her surviving children, Ken, who ran for the Nationals in Glass House in 2006, and Judy and all who called her 'Nonna', including Elia Hill from Tennis Queensland who some members will know, I send my heartfelt sympathies. Jeannie was a fantastic member of both the Bribie Island and the Glasshouse Mountains communities. She will be sorely missed.