




Speech By
Joseph Kelly

MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

Record of Proceedings, 7 March 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Greenslopes Electorate, Women's Week

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (6.27 pm): Happy Queensland Women's Week. I want to commend the Premier on releasing the fabulous Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy. Tonight I am hosting a group of mothers and daughters from Greenslopes who are coming to Parliament House as an early celebration of International Women's Day. I sincerely hope that some of these fine young women come back here one day and run the joint. That is what I really hope.

I want to make a contribution to Queensland Women's Week by talking about some of the great women of Greenslopes—and, trust me, there is no shortage. She is not from my electorate, but the spirit of Mary Ward lives on in my community at Loreto College, Coorparoo. Mary dedicated herself to educating and empowering girls and women. Her motto was, 'Do good and do it well', and that applies to all of the women that I will now outline. There are wonderful educators and school supporters like Kim Wickham from Loreto College; Chrissie Coogan, the principal at Coorparoo Secondary College; Mel Townsend from the Greenslopes P&C; and Toni Sutherland from the Nursery Road State Special School. I also want to acknowledge all of those fantastic kindy and early childhood educators like Miss Libby, Miss Susie, Miss Anita and of course Miss Sarah, all doing an amazing job helping kids get a great start. Speaking of school communities, I am constantly amazed at the fantastic young female students I meet in my community.

All of our local sporting clubs and rec clubs are doing a great job of getting more women involved, but I want to note a couple of special people: Sharon Flannery from the Holland Park Hawks, Noela Duncan from Metro netball, and Dixie and Colleen Ning from Wynola and Holland Park Guides. We have many great local businesswomen, like Karen Weibler from Books@Stones who keeps us all reading. Sass Lavelle runs an inclusive hair studio which caters for people who are on the neurodivergent spectrum and which looks after women who need privacy due to domestic violence or for religious reasons.

There are just so many great women in our community that are doing so much work such as Sonja Hellier from the Holland Park-Mount Gravatt RSL, Rita Prasad from the World Wellness Group, Cat Hebbard who is the President of the Holland Park Lions and runs indelabilityarts, Prue Long from Inspiring Brighter Futures and Jane Milne from the MND & Me Foundation. The list could go on and on and on.

I want to call out all of those great women who supported the Greenslopes Reconciliation Action Group. I particularly want to acknowledge Alicia Weideman, who led the Yes campaign, and was so well supported by Karina Maxwell and our young Indigenous leader Tori Clough. Stephanie and the team at Zig Zag young women's support service do amazing work supporting women who have been affected by sexual violence or domestic violence. This is someone who has been mentioned so many times this week, but Sue Clarke from the Small Steps 4 Hannah Foundation is truly a Greenslopes great.

Finally, I am completely biased about the next group, but I want to finish by acknowledging my personal four favourite Greenslopes great women. My mother-in-law, Nola Adams, is a Greenslopes great.

Mr Lister: Safe one there!

Mr KELLY: Very safe but very sincere. Then there are my daughters, Molly and Brenna—we are so proud of them; and of course my wife, Susan, who is a registered nurse caring for people with cancer at Greenslopes Hospital. I give a big shout-out to all of the nurses, midwives and health professionals. Happy Queensland Women's Week.