




Speech By
Trevor Watts

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA NORTH

Record of Proceedings, 11 December 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Toowoomba North Electorate, Charities

 **Mr WATTS** (Toowoomba North—LNP) (12.55 am): Mr Speaker, this is the first time I have risen in the House since you were appointed to the high office of Speaker. I congratulate you on that. You are a great representative for the seat of Condamine.

I rise to talk about a thing I do every Christmas. I call it the '12 days of Christmas'. I volunteer for different charities in the great electorate of Toowoomba North to highlight the good work they and the volunteers do and the energy and effort they put in at Christmas time. The first shout-out I would like to give is to Loads of Love, which works with Food Assist to make sure food parcels and hams are available to anybody who needs one. They go online and register. I helped them pack some bags on my first day. I did some gift-wrapping for LifeFlight at the Myer Centre to raise money. I want to give a shout-out to Gus Romero and Emily O'Sullivan, who have interchanged in the leadership of both of those organisations.

Momentum Health was the charity of choice for our mayoral Carols By Candlelight, so we gave out candles and asked for donations on the weekend. I will soon be working with Emma Mactaggert at Lighthouse delivering books for children. Lighthouse is an authors program that does a lot of work around literacy for children. I will be doing a bit more gift-wrapping for Alison Kennedy at the Toowoomba Hospital Foundation. I will be going out with OzHarvest and Food Rescue to deliver food parcels, highlighting the great work they do in our community. I will of course get along to the great Wilsonton Heights Community Centre and celebrate Christmas with them and the community that Kaye Lindsay and the team serve. I will also do a shift at Base Services, which, as many people in Toowoomba would know, has been run for a long time now by Nat and Tiff. They provide services for homeless people in our community.

YellowBridge is a great organisation in our electorate. It helps people stay in their homes. They deliver yellow buckets that have been stacked by their staff with donations of little treats, so I will get around and do that. Christmas Wonderland is put on by one of the great Lions clubs in the Toowoomba region. It is fantastic. If anybody wants to drive up the hill to take their kids to see our wonderful lights display, the Christmas Wonderland in Toowoomba is well worth the visit. I sign off every year at Protea Place Women's Support Centre, where I help them serve food to the people they have supported. I share Christmas lunch with them. It is a great community. Merry Christmas to everybody in Toowoomba North.