



Speech By
Hon. Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

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ADJOURNMENT

Glass House Electorate, Events

 **Hon. AC POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation) (9.09 pm): It is all happening in the electorate of Glass House. It was a night of glitter and gold—quite literally gold—for Maleny Jewellers earlier this month as they celebrated 25 years in business. One of the most highly anticipated moments of the night was the drawing of the lucky door prize: a piece of gold bullion valued at almost \$6,000. I had one job, which was to draw the winner, and of course I drew my own name. A quick re-draw followed and the rest of the evening was spent celebrating Jim and Sandra and all they have invested in both Maleny Jewellers and the broader hinterland community.

Speaking of successes, what an honour it was to be invited to present the winners of the annual Woodford Community Art Group members' competition. Congratulations to Diane Sattler, who won first place for her mixed media piece titled *Pears and an Apple*; Dawn Evans, who received the Helene McEwan watercolour encouragement award; and Hannalore Storms, who was recognised with the group's most improved prize. More recently, Saturday saw a hugely successful Beerwah Spring Fair, where there were rides, a car show, food, fun and fireworks. It was great to be a part of the community celebration.

The fabulous 30th celebrations of the River School in Maleny also took place on the weekend. The event will go down in everyone's memory for the children's brilliant farewell to longstanding and much loved principal Ann Donoghue. To bangers like *Never Gonna Give You Up* and *Time of My Life*, the kids danced Ann through the fair. Seriously, members have to check out my socials. It is so worth it. Ann, we all love you and wish you all the best on your next exciting adventure.

On a sadder note, our communities have lost three amazing individuals. Anita Verwayen was a stalwart of the Mooloolah community and so instrumental in everything to do with the Mooloolah Valley Community Association, including the establishment of the Mooloolah Valley Mens Shed. Anita was not someone you messed with, but she was one of the warmest and kindest people I have ever met.

If you drove down Maple Street early in the morning, you would see Glenn Howard sitting outside the bakery or the Maleny Food Co., enjoying a coffee and chatting to locals. In fact, he 'requested' I join him as regularly as I could and I did. I will miss you, mate.

Finally I mention Kay Herron. Kay and her husband, Joe, dairy farmers from Conondale, were two of the first people I met in that beautiful community in the lead-up to the 2009 election. Kay was much loved by all. Tragically, and many would have read about this in recent media reports, a farming accident took Kay far too early. My thoughts and prayers are with Joe and the family.