



Speech By
Kendall Morton

MEMBER FOR CALOUNDRA

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ADJOURNMENT

Caloundra Community Awards

 **Ms MORTON** (Caloundra—LNP) (9.26 pm): What a wonderful night we had in Caloundra last Thursday honouring our local heroes. I was proud to host my first Caloundra Community Awards. It was a wonderful evening that brought our community together to celebrate the people and organisations that go above and beyond to make the Caloundra community such a vibrant and caring place. We began with a charity auction to support our generous hosts, the Queensland Air Museum. A big thankyou goes to Steve Venn for doing this auction, which was a stunning Bluey's Photography piece that represents our Caloundra electorate.

As the award ceremony got underway I was truly inspired by the calibre of finalists. Their dedication, compassion and contributions make Caloundra the special place we are proud to call home. I am going to try to get through these quickly because they are outstandingly fabulous. Our Senior Citizens Group of the Year runner-up was the Glasshouse Country Senior Citizens Club, which creates opportunities for those people to come together. Our winner was the Caloundra Woodworking Club, whose members take the time to mentor each other and learn new skills all in the name of friendship. Our Young Achiever of the Year runner-up was our skateboarding superstar Ellie Burrows. Our winner was Paul Gilbert, who overcomes the challenges of living with a disability by giving back to the community.

The Educator of the Year runner-up was Jacky McDonald from the fabulous Baringa Goodstart Early Learning—a true community champion. Our winner was Tara Williams, a teacher at Nirimba State Primary School—one of our new schools in the electorate—who has managed to pull together the most beautiful musical for our kids. That is an opportunity and experience they will remember for the rest of their lives.

Our Business of the Year runner-up was Brew Box Collective, where Justin and the team provide not only great coffee but also smiles and friendly faces. Our winner was Bluey's Photography, where Doug has managed to capture all of the incredible work that is going on to protect Pumicestone Passage right now. Our Sporting Club of the Year runner-up was Aura Netball, also one of our brand new clubs with the greatest team culture that anyone could ever want. Our winner was Caloundra Basketball with their 74 teams and the most well run competition any parent could ever enjoy.

The Community Group of the Year was the Uniting Church Community Breakfast Group, a group of wonderful people providing breakfast for those facing homelessness in our community. Our winner was Night Eyes Water & Landcare, who collect 38,000 kilos of rubbish from our waterways every year. Last but not least, we had our Caloundra Champion of the Year. Our runner-up was Jen Kettleton-Butler from the PPCMB for her tireless advocacy for the community of Caloundra. Our winner was Shane Dimechi from Mate-Ship, a group coming together on the water for veterans in friendship.

I would also like to give a shout-out to my fabulous team—Robyn, Fleur and Pete—for pulling it all together and to really give us the opportunity to celebrate all of the people of Caloundra. You are wonderful and you deserve the recognition.