



Speech By
Martin Hunt

MEMBER FOR NICKLIN

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ADJOURNMENT

Nicklin Electorate

 **Mr HUNT** (Nicklin—LNP) (9.34 pm): In every community there are people who step up, who give more of themselves than is ever asked and who make a lasting difference. Tonight I want to shine a light on some of the people in Nicklin—our Nicklin community heroes.

Tracey Mitchell is one of those dynamos. As President of the Nambour and Districts Netball Association, she has grown membership by over 25 per cent this year, built new sponsorships and brought free programs into schools, all while being a solo mum of three and coaching her child's team. Her energy and commitment inspire everyone around her.

Angela Barnes is another quiet achiever whose impact is felt across Palmwoods, Chevallum and Nambour. Whether running a P&C fundraiser, coaching netball or working behind the scenes at the wonderful StrawbFest I attended last week, Angela is the first to roll up her sleeves. Through Palmwoods Psychology, she also supports countless local families. Ange is one of those people who makes communities stronger just by being in them.

Barb White has dedicated more than four decades to education, with the last 15 years being at Nambour Special School. She has transformed literacy outcomes for students with disabilities, mentored generations of teachers and even now, at the close of her career, is still fundraising by swimming 2.5 kilometres in the Island Charity Swim. Barb's legacy will endure long after her teaching days end.

Jack Gaffney is the definition of selfless. As P&C President, he has driven fundraising and inclusion initiatives and created a supportive environment for all students at Palmwoods State School, particularly those who are neurodiverse. On top of that, he is a full-time carer, a father, a husband and the sole income-earner for his family. Jack gives everything he has, not for recognition but for the wellbeing of others.

Finally, there is Cher-Kira Brown, known to everyone as Kira. While studying and working, she still gives one day a week to volunteer as a barista at the wonderful Everyday Foundation in Nambour. Since her school days she has been serving up not just great coffee but warmth and kindness. If you have had a Kira coffee, you know it is made with heart.

These are Nicklin's real heroes. They do not wear capes, but they do lift others up. It is an honour, as their local member, to place their names on the record of this parliament so their dedication is preserved in history and recognised alongside the heartfelt appreciation of our community.