



Speech By  
**Nigel Dalton**


**MEMBER FOR MACKAY**

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **Domestic and Family Violence Month**

 **Mr DALTON** (Mackay—LNP) (9.03 pm): Domestic and Family Violence Month in Mackay turned our city purple. The Mackay Rotary clubs, led by Michael Buckeridge, partnered with too many other organisations to mention here to raise awareness through our community of domestic and family violence. Purple T-shirts were given out to school leaders, businesses and support agencies, government and non-government. All of those who were wearing purple T-shirts wore them every Friday in May. High schools turned purple. The city was awash with purple shirts in coffee shops and shopping centres. Education sessions were provided to senior students in high schools throughout the month. A breakfast session was provided to school leaders where Mackay magistrate Damien Dwyer and I spoke to the young people about domestic and family violence in our community.

A powerful and deeply moving event then took place in the heart of Mackay on the last Friday in May—a community march which brought together 700 school students, as well as university students, community leaders and participants from businesses. Up to 1,000 people were united in standing against domestic violence, and one of those in the march was our Premier, David Crisafulli. Led by the Rotary Club of Mackay, this march was more than just a walk through the streets; it was a rallying cry for change. It was a moment when students, police officers, community leaders and everyday citizens stood shoulder to shoulder wearing purple and carrying banners that boldly declared 'enough'.

Among the voices that echoed through the streets was Superintendent Dean Cavanagh, the district officer in the Mackay-Whitsunday district, who reminded us that the fight against domestic violence is not just a matter for law enforcement; it is a responsibility we all share. His words, and those of survivors and advocates, underscored the importance of education, awareness and, above all, community. This march was not just symbolic. It reminded us that behind every statistic is a person—a mother, a child, a friend.

I commend the Domestic Violence Resource Service, the Zonta Club of Mackay and other individuals who were involved in this inspiring event. Let this march be a reminder to all those in this chamber that we must continue to support policies, funding and education that protect the vulnerable and hold all perpetrators to account because every person deserves to feel safe in their home, in their community, at work and in their life.