



Speech By  
**Ray Stevens**


**MEMBER FOR MERMAID BEACH**

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Record of Proceedings, 2 April 2025

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Burleigh Bears Junior Rugby League Football Club**

 **Mr STEVENS** (Mermaid Beach—LNP) (9.21 pm): Like many areas of South-East Queensland, ex-Cyclone Alfred left thousands of homes without power on the Gold Coast due to heavy rain and howling winds. The Energex workers did a fantastic job, working tirelessly and without much sleep to get the power back on as quickly as possible. A big thankyou to them! However, my biggest thankyou goes to the volunteer army at the Burleigh Bears Junior Rugby League Football Club in the Mermaid Beach electorate, made up of dedicated parents who cooked brekkies and meals nonstop for hundreds of exhausted Energex workers over the weeks it took—

**Mr Mander:** Great place.

**Mr STEVENS:** Thank you. I take that interjection from the member for Everton and Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. They did that over the weeks it took to get the power back on. It made me incredibly proud that a group of dedicated mums and dads from one of my fantastic local communities who support over 1,000 kids playing rugby league put their own work, hardships and family demands aside to provide a nonstop canteen, feeding hundreds and hundreds of Energex workers for free as they toiled away getting power back to the people.

When I visited early one day for breakfast, there were Energex trucks everywhere and there were workers who had come from as far away as Townsville. President Darcy Abbott needs to be congratulated for his commitment to community wellbeing, along with his dedicated team of Nathan Goss, the vice-president; Georgia Mooney, the treasurer; and Adam Flier, the secretary. Adam Flier guided me around the kitchen workshop, showing me exactly how much passion and dedication that is the backbone to the fabulous Burleigh Bears Junior Rugby League Football Club. I must make special mention of the brekkie cook of the day, Nic, who must be the world's best fried egg cooker. Nic went from rank amateur chef to cooking hundreds and hundreds of eggs for hungry workers and may have found a new career as a sous chef!

While I was there, Adam told me of their fundraising quest for a new golf buggy to transport injured kids at footy from their faraway fields to the clubhouse. To this end, there is a fundraising golf day coming up, to which I have taken sponsorship, and I may invite the Minister for Sport, the member for Everton—the great golfer that he is—to that particular function. I have spoken to Energex to see if they can help, and I will talk to the Treasurer about that later, and I am using my golfing contacts to see if there is a buggy out there available at the right price.

I am truly proud of and thankful for my wonderful community club, the Burleigh Bears Junior Rugby League Football Club, and I will do everything in my capacity as their local member to see them grow and prosper. When Queenslanders come together to face any calamity that Mother Nature throws at them, this great community club has shown that we can survive and thrive if we all pull together.