




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR SOUTHPORT

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ADJOURNMENT

Southport Electorate, Activities

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (9.21 pm): Tonight I want to take a moment to highlight some of the things that are going on in the CBD of the Gold Coast at Southport. First, I have to mention Fire Baby, an incredible new venue about to open in the heart of our CBD. Right there on Welch Street, it is the brainchild of my old school mate from Keebra Park, Dr Michael Read. I have to say that it is shaping up to be something pretty special. There will be room for up to 500 people, two massive pizza ovens, rooftop bars, a bakery, a chargrill that you cannot jump over and more. I think it will rival some of the biggest and best venues on the Gold Coast in terms of its fit-out and its floor space. Michael has poured his heart and soul into this project and I think it is exactly the sort of venue that Southport has been missing for some time.

I want to mention our new youth member for Southport, Levi Knight. Levi is also school captain at Benowa High and he has a genuine passion for our community, particularly an interest in the challenges facing young people today. He has taken a keen interest in the education system and the importance of equipping young Australians with the necessary life skills and knowledge required to live full and resilient lives.

The Southport citizens Anzac service did not exactly go to plan this past week, being called off by torrential rain. However, in true Gold Coast spirit, many locals still turned up to lay wreaths and pay their respects. I joined Kevin Lloyd-Thomas, our local RSL president, and a few others who braved the weather for what became a series of meaningful and private moments of quiet reflection.

I also want to give a quick shout-out to Liz, Bughy and the crew at Gold Medal Gymnastics. They recently received almost \$100,000 through the Gambling Community Benefit Fund for new equipment, and they are already putting it to good use. They have some serious talent coming through and I am sure there may even be some future Olympians in the making.

This year marks my 11th year as a participant in the CEO Sleepout with Vinnies. This year my fellow ambassadors have raised the bar and set as our target \$1 million. Every cent raised on the Gold Coast stays on the Gold Coast, and I commend everyone who will participate again this year on 10 June at Cbus Super Stadium.

There is a lot going on in Southport. It is, as I always say, the engine room of the Gold Coast. It is a community that I am incredibly proud to represent and one that just keeps showing up.