



Speech By
Hon. Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Glasshouse Electorate

 **Hon. AC POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation) (2.03 pm): I recently had the pleasure of being part of the official opening of the Seven Hills Estate in Conondale. Owned by James and Michelle Burnett, it is a new, truly wonderful ecotourism offering in the electorate of Glass House nestled on a 420-acre property at the foothills of the Conondale National Park, roughly between Maleny and Kenilworth. I mentioned James and Michelle, but the reality is that there are four generations of the Burnett family involved in the opening and the operation of Seven Hills. It is entirely off-grid and is a sanctuary for nature lovers who want to immerse themselves in the rural landscape. It has three fantastic lodges that offer sustainable living, modern comfort—trust me, very modern comfort—and a genuine and unique farmstay experience. The other really wonderful thing about Seven Hills is that it exemplifies our approach to private protected areas. As part of that 420-acre property, 250 acres has been turned into a nature refuge. It epitomises the type of voluntary, manageable and productive farming land that we want to have as part of the LNP Crisafulli government.

I also acknowledge the school captain at Mooloolah State School, Ethan Maguire, who set up a new breakfast club for his classmates. The idea began when his teacher asked the class who had eaten breakfast. Ethan noticed that some of his fellow students did not put up their hand so he decided to take action and help. He brainstormed with his mum and they launched the breakfast club, which is now running every Tuesday and Wednesday. It provides students with a free nutritious breakfast to start the day. His mum and the chappy also help out. It has great community support from the Mooloolah bakery, the Woollies at Beerwah, Gateway Care at Caloundra and the local Lions club. Even I chipped in with a Local Heroes grant of \$250. What a fantastic example of student leadership and community spirit. Well done, Ethan.

In the run-up to International Women's Day on Sunday, 8 March I want to acknowledge an incredibly inspiring young woman from the electorate of Glass House, Isabella Buckland, a year 12 student at Glass House Christian College. This young lady in 2024 spent one day a week at the University of the Sunshine Coast assisting PhD students with their laboratory work and research. She then went on to be a UQ science ambassador at her school last year, demonstrating science for primary students. This year she participated in year 12 biology camp at the Tangalooma wrecks conducting reef research. She studied human environmental impacts and completed scuba training for underwater surveys. The latest is that she is headed off to the National Youth Science Forum, a leading STEM program for our top senior science students. Well done, Isabella. It is great to support you. You are an inspiration to all around you.