



Speech By
Hon. Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

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ADJOURNMENT

Glass House Small Business Awards



Hon. AC POWELL (Glass House—LNP) (Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation and Acting Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) (9.03 pm): This evening I rise to celebrate the outstanding small businesses and their employees recognised at my 2026 annual small business awards, better known throughout the community as the Glassies, held this year at the Mooloolah Valley Country Club. This year marked a significant milestone—celebrating 10 years of recognising the businesses and employees who contribute so much to the Glass House electorate. Over the past decade the Glassies have become a valued tradition, highlighting the resilience and community spirit that define our local business community. From Maleny and Montville to Glass House country and the Moreton Bay hinterland, small businesses are the backbone of the electorate of Glass House. They create local jobs, support local families, sponsor community groups and sporting clubs and help make our region such a wonderful place to live and work.

Held during Small Business Month, the Glassies are the culmination of two months of nominations and public voting. This year was the largest in the award's history, with a record number of nominations and more than 4,500 votes cast by community members. That level of participation reflects the pride our communities have in the businesses and employees who serve them every day. I would like to pay special tribute to our Gold Glassies recipients. The Gold Business award was presented to Glasshouse Plantation, a working coffee plantation that offers coffee tastings, farm tours and a cafe featuring local farm to table produce, all set against the stunning backdrop of the Glass House Mountains. Glasshouse Plantation's excellence in tourism, hospitality and customer experience consistently showcases Glass House country to visitors across Queensland and beyond, helping to strengthen the profile of our local communities. All credit to Lisa and Paul the owners.

The Gold Employee award was presented to Hunter Juffs from Ledgers Country Butchery in Woodford. At just 17 years of age, Hunter has already earned a reputation for his exceptional work ethic and positive attitude. One customer wrote to me saying—

Doesn't matter what time I go into the butcher, he's there. Always a pleasure, happy and smiling. We should all be recognising and applauding kids like himself. He is a winner!

That nomination perfectly captures why Hunter received this award. His dedication, reliability and commitment to customer service have left a lasting impression on the community he serves and makes him a wonderful ambassador for the next generation of skilled workers.

I would also like to thank all of the local chamber presidents, along with the prize sponsors who have made the Glassies such a success over the past decade. As we celebrate 10 years of the Glassies, we celebrate the people who make the electorate of Glass House such a vibrant, prosperous and connected community.