



Speech By  
**Hon. Jann Stuckey**

**MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN**

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**PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

**Currumbin Electorate**

 **Hon. JA STUCKEY** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games) (2.45 pm): Honourable members, it is all happening in Currumbin. Our famous Currumbin beach was recently judged Queensland's cleanest beach by Keep Australia Beautiful. Can I just say, in Currumbin we have long been aware just how spectacular our beaches are so it is fitting this beach has now been recognised through this state-wide award.

Despite tumultuous weather events earlier this year, Currumbin was spared any serious coastal erosion and is looking as beautiful as ever. Out of a total of eight categories in the clean beach awards, Currumbin was top, or equal top, in six of them, which is a real credit to residents and community groups who use and care for our beaches.

Currumbin Vikings Surf Life Saving and Friends of Currumbin, together with members of our close-knit community, are to be commended for the diligence and pride they display in keeping our foreshores in perfect condition. I invite you all to come and visit Queensland's cleanest beach, Currumbin—enjoy our sandy beaches, sheltered creek mouth and friendly relaxed atmosphere.

North Kirra's foreshore was recently transformed into a mini city to host the annual Surf Life Saving Championships 'Aussie' titles. First held in 1915 in Bondi the 'Aussies' have grown into one of the nation's premier sporting events, boasting all forms of surf competition. Queensland is world-renowned for glittering beaches, home to over 59 surf-lifesaving clubs—eight of them falling within the Currumbin electorate.

More than 6,000 athletes from across the nation competed in this event, producing quality contests and friendly rivalry. I was lucky enough to watch champion Ky Hurst take out his ninth win in the open surf race—no mean feat considering the strong competition. The economic impact for the community was huge—surrounding suburbs abuzz, no-vacancy signs everywhere, restaurants overflowing and a generally great atmosphere. What better place for our heroes of the surf to test their ability against top-class competitors than our majestic North Kirra beach. Thankfully this year's event was free of tragedy and I commend surf-lifesaving officials for continuing to make the safety of competitors their No. 1 priority.

All honourable members would attest that Anzac Day services are humbling and solemn events. In Currumbin they are embraced passionately by locals. The dawn service at Elephant Rock, hosted by the Currumbin RSL and the inimitable president Ron Workman, was again a deeply moving occasion captured on television and beamed around the nation.

Around 10,000 gathered at the service as the honour roll was reverently read out, with the highest number of veterans lost this past year. Currumbin Viking's boat crews scattered the ashes of 14 veterans at sea and the bugler played the *Last Post*. It is heart-warming to see so many residents, young and old, involved in these services honouring the spirit of the Anzacs and ensuring their memory lives on in the hearts of future generations. Lest we forget.