



Speech By
Hon. Jann Stuckey

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENTS

Currumbin, Australia's Cleanest Beach

 **Hon. JA STUCKEY** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games) (2.34 pm): It gives me enormous pleasure to rise to update the House on a very exciting announcement made this week that is a sense of enormous pride for the good folk of Currumbin. On Monday, 18 November at a ceremony in Perth, Currumbin was officially declared Australia's Cleanest Beach for 2013. I have to say that we love our airport as well.

This is a fantastic achievement and follows Currumbin being recognised as Queensland's cleanest beach in April this year. Stellar efforts of locals and stakeholders over many years have culminated in this recognition at a national level, and it is so pleasing to see the hard work of the community acknowledged via this title. We were up against some fierce competition from world famous beaches right around the Australian coastline. The beaches were judged on eight key criteria including community action and partnerships, litter prevention, young legends, heritage and culture, resource recovery and waste management, water conservation and energy innovation. That we topped the list on such extensive criteria is a real testament to those who love and care for our foreshore.

In Currumbin, we are well aware that we have something pretty special, and it is fantastic to see that Keep Australia Beautiful agrees. On Wednesday morning I hosted a ceremony to welcome home the cleanest beach trophy and acknowledge all those who have contributed to this excellent achievement. They include Friends of Currumbin, Currumbin Surf Life Saving Club, Currumbin Volunteer Marine Rescue, Councillor Chris Robbins, Swell Sculpture Festival, Bleach*, Gecko, Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, Alley Boardriders, Surfrider Foundation and the Griffith University Centre of Coastal Management. As you can see, we are a pretty tight-knit community here in Currumbin

I also wish to place on record my thanks to Rick Burnett, the CEO of Keep Queensland Beautiful, for his relentless support and passion in the field of sustainability. I extend an invitation to all honourable members to visit our little slice of heaven with our world-famous beaches and our world-famous airport. From our stunning foreshores to the hidden treasures of our valleys, Currumbin is blessed with natural attributes and caring, community minded residents.

As we salute our clean beaches, it is timely to recognise the efforts of our police to clean up our streets. This afternoon I wish to acknowledge the fine work of Detective Inspector Marc Hogan of the Gold Coast Northern Crime Group and his team. Marc oversaw the arrest of three criminal motorcycle gang members by his officers at Palazzo Versace on the Gold Coast. These were the first arrests under the Newman government legislation to crack down on criminal motorcycle gangs. I congratulate Marc for his significant work in this area, and I thank all police officers for the work they are doing day in, day out to clean up our neighbourhoods and rid the streets of these thugs. Clean beaches are associated with safe communities, and safe communities are supported by a government that acts responsibly and does not tolerate crime.