



Speech By
Hon. Jann Stuckey

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

Record of Proceedings, 22 May 2014

MEMBER'S STATEMENTS

Currumbin Electorate, Events; Neighbourhood Watch

 **Hon. JA STUCKEY** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games) (2.45 pm): The Currumbin electorate now has nine active Neighbourhood Watch groups providing an invaluable service to our local community. It is worth noting that three of these groups have formed since August 2013. In fact, I was at the launch of Palm Beach 16 last Friday evening. I acknowledge the work of the police minister in moving Neighbourhood Watch groups to the online sphere and in turn providing unprecedented levels of access. This, coupled with a \$500,000 funding commitment from the Newman government, has no doubt contributed to the increased interest in Currumbin.

As people's lives get busier, it becomes increasingly difficult to attend community meetings, which is why this strong online focus is timely. I am sure honourable members would all agree that local residents are best placed to work with the police to report crime and graffiti, and it is local Neighbourhood Watch groups that provide the driving force behind community participation. Recently, I hosted an afternoon tea in my electorate to thank all of these individuals for the invaluable work they carry out. A number of local police were in attendance, demonstrating their high regard for the work undertaken by these groups. I would like to add my appreciation for and admiration of these community volunteers who assist in making our neighbourhood safer.

Today I would also like to acknowledge a number of community groups in my electorate which have been the deserving recipients of recent state government funding. Six groups shared in over \$205,000 through the Gambling Community Benefit Fund and the Jupiters Casino Community Benefit Fund. Earlier in the year, two local clubs were fortunate enough to be awarded Get Playing grants through Minister Dickson's very successful Get in the Game initiative. The Palm Beach Currumbin Sports Club received \$100,000 to construct a new amenity block, and the Tweed Heads and Coolangatta Surf Life Saving Club received \$100,000 to construct a gymnasium and training room.

Over the weekend of 9, 10 and 11 May, thousands of people were treated to an ambitious venture by Opera Australia to conduct three performances of Mozart's *Magic Flute* literally on the beach at Greenmount in Coolangatta. Nothing of this scale has ever been done before and the results were absolutely magnificent. The set was breathtaking, the weather was fine, the cast was sensational. The script was in English and it was personalised for our Aussie location. I commend everyone involved in this spectacular production which was embraced by opera lovers and novices alike. Special mention goes to Louise Bezzina and Connecting Southern Gold Coast for their bold dream. The government was proud to partner with the Gold Coast City Council as a major sponsor for this landmark event.

I am very excited to inform the House that a southern Gold Coast beach has once again taken out the title of Queensland's cleanest beach. Congratulations to Rainbow Bay for receiving this

well-deserved award. I acknowledge the stellar efforts of residents and local stakeholder groups, in particular Friends of Rainbow Bay. As this is the first year of a new star-rating system, this makes it even more special. We all know that Currumbin is the current cleanest beach in not only Queensland but Australia.