



Speech By
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MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

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PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Currumbin Electorate, Events

 **Mrs STUCKEY** (Currumbin—LNP) (2.18 pm): There is always something amazing happening in my beloved Currumbin. The annual Swell Sculpture Festival is once again adorning Currumbin's picturesque foreshore and beachfront. In its 15th year, this free 10-day event, running from 14 to 23 September, continues to attract huge crowds to view the creative pieces made by artists from near and far. Last year's visitations were estimated to be around 276,000, which is impressive and great for local businesses along the route—many of which suffered through the poor planning of the Commonwealth Games. Swell's co-founder and curator, Natasha Edwards, and her terrific team are to be congratulated for their remarkable efforts and infectious enthusiasm.

I popped down for a quick peek last Friday and joined the throng of camera-toting individuals and families keen to view this year's exhibits. I plan to head back this weekend for a closer look and suggest honourable members do the same. There are 45 artists involved this year representing 38 pieces ranging from *Trafficking*, a seven-metre high art form made from 100 traffic cones to highlight the horrific crime of human trafficking, to *Prickles the Unhuggable Bear*, a 500-kilogram barbed and fencing wire work of art.

Mr Stevens: He won.

Mrs STUCKEY: Yes, he did win the Neumann prize.

Last Friday I also had the absolute pleasure of attending Currumbin Community Special School for their 'Our kitchen rocks competition'. Students from both Currumbin and Mudgeeraba special schools donned aprons and prepared a series of courses for discerning judges. Friday's event was held to celebrate students' cooking skills and to raise funds for Currumbin Community Special School's Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation program. This clever program is described as follows—

The Vision:

Children form positive food habits for life.

The Mission:

We provide the inspiration, information, professional learning and support for educational institutions to deliver pleasurable food education, in conjunction with educators, partners and the wider community.

Having been involved with this program since it was established at the school, I have witnessed the hands-on engagement with students who take pride in growing food they can cook and eat. The competition is a fantastic extension of the Stephanie Alexander garden philosophy.

Bridge from Gold FM 92.5; John Lazarou, one of the owners of Coffee Club; and Felicity Best, the head chef at Currumbin RSL, made up the judging panel, and Spida Everett from Gold FM 92.5 was the entertaining MC. It meant a lot to have judges of this calibre giving genuine critiques of the food, which they said was delicious and of a very high standard, making it hard to pick a winner. Mudgeeraba eventually won.

Students enhanced the luncheon with a rousing rendition of *We will Rock You* by Queen, which was given new words and a brand-new meaning. Next we were treated to a magnificent piano recital from senior Currumbin student Teika who then accompanied Mudgeeraba's Sara as she sang solo. I would like to place on record my sincere thanks and appreciation to all who organised and played a part in this memorable and enjoyable function. I ask us all to remember National Police Remembrance Day on Friday, 28 September.