



Speak Up Now - Stop Domestic & Family Violence - Maleny & Blackall Range

6 August 2023 · 🌐

Today we had the unveiling and blessing of our 11th red bench on the Sunshine Coast Hinterland at St Luke's Anglican Church in Kenilworth. The blessing was given by the Reverend Kaye Pitman OAM. Thank you to [Robert Skelton MP for Nicklin](#) for coming along to support our work. Thank you also to the [Red Rose Foundation Australia](#) for starting the Red Bench initiative and for the [#ChangeTheEnding](#) movement.

As I was speaking this morning about D&FV and the purpose of the red benches, I was moved by the congregation's acknowledgment of the terrible times we are living in, and their dismay when I relayed some of our current statistics regarding DV Murders and DV Strangulations etc. and the fact that in the 2022 / 2023 financial year police in Queensland have responded to more than 170,000 DV Incidents, and almost 60,000 domestic violence orders in Queensland in the same time frame have been breached by the perpetrators of the violence.

The aim of [Speak Up Now - Stop Domestic & Family Violence - Maleny & Blackall Range](#) is raise awareness of, and educate people about the affect domestic and family violence has on our community, so that more people are willing and able to stand up and speak up and say enough is enough - no more lives loss to DV Murder. No more children exposed to violence in the home. No more young people believing that what they see within their family home is acceptable behaviour and behaviour that they go on and perpetrate when they commence their dating journeys, because they don't know what respectful behaviour is.

[Maleny Neighbourhood Centre Rotary Club of Maleny Maleny Blackall Range Lions Club Zonta Club of Blackall Range Andrew Powell MP Glasshouse Country & Maleny News Sunshine Valley Gazette Councillor Winston Johnston - Division 5 Sunshine Coast Council Hinterland Anglican: Maleny Palmwoods Montville Kenilworth Maleny Uniting Church Andrew Wallace - LNP Federal Member for Fisher Maleny Hospital Auxiliary](#)

