



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT**

**Community Recognition Statement**

31 March 2022

**MICHELLE WELLARD**

**Ms SONIA HORNER ( Wallsend ) :**

Wallsend local Michelle Wellard has been awarded the Work Integrated Learning Student of the Year by the University of Newcastle in recognition of her efforts during a hospital placement as part of her Bachelor of Midwifery.

Work integrated learning is the term given to educational activities that integrate academic learning of a discipline with its practical application in the workplace.

During her time at the Belmont Midwifery Group Practice, Michelle focused on one-to-one woman-centred continuity of care experiences (CCE's). CCE involves providing care for women throughout their pregnancy, birth and postnatal period, ultimately improving outcomes for both mother and baby.

Michelle structured her learning around four CCE women with varied support needs, including vulnerable patients. Going above and beyond, she was able to transform what might have been an ordinary part of her degree by embracing extensive opportunities to engage in mentorship with experienced midwives.

Her confident, patient-centred approach, understanding each woman's hopes and concerns, is why Michelle is a worthy recipient of this award—and more importantly why I am sure she will make a truly fantastic midwife.