




Speech by

Mark Boothman

MEMBER FOR ALBERT

Hansard Thursday, 12 July 2012

ORMEAU FAIR

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Albert—LNP) (3.19 pm): Every year the Ormeau Lions Club holds a regular event, the Ormeau Fair. In the local area the fair is becoming a community institution and is rapidly growing each and every year. This year's fair will be held on the weekend of 11 and 12 August at Brien Harris Oval. It is a fantastic event and I am sure this year's fair will be better than ever. The fair promises to provide an action-packed weekend for the whole family, and I encourage all of my colleagues in this House to visit this wonderful event. I excuse the member for Cairns, as it would be quite a fair way for him to travel.

We are in the seventh year of the Lions' Ormeau Fair, which started back in 2004 when Norm Jessen and his wife moved to Ormeau area to live. Norm received in the letterbox an invitation to an Ormeau Lions Club meeting; he went so that he could meet new people. That was the beginning of this marvellous event. The following year Norm became the president of the Ormeau Lions Club. He had a dream, similar to the *Field of Dreams* vision, to fill the Brien Harris Oval with a fair: build a fair and people will come and, I must say, they certainly have come.

Over the years the fair has grown rapidly, attracting tens of thousands of locals from the Logan city and the Gold Coast city regions. Now it has the title of the 'mini Ekka'. For the past seven years Norm has been elected president of the Ormeau Lions Club and he has become an icon for our community. His vision to fill Brien Harris Oval with a fair took an enormous amount of effort by many people. Many volunteers have given up their time to make Albert the best place to live in South-East Queensland. I congratulate the Ormeau Lions Club for organising this special event, all the profits of which go back to the community. I wish to say thank you to them for their dedication.