



Speech by

Mr BRUCE LAMING

MEMBER FOR MOOLOOLAH

Hansard 14 March 2000

MR J. BEAUSANG; SYDNEY-MOOLOO LABA YACHT RACE

Mr LAMING (Mooloolah—LP) (7.25 p.m.): From time to time in this place we are given the opportunity and the privilege to pay our respects to former members of the Parliament on the occasion of their passing. There is, of course, another group of individuals, many of whom make a substantial contribution to their communities at local government level.

I would particularly like to draw the attention of the House to the tremendous contribution made by the late Jack Beausang, OBE, former councillor and chairman of the Landsborough Shire and the first Mayor of Caloundra City. Jack died in his sleep on Friday, 3 March, at the age of 87. He will be missed and remembered fondly by hundreds of residents of the city and beyond.

His contribution to the building of the City of Caloundra included a record 23 years as shire chairman. I am sure that many current and former Ministers of this Parliament would have had dealings with Jack Beausang on issues involving both the State and the shire and would attest to his courageous commitment to the task and also to his courteous and honest approach to such dealings.

I had the personal pleasure and privilege of serving on the Landsborough Shire Council with Jack from 1982 to 1985. His enthusiasm to build a city with modern infrastructure, yet at the same time to keep borrowings to a minimum is an economic legacy that will be enjoyed by Caloundra City for years to come. Despite his vision for the emerging city, Jack maintained a wonderful common approach to ordinary people, particularly those with problems. I recall many times that when a committee was wrestling with a problem he would suddenly suggest that the whole committee or sometimes the whole council should proceed out on an inspection to see for ourselves and to listen directly to the ratepayer concerned.

His contribution to local government was much wider than just the Landsborough Shire and Caloundra City and it is for that reason that I believe that it is entirely appropriate that his contribution should be recorded in this place. I extend my condolences to the family of the man who built Caloundra.

The other matter I wish to raise tonight relates to the Sydney-Mooloolaba yacht race. During the last sitting week, I outlined the situation confronting the future of the second most important yacht race in Australia. Its very existence was being threatened by a rival event from Sydney to Coffs Harbour to be conducted at the same time and which was being supported by Tourism New South Wales.

My calls to the Minister for Tourism and to the Premier have borne fruit, and funding has been made available to enable an exciting program to be built around both the start and the finish of the race which will enhance the Sunshine Coast in particular and Queensland in general as a destination for New South Wales tourists and those from further afield. I would particularly like to acknowledge the assistance of Damien McGreevey from the Premier's office, who coordinated the request, as well as other relevant officers on the Sunshine Coast who were, in turn, most helpful.

Plans are now being put in place to conduct a fun race on Sydney Harbour and a social event prior to the start of the main race to ensure maximum media attention to this event. Prizes, I am advised, will include 10 three-night stays called "stress breakers" at Mooloolaba to coincide with the end of the race to further enhance the desirability of Queensland's Sunshine Coast as a destination. Following the race from Sydney, another fun race will be held—this time off Mooloolaba—known as the Mooloolaba Sprint, with \$2,000 prize money.

It is important that this year's race goes off well to ensure that it continues as a great ambassador for Queensland as a destination. I pass on the club's appreciation for the assistance to date and I commend all of those who have had a part in the various sponsorships and the event organisation.
