



Speech by

GARY FENLON

MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

Hansard 3 October 2000

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Mr FENLON (Greenslopes—ALP) (7.14 p.m.): On the first Sunday of every month at 2 p.m. something very special happens at the Greenslopes Red Cross hall. That is when the Wurlitzer Music Club of Queensland Inc. has its regular monthly meeting. That organisation was previously known as the Wurlitzer Organ Club of Queensland and it is now in its 27th year. Originally, it met in the homes of members but moved to public hall venues as membership grew. It has now been domiciled at the Red Cross hall at Greenslopes for over 10 years.

The principal object of the club is to be a social club for persons who are interested in listening to or playing the Wurlitzer organ, piano or other musical instrument. I had the pleasure of joining the organisation for its regular monthly meeting in August and I did indeed participate in the program as a guest musician.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Fouras): What did you play?

Mr FENLON: I appreciate the question. I played flute and I also played flageolet. On the flageolet I played Spanish Lady, an old Irish song which is in fact a slip jig, and that was a great event. I would like to especially thank Vera Evans, who accompanied me on piano on the other pieces that I played. Vera is a great musician. She was a great performer during the rest of the program. She also accompanied other special guests, including soprano Kerry Warner. Vera also played the Schubert Impromptu on that program and it was a wonderful performance.

Other guests I would like to mention are John Garlick, baritone, accompanied by Sue Gibson who sang It's All in the Game and The Cobblers' Song. After afternoon tea, Hazel Schmidt, a regular at the club, also played piano and Ken Jebb on keyboard combined very well in their renditions of Get Me to the Church on Time, Love Will Never Grow Old and When the Saints Go Marching In. With tenor Doug Kinnersley, Stella O'Sullivan on piano and also Kerry Warner it was a very interesting program.

It certainly is a fine organisation. It has a great roll-up every month and there is always something different on the program. It is a place where anyone can come along and just have that opportunity of performing live. I was very grateful for having my public performance touched up to some degree because I do not get those opportunities very often. It is a great organisation that provides a great social gathering. Those people make a wonderful contribution to the community because a lot of people really enjoy those Sunday afternoon concerts.

I recommend that everyone get along. It is close to his electorate, so I think that one Sunday the Arts Minister should come along and join in a song with them. I extend an invitation to him on behalf of the organisation.

I also mention another very fine organisation, the Ekibin Creek Bushcare Group, that is doing great work in my electorate. I had the pleasure of meeting its members recently when they were doing some planting in a degraded bush area. Ekibin Creek is part of the Norman Creek catchment that exits from underground pipes under Bapaume Road, Holland Park, and runs almost parallel to Gaza Road from Bapaume Road to the South East Freeway and the busy busway. It runs through Brisbane City Council and Department of Main Roads land that borders Holland Park State High School land as well.

I pay tribute to Christine Bidwell. She is one of the two coordinators who used to live opposite the land. She began raising awareness of the site by organising some Clean Up Australia Day

campaigns. Car bodies, fridges and so on were pulled from the weed-infested bush. A meeting was held on site in September 1997 to gauge public interest. Consequently, on 16 November 1997 a BCC bushcare group was formed under the banner of, and with assistance from, the organisation SCRUB. Work began at the Bapaume Road site and both sides of the creek were planted. The organisation continues to assist in that area, which will be a great asset to the community when it is fully planted and has grown.
