



Speech by

Mr P. PURCELL

MEMBER FOR BULIMBA

Hansard 29 May 2001

MURARRIE DANCE TROUPE AND CHOIR

Mr PURCELL (Bulimba—ALP) (12.26 p.m.): On Monday, 21 May I had the pleasure of attending a performance by the Murarrie State School dance troupe and choir at Westfield Carindale. Prior to going to Carindale, the choir entertained their classmates by performing at the school assembly. The choir consists of students from years 1 to 7 and has a main focus on music enjoyment over harmonies. The choir has been together only since the beginning of this term and showed a maturity beyond their years. They put on a great performance.

They meet every Monday at lunchtime under the guidance of Miss Angie Pollard and Miss Kerry Duncan, both teachers at the school. As well as learning the teacher-selected songs, the students play an active role and are encouraged to choose their own songs. These talents have also been incorporated into their learning of the Japanese language under the guidance of the Japanese teacher, Mrs Margaret Simpson.

I must say that the attention that the children gave on Monday morning with Margaret there, with her eyes shining and the children listening to her, was marvellous. The year 7s taught the year 1s to sing a Japanese song about body parts, *The Body Song*. It went something like 'Head, shoulders, knees and toes', which I did not fully understand, but I can tell members that the children enjoyed it and knew their song very well. It was a great learning experience for the year 7s to teach the year 1s, and it was very enjoyable for the year 1s to have the year 7s taking that interest in them.

The choir performed four songs at Carindale: *Shape of My Heart*, *Can't Fight the Moonlight*, which featured a beautiful duo by Natalie Botha and Suenessia Morrison—

Government members: Did you join in?

Mr PURCELL: I joined in the next song, *My Island Home*, which was very well done. When you hear children who know that song well sing it at full volume, it is beautiful. There was also an Abba medley. The dance troupe consisted of 19 students from years 2 to 7, and there are five boys in the troupe, which I think is a great achievement. The students needed to audition and show a commitment to dance. They meet every Thursday in afternoon tea-break and spend an hour of the afternoon class session learning new dance steps and creating and rehearsing dances. The dance troupe performed in their newly acquired dance uniforms, which featured screen-printed black shirts with 'Murarrie Dancers'. The group had been learning the dance for only approximately eight weeks, and they put on a very polished performance. They are

under the guidance of Miss Angie Pollard, who has been at the Murarrie school for three years now, and Miss Kerry Duncan, who has been there for 12 years.

The dedication of those two ladies, who take time out from their already busy teaching schedules, is very much appreciated by students, parents and anyone who has had the pleasure of hearing and seeing the talented children, and it is very much appreciated by me. One can see the children grow through the extra work that they do with singing and dancing. It is a credit to their teachers who take time out of their busy schedules to do that. I seek leave to incorporate in *Hansard* the names of the choir members and the dance troupe.

Leave granted.

Melissa Ferguson
Natalie Brown
Sarah Childs
Claire Mangan
Sheree Young
Alisha Narayan
Le-Amie Baker
Brown Mohamed
Lakeita Tracey
Monique Gaillard
Stevie Abbott

Gemma Hynard
Samantha King
Trent Thiesfield
Rosemary Mohamed
Braydon Creese
Showdear Buomb Galou
Chynna Galon
Tiffany Buckingham
Pania Dawes
Sandra Simpson
Hayley Mulligan

Natilee Medcalf
Nyawal Buomb Galou
Ryan Vlismas
Niomi Hutchins
Grace Calnan
Jesse Powell
Luke Wallace
Rhiannon Crafar
Jayde Martin
Danielle Simpson
