



Speech by

**BONNY BARRY**

**MEMBER FOR ASPLEY**

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Hansard 19 February 2002

### **ASPLEY ELECTORATE**

**Ms BARRY** (Aspley—ALP) (7.05 p.m.): In the electorate of Aspley I am working hard and getting results. It has been 12 months since my election to the state seat of Aspley and the election of the Beattie Labor government. In my maiden speech to the parliament I said that it was vital that I work hard for the entire three years of my term in office. That is just what I am doing.

2001 was a year of hard but immensely satisfying work: setting up the electorate office; making contact with the many groups that make up the electorate of Aspley; learning the ways of parliament, the cut and thrust of debate in the House and the intricacies of being a good legislator; helping people through the maze of government departments and finding opportunities for our businesses to grow and prosper; meeting the challenges of breaking the unemployment cycle for our unemployed people; consulting with residents on changes to the Retirement Villages Act and fair trading and body corporate legislation—legislation that affects the quality of life of so many people in the Aspley electorate; getting involved with our youth; creating jobs and life opportunities for our often very able disabled persons; and acknowledging through the Aspley electorate Year of the Volunteer awards those people who quietly go about making the lives of others better in so many ways.

2001 was a big year for the state government and for the attraction to Queensland of so many major business projects such as AMC, Virgin Blue and Singapore Airlines establishing operations in our state. Many aviation industry workers live in the electorate of Aspley. These projects make us realise the true goal of being the Smart State, which is working to make sure our state is ready for the industries of the future—the industries that will give our children jobs.

In the Aspley electorate our children and their schools have embraced innovation and information economies as their future. They have received funding through our multimillion-dollar Secondary Schools Renewal Program, which sees Pine Rivers State High School and Aspley State High School rebuilding and renewing to meet the new multimedia and technology needs of their students. The additional school computers program enables Aspley's schools to give more students in primary schools access to this new technology. In all, over \$1.4 million has been committed to the Aspley schools in the last 12 months. I work hard with my schools and their P&Cs to ensure that our children's needs are met.

We have also had success for small business, achieving contract success and employing local people. The year saw us hold successful businesswomen's breakfasts in conjunction with the Department of State Development and the Brisbane North Chamber of Commerce. These events set the pace for what I hope is a close working relationship with local business.

2001 held many achievements, but we did have some disappointments. We lost a bank in suburban Aspley, but not without a fight by the community. We managed to hold on to the post office at Strathpine, again with amazing public support. Another example of people power at work is our Neighbourhood Watch groups. 2002 will again see me put effort into encouraging their growth and our appreciation of their efforts.

I am a member of the Police Minister's graffiti task force. I spoke often in the parliament—29 times in my first 10 months. I worked hard on the parliamentary Scrutiny of Legislation Committee and I also hold the position of chairperson of the ALP parliamentary caucus.

The first 12 months have been hard work, but the outcome of that work is to get results that make the lives of the people of Aspley better. I say thankyou to everyone who has been part of the

success of our community this past year. I say thankyou to those people who know what challenges lie ahead and have given the commitment to work with me to get the job done. 2002 will be about working hard and getting results for the people of the Aspley electorate.

Time expired.

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