



Speech by

BONNY BARRY

MEMBER FOR ASPLEY

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ASPLEY LIONS INTERNATIONAL

Ms BARRY (Aspley—ALP) (7.23 p.m.): The electorate of Aspley in the heart of Brisbane's north is a community that is small in size, but within that compact but vibrant community over 100 community groups work endlessly to improve the quality of life for its citizens. One such group is the Aspley Lions International. It was with great pride that I recently became a member of the Aspley Lions. I was sponsored in that membership by the 2001 Aspley Lions President, Earle Rawlings, and I was inducted by the District General Elect Lion, Roley McTee, in an evening that had a great sense of privilege to me.

Mr Terry Sullivan: Earle's a great bloke.

Ms BARRY: He most certainly is. Aspley Lions is one of Queensland's most successful Lions clubs with a long and distinguished reputation in the community for the work that they do. Aspley Lions are the custodians of the Aspley rest area on Gympie Road, which is a welcome rest stop for travellers on their arrival into Brisbane. The park has been maintained by the Aspley Lions members for over 30 years. Members will probably have seen the large road safety sign stating 'Tired drivers die' as they pass through Aspley on their way north.

Aspley Lions take their responsibility to assist in getting the road safety message out into the community very seriously. Recently, they received a \$2,000 grant from the state government through Main Roads to erect another sign in Seventh Brigade Park on Gympie Road warning motorists that 'Every K over is a killer'. It is a critical message when people live in a busy electorate such as Aspley. Too many motorists fail to appreciate the inherent dangers that driving just one kilometre over adds to the risk on the roads. The Aspley Lions recognise that the promotion of good citizenship on our roads saves lives and protects the community. Aspley Lions' contribution to the road safety message is significant and I thank them for their enduring service.

Aspley Lions are committed to our young people. They provide substantial input into Kidspace, which is an area at Seventh Brigade Park in the electorate of Nudgee next to the electorate of Aspley. Kidspace is a Brisbane City Council project that is a haven for toddlers, preschoolers, students and young adults. It is a park full of swings, green grass, huge wooden castles and lots of fresh air right here in the city.

Mr Terry Sullivan: It won a national award for community involvement.

Ms BARRY: It certainly did. That is quite correct. Aspley Lions can feel quite confident when they look at the faces of the aunts, uncles, parents and grandparents who watch their little ones play safely. It convinces me that Aspley Lions is on a winner in their mission to serve the community by their involvement in Kidspace.

Aspley Lions have shown further commitment to our youth by being one of the first groups to volunteer to sponsor the use of the Police Minister's graffiti busting trailer as part of the Aspley electorate graffiti management strategy. The President, Earle Rawlings, attended the launch and I look forward to progressing this important strategy generated by the graffiti task force with Aspley Lions.

Lions international is synonymous with the pursuit of citizenship, understanding and respect within our communities. I understand that talks are being held between Lions International and the Queensland parliament to consider the creation of a parliamentary Lions Club. I know that many

members will welcome the chance to be part of that Lions group. I look forward to those talks progressing. However, I am very fortunate to be part of a well-established and hardworking Lions International Club at Aspley. I look forward to being part of their continuing work in my community.