



Speech by

CHRIS CUMMINS

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Hansard 22 October 2002

BUDERIM STREET PARTY

Mr CUMMINS (Kawana—ALP) (12.25 p.m.): In rising to speak about the Buderim street party, I will say that I am proud to be part of the Beattie state Labor government that is committed to working to ensure that our society has a vibrant and positive focus. We are working to ensure that our communities are prepared to work hard and smart, and also play and party hard, and involve all members of our community, thus strengthening the very fabric of our society.

The evening of Saturday, 12 October 2002 will go down as one of the Sunshine Coast's biggest parties. Many volunteer organisations and individuals came together to give us the best Buderim street party ever. Virtually the entire central business district of the town was turned into a big-volume, big-crowd and colourful carnival. It extended from the Burnett Street roundabout to just past Woolies car park. This year we saw more music, entertainment and excitement. Early trepidation about the threatening weather evaporated with the previous day's rain as thousands of Buderim residents who ventured out were rewarded with a cool springtime evening. An event of this nature could only work where there is such a healthy community spirit. It is another reason why we all love Buderim and the Sunshine Coast.

On behalf of my constituents, I would like to thank all those involved in making the fourth Buderim street party an overwhelming success. I want to make special mention of the Buderim War Memorial Community Association. This is a totally voluntary association which has been active in the town since 1945. That association has gained a reputation for having a highly successful model structure, elements of which are starting to be copied in other towns and regions across Australia. The association has a simple affiliation system where delegates from over 65 groups—having grown from 12 in 1992—come together on a monthly basis to create an element of cooperation seldom seen in other towns. The association is non-political and generally keeps out of divisive political issues. The core business is community facility ownership and management and information on the hall and the historical precinct. It also deals with the matter of land for extension. It also assists with the running of major events such as the street party each year, youth facilities, the concert band and welcoming new residents.

The Buderim War Memorial Community Association was formed in 1945 as a living memorial to our servicemen and women. The motto is 'Service to commemorate sacrifice', which means that we display the same spirit towards our fellow residents as that displayed by the men and women who started the association. In the past, people saw a need in Buderim and went about accomplishing what, at times, must have seemed impossible. It is no different today. The association's events take place alongside other regular events in the area. Each month, many representatives from the various affiliate groups meet to discuss issues directly involving Buderim. There is a great army of volunteers who work in the community and who offer friendship and encouragement to other volunteers as they work together.

Following the community event, we all unfortunately awoke to be shocked by the Bali tragedy. On behalf of Buderim residents and indeed all residents within my electorate on the Sunshine Coast, our thoughts and prayers are with all of those grieving the horrendous effects of those recent callous attacks. May eternal rest be granted to those who died and may they rest in peace. For those injured, we pray for a recovery with God's blessing.