



Speech by

DIANNE REILLY

MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA

Hansard 20 June 2002

COMMUNITY FORUM, SPRINGBROOK

Mrs REILLY (Mudgeeraba—ALP) (12.10 a.m.): On 18 May a community forum was held on Springbrook Mountain hosted by the Community Engagement Division of the Premier's office. The forum's aim was to bring the government and the community of Springbrook together, and it was the first such forum held by the division. The forum was also about celebrating the positive aspects of this vibrant township. It provided an opportunity for local community members to speak with and access information from departmental representatives and for those representatives from government to gain a better understanding of the complexities of life in Springbrook. There were senior representatives there from Education, Transport and Main Roads, Natural Resources, the EPA, State Development and Queensland Police. I want to thank them all for giving up their Saturday afternoon to talk with the people of Springbrook. The meeting was facilitated by Jim Cavaye, a specialist in community development, and he did a great job in bringing together the disparate viewpoints of the people in Springbrook.

Some 60 or so people from Springbrook and surrounding areas came to the forum and worked very hard to identify local issues to start working together towards real solutions. Top of the agenda of course was the environment and sustainable tourism opportunities. I congratulate all those who came and participated in the discussion and thank them for their diligence, courtesy and commitment. The function was charged with positive energy and it was a great success which I hope will be repeated in other regional centres throughout the state. I want to especially thank the team from the Community Engagement Division for their efforts in bringing to fruition a small idea I had some months ago. While I cannot mention all those who deserve recognition, there are a few names that come to mind tonight. They are Ken O'Shea, Sheila Davis, Terry Carroll, members of the Springbrook Mountain Community Association, Mark Ions, the principal of the Springbrook State School, Colin and Wendy Greatoux, the Kavanaghs, the Carrolls, the Winters family and many others who deserve special mention. But most particularly of all young Didi Winter and Johanna Dacey-Carroll from Springbrook State School who read a poem at the opening of the forum deserve thanks. With the chair's indulgence, I beg a little of the House's time to read out this most special piece of poetry. The poem reads—

When Springbrook was first settled,
In Nineteen hundred and Seven,
The people that first came here,
Realised they'd found a piece of heaven.

Although they changed the landscape,
And worked hard for their living,
They built their homes in Springbrook,
And built their community by giving.

Ninety-three years later,
We find ourselves still here,
Living lives in Springbrook,
And building community on beliefs that we hold dear.

Beliefs like sharing and caring,
Co-operation, tolerance and love.
The future is in our hands,
With help from up above.

Thank you very much Didi Winter and Johanna Dacey-Carroll and the people of Springbrook for a very special day.
