



Speech by

Pat Purcell

MEMBER FOR BULIMBA

Hansard Thursday, 2 September 2004

MR S. DORNEY

Mr PURCELL (Bulimba—ALP) (5.54 p.m.): And what a great lady she is. She is a constituent of mine in Bulimba.

Mrs Croft: Morningside.

Mr PURCELL: Morningside but in the electorate of Bulimba.

I wish to speak today about Mr Shaun Dorney. Shaun is the guest conductor with the Brisbane Regional Youth Orchestra, which is based at the Balmoral State High School. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the students who, in turn, are greatly appreciative of his talent and time. Shaun gives up a lot of his own time after school to take instrumentals and to take students to perform at various functions to give them experience. In fact, I know that the students idolise him for his patience and his willingness to impart knowledge and encourage them. Under his tutorage, the Brisbane Regional Youth Orchestra continues to blossom. Shaun has played an integral role in the development of the orchestra over the past 21 years. His initial contact with the orchestra was in 1988 when he was a visiting conductor. He later became an associate conductor of the orchestra.

In 1995 Shaun took over from the group's founder, Mark Sullivan, as the Director of Music. On 5 September this year, both Shaun Dorney and Mark Sullivan will share the conducting duties for the Brisbane Regional Youth Orchestra for its 21st birthday concert, which will be held at the Queensland Conservatorium Concert Hall at the QUT gardens, and everybody should attend. The BRYO musicians from 1983 onwards will join with current members to form one big orchestra for the afternoon's concert. Every Monday night at Balmoral State High School Shaun works with the 50 members of the orchestra whose ages range from 11 to 22 years. Shaun himself began playing the trombone as a youngster in Chinchilla. These days, as well as the time he devotes to the orchestra, he spends every hour he can writing arrangements for the young musicians.

Shaun is also the Education Department's music coordinator for the Beaudesert and Logan region and continues to inspire our young musicians to go on to a bigger and better musical future. Ultimately, the community is the main winner as we reap the benefits of Shaun's dedication to music and have the opportunity to sit back and enjoy the benefits of this wonderful collaboration between this talented man and his musical students. I must congratulate Balmoral High for making space available for the orchestra and for continuing to encourage all primary schools and schools in our area to become part of the Queensland Youth Orchestra.