



Speech by

## Terry Rogers

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Hansard Wednesday, 19 April 2006

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### KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL AWARDS

**Mr ROGERS** (Redcliffe—Lib) (10.11 pm): On Saturday, 8 April I attended the Keep Australia Beautiful Awards 2006 to support my home city of Redcliffe in the Australian Tidy Towns finals. It was a great night and I commend the awards organisers on encouraging positive community spirit and involvement in environmental activities and waste management into the future.

Redcliffe was named Queensland's tidiest town for 2005 from a field of 211 other entrants and subsequently became Queensland's entrant in the Australian Tidy Towns awards. Since first entering the Tidy Towns competition years ago, thousands of volunteers, community groups, schools and the council have worked in partnership to protect and improve the magnificent environment in and around Redcliffe. I am proud to say that all of the efforts have paid off as Redcliffe was awarded the 2006 Keep Australia Beautiful achievement award for environmental innovation on the night.

The major award for Australia's tidiest town went to Collie in Western Australia. Queensland is trying to get it back next year. The Australian Tidy Towns judge, Dick Olesinki, said Redcliffe's innovative approach to water conservation and leading example in energy efficient building design complemented our city's pledge to a sustainable future. Mr Olesinki completed a 1½ day tour of Redcliffe in November last year, taking in Pelican Park, Scotts Point, Margate Beach, the Redcliffe jetty, Suttons Beach and a walk to Settlement Cove Lagoon. The judge also visited locations around the peninsula including the Redcliffe Leagues Club, Youth Space, the Belvedere Hotel, Botanic Gardens and the Redcliffe Museum, meeting tourism volunteers and a variety of people from our community along the way.

I have always considered myself an advocate and local tour guide of the Redcliffe peninsula and I know that all of the best spots were shown to the judge so a well-informed decision was made. The environmental innovation award symbolises our community's long-term commitment to managing the environment in and around Redcliffe in order to preserve its uniqueness for future generations.

I might say that the award trophy was appropriate, as anyone who has travelled to Redcliffe via the Houghton Highway will know of our famous pelicans sitting above the flow of traffic waiting for the right target, preferably a car with an open roof. The trophy was a junkyard collection of parts welded together to make a pelican.

The CEO of Keep Australia Beautiful, Kylie Johnston, said Redcliffe is without a doubt one of the most sustainable communities in Australia. I agree with this and will use my position as the member for Redcliffe and passion for the community to play a proactive role in encouraging and upholding innovative environmental and resource management. The Redcliffe community's willingness to get behind a worthwhile cause is immeasurable and I commend their involvement in a Life After Larry fundraiser I hosted on the same weekend as the awards. Over \$3,600 was raised with all moneys handled by the Rotary Club of Redcliffe City. The Rotary Club of Redcliffe City has arranged for the funds to be transferred to the Rotary Club of Innisfail for distribution as required in the community.

Redcliffe will host the regional award ceremony for this year's Ergon Energy Tidy Towns Awards in July and Redcliffe will be trying to be back on the winners list for these awards. I wish the volunteers, community groups and the Redcliffe City Council—

Time expired.