



Speech by

**Evan Moorhead**

**MEMBER FOR WATERFORD**

Hansard Thursday, 6 September 2007

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## CANTABILE CHOIR

**Mr MOORHEAD** (Waterford—ALP) (7.49 pm): I wish to speak about two amazing performances in the life of Canterbury College of Waterford, which is in my electorate. Yesterday I was lucky enough to be a guest of Donna Anderson, the Head of College, to witness the blessing of the Junior School redevelopment by His Grace, the Archbishop Phillip Aspinall. It was a wonderful ceremony.

On 24 August I was able to attend an amazing performance of Cantabile Choir at St Mary's Anglican Church, Kangaroo Point. Cantabile Choir is an internationally renowned choir based at Canterbury College, Waterford. The choir performed in partnership with Opera Queensland. This partnership started with the annual Opera in the Canefields event at Beenleigh. The performance of the Cantabile Choir was stunning, as always, and showed a group of performers who could hold their own with the three performers from Opera Queensland, Jessica O'Donoghue, Susan Ellis and Victoria Lambourn. It was a performance worthy of the Cantabile Choir's reputation. While all the young women of the choir were amazing, the soloists were exceptional in their performances, showing amazing confidence and poise for young women of 16 and 17.

Cantabile Choir perform under the tutelage and direction of Ms Susan Gouchee, who from all accounts is an inspiration to the young women of the Cantabile Choir. Special congratulations must go to the four captains who lead Cantabile: Hannah Gassman, Sarah McAlpine, Kirsten Stallard and Gemma Lillis. Obviously, this level of excellence would not be possible without the support of the parents, the Cantabile Supporters Group, led by president Rob McAlpine.

Cantabile is the first Australian choir to win medals at the World Choir Games, winning three silver medals for Australia at the 2004 Choir Games and three silver medals at the 2006 games. The choir will head to the 2008 World Choir Games at Graz, Austria, where I am sure they will represent this state well. When they are overseas, the Cantabile Choir represent our state as honorary ambassadors for Queensland Tourism. I could not think of any better ambassadors for Queensland, our culture and our youth, to be seen by those overseas.

Cantabile even sing an amazing song written by director, Susan Gouchee, *There's No Place Like Queensland*, which is about the natural and cultural beauty of our state. This is an amazing song that shows a great deal of pride in our state. This is a song that is a great advertisement for Queensland. The Cantabile Supporters Group and I will be talking to Tourism Queensland in the coming weeks to see if this song, performed by Cantabile, can be used in their next advertising campaign. That would be a great credit to Cantabile, Canterbury College and our state.