



Speech by

Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

Hansard Thursday, 17 September 2009

COOMERA ELECTORATE, EVENTS

Mr CRANDON (Coomera—LNP) (6.12 pm): I have had the opportunity to experience some wonderful events in recent times that are centred on my electorate or have had a big involvement from people living in my electorate.

Dream a Better World was initiated nine years ago and was the brainchild of Coomera State School in the centre of my electorate. It is the first film festival designed specifically for Australian primary school students. It is an opportunity for students to speak out and communicate their ideas. They are original ideas conceived, filmed and edited by the children. The work is monitored by the classroom teachers but is very much the children's work. I also had the honour of declaring open the very special event, which was the culmination of all the hard work that the children put in.

Held annually at Dreamworld, the festival has strengthened the community relationship between Coomera State School and the popular Gold Coast theme park. The festival has been a regional winner four times and a state finalist twice in the Department of Education and Training's awards celebrating excellence in schools. Indeed, I had the honour of attending and announcing the last regional award where Coomera State School competed against three other schools or groups. I am proud to say that Coomera State School was the winner once again.

Another event that was staged in recent weeks was the Ormeau Fair. From humble beginnings, the Ormeau Fair is now a major attraction, with many thousands of people in attendance, particularly on the Saturday. I was there the whole day and it was unbelievable. It was held during the Exhibition week and there were people absolutely everywhere. This year the fair was the biggest and best so far. It is in its third year and was initiated by Norm Jessen and the Ormeau Lions Club. The Gold Coast City Council got right behind the event and sponsored the movie night.

I was once again honoured to judge the Schools on Stage at the event. Ormeau State School received first and third places, with Livingstone Christian College receiving second place. I am delighted to say that, out of a field of seven, those three schools are all in the state seat of Coomera.

The whole community got behind the fair. The best part of the Ormeau Fair is that it is run by a group of local volunteers from the Ormeau Lions Club who proudly support and run events to put money back into the community. Total funds raised this year were around \$18,000. Beneficiaries included Lions medical research, juvenile diabetes, Lions drug awareness and the leukaemia association.

The list of events goes on. The Pimpama School of Arts Ball, celebrating 150 years in Queensland, was a fantastic event. The Allegro Festival was held at Upper Coomera State College, not to mention the North Gold Coast RSL Subbranch, which has just moved in to the Helensvale Bowls Club. I am a proud new member of that RSL subbranch.