



Speech by  
**Grace Grace**

**MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL**

Hansard Thursday, 2 September 2010

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## **WINDSOR STATE SCHOOL FAIR; BRIDGE TO BRISBANE**

**Ms GRACE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (9.46 pm): When it comes to holding fetes in Queensland, no-one does it better than the schools in the Brisbane Central electorate and the Windsor State School fair, held on Saturday, 28 August was no exception. The school was celebrating its 145th birthday and it had a fantastic tent where past students could go to enjoy reminiscing about the good times they had at the school. Present at the fete were the president, Mark Brooke, the principal, Peter Cooper, the deputy principal, Matt Kweon, and they were all very proud of what was achieved at the fete on Saturday.

However, the fete did not happen on its own. The fair convenors, Sabina Conicanin and Glenys Kerr, did a fantastic job in ensuring that the fete—or the fair—was a fantastic success. But they, too, did not do it alone. They had an additional 150 parent volunteers who pulled together to make sure that the fair was an amazing success. They raised approximately \$65,000 to \$75,000 on the day and these are much needed funds that will go towards the building of a new multipurpose sports court for the school.

The new hall and classrooms were a great success, built with combined federal BER funds and state funds. A total of about \$5 million was spent on these fantastic buildings. Children use the hall for entertaining the public and the class art auction was held there, where Mark was able to raise thousands of dollars for the school.

It was a pleasure to open the fair, which looked like a mini RNA, by the traditional way of sounding the old World War II siren which had survived and was in the school's possession. It is a unique and interesting way of declaring the fair open. All of the school community had a wonderful day and the children looked like they were enjoying themselves immensely and having a fantastic time. Congratulations to all involved, and I am very happy to have been the highest bidder on two items at the silent auction. I look forward to picking up my winnings very soon.

The next day, on Sunday, Michael and I participated in the enormously popular Bridge to Brisbane in the five-kilometre walk. We were joined by thousands of other walkers and runners and it was great to see the minister as well. The Bligh government's \$50,000 sponsorship of this event continues its involvement in what is a great community fun run as getting active is one of the best ways to improve our quality of life, both physically and socially.

I remember launching the 2010 Bridge to Brisbane on behalf of the minister on 31 May. I could not believe how quickly the actual day came around. From humble beginnings in 1997, when only 4,500 people participated to well over 40,000 entrants this year, the Bridge to Brisbane has become the biggest community sporting event in Queensland. This event accords well with the government's goal to get more and more Queenslanders out exercising for at least 30 minutes a day. My husband and I look forward to participating in next year's event. It was great.