



Speech by

## Lillian van Litsenburg

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

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### HAYES INLET FESTIVAL

**Ms van LITSENBURG** (Redcliffe—ALP) (11.25 pm): Last Friday morning I hosted a breakfast to kick off the week-long celebrations of the Hayes Inlet Festival. The Hayes Inlet Festival is designed to shine a spotlight on our beautiful Hayes Inlet waterways and to educate the community on the unique ecosystems. These waterways are the filter that keeps the waters of the bay pristine and many of the fish that are caught in the bay have their breeding grounds in those waterways. The week will be packed with activities including a family fun day, information events about the wading birds that migrate from the Northern Hemisphere, boat rides through the inlet and walks into the wetlands where koalas can still be spotted and the odd cheeky kangaroo can be sighted taking a short cut across the mudflats at low tide.

Some 80 businesspeople, the members for Kallangur and Petrie, representatives from community groups and schools sat down to a delicious breakfast at the Redcliffe Leagues Club with guest speakers Channel 7 weatherman John Schluter and Miles Yeates, regional manager of Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. Miles's presentation impressed the gathering and reflected the cutting-edge role Parks and Wildlife has in implementing sustainable practices in our natural environments, including a spectacular PowerPoint demonstration showing why dugong are susceptible to propeller strike. John Schluter was excited by the festival and keen to promote it and the importance of the Hayes Inlet waterways in the future.

The Hayes Inlet Festival reflects the Bligh government's Toward Q2 goals to protect the environment and manage it sustainably. I have been working with a committee of locals in conjunction with cross-departmental representatives towards a 10-year plan for the Hayes Inlet, Saltwater Creek and Pine River waterways to Kurwongbah. The Bligh government is committed to protecting our vital waterways and is acting not only here in Hayes Inlet or in the south-east but right across the state, including increased protections for the Great Barrier Reef and wild rivers, the koala strategy, new national parks, increased protections for Moreton Bay, the Green Army and many measures to protect Queensland's biodiversity. Only this Bligh Labor government has the vision to protect Queensland's natural heritage and the courage to turn that vision into reality to deliver the policy and action that will ensure not only pristine Hayes Inlet waterways and a clean, sustainable Moreton Bay but all of our vital natural environments across the state.