



Speech by


**Jarrold Bleijie**

**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

Hansard Thursday, 16 June 2011

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## **QUEENSLAND DAY COMMUNITY AWARDS; FLYING HIGH AT CURRIMUNDI DAY; KAWANA WATERS RELAY FOR LIFE**

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (11.07 pm): It is my pleasure this evening to inform honourable members of the Kawana electorate Queensland Day community awards that I am hosting this Saturday at the Kawana Community Hall. This is the second year that I am hosting the awards to recognise the efforts of the many volunteers in the Kawana electorate. Without the efforts of these volunteers, many services in our community would not be available, to the detriment of many local residents.

This year we have some 68 nominees who will be recognised, some eight more than last year. With family and friends invited, I am expecting more than 150 local residents to attend the awards ceremony. The awards are a small token of recognition that I am pleased to provide on behalf of the Kawana electorate, and what better way to do this than at the time we celebrate the birth of our great state.

I would also like to update honourable members on several recent local activities and initiatives that I had the privilege of attending. Education Week was held during the week of 22 to 28 May, and one of the initiatives that is encouraged is that of being 'principal for a day'. This year I was lucky enough to be invited to be principal for a day at the Talara Primary College and at the primary campus of the Chancellor State College.

At Talara I was able to speak to all of the year 7 students following their recent tour of Queensland Parliament House. I was able to meet and visit some other classes, teach some of the classes, including year 5 students, and take a tour of their virtual classroom. I would like to thank the hardworking principal, Steve Adams, and all of the student leaders, who afforded me the usually friendly and helpful Talara welcome that I always receive whenever I visit the school.

At Chancellor State College, primary principal Mark Birchall led me through another busy day of activities. I then had the opportunity of attending the school assembly and handing out the weekly 'Chancellor Champ' awards. I then conducted a leadership forum with the school leaders to discuss my previous experiences as a school leader and what they wanted to achieve as a student leader at Chancellor. This was followed by a morning tea with staff and parents and I finished the day with playground duty before being farewelled by the student leaders. It was great to attend another fantastic local school. I take my hat off to our local principals and their administration teams for the role they perform in educating our young leaders of tomorrow.

On Saturday, 4 June, I took my three children down to Currimundi Lake to participate in the Flying High at Currimundi day being held by the Currimundi Catchment Care Group. The day was attended by over 350 local residents and was an initiative that was part of World Environment Day. The slogan for the day was 'Kites are colourful, kites fly high in the sky, but kites go home with their owners'—unlike balloons. Congratulations to David and Jenny Allan and the Currimundi Catchment Care Group for their continued local advocacy of environmental issues in our community.

I conclude by congratulating all who participated in the Kawana Waters Relay for Life. The participants this year raised about \$75,000. I was involved again for my fifth year running, as I have a mother who is a survivor of cancer. Mum's team is the Mad Hatters and we certainly enjoyed participating. I thank all local residents in the Kawana electorate for participating in such a worthy event.