




Speech by

Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR STAFFORD

Hansard Thursday, 24 March 2011

CHERMSIDE AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Stafford—ALP) (Minister for Employment, Skills and Mining) (7.13 pm): I rise to commend to the House the Chermside and District Historical Society's latest publication, titled *History of Chermside and district* by Pat O'Shea. I am very proud to be associated with this excellent organisation, whose work is concerned with the local history of the former Kedron shire. This publication, subtitled *From the original inhabitants through the early white settlement to the high rise consumer society of the 21st century*, is an excellent compendium that documents the Turrbul and Barrabim lands, the first land sales and squatters, changes in the local economy from piggeries and pineapple farms in the 1910s and 1920s through to the industrial development such as Bruce Pie Industries and the opening of the Chermside Drive-In Shopping Centre.

Mr Shine: By Vince Gair.

Mr HINCHLIFFE: By Vince Gair. I take that interjection from the member for Toowoomba North.

This publication documents the exponential growth in population in the area, the achievements of its leaders and the local institutions that have influenced its development. But it is the way in which the book documents the families and individuals who contributed to the changes in this dynamic community that makes it a great read—families like the Basnetts, the Hamiltons, the Argos, the Reids, the Tunes and the Harrises. The book has a tremendous focus on individuals and how external historical factors affected their lives. Whether it was war, flood or the opening of a new public institution, Pat O'Shea has been very eager to track the cause and effect of these important events and how they altered the lives of both the ordinary and the extraordinary people who lived in the district.

During Pat's five years as president of the Chermside and District Historical Society he has become well known as he has cycled around the district seeing things firsthand and taking those experiences back to his research desk. This book is an excellent piece of work. However, I know that Pat would be the first to highlight the range of writers, researchers and local keepers of knowledge whom he and his work have drawn from, including David Teague, Jack Ford, Kath Ballard, Beverley Isedale, Glenys Bollard, Robert Isedale, Val Ross, Coral Rance, Rona Arndt, Joan Hamilton, Wally Basnett and many more members of the society and of the local community. The fact that some of those local sources have passed away in recent times highlights the importance of this work and this publication.

I also note the financial support of the Kedron-Wavell Services Club, which has been an outstanding supporter of the society since it began—indeed, when I was president. I congratulate the current president, Terry Hampson, and his management committee on successfully publishing this great resource. I encourage honourable members to visit the society's website to learn more and to also order their copy. In the meantime, I will be presenting a copy to the Parliamentary Library for the more complete information of members representing future generations.

(Time expired)