




Speech by

Darren Grimwade

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

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MORAYFIELD ELECTORATE, SCOUTS

 **Mr GRIMWADE** (Morayfield—LNP) (3.39 pm): Today I rise to talk about the contribution that volunteers involved within the Scouts movement are making in our local community. The Scouts Association, which was established over 100 years ago, is one of Australia's largest youth organisations. Its fundamental aim is to encourage and promote the physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual development of our young people. I have had the pleasure of visiting all local scout groups in my electorate and seeing firsthand the great programs that they are running.

Recently I visited the Narangba Scout group, which is led by group leader Mr Robin Howard, also known as 'Wombat'. On my last visit I attended their AGM and witnessed the great number of volunteers willing to give their time to make a difference in our local community.

I have also attended the Burpengary Scouts AGM, again witnessing the great programs that were being undertaken in that den. I was offered and gladly accepted the role of being the Burpengary Scouts patron. I thank group leader Mr Matthew McMillan, also known as 'Emu', for this opportunity. I am truly excited about this opportunity and I look forward to working with the group.

In Queensland, more than 10,000 young people aged between six and 26 years are actively involved in a wide range of scouting activities. Over 3,500 adults and uniform leaders voluntarily give up a substantial amount of time as part of their commitment to developing young people as they progress through the program to become the community leaders of the future.

Recently, I was glad to meet some of those uniform leaders at the Morayfield Scouts den. On the day I attended they were holding a community open day, showcasing their den and the activities they offer. I thank group leader Mr Wayne Hooper, also known as 'Koala', for inviting me to the den. A number of scouts from that den will be attending the Scout Jamboree and I wish them well at that event.

Throughout Australia, scouts take a constructive place in society as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. As a young fellow I was a scout and I know firsthand the difference that Scouts has made in my life and the very important role that Scouts offers through progressive self-education programs that focus on initiative, teamwork and cooperation, community service and spirit. The development of leadership skills is a significant part of the Scouts program, which ultimately helps today's youth become tomorrow's leaders. To all the Narangba, Burpengary and Morayfield Scouts groups, parents and volunteers who give their time to assist in the development of those young people, I say thank you.