



Speech by


**Ian Walker**

**MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD**

Hansard Tuesday, 10 July 2012

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## **SOUTHSIDE SPORT AND COMMUNITY CLUB**

 **Mr WALKER** (Mansfield—LNP) (9.59 pm): I rise to speak about a wonderful organisation within the Mansfield electorate, the Southside Sport and Community Club. This club operates out of three venues in Upper Mount Gravatt: the Southside Sport and Community Club at Mount Gravatt-Capalaba Road, which is just a couple of doors down from my electorate office; the Mount Gravatt Bowls Club, which has a wonderful new functions and entertainment centre, the Carson Room; and the Southern Cross Sports Club at Klumpp Road at Upper Mount Gravatt. The club provides great entertainment and food in first-class facilities. My family and I recently scored the meat tray at Roast restaurant at Southside Sport, so we ate there and went home with something as well. It is a significant local employer and it provides jobs within our local community for about 130 people. It is a busy place, a great place to go and, like all of the clubs in our respective electorates, all of the profits go back to the local community. That is a very important factor and it is what I want to speak about tonight.

One of the significant ways in which Southside Sport and Community Club does this is through its community benefit grants scheme. Since the club's inception in 1997, it has distributed more than \$4 million to charities and community organisations. I was at the 2011 Queensland Day dinner, which was a wonderful event, but this year the club tried something different—a morning tea on Saturday, 9 June. It was attended by not only myself but also my colleagues the member for Greenslopes and the member for Sunnybank and our Brisbane City Council and other parliamentary colleagues. In 2011-12 the club contributed \$559,542 to our local community, and that goes to many organisations in the Mansfield electorate itself or in which Mansfield residents take some part. In particular, our two state schools—Mansfield State High School and Mansfield State School—receive significant dividends from the club and the P&Cs of those schools benefit greatly from the distributions made by the club.

The Mount Gravatt Hawks Soccer Club, the Mount Gravatt Australian Football Club and the Mount Gravatt Bowls Club also receive significant assistance, as did our swim club, the Men's Shed, the PCYC, our Neighbourhood Watch groups, the Mount Gravatt Environment Group, Mount Gravatt Little Athletics and the QEII track club. These occurred on the Saturday morning through the distribution of community benefit grants. Thanks go to the chair of the board, Ross Melville and his board; to CEO Graham Chattin; to the Grants Committee, including Kevin Schneidewin; and in particular to Melissa Eldred, who is the functions organiser at the club and is always a happy face organising events who is there when the club welcomes guests. Congratulations and well done to the club.