




Speech by

Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

Hansard Thursday, 31 May 2012

CANE FESTIVAL PARADE

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (3.34 pm): Beenleigh celebrated the 49th year of the Cane Festival Parade last weekend. There were nine entrants. We now call those entrants ambassadors and I am proud of these young people and their sponsors. I would like to name them in the *Hansard*: Mikaela Falcone, whose sponsor was Mitre 10 Beenleigh; Sharni Willmann, whose sponsor was Canegrowers Association; Lyndon Captain, whose sponsor is Making A Difference, or MAD, as it was formerly known. Mothers Against Drugs was another organisation that used to use the MAD acronym. The other entrants were Emily Ponton, whose joint sponsors were Village Cafe—the Beenleigh Historical Association—and Rocky Point Cane; Kayla Eley, whose sponsor was Raine and Horne, Beenleigh; Jason Howitt, whose sponsor was the Beenleigh Bowls Club; Tess Haseler, whose sponsor was the Beenleigh Sports Club; Melina Evans, whose sponsor was the Beenleigh PCYC; and Lauren Paterson, whose sponsor was Jets Fitness at Mount Warren Park.

In addition to those young people, we also had a float parade, with more than 70 floats. I would like to read into the record the winners of the various categories. The winner of the general category—and also the best overall—was the Willmann family. The winner in the best decorative category was Aussie Pet Groomers. There were some quite interesting looking pets, I have to say. One of the dogs looked like a lion. So that was quite interesting. The winner of the best school category was Woongoolba State School—go Woongoolba! It is in my electorate. The winner for the best community or club category was the Beenleigh Scouts and the winner of the best multicultural category was Falun Dafa. Its parade went on and on and on. There were so many people in it.

The pedestrian parade was won by the 11th Army Cadets at Logan. In fact, the 11th Army Cadets was a cadet unit that my son Jason was attached to. In fact, he won the annual award. I do not think it is called the best and fairest award, but it is similar to that.

All participating schools were above expectations, which is interesting to note. The judges also made special recognition of Eagleby Dance Centre, Music for Youth, Beenleigh Senior Citizens, RJ & DJ Skopp and the Beenleigh Sports Club.

It is so obvious that the southern part of Logan City and the northern part of the Gold Coast based around Beenleigh is a true community—with all of those different people and different organisations combining their efforts to make this celebration. The celebrations conclude this coming Saturday night at a crowning ceremony and dinner and I look forward to attending that with my wife.