




Speech by

Hon. Jarrod Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Hansard Thursday, 14 February 2013

KAWANA ELECTORATE

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (2.33 pm): It is an immense pleasure to be able to speak about some Kawana events of late. I thank the Meridan State College leaders whom I met the other day. Those young men and women are fine leaders and outstanding role models. On that topic, I welcome back all Kawana electorate schools and wish them a great 2013: Siena, Chancellor, Buddina, Kawana, Talara, Meridan, Pacific Lutheran College and Montessori. I wish students and staff all the best for a great 2013.

Tomorrow is an important night for seven young people from my local area. It is the Lake Currumbundi Kawana Lions Youth of the Year quest, which I was involved in back in 1999. I thank Josh Williams, Madeline Pitman, Nic Anning, Katelyn Townsend, Ryan Kertai, Ellen Lynch and James Milligan, who are all in the running to be crowned the Lake Currumbundi Kawana Lions Youth of the Year tomorrow night. It has been my pleasure to meet those outstanding young citizens and I look forward to hearing the outcome of the very tough job they have ahead of them tomorrow night, when they will deliver prepared and impromptu speeches.

Last week I had the immense pleasure of attending the opening of John Pearson Consulting at Bokarina. JPC specialises in developing and implementing Indigenous employment strategies and programs for mainstream business. I am delighted that JPC now has a presence in my electorate.

It has been almost a month since the devastating floods of 2013 and I thank all the Kawana people who have put their hands in their pockets for the Red Cross appeal. I thank all the mud armies. Members may know that my grandparents' home in North Bundaberg was flooded. I thank my family and all the Sunshine Coast residents who have really helped our fellow Queenslanders in their times of trouble and need. As we always say, if you can afford to give anything, even a dollar, to the Red Cross appeal for the flood victims, please do so.

Finally, Bike Week 2013 is kicking off this Saturday. It is timely to consider, member for Noosa, the importance of adding some extra exercise into our daily routines. In conjunction with the Sunshine Coast Regional Council, the Queensland government recently opened the Sippy Downs drive-cycle facilities.

Mr Emerson: When was the last time you were on a bike, Attorney-General?

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection from the honourable minister. This week I brought my gym gear but, unfortunately, I left my joggers at home. I am waiting for the next sitting of parliament to get fully into my new routine to fulfil my new year's resolution. I will borrow the minister's bike. These facilities will allow people in the Kawana community to get to where they need to go safely and efficiently, whilst doing something positive for their health, just as the member for Noosa will do in 2013. I am pleased that the government could work with the Sunshine Coast Regional Council to provide this excellent addition to the Kawana electorate infrastructure.