




Speech By
Hon. Jarrod Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Meridan State College; Fisher Electorate; Community Liquor Permit

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (2.40 pm): I rise today to congratulate the Kawana community on a win for school safety. Students and parents of Meridan State College will no longer be forced to zigzag busy Parklands Boulevard on their way to school after a community campaign claimed a recent victory. I am delighted that a solution has been gained and the green light given, with AV Jennings funding the missing link in the footpath network around the school. This is a real win for community and school safety which has long been campaigned for by the community. It is a vital safety boost. College director, Julie Kornmann, tells me she is over the moon. Motorists too will be over the moon with a new left-hand slip lane from Parklands Boulevard to Meridan Way to reduce traffic snarls. This is a win for people power in a community campaign which I first got behind in opposition.

I congratulate Mal Brough on winning in the electorate of Fisher on Saturday. I also congratulate the people of Fisher for showing Peter Slipper the door once and for all. Slipper has snubbed the electorate for far too long. I was surprised to see him show up at a polling booth on Saturday in his last ditch attempt to get votes, if only to see his hopes of another term obliterated at the ballot box. It is only fitting that Slipper will be remembered not only for his scandals but also for fetching the lowest ever result at the polls by an incumbent at a federal election in the history of polling—too little too late. Slipper was missing in action as the local member; too busy travelling the countryside on the taxpayers' expense. Finally this man's ticket is up. The free ride is over. Fisher has spoken and the Slipper has sunk. I have no doubt that the people of Fisher will be only too happy to see Slipper off in the back of a taxi as long as they are now no longer paying for it. I look forward to working with the honourable member Mal Brough as my federal counterpart and I again congratulate the people of Fisher for their choice.

Recently, as members will remember, we passed legislation in terms of liquor licensing laws and community liquor permits for our local schools. I have the pleasure of telling honourable colleagues today that I recently attended the Siena Catholic College trivia night and the Talara trivia night, which was a Dutch theme that fitted with my background—I had the clogs on. These were the first trivia nights they had had where they were able to sell alcohol as a fundraiser and not have to pay \$60 to the state government for liquor licensing fees and fill out nine pages of liquor licensing applications. They were over the moon at not having to have RSA trained P&C workers because ultimately this was about entrusting our community members, entrusting our school principals, entrusting our communities and particularly our P&Cs and P&Fs. It was also great to attend recently the Pacific Lutheran College Ocean Festival. I congratulate all those involved in organising that. It was the first time in many years they were able to sell alcohol at that event without government intervention. And guess what? The opposition said the end of the world would happen. These events happened without a hitch. They went on because we put faith in community leaders.