




Speech By
Hon. Jarrod Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Record of Proceedings, 6 March 2014

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Kawana Electorate, Achievements

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (3.24 pm): I want to talk today about the great electorate of Kawana and some of the things happening there. In terms of the government's four pillars of the economy, and especially construction, I was particularly pleased to drive past the Sunshine Coast University public hospital recently, and it is great to see seven cranes.

A government member interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: No, there are about seven little mobile ones but there are seven big cranes. That shows that progress is happening. That site lay dormant for years under the Labor Party. It was a kangaroo paddock. All that it was useful for was growing a bit of grass for the kangaroos.

Mr Powell interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection from the environment minister—there is nothing wrong with kangaroos as long as they are cooked on the barbecue medium rare. The Sunshine Coast University Hospital is proceeding as planned, on time, on budget and with seven cranes, which means construction is happening in this great state.

I want to talk about the Lions Youth of the Year, which I had the pleasure of being the coordinator of the other day. I congratulate Bridie Edwards from Meridan State College on her win on the night. Sixteen-year-old Bridie excelled in the interview round of the judging and went on to deliver entertaining and interesting speeches. Bridie is school captain at Meridan State College, a keen athlete and a brilliant young leader, and I am delighted that she and her peers took up the challenge and participated in the competition.

Five students from Kawana schools took part and they all did well, making the job of our judges—Captain Stuart Glover of the Salvation Army, Lisa Kozlowski of National Australia Bank and Kerry Ricketts of the Kawana Chamber of Commerce—very hard indeed. The judges took their time to announce the winner, which spoke volumes about their commitment to the task but also about how close the competition was. So, again, I congratulate all of the students on their efforts and I wish Bridie the best of luck for the next round of the competition. I have no doubt she will do Kawana proud.

Also doing the Kawana electorate proud are the many locals who rolled up their sleeves and got stuck into cleaning up the region on Clean Up Australia Day. My family and I had a great time helping the Currimundi Catchment Care Group members rid the banks of Lake Kawana of rubbish. It was a new clean-up site this year and the effort was well worth it. I say a big thank you to everyone who got involved, not only at Lake Kawana but all over the electorate. The efforts of these volunteers make a huge difference to our parks and gardens, roadsides, waterways and sports grounds.

Speaking of sports grounds, I congratulate the Kawana Soccer Club on its recent \$99,000 state government Get Playing grant, which the club has put to use upgrading two of its fields with drainage works. Grant funds such as this make a huge difference to local sporting clubs and community groups. I am very pleased the local soccer club won that. Lastly, while touching on local sports clubs, thank you to all of the clubs that made me feel welcome at their sign-on days in recent weeks. I have met so many families all excited to be getting involved in sport.

A government member interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: No, they did not want to sign me up. I can assure you of that. Thank you to all of those who participate in sport on the Sunshine Coast.

(Time expired)