



Speech By  
**Hon. Tim Mander**


**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### International Women's Day; Neighbour Day

 **Hon. TL MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works) (5.33 pm): It is my pleasure to talk about some of the things that are happening in the electorate of Everton. Like the member for Toowoomba North, I would like to acknowledge International Women's Day, which occurs this Saturday. I am looking forward to the breakfast tomorrow that the Speaker is putting on to celebrate this great occasion.

Like the member for Toowoomba North, I have gone through a process to see who would be the inspiring woman in my electorate who we would nominate. I am pleased to announce today that the inspiring woman for the electorate of Everton is Ms Sue Wallace, who is the school principal at Everton Park State High School. Members might remember that last year Everton Park State High School was one of those schools about which there was a discussion about the potential closure. So there was a fair bit of angst and instability throughout the year as we went through that process of trying to ensure that Everton Park State High School's future was assured. I am very happy to say today, as we here all know, that that was achieved. That was in no short measure due to the efforts of Sue Wallace and the team that she put together.

Sue was really instrumental in making sure that there was a calmness, if you like, to the process. She made sure that the students were settled and she provided outstanding leadership skills. She enabled the wider school community to be engaged in the process. Sue was also instrumental in putting together the P&C submission. As I said, in the end there was a fantastic result with the school remaining open. So Sue will be joining us tomorrow with many other women with the Speaker. I appreciate very much the Speaker putting on an event such as this. I will be looking forward to celebrating International Women's Day tomorrow with Sue Wallace from my electorate.

I would also like to make mention of an event coming up in my electorate very shortly. Through the Queensland Plan process, we looked at that question of how we change society's focus from me to we. One of the ideas that our working group came up with was developing neighbourhood hubs—groups that would look after each other, would volunteer, would act as mentors in a neighbourhood type of arrangement. I am not sure if the members are aware that 30 March is national Neighbour Day. To commemorate that day we are running an event at Fenwick Park. That park is actually located in the electorate of the Premier—it is on the border but I am sure he will not mind. On that day we will invite families down to the park to have an old-fashioned picnic day with egg races and sack races. There will be free food and fun. We will try to build up some community spirit and hopefully that will flow on to these neighbourhood hubs into the future.