



Speech By  
**Trevor Watts**


**MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA NORTH**

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Record of Proceedings, 20 March 2014

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENTS**

**Volunteers**

 **Mr WATTS** (Toowoomba North—LNP) (3.18 pm): I would like to speak today about the invaluable work that the 1.2 million selfless volunteers do within Queensland and how they contribute to our communities. I would like to encourage all members to get behind and celebrate National Volunteer Week in May and I would certainly like to thank the volunteers—the judges, organisers and various other people—who give up their time throughout the year to make sure that we have a fabulous show in Toowoomba which is coming up shortly. Another great event that is coming up in Toowoomba at Easter that the government gets behind is Easterfest. Hundreds of volunteers will be lining up to make sure that people have a great time and get involved in the various activities that are available.

I would also like to talk about the volunteers in my electorate of Toowoomba North who give up their time to help people such as those who are homeless and those with learning difficulties. At the Toowoomba Flexischool, volunteers give up their time for mentoring and being involved. Others volunteer for the SES and, obviously, all the sporting clubs. We have many sporting clubs and I would like to name just a few.

The President of the Toowoomba BMX Club, David Budden, gives up a great deal of time to making sure that kids in Toowoomba, particularly some from the Wilsonton area, get out there and start competing in what is now an Olympic sport. Peter Klein is the President of the Northern Brothers Diggers Cricket Club. With the support of the Minister for Sport, this year the club installed some fantastic cricket nets and has seen its junior ranks grow because of it. Ryan Myler is the President of the Toowoomba Mountain Bike Club. Going down off the edge of the range and on to Withcott are some fantastic mountain bike tracks that start in my electorate and end in that of the member for Lockyer. The guys do a fantastic job of making sure that that track is excellent for people to use. This year the Bears Rugby League Club was successful in getting \$100,000 to install lighting so that they can start using one of the school ovals.

Most particularly, recently I had the pleasure of hosting the Toowoomba Probus Club here at parliament. Forty-eight members and their partners came to Parliament House on Tuesday, 11 March. I acknowledge the efforts of John Clift who coordinated that tour on behalf of the Probus Club of Toowoomba. I think it was a great success. They certainly enjoyed their time here. I thank the staff at Parliament House who helped me to show them around and inform them of the different things that go on. I encourage them to come back in the future and have a look at the different things that happen here at the parliament.

*(Time expired)*