




Speech By
Glenn Butcher

MEMBER FOR GLADSTONE

Record of Proceedings, 11 November 2015

ADJOURNMENT

Boyne Valley Lions Club

 **Mr BUTCHER** (Gladstone—ALP) (9.43 pm): The Boyne Valley Lions Club was chartered on 18 April 1979 with 30 members. The club currently has 19 members. Boyne Valley is a small rural community with a population of approximately 150 people. When the ratio of members to population in country clubs is compared to city clubs, you will find that there is a lot more community commitment in rural areas. One of the first projects of the club in 1980 was to build a barbecue area at Ubobo. It has recently been rebuilt by the club to provide a first-class barbecue area for the community. The loyal members help out at many functions held in the valley by different groups, often running the bar.

Recently I attended the first ever Q4 District Lions Convention hosted by the Boyne Valley Club held outside a city in the wonderful town of Ubobo. The event was a fantastic opportunity to showcase the fabulous Boyne Valley region. The facilities that were set up for this convention were equal to any facility that can be provided by a big city. The Ubobo Discovery Centre and staff have really come on in leaps and bounds to provide a venue that the whole region can be proud of. As with many service clubs, Lions are the grassroots of an international organisation that supports its local area with projects that enhance its community. Many have benefited from local Lions projects such as picnic tables at various locations including Nagoorin, Ubobo and Builyan; the Lions barbecue area adjacent to the Ubobo hall; renovations to the historical society cottage; and help with developing the discovery centre. Boyne Valley Lions support local residents in times of personal need offering a helping hand or a chat. I saw this firsthand after the devastating floods in the Boyne Valley area. The way that that small community came together was absolutely fantastic. They also assist other organisations with their events, providing volunteers and facilities including their mobile coldroom.

Their commitment goes beyond their community, raising more than \$14,000 for prostate cancer through their annual Poets' Breakfast. It is a hardworking and enthusiastic club. Their supporters are generous, with many businesses and individuals donating prizes and trophies to support the club's many fundraising efforts. Boyne Valley Lions hold a famous golf day called the Rock and Thistle which last year raised funds towards their own Lions Medical Research Personality Quest entrant, Heidi Hughes. Heidi raised more than \$10,000 for medical research throughout the quest. Heidi and the club are to be congratulated for this large contribution from such small beginnings. I would like to congratulate the Boyne Valley Lions Club on presenting a convention of this calibre in my electorate.