



Speech By  
**Mark Furner**


**MEMBER FOR FERNY GROVE**

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Record of Proceedings, 12 November 2015

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Relay for Life**

 **Mr FURNER** (Ferry Grove—ALP) (7.12 pm): I rise this evening to speak on the important matter of raising funds for cancer. For nine years now I have been involved in a team with a variety of names. We started calling ourselves the 'Senate Stars'. After I came to state parliament we came up with a different name. This year we decided to call ourselves the 'Ferry Groovers'. We joined other teams such as the member for Kallangur's 'King's Crew' and the member for Redcliffe's 'Peninsula Possums'. It is about having a bit of fun, but the important side of it is raising money for the Cancer Council Queensland.

The relay starts at three o'clock on a Saturday afternoon and team members, in relay form, do laps around a track—on this occasion the Moreton Bay regional relay was held at Lawnton Showgrounds—until around 8.30 on the Sunday morning. It is a bit of an arduous task but it is well worth it in terms of raising money for the Cancer Council. This year I joined the Attorney-General as co-patron of the Moreton Bay Relay for Life. The relay actually raised \$75,652.43. Our team raised \$6,345, coming third. Once again, it is all about that commitment and about raising funds that hopefully one day will result in finding a cure for all forms of cancer.

I would like to recognise the sponsors I have had for the last nine years—organisations like Super Retail Group and Australia Zoo. Super Retail Group and Terri Irwin have been fantastic for our team over the years, tipping in enormous amounts of money to go towards one day finding that cure for cancer.

I would like to acknowledge the members of my team: Laurence, Judi and Will Brown, Cam and Ali Gibbs, Mark Orreal, Christine and Eva Doolan, Petrina Zaphir, Ross and Linda Williams, and Simone and Steven Flemming. During the night they had various shifts on the relay, walking around the track. In fact, Mark Orreal is still raising money as a result of the number of laps he completed on the night. It is such a credit to him to have that commitment. He was a first-time relayer, as were many of the team members. This year I enjoyed seeing new people coming on to the team and, as a result, raising thousands of dollars for Cancer Council Queensland.

We will be involved again next year, most likely on the north side. I thank the members for Kallangur and Redcliffe for their commitment and that of their team members and for their contribution on the night.