




Speech By
Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 5 May 2015

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Morayfield Electorate, Floods

 **Mr RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (10.47 am): It is with much sadness that I rise to speak about the tragic flooding event that occurred in the Caboolture region last Friday. Given the circumstances of last Friday, it is very hard to speak about the tragedies that played out on that day.

This event was an extreme weather event that caused widespread flash flooding throughout the Caboolture region. Almost 300 millimetres of rainfall was recorded in just a three-hour period. Hundreds of roads were closed and many thousands of motorists were stranded. Hundreds of calls to our orange angels—the SES—were registered and many swiftwater rescues were conducted by our Queensland fire and rescue heroes. Quite simply, this weather event was off the scale. However, most terribly, five people died from the floodwaters associated with this event, many others were caught up in the floodwaters and many more will continue to feel the emotional impact for many years to come. I wish to express my deepest sympathies to those families and friends who lost loved ones last Friday. To the family and friends of those five people—five local people, five people from our community—I am deeply saddened by this tragic loss of life. May they rest in peace.

During these extreme events there are many people who go above and beyond to assist others in their hour of need. The selfless service of those people to others is appreciated and is just another fine example of the depth of our supportive community.

I take this opportunity to place on record my thanks to the many generous locals who helped feed, house and transport train commuters who were isolated at local train stations that night. These selfless people helped complete strangers get home to safety. I would particularly like to acknowledge the efforts of Justine O'Brien, Leia Knibb, the Narangba Watch group, the Narangba.Brisbane group, the Burpengary Watch group, OurNarangba.com.au and the mystery man who drove a white four-wheel drive and delivered pizzas to people stranded at Petrie train station. There were many more people who helped stranded train commuters that night. To those people: thank you for doing what our community does best; thank you for helping our fellow residents.

I would also like to pay tribute to the Department of Communities' community recovery team. They have done some outstanding work over the last few days. Departmental officers were on the ground from first thing Saturday morning providing home visits, welfare checks and other assistance to people in need. Thank you to those people for helping our community.