




Speech By
Steve Minnikin

MEMBER FOR CHATSWORTH

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ADJOURNMENT

Carindale and Eastern Suburbs Community Group

 **Mr MINNIKIN** (Chatsworth—LNP) (11.22 pm): I rise to bring to the attention of the House a wonderful local community group within my great electorate of Chatsworth. The Carindale and Eastern Suburbs Community Group was established five years ago by local businessman Glenn Millar. With Glenn as the driving force, I have seen this group go from strength to strength, with the establishment of a monthly forum. The forum has grown over the years from a small gathering of a half dozen people at its inception in 2010, congregating at the Belmont State School, to a well-attended event held at the Pacific Golf Club on the last Wednesday of each month. The meeting showcases informative guest speakers who provide us with vital information about the local community, upcoming events and new services that are available. Speakers come from all walks of life and cover a vast array of topics. Over the last five years, there have been numerous guest speakers at the forum covering a multitude of topics from home fire safety, personal development to environmental topics.

At the November meeting last week, which I attended, our guest speakers included Stefan Hattings of the Bulimba Creek Catchment Coordinating Committee, and Lori Marshall, physiotherapist and owner of Ideal Carers. Stefan spoke about the common myna birds and it was interesting to learn more about this problematic bird species and how we as a community can get involved to help mitigate the massive ecological damage that they cause. Meanwhile, Lori spoke about senior care and how families can best assist their loved ones to remain safe at home.

Lori, who has been working with seniors since 2002, started a mobile physiotherapy service to help patients who found it difficult to attend a clinic to receive treatment. That led her to establish Ideal Carers, a service where clients can choose and book their preferred carer to provide the support they need and when they need it. I wish to congratulate her on her hard work in this area.

Whenever I attend this community group meeting I engage in a question and answer forum, as I believe that politicians should always be accessible to the people they represent in this chamber. In addition to this remarkable forum, Glenn Millar supports the Carindale and Eastern Suburbs Community Group by organising a free community newsletter which my office proudly helps to produce. In it he provides details about the upcoming forums, various guest speakers and summarises the topics discussed at the previous meeting. He also includes a comprehensive list of future community events such as the second annual Mannippi five-kilometre park run held last Saturday morning in which I participated. I thoroughly enjoy seeing this newsletter when it reaches my office, as I get to see a snapshot of all the brilliant events in our great local community and what is on offer each month. I would once more like to commend Glenn Millar on his hard work and dedication to the Carindale and Eastern Suburbs Community Group and the local community over the last five years. It is the efforts of outstanding individuals like Glenn which makes me so proud to be the member for Chatsworth.