




Speech By
Tim Nicholls

MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (10.30 am): I want to touch on a couple of issues just quickly. Firstly, obviously we have a Treasurer who is more interested in jokes and pulling rabbits out of a hat than he is in concentrating on the issues of concern to Queenslanders. What he failed to mention in his little sleight of hand was the \$1,500 loo with a view—Jones's throne—that we discovered when we came to government. There was \$600 for one, another one for repair and \$300 to have it installed. There was the ski jump at the Sleeman sports centre—a ski jump in Queensland! What does he say about that one? What about the egg in the national park? What about the gnomes advertising campaign? We have some of those garden gnomes back in here again. On top of that, there were all those magnets for the Queensland Water Commission that had to be scrapped because they had the wrong phone number on them. Of course, the greatest waste of all—\$1.2 billion on a Health payroll system for which Queenslanders are still paying. That brings me to the next point of issue.

Imagine my surprise this morning at hearing that the Treasurer, the member for union preferment—union mates getting fat cats back in their jobs—was saying that there was a sneaky plan in relation to SPER. It was a plan that was so sneaky that three pages were dedicated to it in estimates last year, a plan so sneaky that we had the Commissioner of Stamp Duties answering questions and going through the entire process. We had a question from an interested LNP member, we had a question from Mr Pitt after comments that I made in the middle of it, then another question by an LNP member and then over the page there was a final wrap-up by me. It was such a sneaky plan that I mentioned it in September in answer to a question without notice, such a sneaky plan that it was part of our election commitment in 2012 to trial the use of commercial debt collectors to recover the debt, such a sneaky plan that I mentioned it in the Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Bill introduced in June last year. Obviously the Treasurer, the minister for unions and union mates, was more interested in his cheapjack political stunts than he was in paying attention to the affairs of the House. This is from someone who complained that estimates was not fulsome enough. Someone who complained that there was not enough time was not even paying attention when there were answers specifically to the matter in question. He is someone who needs to pay a lot more attention to how he is going to be paying the bills in the next year than worrying about his little cheapjack stunts in this place.