



Speech By
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MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Great Keppel Island

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (10.28 am): I have a couple of things that I want to talk about, but let me deal with the Treasurer and his numbers. The ABS produces figures once a year: not quarterly. The Treasurer is making those numbers up.

Let me turn to something of greater importance and greater moment, because we have an upcoming community cabinet on Sunday at the North Rockhampton State High School, Simpson Street, North Rockhampton. I am sure people will enjoy going to that—particularly the thousands of people who want to know what is going to happen on Great Keppel Island. They are wondering what is going on. They are wondering what this government thinks about Great Keppel Island. For the benefit of members I say that I like Great Keppel Island. Last year I had a holiday up in Yeppoon. I spent three days there. I got wrecked on Great Keppel Island. I actually walked around the island and down through the site and thought, 'Won't this be magnificent when it goes ahead?'

What we know is that we have a clueless ALP government that is riven by infighting that is destroying the prospects for jobs and employment in the Keppel and Capricorn region. We have the member for Keppel who is not getting on with the member for Rockhampton. We have the member for South Brisbane who is arguing with the member for Stafford. Do they want a resort there? Do they not want a resort there? Are they talking to each other? All we know is that the omnipotent member for South Brisbane is exercising her numbers and she is saying with her lefty greenie mates 'we don't want development on Great Keppel Island'.

The poor old hapless member for Stafford, handing in our homework again, is relying on the LNP's position and is not supporting the poor old member for Keppel. We know that the poor old member for Keppel is in trouble because last Wednesday the member for South Brisbane flew to Keppel. She met with the mayor of Livingstone Shire Council, Bill Ludwig, and she met with the deputy mayor, Graham Scott, who is a pretty good fisherman. Did she meet with the member for Keppel on her visit up there? Did she take a call from the member for Keppel, who said, 'I would like to talk about the most significant job-creating project in the region. Can we have a discussion?' Not a word. She snuck in like a thief in the night on Wednesday and then snuck out again. She was at the truck show the next day. We have photographic evidence. She spoke about everything except developing it and left the poor old member for Keppel there.

The member for South Brisbane has form. She has left the member for Keppel in the dark once before. There were 200 people at a community meeting about a casino licence. The member for South Brisbane rings up just before the meeting and says, 'It's not going ahead.' The poor old member for Keppel was so embarrassed that she did not even front her own community to explain it. It will be interesting up in Keppel on Sunday!