



Speech By  
**Mark Ryan**


**MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### World Haemophilia Day

 **Mr RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (10.25 pm): Mr Speaker, today, as you have done and as many other members of this parliament have done, I am wearing a badge in support of World Haemophilia Day 2016. Each year on 17 April World Haemophilia Day is used to raise awareness of haemophilia and other inherited bleeding disorders. For those who are not aware, haemophilia is a rare genetic bleeding disorder that occurs when blood does not clot properly as there is not enough of a particular protein in the blood that controls bleeding. As a result, there is not enough clotting factor and bleeding may continue for longer than normal, especially internally into joints, muscles and organs.

While haemophilia is usually inherited, one-third of people with haemophilia have no previous family history. Sadly, haemophilia is incurable and can be life threatening if left untreated. With treatment, however, people with haemophilia can prevent repeated bleeding into muscles and joints, which can lead to arthritis and other joint problems. Interestingly, most people with haemophilia are male.

One of those people is a resident of the Morayfield state electorate. Last year I met with Brett Williams. Brett is one of the approximately 1,800 people with haemophilia in Queensland. Brett has severe haemophilia. He has been in constant pain his entire life and due to the damage caused to his joints by haemophilia he has been in a wheelchair for over 20 years. In a recent newspaper article, Brett said that haemophilia has crippled him. He says it is hard to describe to other people what the pain is like when you have a bleed.

Brett is passionate about raising awareness about haemophilia. When I met with Brett last year he asked me for help in raising awareness, and I was more than happy to do so. Brett is a courageous advocate for this cause and has already done a great job raising awareness on behalf of the Haemophilia Foundation Queensland. I am sure Brett would be very pleased to hear that the Story Bridge was lit red over the weekend to acknowledge World Haemophilia Day and that many members of parliament have worn the badges that he asked me to distribute.

In raising awareness for World Haemophilia Day and haemophilia it is important to highlight the good work of Haemophilia Foundation Queensland. The foundation provides significant support programs and services to people affected by bleeding disorders and their families. These supports include family and youth camps, crisis support, employer and school education, and member advocacy. I encourage all Queenslanders to learn more about haemophilia and other bleeding disorders.