



Speech By Shane King

MEMBER FOR KALLANGUR

Record of Proceedings, 16 August 2016

ADJOURNMENT

Kallangur Electorate, Community Groups

Mr KING (Kallangur—ALP) (11.55 pm): I rise this evening to make a contribution regarding some great community groups in my electorate of Kallangur and my involvement with them. LinC, an acronym for Love in the Name of Christ, is a group of dedicated volunteers who, among other things, provide a transport service to and from medical and other appointments for the elderly and infirm in our community who cannot otherwise attend these important engagements.

LinC began in Michigan, USA in 1976 as a way to encourage churches to become more engaged with the needy in their communities. The founder, Dr Virgil Gulker, believed that in order for churches to better serve their communities they needed to assess community capacities, to be given a strategy to provide leadership, organisation, training and encouragement and to work together. Unemployment, an ageing population, increasing numbers of single parents and disadvantaged families, combined with a greater demand on state and federal funding in the human services area, underline the need for increased involvement of churches in their local communities. LinC started in Australia in Hornsby, New South Wales in 1991, and in 2015 some 14 affiliates were operating involving over 100 churches.

Our Pine Rivers LinC has been in existence for over 20 years. When chair Steve Howarth, secretary Gail Masters and treasurer Elizabeth Hoffman approached me to be their patron, I was more than honoured and proud to accept. I recently held a morning tea at Norths Leagues & Services Club to thank some of the tireless volunteers who help out this worthy group. I must go on the record and thank Norths Leagues & Services Club, in particular manager Troy Young and service manager Theresa Kiernan, for letting us use the new Barrel n Vine area at the club for this function at no cost.

I have introduced LinC to our local Lions group and my neighbouring MPs for support—I thank the member for Murrumba, Chris Whiting, for his contribution—and I will continue to share their story to try and get them some much needed funding. Good work like they do needs support, and as their patron I will continue to help them get this.

The second group I mention is our local Pine Rivers Meals on Wheels. Since being elected I have helped them out with donations for various fundraisers including their hugely successful annual fete. I have also intended to do a food run with them and recently finally found the time to participate. I must say that I will be back for more. What a great, well-organised group they are. Ian, my co-driver and leader on the day, made the time a lot of fun and he certainly knows how to charm the clients. As with LinC, they need funding. Not only do I look forward to doing a lot more food runs with them; I will also be looking at what I can do to help with their fundraising efforts in future. I thank Wendy, Les, Jan and lan for their efforts. I look forward to working with them again soon.