




Speech By
Steve Minnikin

MEMBER FOR CHATSWORTH

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ADJOURNMENT

Belmont Services Bowls Club

 **Mr MINNIKIN** (Chatsworth—LNP) (6.47 pm): I rise this evening to honour a wonderful community group within my fantastic seat of Chatsworth. The Belmont Services ladies bowling club is home to a number of wonderful women with a passion for lawn bowls and an energetic spark for life. Meeting once a week on a Tuesday for ladies club day, these vivacious women take part in social games and club competitions. I have had the pleasure of attending their social games before, and they certainly could give me and my colleagues here in the chamber this evening a run for our money when it comes to being competitive.

I am very honoured to regularly be invited to attend special events with the Belmont Services ladies bowling club. Earlier this year I had the privilege of attending the handover luncheon, where we celebrated immediate past president Sylvia Napier's time heading the club. What a great lady she is. She put so much energy and effort into organising amazing social events for the members. This is a true testament to her character and generosity of spirit. I must also make mention of the incredible celebratory cake at this event. It was far too good to eat. It came complete with a miniature lawn bowls player, benches and seats as well as the Belmont Services crest. It was quite a cake.

In addition, I am also delighted to be invited twice a year to sponsor their famous Wednesday morning tea, which of course comes with a complimentary invite. When I attend I thoroughly enjoy meeting with each of the club members, from current president Joy Mehonoshen, who is doing an incredible job in leading the club this year, to secretary Beverley Perry and sponsorship coordinator Phyllis McDade, who are in regular contact with my office.

I must confess that I am slightly disappointed that my two sponsorship morning teas have already taken place for the year. They are a highlight of my week as my favourite Belmont bowls club manager, the wonderful Sandy, always puts on a tantalising spread of delicious treats. Sandy's unwavering dedication, enthusiasm and love for her job are so contagious and are some of the reasons I hold so many of my own functions at the Belmont bowls club.

Furthermore, as it is the month of May, it is very timely for me to wish the ladies bowling club a very happy and warm 51st birthday. This is an incredible achievement and definitely something each member of the club should be very proud of. Every time I visit the bowls club I am reminded as to why I am so proud to have this great facility and sporting group in the Chatsworth electorate. These ladies keep socially active and fit and, whilst they are very competitive on the greens, the level of camaraderie once they go back into the clubhouse is very self-evident to any guest, as the sound of laughter and supportive conversation can be heard everywhere. I again take the opportunity to wish the Belmont Services ladies bowling club a very happy 51st birthday and wish it all the very best for the next 50 years and beyond. In an era where it is difficult for sporting clubs to retain and grow voluntary membership, this club is a stellar example of how to do it right. Congratulations, ladies!