



Speech By  
**Deb Frecklington**


**MEMBER FOR NANANGO**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**Yarraman and Nanango, Men's Shed**

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (10.30 pm): I want to congratulate two people from Yarraman—Kerry Wyvill and Graham Lancaster—who are taking up the good fight with me so we can secure a Yarraman Men's Shed. The tale I will relate today is unbelievable. Back in 2010, when the Labor government sold the forestry plantations, the forestry town of Yarraman was left with an empty building, kept in the ownership of the government. That building has remained empty from 2010 to 2017. Kerry, Graham and 20 to 30 local men in Yarraman have identified this shed, which has a concrete floor—it is a perfectly great big shed—as an ideal place for the Yarraman Men's Shed, and why not? I wrote to the minister thinking that common sense would prevail—but no. They have decided that it is not a good enough spot for the men's shed and they do not want to look after the men's shed.

There is precedent for something like this. When Jeff Seeney was the deputy premier he made a way for the Murgon Men's Shed to take an old QR building. He offered the Murgon Men's Shed a lease of that land and enabled these men to get into that men's shed. We talk in this House all the time about issues surrounding men, particularly in regional areas. We need to be looking out for our communities. That is what I am doing and that is what Kerry Wyvill and Graham Lancaster are doing. Common sense needs to prevail. I will not stop until the Yarraman Men's Shed is given a building within Yarraman. There are empty government buildings there. It is completely crazy that this government is going to spend, we have heard, \$300,000 to demolish that shed for no good reason. I will wait to hear an answer in this House.

I move on now to the Nanango Men's Shed. I want to thank both Graham Firth and president Alan Sheppard for hosting me at the Nanango Men's Shed the other day and presenting me with a sign that reads 'Deb's Kitchen—Proudly created by Nanango Men's Shed'. I will be writing to you, Mr Speaker, to seek permission for that to be hung in the kitchen on level 19.

I also want to give a quick shout-out, because it is Ekka week. We love the Ekka. Toogoolawah State High School has beaten 27 other schools to take out the interschool team young judging. I congratulate Taylor Williams and John and Olivia Delaforce, who took out first place in young team judging at the Ekka. What a fantastic thing for Toogoolawah.