



Speech By  
**Leanne Linard**


**MEMBER FOR NUDGE**

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Record of Proceedings, 1 November 2018

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Nudgee Electorate, Caravan and Camping Industry**

 **Ms LINARD** (Nudgee—ALP) (2.09 pm): I recently had the pleasure of meeting with Ron Chapman, Chief Executive, and Jason Plant, General Manager, of Caravanning Queensland to discuss the rapidly growing caravanning and camping industry in Queensland. With over 170,000 registered caravans and campers, Queensland has the largest fleet in Australia and growing. Registrations in Queensland have increased by over 30 per cent since 2017 alone, the highest growth of any road use vehicle. Nationally, eight of the top 10 postcodes by registration density are located in Queensland and over 2.3 million domestic trips were taken in recreational vehicles in Queensland in 2017. Overall, consumer spend on caravanning and camping nationally is in excess of \$8.6 billion.

Of course, it is not just the caravan and campervan trade that makes this such a dynamic industry. It is also the approximately 284 recreational vehicle service and repair businesses and manufacturers that call Queensland home and, proudly, my electorate of Nudgee is home to significant contributors in this space. Cruisemaster in Geebung engineers premium caravan and camper trailer independent arm suspension systems. It is an industry leader and is rightly proud of its reputation and product, and give a warm shout-out to Managing Director Chris Goddard. Nudgee is also home to Apollo, Queensland's largest manufacturer of motorhomes, campervans and caravans and one of Australia's largest. Currently manufacturing Winnebago and Talvor, its production output will increase in 2019 when it starts also manufacturing Coromal and Windsor products from its Northgate base. I am proud that it has chosen the Nudgee electorate to call home and I would like to give the team at Apollo a warm shout-out.

Caravanning has become synonymous with grey nomads and as being largely the pursuit of the retired, but this is far from true. While the 55-plus market accounts for a significant component of domestic caravan and camping trips, or approximately 32 per cent of trips, and almost half of nights, the majority of caravan and camping trips in Queensland are taken by 30- to 54-year-olds and Queensland families, and this number is growing. We all know that Queensland is an incredibly beautiful state—from the coast to the bush and everything in between. Queensland has over 500 caravan parks, and many only a stone's throw away from our state's most captivating destinations. Importantly, 92 per cent of travellers stay in regional locations when travelling, making this industry a significant economic contributor to our regional towns as well as cities.

On a personal note, my husband and I and our young boys have recently joined this cohort, having just purchased a camper trailer from Brisbane Camperland at Tingalpa. I want to take this opportunity to thank Jim Carnavas at Brisbane Camperland for his kind generosity and his team, particularly Jon Kaufman, John, Brad and Rod Tobler—himself a Nudgee resident—who took such good care of our family during purchase and handover.