




Speech By
Linus Power

MEMBER FOR LOGAN

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ADJOURNMENT

Park Ridge Pirates; Skilling Queenslanders for Work

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (6.15 pm): I want to recognise the Park Ridge Pirates AFL team. It has grown from great strength in recent years and won the AFL division 2 final on the weekend in a great win over Beenleigh, proving that western Logan is always going to be a better place than other areas of Logan.

We all know that young people have limited experience in work. Their skills can be lower, they can have lower confidence and they can find it difficult to get work. If they do not get experience or work for some time, they have a far greater chance of becoming habituated to not working. That is why I was gutted when the LNP cut the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program, which was providing great value for taxpayers and ensuring young Queenslanders were work ready. We know this because reports looked at the value that it provided for the state. I was so proud when we restored the program, but I was even more proud when I saw the good projects that were being completed—projects like the new museum building at Logan village, the renovation and fencing of the RSL at Jimboomba, the community garden at Jimboomba, the Greenbank Pony Club and so many other projects.

We are often told by outside consultants that this strong government has improved employment outcomes. On the ground, however, I see more the feeling of pride and achievement that young people and their team leaders achieve. They are rightly proud of the lasting legacy they leave their local community. I want to give the House a few examples. At the Greenbank Pony Club the coordinator took the group aside after they had been working hard and looked at a fence post. He asked them, 'What is wrong with it?' They offered a few suggestions: maybe the railing was not straight enough. At the end he said, 'There is nothing wrong with it. You need to learn the lesson that you can do great work and you can be proud of what you do.'

At the Jimboomba RSL there was an unfortunate incident during construction. The president of the RSL told me that the kids laid out the concrete path and somebody with football boots walked over it. However, it was a great lesson to those kids learning to take pride in their work because they were angry. They said, 'They have not just insulted our work; they have insulted the RSL.' I am proud that this project has done an amazing job to renovate RSL buildings in Jimboomba, but it has also put up a secure fence and the knowledge that this place will be sacred for both the people who built it and those veterans who served our country.