




Speech By
Michael Healy

MEMBER FOR CAIRNS

Record of Proceedings, 15 November 2018

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Neighbourhood Watch

 **Mr HEALY** (Cairns—ALP) (2.11 pm): Crime is an issue that affects everyone in the community and no single group or government can work alone to solve that. That is why in a minute I will talk about Neighbourhood Watch and its importance. Before I do, I want to touch on one point. The Leader of the Opposition just stood in this chamber and tried her best. However, sometimes her best is just not good enough. What she failed to acknowledge is that the member for Whitsunday has just held a press conference outside. Did he express faith in the LNP being led by the member for Nanango? I suspect not. It is going to be a very cool Christmas. The member for Whitsunday did not do that. We know his speech last night was full of praise for the member for Broadwater. A backbench only act when they are not happy, and the LNP backbench are not happy.

Returning to the Neighbourhood Watch issue—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Stewart): Order, members. Member for Nanango, you have had your go.

Mr HEALY: It was a very disappointing go at that. The year 2018 is the 30th year of Neighbourhood Watch—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Pause the clock. Member for Cairns, you did not need to make comment after that.

Mr HEALY: I am sorry, Sir.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr HEALY: You are a good man, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Thank you, members.

Mr HEALY: It is remarkable what entertains small minds. Moving on if I could—two ears, one mouth, here we go. The year 2018 is the 30th year of Neighbourhood Watch operating in Queensland and it remains one of the most important crime prevention initiatives in the state by focusing attention on home security and the reporting of suspicious activity to police. Earlier this year the Palaszczuk government came to the rescue of Neighbourhood Watch by delivering the annual funding that this vital community organisation needs to continue its work. I would like to remind the chamber that the Newman government promised to fund Neighbourhood Watch but did not even bother including it in the—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Thank you, member for Cairns. Members to my left, I am having difficulty hearing anything from the member for Cairns, and I do not need comments.

Mr Lister: How much did your dog weigh?

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Southern Downs, you are now warned under the standing orders.

Mr HEALY: I must say it is very rare that anybody says they have not heard me, so thank you for that. I will take that interjection from my learned colleague. Dogs—it is about growth, money, business, and I am going to teach the member opposite more about that if he listens. Where were we? We were talking about the Manunda Neighbourhood Watch meeting. I want to touch on the fact that we have some fantastic people in the community of Manunda. I would like to congratulate Amanda and Jo, the founding members. They have done a fantastic job. I would also like to acknowledge Drew, who also makes a significant contribution. The integrity of these people and the goals they have for their community are extensive. If it was reflected by some of the other members in this chamber—their care and their honesty—it would be a little bit tight. At the end of the day, these people need to be commended—

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Ms Grace interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Nanango. Minister for Education.

Mr HEALY: As we move into the Christmas period I would like to acknowledge the hard work of these people in our community and also the police who work with them. I would like to wish everybody in this chamber a special and a very happy Christmas, particularly the member for Nanango.