



Speech By  
**Kim Richards**


**MEMBER FOR REDLANDS**

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Record of Proceedings, 21 August 2019

## ADJOURNMENT

### Redlands Electorate

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (7.19 pm): If you had asked me if I would ever play Rugby League, I would probably have said you were a bit crazy, but I did promise the member for Macalister that I would have a crack at this year's Country-City game. I am looking forward to that. I thought I had better get my skills up. I contacted my local club and was told, 'Come on down and have a training session with the ladies team; they are about to head into the finals series.' I went down there and thought I would just be doing the training part. In the end, I played my very first game. I made it through to the end and I am proud to say that my team, the Parrots—#tweettweet—played in a grand final. It was against the Inala Panthers and they gave them a thrashing, a 16-0 touch-up. Hilarious! In our training game though I played on the right wing, apparently, in the No. 5 position in the green and red colours, something I never thought I would be caught dead in. Anyway, it was a great game. A huge shout-out to the ladies of the Parrots team, a real inspiration. They nicknamed me 'Aunty'. That is what I took away as I was quite a lot older than most of them. I made it to the end with no blood and no bandages wrapped around my head like the member for Macalister.

Skilling Queenslanders for Work is another great initiative in my region. I talk about it a lot as I think it really delivers for our community. Last week, I had the opportunity to attend the graduation event for the Bay Island Community Centre on Macleay Island. Graduates attending Skilling Queenslanders for Work were awesome in giving back to our community a new, decked out op-shop that looks fantastic. Dave Liniger from the department said that he could not believe the quality of workmanship of the Skilling Queenslanders for Work third-year apprenticeship trainees. That was really fantastic. A huge shout-out to Ash, Josh, Vanessa, Adam, Andrew, Anthony, Helen, Jake, Hudson, Stephen, Lorinda, Shaun and William. They really did a fantastic job. Not only does it leave a legacy for that community in terms of their work but it inspires confidence in young people. It is an incredible program on so many levels. Thank you to the supervisors, Doug, Kevin and Angela. Their work in shaping that program has been a fantastic win for our community.

I also had the opportunity of Minister Grace visiting my area—another fantastic visit to Russell Island to look at the completed \$1.2 million refurbishment. We concluded the day with a catch-up with all the principals from right across the Redlands at the Redlands Research Centre, talking about the opportunities to bring together academia, skills and secondary education to ensure we position for jobs into the future. On that note, I also had the opportunity to attend our Australian Industry Trade College to talk about our free apprenticeship training package. I cannot tell members how excited they were. I spoke to one of the second-year local plumbers for whom it was an awesome opportunity for his company in the Redlands.