



Speech By  
**Nikki Boyd**


**MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS**

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Record of Proceedings, 21 May 2020

## **PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

### **Maiala Day Use Area**

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (2.15 pm): Nestled in the heart of the Mount Glorious township is Maiala, the first national park declared in the D'Aguilar Range. Maiala is a special place for many in our community and it holds a special place in my heart, being the location of my family's annual Boxing Day celebrations with friends as I grew up. Whether you are looking for the beauty and majesty of a rainforest walk, a cook-up on the barbecue, a picnic to enjoy the beautiful Queensland weather or just a pit stop with a spectacular view on your way through your mountain drive, Maiala is the resting stop for many.

On this side of the House we fundamentally believe in access for all. That is why Labor in government has invested in revitalisation works at the Maiala day use area to achieve universal access for visitors. Sometimes not everything goes to plan, and a breakdown in communication saw my mountain's communities launch into a campaign around specifically saving the iconic picnic shelter from demolition for a modern replacement. In August last year with the intervention of the Minister for Environment, the member for Algeester, we managed to halt construction works and review this component of the plan.

The shelter is a structure in a rustic style known throughout the US park service as 'rustic architecture' and is believed to be constructed by locals in the 1950s using local timbers. With the community importance to preserve the structure conveyed, the minister worked with the community to preserve the structure for years to come. I wish to place on record our community thanks to the minister and her staff.

We also worked hard to ensure throughout the time of construction that portaloos were available for public use. I recall driving down the mountain one afternoon and seeing a truckload of portaloos driving up. I have never been so delighted to see something being delivered.

This Saturday, 23 May, Maiala reopens to the public. Despite our best efforts, the picnic shelter has not been able to be kept in the original condition but has been reconstructed using original roof tiles and stones in the pillars, and the design allows for more access for all in the community. I have seen some pictures and it looks spectacular.

The original plan with the resident association was a big celebration on site, but sadly that is not to be. Today I wish to place on record in this place my appreciation to our mountain community. Thank you to our passionate advocates—Cathy and Ian Lilley, Carmel Black, Karen Hutt and especially Bill McKeever—without whom we would not have saved the shelter for generations to come or had the essential community input in its reconstruction. We pulled together rapidly and effectively, and our actions have created something really special for our community. I welcome visitors to the beautiful Mount Glorious to experience what a special place Maiala is. It has real pride of place for locals.