




Speech By
Kim Richards

MEMBER FOR REDLANDS

Record of Proceedings, 26 May 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Redlands Electorate, Volunteers; Redland Rhapsody Chorus, Santry, Ms L

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (6.10 pm): Can I start my contribution by sending my love and support to the member for Macalister after her contribution this afternoon. She is brave, she is courageous and our parliament is better for her voice in this place. All Queenslanders are better for her voice in this place.

Redlanders lost an amazing Redlander on 17 April in Laurel Santry. Laurel was an amazing performer for the Redland Rhapsody Chorus. She lost her battle with cancer. She was the assistant director there. I send to her family my deepest condolences on behalf of all of our community. I send to the Redland Rhapsody Chorus family my deepest sympathies. I know how much pain they have been going through in her loss.

Since the last sitting we have had Mother's Day, which is celebrated by many. Every Mother's Day Redland Rhapsody Chorus have gone with me into our aged-care facilities and brightened the days of many. From Renaissance to Marbello to Tranquil Waters to Salford Waters, their voices have brightened the days of many at our Mother's Day celebrations. I thank the Redland Rhapsody Chorus and again I give my deepest sympathies to the Santry family.

Talking about seniors, we have also had an amazing Seniors Expo in the Redlands. I thank Minister Crawford for coming out to the Redlands to our Donald Simpson Community Centre and for sharing really valuable information with our Redlands community on all of the rebates and concessions that are available for our seniors community. We had people there giving expert advice on elder abuse. It was a really fantastic day, and Minister Crawford was absolutely delighted to see the engagement of our seniors there on the day. It was a fantastic event. I thank all of the departmental staff who came out and supported the day. It really does make a difference when you can share very valuable and useful information.

Since the last parliamentary sitting week we have also seen National Volunteer Week. I do not think there is anybody in this chamber who does not want to say thank you to our volunteers in our community. The hours they put in are absolutely incredible. It was my delight, along with the member for Capalaba, to host a volunteers thankyou event in the Redlands. From our frontline personnel, our SES, coastguards, VMR, P&Cs, museums, history groups and progress associations, when we sit back and reflect there are so many organisations that contribute so strongly to the fabric of our community. On behalf of everybody in this place, I would say happy National Volunteer Week to all of our volunteers. We could not do it without you. You make our communities a better place. At every opportunity we should be out there celebrating and thanking all of those volunteers who make such a huge difference to our community. To all of the Redlands volunteers I say thank you very much for all you do.