




Speech By
Hon. Mark Furner

MEMBER FOR FERNY GROVE

Record of Proceedings, 17 March 2022

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Shave for the Brave

 **Hon. ML FURNER** (Ferny Grove—ALP) (Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities) (2.34 pm): As of last Saturday, I paid for my first haircut since, as you would know, Mr Deputy Speaker, 3 December when my team and I shaved our heads to raise funds for the Save the Children domestic and family violence refuge in Western Queensland. My team included, from my office, Ron Goodman and Fidelis Rego; and from DAF, Director-General Bob Gee, Wayne Hall and Stephen Smith, the regional director for the central region. Last year we committed to doing that. Online collectively we raised \$46,410. Several barbecues were held by DAF staff and we had a further \$1,000 worth of gift vouchers through Kerry Doorley, a hairdresser on the north side. I thank them for their efforts. I also thank all my Caucus colleagues who donated, including you, Mr Deputy Speaker.

I want to thank the many friends and farmers—I am called 'Furner, the farmers' friend—who donated. I refer to people like Carl Walker of Phantom Produce; Bryce Camm; Mayor Brett Otto from the South Burnett Regional Council; former director-general Beth Woods; Nick and Chloe Kempe from Agrimix; David Foote from Australian Country Choice; David and Andrew Moon from Moonrocks; Dean Goode from Kilcoy Pastoral Company; Georgie Somerset, the President of AgForce; Gary O'Halloran from the plumbers union; James Walker, a farmer from the Longreach area; Johnny Oliver from the United Firefighters Union; Mark Ryan from Tassal; Marshall Betzel from the Queensland Seafood Marketers Association; Troy Qualischefski from Qualipac in the Lockyer Valley; and Mayor Shaun Radnedge from the Murweh Shire Council.

This is something that this Labor government does. We take seriously our commitment to assisting people suffering from domestic and family violence. It is why we commit to these events. I am really pleased that this year's fundraising endeavours are being put together. I table the list of the names of all the donors, for the benefit of Hansard. I also table a flyer for the first fundraising event for this year, to be held on 7 April, 11.30 to 2 pm, at 41 George Street. It is an Easter sausage sizzle.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, list of names and companies [319](#).

Tabled paper: Document, undated, depicting advertisement for Department of Agriculture and Fisheries fundraising Easter sausage sizzle and raffle [320](#).

I want to give recognition to Annette from DAF for her ongoing support and commitment to making sure that we do not allow this scourge to continue to surface in our communities. In particular, I encourage everyone to support the Save the Children refuges. Generally it was mothers and their children with whom I met at the refuge late last year. You see the smiles on their faces when you present them not only with that sort of money but also toys, clothes and other things that families need at difficult times. It is such a privilege to support opportunities such as this.