




Speech By
Hon. Shannon Fentiman

MEMBER FOR WATERFORD

Record of Proceedings, 15 March 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Queensland Floods, Waterford Electorate

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (7.26 pm): It has been absolutely devastating to see the impacts of the floods right across South-East Queensland and in my own community of Logan. These are the worst floods Logan has seen in almost 50 years. Many families in my electorate were inundated by floodwaters, many were without electricity and some were completely isolated for many days. As devastating as the damage has been, it has been heartwarming to see the community spirit in action. We saw it in 2011, we saw it in 2013, we saw it in 2017 and we are seeing it again now.

There have been so many wonderful stories I have witnessed in the last few weeks being on the ground in flood-affected neighbourhoods, but I would particularly like to mention Shirley and Jeff. While checking in on families with the Premier and Deputy Premier—who both came down to Waterford to witness firsthand the impacts of the floods—we met Jeff and Shirley. Shirley's phone had been damaged in floodwaters, she had lost hundreds of her treasured books and they had no hot water as their system went under. Telstra was kind enough to donate a mobile phone to Shirley, and we gave that to her so she could stay in touch with loved ones. We also dropped around much needed groceries and a book voucher so she could replace what she had lost. I give a huge shout-out to the Logan Deputy Mayor, Jon Raven, who teamed up with the Plumbing Industry Climate Action Centre to donate and install a new hot water system in Jeff and Shirley's home.

During the clean-up process Jeff celebrated his birthday, and he and Shirley also celebrated their wedding anniversary days after the floods inundated their home. Their neighbours, Jane and Steve, rallied together to put on a special dinner for them. I am sure Jeff and Shirley's anniversary will be one to remember. This is just one house on one street that was flooded. I have been hearing stories like this from countless constituents, and it makes me so proud to represent this amazing community.

In Waterford, everyone looks out for one another. My office quickly became a hub of activity, with people from right across Logan coming and going, dropping off supplies for those in need. There are so many people and organisations to thank, but I would like to give a special shout-out to the following people: Debbie Hill from Lighthouse Care; the kids from Everything Suarve; Domino's Logan Central, which donated pizzas for people without electricity; locals like Kiri, whose own house was flooded but she dropped off quilts from her mother's knitting group for other local families; Patino Lawyers, which donated vouchers for the local IGA; Hello Fresh, which delivered boxes of meals to my office; Bec and Leigh from The White House of Waterford, a wonderful small business whose own business was flooded, which dropped off supplies for others; Wally and Anne, who donated fruit and other supplies; Bren and Justine from Slacks Creek; Katrina Bills, who baked up a storm; Woolworths Meadowbrook, which managed to get extra groceries to those in need; and the amazing team from Bunnings, which donated insect spray, air compressors and barbecues and then cooked a barbecue for community

members; the Indonesian Muslim Centre of Queensland, which delivered food hampers; and Louie Naumovski from the Logan House Fire Support Network—and Logan could not do it without Louie. I thank everyone. You are all what makes Logan so special.