



Speech By Jessica Pugh

MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

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ADJOURNMENT

Mount Ommaney Electorate, Clubs

Ms PUGH (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (6.27 pm): It is a pleasure to round out the week. It is coming into winter sport season, although you would not necessarily know it from the weather, and that means our amazing community volunteers are gearing up for another big season. Can I give the House an around the grounds of the good work my fantastic locals clubs are already doing this year. The mighty Jindalee Jags—I thank the sports minister, who is in the House tonight, for giving them a substantial grant last year to help with their flood recovery—are having a fundraiser in a few weeks to further those efforts and get some great new facilities, including a ladies' change room, with a ladies' day in a few weeks, which I will hopefully be attending and selling raffle tickets. That will be fantastic. We have a great committee at that club, and they have done such a great job in their flood recovery efforts.

The Centenary Stormers are continuing their work this year with Pushing Barriers, which members may be aware is a fantastic volunteer-based organisation that allows young migrant and refugee kids to participate in sport by providing them—in addition to the cost of their sports—with drivers to get them to and from games if they have parents who cannot drive. We know that is a significant impediment to a lot of young people who are migrants to our community, so thank you to Pushing Barriers for working with them so closely. There are dozens of kids now playing with the Centenary Stormers and more are signing up every year. It is fantastic to see.

We have the oldest club in Queensland in Oxley United, which was established over 100 years ago, where my son, Heath, has historically played. There is no word yet as to whether he will be putting on the black and red jersey this year, but we are hoping for a late resurgence. St Cats will also have another fantastic season. They have been doing some great work with a lot of our community groups. After the floods, they provided their facilities for a lot of community groups that were essentially homeless. They said to those clubs that did not have their own facilities to use, 'Come to St Cats. Use our facilities.' They have given a lot of our community groups and dance groups a place to go, which we appreciate. The Jindalee Bowls Club were the recipient of another fantastic grant from the sports minister. They are elbow deep in renovations and we hope they will be open later this year. They received over half a million dollars of state and federal funding to do that work, and it is coming along beautifully.

I am going to run out of time. In the time I have left, I take a moment to thank the fantastic volunteers who do all of this great work keeping our community clubs going. I also thank the amazing small businesses that sponsor these clubs. I have so many in my electorate, including Vision Optometry, Xplicit Kleans, Happifeet Podiatry and hundreds of other local businesses. Mother's Day is coming up. Back a small business that backs our local clubs.