




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR MACALISTER

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ADJOURNMENT

Macalister Electorate, Small Business

 **Mrs McMAHON** (Macalister—ALP) (7.09 pm): It has been a pretty big week in Macalister. We had what is considered the local area's biggest event for small business—that is, the annual Beenleigh Yatala Chamber of Commerce Prawn Day. For those who are uninitiated and have not been, it is a day of nonstop, as-much-as-you-can-eat prawns and the serving of some local wines and craft beers. It is really good to support our local prawn farms that are out alongside the Logan River. This year, as my special guest, I had the Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development there, because it is predominantly a small business event. There would have been, I think, over 700 people in attendance representing over 150 small businesses in the local area. The Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries was out there, marvelling us with his prawn-peeling skills, and for the first time ever we had the Premier attend our Prawn Day. Whilst we did enjoy the company, the prawn peeling and the endless stream of selfies that people were after, more importantly we actually contributed to the Noel Herbst Memorial Prawn Peeling Competition. Not wanting to boast or anything like that, we did come second in the first round. Unfortunately, there was a bit of an incident with a prawn at the end of it. Anyway, everyone enjoyed their day.

I am very thankful to the small businesses that I hosted and the school principals that I hosted, because it is actually our high school students who do the hosting and serving on the day. Our Beenleigh State High School students and Windaroo Valley State High School students were out there contributing to the day as part of their hospitality training. It was also an opportunity for me to invite many of my sporting clubs because they are in the company of many small businesses, so when they are looking to connect with community small businesses for sponsorship it is a great networking day for everyone.

I want to make a special acknowledgement of a couple who celebrated 70 years of blissful marriage on the weekend—Val and Shirley Curtis of Wynnum West. I know that the member for Lytton would otherwise be telling this story, but it was a wonderful family event to celebrate 70 years of marriage in the bayside area. On behalf of everyone who came along, Nanna and Grandad, it was a very wonderful and fantastic experience, and thanks for looking after us all.