



8 May 2009

VOLUNTEERS: Everyday people, extraordinary contribution

This is the theme for National Volunteer Week which commences today, May 11.

Member for Noosa Glen Elmes said he wanted to make special mention of the remarkable contribution made by volunteers in his electorate of Noosa and did so recently in a speech to Parliament

"When I sat down and mentally went through the different groups, I was amazed at the number and variety there is and that regardless of the activity, it is impossible to put a value on the enormous contribution that volunteers make to the community.

"I soon realised, too, how the contribution of volunteers enriches the quality of life in a community and how much poorer our communities would be without them,

"We rely on volunteers for small local charities, in our Churches, school tuck-shops, meals-on-wheels, hobby and sporting groups, animal welfare, conservation, environment protection groups, support groups, historical societies and local museums, arts and theatre groups, tourist information centres, JPs, residents associations, surf lifesaving clubs, local ambulance and hospital auxiliaries, ex-servicemen and women, SES and Coast Guard – the list goes on and on.

"Collectively these fantastic Queenslanders devote thousands of hours of their time for the benefit of others and for the betterment of their community. Volunteers, through their selfless dedication and goodwill, are what makes our state and our nation great and it is their fine example that will serve to inspire future generations of Australians". ENDS

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