



BERT VAN MANEN MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR FORDE
Beenleigh Cane Festival
[90 SECOND STATEMENT]

Speaker, it comes around quickly each year, and just two weeks ago, I had the privilege of being involved in the **Beenleigh Cane Festival** with my electorate office staff taking time out of their weekend to walk the streets with me as part of the parade, alongside 60 other floats from businesses and community groups.

As they say in the Forde Electorate, the second Saturday in May is when the cane comes to town. We paraded through the **Beenleigh CBD** on our way to the **Beenleigh Showgrounds** where there was entertainment for everyone in the family to get involved with.

This year, I was lucky enough to borrow a trailer from one of our local charity partners **Nightlight** and we adorned it with plenty of cane stalks for a long procession through the main street of town.

Since the festival made its much-anticipated return back in 2021, the **Beenleigh Cane Festival** and the **Beenleigh Cane Gala Ball** has become one of the biggest festivals on the Logan City Calendar.

Speaker, all money raised from the **Beenleigh Cane Festival** goes towards local projects, and this year's charity partner was the **Mini Farm Project** at **Loganlea State High School** which I have risen before to speak about in this place due to their amazing work.

I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate **Rotary Club of Beenleigh President** - Janee Hong whose been an integral part



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of the **Beenleigh Cane Festival** since it was re-launched in 2021, and I also look forward to attending another Cane Festival in **2024**.

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