



Florey Neighbourhood Watch & Clean Up Florey Day

Speech Delivered in the ACT Legislative Assembly, 18 September 2018

September is a good month to get stuck into some spring cleaning, and the first of September this year was a beautiful time for my children and me to join the Florey Neighbourhood Watch for an event that they named, appropriately, Clean Up Florey Day.

The Florey branch of Neighbourhood Watch is a new one, only launched in March of this year, but they have already grown to more than 90 members. They are organised and filled with enthusiasm, and they managed to pull off a fantastic day of service and fun for all who participated.

When we first arrived, my kids seemed less than enthused, but they quickly changed their minds as we registered, picked up our rubbish bags and gloves, and went to work in our assigned section of Florey. In the end, they admitted that they'd had fun. I want to thank the Neighbourhood Watch for creating this opportunity for me to provide my family another example of what it is to volunteer, and reinforce for them how important it is to engage in community service, taking pride in where we live.

I also wish to thank area coordinator Sharon Leigh-Hazell and all who serve alongside her for successfully attracting so many volunteers to the event. Sharon had told me that it was her goal to attract a crowd, and she and her helpers certainly pulled this off.

In addition to the satisfaction that comes from labouring side-by-side in meaningful community service, volunteers were treated to a raffle, a cake stall and a sausage sizzle. It is my sincere hope that many other volunteer community organisations will follow the example set by Florey Neighbourhood Watch and draw local residents together to do good things in their suburbs. This is what a strong, vibrant community looks like. Thank you.

Shadow Minister for Families, Youth and Community Services
Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs