



**SEATH HOLSWICH MP – STATE MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS**

## **SPEECH IN PARLIAMENT**

**21<sup>st</sup> March 2013**

### **BRISBRICKS LEGO EXHIBITION**

I was introduced at a very young age to the fascinating world of little plastic interconnecting building blocks. Throughout primary school and even during high school many of my afternoons, evenings and weekends were regularly spent around a table filled with Lego creations.

As a parent of young boys now, it has given me great joy to pass on that love of Lego to them and to see them developing their imagination, creativity and problem-solving skills whilst building Lego creations large and small.

Late last year, my family and I attended the inaugural BrisBricks Lego Exhibition at Mount Gravatt. We were blown away by the displays and also to learn that nearly 8,000 people attend the exhibition over three days. After attending that exhibition, I approached the organisers of the BrisBricks Lego Exhibition with a proposal to hold a Lego exhibition in Pine Rivers. Following on from that, it has given me great pleasure in recent weeks to be able to announce and promote the BrisBricks Pine Rivers Lego Exhibition that will be held at the Strathpine Community Centre on 15 and 16 June. Whilst I am unashamedly still a Lego fan, in truth this exhibition is not about some lifelong desire to have a major Lego exhibition on my doorstep - at least not entirely.

As many in this House would know, I am a passionate advocate for developing the tourism potential of the Pine Rivers region and am committed to bringing more jobs into Pine Rivers. We are anticipating that over the two days of this exhibition we will see somewhere around 5,000 people walk through the doors in Strathpine. This exhibition will be a fantastic opportunity to attract visitors to our region and an opportunity for local businesses to capitalise on several thousand people visiting the Pine Rivers region over that weekend.

We have given local businesses the opportunity to sponsor the exhibition. All the available sponsorship opportunities were snapped up by local businesses in just a couple of days. Our whole region will have the chance to capitalise on the extra visitors to Pine Rivers over that weekend. I look forward to seeing many people come for the exhibition and then stay to shop at our local shops, eat at our local restaurants and visit our local attractions while they are in the area.

This exhibition will be a significant event for our region and is quite deliberately part of my strategy to build a better Pine Rivers through fostering a stronger local tourism industry and a stronger local economy overall. Queensland is certainly a great state with great opportunities and Pine Rivers sits poised to play a major role in the great future that lies ahead for our state. For at least one weekend this June, we will be using those small plastic interconnecting building blocks to help boost the Pine Rivers economy and to spark the imaginations of our next generation.

(Note: Edited from Hansard record to remove interjections. The full version can be viewed at [www.parliament.qld.gov.au](http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au))