



Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Parliament of Queensland

Media Statement

Monday 24 May 2010

EVERY DAY IS OPEN DAY AT THE QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENT

The Queensland Parliament's Open Day on Saturday 22 May was a success with more than 2100 people attending the event.

The Open Day was held to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first sitting of the Queensland Parliament. Attendees were able to take a 'behind the scenes' tour of Parliament House and enjoy free live entertainment on the Speaker's Green throughout the day.

Speaker John Mickel thanked all who attended for the interest they had shown in visiting their parliament.

"The Open Day was a wonderful occasion and I thank everyone who came along and enjoyed the day.

"The Open Day was a very significant occasion as it marked 150 years of uninterrupted parliamentary democracy in Queensland. There are not many places in the world that can claim that and it is something that Queenslanders should hold dear."

The Open Day commenced with the unveiling of the Speakers' Corner project by Governor Penelope Wensley, Mr Mickel and the Leader of the Opposition, Mr John-Paul Langbroek.

Mr Mickel said the Speakers' Corner was a dedicated area in front of Parliament House where people could exercise their right to free speech and engage in vigorous debate.

Following the launch of the Speakers' Corner, visitors to the Open Day entered the Parliamentary precinct to join one of the 'behind the scenes' tours.

"The tours were a huge success and it was a great honour for me to welcome so many Queenslanders into the parliament, which after all is the 'people's house'," Mr Mickel said.

"For anyone who was unable to attend or for those who would like to return for another visit, I would like to emphasise that the Queensland Parliament is open for visitors seven days a week," Mr Mickel said.

Further details on visiting the Queensland Parliament are available online at <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/view/visitors/visitingParliament.asp>

Free guided tours are offered at Parliament House every day of the week (except on public holidays).

For further information: 3406 7170