



Speech by

Mr ROB MITCHELL

MEMBER FOR CHARTERS TOWERS

Hansard 19 August 1999

CENTRAL QUEENSLAND TIDIEST TOWN AWARD

Mr MITCHELL (Charters Towers—NPA) (7.23 p.m.): I was very pleased to hear this week that Clermont was awarded the Central Queensland Tidiest Town Award. Clermont is in the southern part of my electorate, some 400 kilometres south of Charters Towers. It was announced by the Keep Australia Beautiful Council on Monday of this week. The council applauded Clermont for its proactive civic and community pride and its extraordinary tidiness—for which I can vouch, and very much so. The award is sponsored by the Ergon Energy Central Queensland Regional Division Tidy Town 1999. Clermont is now in contention for the Queensland Tidy Town of the Year, and I am sure that all central Queensland will wish Clermont well.

I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Clermont community on receiving this award and invite all Queenslanders to take time out when next they are on holidays and drop in and see for themselves why Clermont has won this award. I also wish to congratulate Belyando Shire Council, community organisations and many individuals who have played a huge part in Clermont receiving this award.

This is not the only award to go to Clermont in the Central Highlands. The Belyando Shire Council also received the Mitsubishi Local Government Leadership Award. I also wish to congratulate Mayor Matthew Athanasiadis, all councillors and the administration staff of the council on all their work and effort in deserving this award.

Awards such as these are achieved only with the support and effort of all community members. As I said before, many organisations and individuals deserve this praise. I wish, though, to congratulate one of these individuals, namely, Mr Ivan Betteridge. I have known Ivan for about the last seven years. He is one of the characters of Clermont and is really well known around that area. I know of his tremendous pride in his beloved town of Clermont. On retirement from the mines, Ivan took it upon himself to develop the park area as one enters Clermont. The whole area, which covers the northern bank of the Hoods Lagoon, is covered by native trees, all planted and nurtured by Ivan over the years. It is a common sight, as one drives into Clermont, to see Ivan out on his ride-on mower. I might add that Ivan is in his late seventies.

Time expired.
