



Speech by

DESLEY BOYLE

MEMBER FOR CAIRNS

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CAIRNS MUSIC AND ARTS EXPORTS

Ms BOYLE (Cairns—ALP) (10.28 a.m.): I am pleased to report to members a growing export industry in Cairns, and that is music and the arts. There has been a fine and long history of various music and arts being exported south, as it were, to other regions in Australia. Of course, we should not forget that Xavier Herbert was a Cairns writer. We have had a tremendous number of indigenous artists over the years. The most famous of the contemporary crew are probably the Lockhart River gang, whose art is selling well around Australia—

Mr Welford interjected.

Ms BOYLE: In fact, as the minister says, around the world.

We have performing artists, for example, from the Just Us Theatre Ensemble, who have toured two of their contemporary productions, *Barmaids* and *Bedtime Stories with Auntie Dee*, throughout Queensland over the past year. On the international front, I am pleased to say that our artists are active. The Tjapukai cultural dance troupe has been famous and sought after around the world. May I also inform honourable members that individual artists have done equally well.

Lone White, who is an eminent Cairns potter and president of the Visual Arts Association, Cairns, frequently provides tuition and training in countries all over Europe and sometimes in Asia. I am able to report, too, on a musical troupe which toured Guam just last month. It was indeed a multicultural tour, led by Herman Soenario, who is the director of Encore Concerts in Cairns, who took with him two Ukrainian pianists who are well-known in Cairns.

I am pleased to inform honourable members that Kathryn Ash, the writer of *Bag o' Marbles*, which is presently being performed in Brisbane, has been invited to present her play in New York and she will travel there to do so next month.

I suggest to honourable members not only that we have fine artists and musicians but that we will hear more of them.

Time expired.
