



Speech by

Hon. K. LINGARD

MEMBER FOR BEAUDESERT

Hansard 16 October 2003

COUNTRY PRESS AWARDS, *BEAUDESERT TIMES*

Hon. K. R. LINGARD (Beaudesert—NPA) (6.57 p.m.): I want to congratulate *Beaudesert Times* and give recognition for the paper's success in this year's Country Press Awards. *Beaudesert Times* was first published in 1908 following a merger between the *Beaudesert Despatch* and the *Beaudesert Herald*. The company was purchased by Frank Hodgson in 1930 and ownership and management remains in the family today. It is one of the few locally owned and independent newspaper companies in Queensland. This is not the first time the paper has won awards. *Beaudesert Times* has also gained international recognition, having won two Pacific Area Newspaper Publishers Association awards.

This year *Beaudesert Times* received seven major awards at the Queensland Country Press Awards held on the Gold Coast on Friday, 3 October. It won the award for best newspaper with a circulation of up to 10,000; for technical excellence for a circulation of up to 5,000; for journalistic excellence in the open area; and for journalistic excellence in the weighted area, which makes allowance for the number of staff and resources available to the newspaper. It won best newspaper supplements for its Beaudesert Show feature, it won the best special publication for its Beaudesert Show feature and it won the best house advertisement. Journalist Krista Dobinson was highly commended in the individual journalistic excellence section. The *Jimboomba Times* won third place for the best locally produced full-colour advertisement and best house advertisement. Journalist Emma Jachimowicz was highly commended for best pictures in the sports area.

Beaudesert Times Pty Ltd is a wholly independent company. All publications are produced totally in-house. Managing director Mark Hodgson was made a life member of the Country Press Association of Australia. He has been involved in the Country Press Association of Australia for 24 years. He has served as president and vice-president during that time. Mark was made a life member of the Queensland Country Press Association five years ago. I congratulate Mark and the staff of the *Beaudesert Times*.