




Speech by
Ian Berry

MEMBER FOR IPSWICH

Hansard Thursday, 31 May 2012

IPSWICH SHOW

 **Mr BERRY** (Ipswich—LNP) (9.14 pm): On Friday, 18 May 2012, Ipswich celebrated the Ipswich Show holiday—a proud annual fixture on the Ipswich calendar. The Ipswich Agricultural and Horticultural Society was established on 14 March 1866. It then became the Queensland Pastoral and Agricultural Society on 28 August 1872 and it is now called the Ipswich Show Society. The first Ipswich Show was held on 13 May 1873. Many Ipswich locals will know the Ipswich showgrounds well. However, originally, the show was not held at that site. The first show in 1873 was held at a site in Churchill facing the Bremer River and was subsequently moved to its present site on Warwick Road in 1877.

The Ipswich Show Society is a not-for-profit organisation that aims to promote and encourage the development of pastoral, agricultural, horticultural and industrial interests in the Ipswich and West Moreton district of Queensland. The Ipswich Showgrounds is home to the annual show, various expos and events, horse shows, bird shows, greyhound racing and trialling, the Indoor Sports Centre—which in younger years I used to frequent—including indoor cricket, netball and soccer, wedding receptions, birthday parties, seminars and conferences, community group and club meetings and activities and the Showplace Markets.

I would like to thank the President of the Ipswich Show Society, Mrs Marcia Cruickshank, and all the dedicated members of the committee as well as all the volunteers who made the Ipswich Show a great success. The Ipswich Show Society is a great institution in Ipswich. Having the Premier of Queensland, the member for Ipswich West and I open the Ipswich Show demonstrates our government's commitment to the Ipswich Show Society and the people of Ipswich.

The fact that the Premier was there was like a breath of fresh air. It was absolutely amazing to see sponsors and small business operators go up and shake our Premier's hand. It was really an inspiring experience. It just seemed that from March things changed. There was an optimism. Quite frankly, I for one enjoyed the experience. The Premier saw my booth, which I held with the member for Ipswich West. It was just an absolute experience for all of us. I have not had so much fun since Savage Garden was there and I took my 13-year-old daughter, Hayley.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr BERRY: Yes, members, I know Savage Garden.

An honourable member: You saw Savage Garden?

Mr BERRY: Hold on, I did not actually see them; I heard them. I did not actually pay to get in, but that is another matter.