



Speech By  
**Shane Knuth**


**MEMBER FOR DALRYMPLE**

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Record of Proceedings, 4 March 2014

## ADJOURNMENT

### Moranbah Race Club

 **Mr KNUTH** (Dalrymple—KAP) (9.28 pm): I want to bring to the House's attention a serious act of discrimination against a very active racing committee in a mining town in the southern part of my electorate—Moranbah. Over the years Moranbah has been kicked in the guts from governments who see this town as a revenue raiser for the Treasury's coffers, with little going back to the town in return. Moranbah has suffered with continued government interference with planning decisions forced upon it by state governments, mines getting closer to the town, the closure of the maternity service, and 100 per cent fly-in fly-out which has caused massive devastation to the social and economic fabric of the Moranbah community. One of the great events that occurs three times a year is the popular Moranbah races. The race meetings present an opportunity for residents to come together in a social environment where they can relax, enjoy a drink, have a bet on the horses, participate in the fashions and other activities. However, a lot of hard work is put in by the committee and volunteers. They work hard to maintain the upkeep of the racetrack, barriers and the grounds to sustain each race meeting. The Moranbah Race Club had its annual number of meetings cut from 11 to three. This has considerably reduced the club's profit capacity and consequently also reduced its available funds to purchase equipment. It is flat out paying its rates and most of the volunteers are shiftworkers trying to fit in the time to upkeep these grounds. What is disappointing is that eight rounds of applications have been submitted by the race club to the Jupiters Casino Community Benefit Fund. Funds to replace its very old, worn-out tractor have been rejected eight times. Applications have been submitted to eight rounds of the Jupiters Casino Community Benefit Fund. Submission dates are as follows: round 76 submitted 31 August 2011; round 77 submitted 29 February 2012; round 78 submitted May 2012; round 79 submitted 24 August 2012; round 80 submitted November 2012; round 81 submitted 28 February 2013; round 82 submitted May 2013; and round 83 submitted August 2013.

I cannot believe the continued rejection of the application for funding to purchase a tractor for use for general maintenance and upkeep of the racetrack and facilities to take pressure off the hardworking volunteers. An amount of \$6 billion in gross revenue comes out of the mining region through billions of dollars in royalties. Much of this funding goes into the Jupiters Casino Community Benefit Fund, which provides funds all over Queensland and all organisations benefit.

We believe that it is a disgrace that the community of the Moranbah Race Club and a wonderful event continues to be rejected. I call on the minister to seriously investigate this issue and why Moranbah Race Club continues to be rejected in its passion to replace the old broken-down tractor.

*(Time expired)*