



Speech By  
**Trevor Watts**


**MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA NORTH**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### Heritage Bank Toowoomba Royal Show

 **Mr WATTS** (Toowoomba North—LNP) (9.58 pm): It is with great pleasure that I rise to congratulate all of the people who were involved in the 2014 Heritage Bank Toowoomba Royal Show, which was held from 27 March to 29 March. Unfortunately for the show organisers this year, Toowoomba experienced its highest rainfall for the year throughout the duration of this fantastic community event, but nobody there had their spirits dampened. Everybody was pleased to see the rain, because there were so many people from the land who have been struggling without the rain.

Whilst it was great to see, it did affect the show. On opening night my heart went out to the 2,000 cast members who had prepared a show for Her Excellency the Governor Penelope Wensley. Unfortunately the show had to be cancelled because it was so damp. I spoke to Damon Phillips over the weekend and my office spoke to him after the event. I would like to congratulate him, all of the staff and the thousands of volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this event a great event for our community in Toowoomba.

It needs also to be acknowledged that a former member for Toowoomba South, Mike Horan, was the person who moved the show to its current grounds. Many people in Brisbane would not be aware that the Royal Agricultural Society of the Darling Downs was formed 15 years before the Brisbane Royal Agricultural Society. Our show celebrated its 150th year this year. I would like to mention a few of the board members—I will not go through them all. Keith Beer, Kent Bligh, Wayne Bradshaw, Shane Charles, Cameron Collins, Greg Death, George Fox, Mark Freeman and our Chamber of Commerce manager, Greg Johnson, all did a fantastic job. There are many others on the list, including the staff on the day, Damon Phillips, Greg Lyons, Cindy Phillips, Karen White, Liz Speed and Sharron Edwards. Andrew Conway had the tough job of making sure the grounds were functional, along with Jai Phillips and Karl Morris.

It was a great show. We did receive a lot of rainfall. I manned a booth with the LNP's candidate for Condamine, Pat Weir. It was a great day to get out and meet the people and introduce Pat to the people of our region, the proud people of the land of the Darling Downs, one of the most fertile agricultural areas. They were there to display their produce and cattle and also to look at that of others to see what lessons they can learn and what equipment they might be able to buy. It was a fantastic show and I wish the staff all the best in the repair work that they will have to undertake after the massive rainfall we had.