




Speech By
Patrick Weir

MEMBER FOR CONDAMINE

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ADJOURNMENT

Dalby Australian Stockhorse Sale

 **Mr WEIR** (Condamine—LNP) (11.17 pm): This weekend, I will have the pleasure of officially opening the 41st annual Dalby Australian Stockhorse Sale at the Dalby Showgrounds—the biggest Australian stockhorse sale in Australia.

The Dalby Stockhorse Sale was established in 1974 by the Darling Downs Branch of the Australian Stockhorse Society. This sale is the pinnacle event for the branch and brings a large crowd to Dalby and the surrounding district for the weekend. The Darling Downs branch of the Australian Stockhorse Society, which coordinates events that promote the versatility of the great Australian stockhorse—the breed for every need—is a not-for-profit member based organisation and this year was awarded the society's prestigious award of Branch of the Year. During the year, the branch sponsors various local shows in the district as well as supporting stockman challenge events, campdrafts and other local community functions.

The first stockhorse sale held in Dalby in 1974 was attended by over 1,000 people, with the top price paid for a mare being \$2,100. In comparison, last years attendance surpassed 4,000 and the top price for a mare was \$30,000, although over the years the prices and attendances have fluctuated with \$70,000 being paid for a mare in 2011. There have been years when rain has threatened to impact the sale and competition. However, these conditions did not dampen the spirit of the organisation and this year the sale is expected to be bigger and better than ever.

The stockhorse sale is one of the success stories for the Dalby region, with people coming from all over the country to attend the three-day sale. The 41st annual sale will commence with a quality line-up of 250 registered Australian stockhorses and will be followed by competitors from all over Queensland, New South Wales and the Northern Territory signing up to compete in the campdraft events. There is a range of entertainment lined up for the weekend, with the world renowned Double Dan Horsemanship show expected to entertain the crowd with their performance. This act has not only been performed all over Australia but also at prestigious international occasions such as the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Events like the Dalby Stockhorse Sale keep rural regions alive. I am happy to proudly support this iconic event held in the electorate of Condamine.