



Speech By Scott Stewart

MEMBER FOR TOWNSVILLE

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ADJOURNMENT

Outback Film Festival

Mr STEWART (Townsville—ALP) (11.49 pm): I rise this evening to inform the House about an amazing event I attended late last month—the Outback Film Festival in Winton. I was representing the Minister for Tourism. I had the fortunate pleasure to also have with me the member for Sandgate, who was representing the Premier. I thank the member for Sandgate for his company.

I say to those members who do not know Winton or have never been to Winton that they have missed a gem of the outback. It is home to the Waltzing Matilda Centre. It is where Banjo Paterson first performed *Waltzing Matilda*. It is where Qantas was born, despite what those in Longreach will tell you. It is also home to the Australian Age of Dinosaurs museum. The member for Sandgate and I had the great pleasure of going to the Jump-Up while we were out there and having a look. It is also very close to the Lark Quarry dinosaur tracks. There are 3,000 dinosaur tracks—the largest collection of dinosaur tracks in the world. Winton used to have a very big sheep industry. The sheep stations have moved to cattle. There are a lot cattle out that way. Winton is home to about 1,000 people.

I have to tell members that they have probably the second best mayor I have met in my life— Butch Lenton. Butch and his proud councillors looked after us. They took us just about everywhere in Winton that we could fit into the two days we were there.

Why is this place and this event such a special event? Winton recently was involved in the filming of the new movie *Goldstone* starring Jacki Weaver. So, ladies and gentlemen, keep your eyes open for that one. It was filmed at this great place.

An honourable member interjected.

Mr STEWART: I did not get a spot, even as an extra.

An honourable member interjected.

Mr STEWART: With a head like a dropped pie, what do you expect!

Six days prior to our visit there was a fire at the Waltzing Matilda Centre. Some 90 per cent of the exhibit was saved. That was because of the great work of the firies out at Winton. The best thing about this is that the people of Winton are resilient. They get knocked down and they get back up again. They made sure that the film festival went on. I applaud them for that.

The second film at the festival was *Last Cab to Darwin* starring Michael Caton from *The Castle* fame—'Tell him he is dreaming.' It was shown in the open cinema. Actor and patron of the festival, Roy Billing, officially unveiled the sidewalk star.