




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR GLADSTONE

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ADJOURNMENT

Capricorn Film Festival

 **Mr BUTCHER** (Gladstone—ALP) (9.05 pm): I rise to speak about a great event that happened in my electorate on 29 October. It was my pleasure to represent the Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Hon. Kate Jones, at the Capricorn Film Festival's closing event, the Short Film Competition. The Capricorn Film Festival is now in its second year and offers the community a wide array of events all year round, including workshops for Central Queensland schools and communities, feature film presentations and Central Queensland's only film festival. The festival is open to any level of filmmaker, from amateur to professional, and aims to create opportunities for artists to showcase their work and talent in front of their peers, community members and established industry personnel.

The Short Film Competition was held at Gladstone Marina's open-air theatre. The festival saw crowds enjoying films under the stars, while supporting filmmakers from the region and entries from all corners of the globe. There were over 20 short film entries from local filmmakers, compared to only two last year. That is a testament to the terrific efforts of the Capricorn Film Festival to create a film and TV hub in Central Queensland.

The Caps Junior Winner went to *Tiny Dancer*, which was written and directed by Ellie Kendall. *Neighbourhood Wars*, which was written and directed by Dan Mulvihill and Madeleine Dyer, was awarded the Caps Open winner category. The CQ Rising Star winner went to *Traveller*, which was directed by James Latter and written by James Latter and Indhi Neish. Director and writer Frank Magree and co-director Paul Henri took out Best Short Film winner for their film *Sengatan*.

The Queensland government supports this event through Tourism and Events Queensland's Destination Events program. Events such as the Capricorn Film Festival help grow Queensland's cultural reputation and our cultural tourism offerings. We know that events also play a vital role in showcasing our destination to visitors.

I especially congratulate a good friend of mine, Luke Graham, who has been an inspiration in the Gladstone region and deserves the many accolades that he has received. He made and directed a film in Gladstone, which was absolutely wonderful. Congratulations must go to the event organisers for delivering such a superb experience for the Gladstone region, to all the entrants and, of course, to the winners for their incredible efforts.

On the day, it was absolutely fantastic that everybody got an opportunity to walk down the red carpet and have their photos taken, as if they too were movie stars. I talked to several young children there. They are now inspired to become filmmakers and be a part of this wonderful event in years to come. To Luke Graham and the committee I say: well done and enjoy it next year.