



Speech By  
**Jennifer Howard**


**MEMBER FOR IPSWICH**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### Ipswich Show

 **Ms HOWARD** (Ipswich—ALP) (10.36 pm): I rise tonight to speak about the Ipswich Show. A little under a week ago Ipswich hosted its 144th show. For those not in the know, the Ipswich Show is hosted every year in the month of May and it is driven by the hard work of the Ipswich Show Society. This is a team of dedicated, passionate workers carrying on a legacy dating back to the first Ipswich Show, which was held on 13 May 1873, headed by Ipswich Show Society president Marcia Cruikshank—who I should mention celebrated her 10th year as president of the Ipswich Show Society—and her able deputy Darren Zanow.

It rained on the first day of the Ipswich Show this year, but it did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm and the spirit of the stall holders, show society workers and volunteers. Nor did it prevent many people from attending the show. The people who volunteer their valuable time to work at the show really do have commitment above and above expectations. I have seen this time after time every year and yet I have to share the story of a volunteer at this year's show who was knocked over by a horse float and had to be hospitalised and yet insisted on returning to the show on the same day because there was still work to be done. It seems the show really must go on rain, hail or shine, accident or injury.

The rain held off for the remaining two days of the show and people came through the gates in droves. I had a stall at the show and spoke to numerous showgoers over the three-day period, many of whom had come some distance to attend, like the Minister for Education and Minister for Tourism and the Commonwealth Games, the member for Ashgrove, the Hon. Kate Jones, who comes along each year to spend time with her extended family and who is always a delight to see.

People come to the Ipswich Show because there really is something for everyone—from the rides on sideshow alley, the flower arranging, the photography, the school entries, the cake-baking and decorating competitions, to the giant pumpkins—this year's winner weighed in at over 270 kilograms. I take this opportunity to commend all the store holders, all the volunteers and the Ipswich Show Society for giving us another great Ipswich Show.

We are so often caught up in the hustle and bustle of our daily lives, responding to emails, phone calls and other numerous demands. Going to a rural and agriculture show is like taking a step back in time. Very few things change at these shows from year to year, and there is something comforting about the pace and the familiarity of these annual events. In closing, I would like to add that the Ipswich Show Society and the community of Ipswich put on a show not to be missed. I hope to see you there in 2018 for the 145th Ipswich Show.