




Speech By
David Janetzki

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

Record of Proceedings, 13 June 2018

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Toowoomba South Electorate

 **Mr JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (2.55 pm): I rise to speak about a number of very distinguished citizens of Toowoomba and the Darling Downs. Let me begin with the Queen's Birthday honours. A number of local Toowoomba people were honoured and recognised.

Firstly, I mention Trevor and Shirley McIvor who are constituents of mine. They ran a space pilots program out of the Rangeville Community Church for 27 years. Young boys in particular could indulge their interest in space and rocket making.

Next there is Derek Tuffield who is the longstanding CEO of Lifeline in Toowoomba. It was wonderful to see Derek recognised. I got to know him quite well when we served together as trustees on the Toowoomba disaster appeal after the terrible flooding in 2011. Derek is a passionate Toowoomba man who is working with our underprivileged. It was wonderful to see him recognised as well.

It was wonderful to see Ros Scotney recognised. Ros was a long-term councillor and mayor on the Pittsworth shire council. She also served two terms on the Toowoomba Regional Council. Today she has a wide range of community interests. She is most well known for Downs Steam. Downs Steam is a great little tourist organisation in the electorate of the member for Condamine. It seeks to preserve our rail history. It has some grand plans for the future. It was wonderful to see Trevor and Shirley, Ros and Derek recognised.

I next wanted to acknowledge Betros Bros. The owners of Betros Bros, like so many Lebanese families in the Toowoomba community, are a pillar of our business community. Others are the Hannas, the Bou-Samras and the Cooreys. They have made an extraordinary contribution. This week they celebrated 80 years in business. They have fed Toowoomba, they have nourished Toowoomba, they have supported the Toowoomba community and more importantly than anything else they have employed the Toowoomba community. Boys and girls get their first jobs at Betros Bros. To Kerry, Bevan, Murray—and I had better give a shout out to Kerry's wife, Di, because she is an avid political watcher—I say congratulations to you and your family. Thank you for your contribution.

Finally, I want to acknowledge one of our great Queenslanders, Gordon Vandersee, founder of Vanderfield. Vanderfield is the largest agricultural equipment business in Australia. Gordon's is the quintessential Queensland pioneering story. He was born and raised on a dairy farm in Crows Nest. He, with his brother, Claude, won a land ballot and farmed at Clermont. They cleared scrub. He forced his new wife to live in a tent. They erected their own telephone pole. Then they went on to establish Vanderfield. It is not just Australia's largest agricultural equipment business but also the most respected and successful John Deere franchise in the world. Gordon was known for his kindness and his humility. He will be sorely missed. We thank the Vandersee family for their contribution.

(Time expired)