




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR TOWOOMBA SOUTH

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ADJOURNMENT

Toowoomba South Electorate

 **Mr JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (7.12 pm): Tonight I would like to rise and reflect on some of the remarkable people in my remarkable city who are achieving great things and reaching for the stars. In that respect, quite literally the University of Southern Queensland did that with the relaunch of the Mount Kent Observatory, near Greenmount. This was a \$6 million investment. That puts the University of Southern Queensland at the heart of space exploration. They are working with NASA. They are working towards certain projects. I congratulate Vice-Chancellor Geraldine Mackenzie, Chancellor John Dornbusch and the director of the Centre for Astrophysics, Professor Brad Carter, on that wonderful accomplishment that puts the University of Southern Queensland at the heart of space exploration and investigation throughout the world.

I would also like to reflect on the drought breaker that is the Toowoomba Royal Show. The Toowoomba Royal Show was a wonderful event over last week. However, it brought some rain with it and water underfoot. I can tell members, though, that it brought plenty of smiles to the faces of the exhibitors and agricultural producers who came to Toowoomba. CEO Damon Phillips, president Shane Charles and vice-president Mark Freeman do a wonderful job putting on the Toowoomba Royal Show. Although it was a little damp, the exhibitors and exhibitions were as strong as ever—fruit and vegetables, cattle, poultry. Across-the-board it was another wonderful show. I congratulate the RASQ on that delivery.

I want to reflect briefly on the official launch of Emerge, which is a new social enterprise in Toowoomba. They run a food van and a co-working youth hub space. It is one of the new, exciting social enterprises that is establishing its reputation and making its mark in Toowoomba. Jen Shaw, what a remarkable woman! She is leading a wonderful social enterprise at Emerge. She is working with our underprivileged youth, giving them skills and giving them hope for a far brighter future. I commend Jen and congratulate her on the opening of Emerge last week.

I also want to reflect on a little chocolate factory in the corner of my electorate in Harristown. Trevor and Magdalena Smith are running a factory called Metiisto. It makes the highest quality chocolate. They want to take chocolate to the next level—along the lines of wine and coffee. It made a wonderful Christmas present for my wife last Christmas as I purchased a number of their beautiful, exquisite quality products. It is wonderful to see small business in Toowoomba South expanding, showing innovation and taking their product to the world. I wish them all the very best. I also congratulate Bill Smith and Charles Clarke, fine JPs whom I recognised recently.