



Speech By  
**Stephen Bennett**


**MEMBER FOR BURNETT**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### Burnett Region; Bundaberg Region Promotion Night

 **Mr BENNETT** (Burnett—LNP) (7.13 pm): Back to adjournments, Mr Deputy Speaker Kelly. It has been one year since the initial COVID-19 travel restrictions were lifted and Burnett was re-opened for business. The incredible resilience our tourism and other small business operators have shown throughout the pandemic is commendable. This pandemic has shown that the people of Burnett are a tough, determined bunch who can rise above any challenges thrown at them. I am proud to stand here and shout out that the beautiful Burnett is well and truly open for business, with our local operators exceeding all expectations and bouncing back in a spectacular fashion.

Anyone considering booking their next holiday should look no further than our slice of paradise. The line-up of experiences simply cannot be beaten. In the words of our passionate Bundaberg tourism team, it is—

... the town the turtles call home, where beach meets reef, your plates are always filled with abundant local produce and the rum is always world-class.

I am thrilled that a number of our local attractions and award-winning businesses, alongside wonderful community groups, will soon descend on Parliament House for the highly anticipated Bundaberg Region Promotion Night next month. This is a bipartisan event with the member for Bundaberg.

Ashley and Carly Clark are a shining example of locals who continue to strive to provide visitors with first-class experiences, and I am excited to say they will be joining us for the regional promotion roadshow. The Clarks run Splitters Farm, a 160-acre working farm bordering Splitters Creek—a freshwater nature reserve just a short 10-minute drive out of Bundaberg. What initially started out as a working farm and sanctuary for rescued farm animals has transformed into so much more. Splitters Farm is now one of the region's fastest growing agritourism businesses, offering a unique rural and farm stay experience, complete with glamping facilities for those seeking extra comforts. They have big plans to expand further, and I cannot wait to share these exciting details with the House in the near future.

Tinaberries is another family owned and operated farm experience that will be joining us next month. I highly recommend that people add Tinaberries to their bucket list so you can pick your own strawberries and taste their farm fresh homemade ice cream, which can be enjoyed in their lush gardens. Lady Elliot Island Eco Resort is another Bundaberg bucket list item. The family run and operated ecotourism business is home to more than 1,200 species of marine life, including majestic manta rays, turtles and other marine life, and the unspoilt coral reef.

Of course, I cannot talk about the region without mentioning our award-winning distilling companies: Kalki Moon Distilling and Brewing and the world-famous Bundaberg Rum Distillery. This is another bucket list item that will not disappoint. They will also be on show here in Parliament House,

demonstrating how they are in the Bundaberg-Burnett region 'Raising the Bar'. There is not enough time to talk about all the wonderful things on offer in our region. Members will just have to come along and experience it for yourselves. We look forward to being able to shine a spotlight on what we hold dear—our ventures, our tourism operations and much more—in celebration of their achievements at the Bundaberg Region Promotion Night. It is on 17 June. All members are welcome. Come along and share what we know is the best place in the world to live and raise a family.