



Speech By James Lister

MEMBER FOR SOUTHERN DOWNS

Record of Proceedings, 29 March 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Boyce, Mr C

Mr LISTER (Southern Downs—LNP) (8.32 pm): I would like to take the opportunity to pay tribute to my good friend Colin Boyce, the former member for Callide, who today tendered his resignation to the Speaker. Colin is a man of few words; I am sure we would all agree with that. His parting words I think are a mark of the man; he did not want to make a great deal of fuss. I thought it would be fitting to reflect on him, the man that he is and the ways in which he has helped me as a friend.

Members would be aware that about a year ago I took some time off. I went to hospital and got myself sorted out in terms of some mental health challenges. I thank members for the courtesy and support they have shown me in relation to that. Colin Boyce went beyond that. He let me go and camp on a remote mountain on his very large property near Taroom. For a week I had absolute solitude. I lived like Daniel Boone and it was wonderful. It was a really important part of my recovery. It was very kind of him. I was able to catch up with his wife briefly because Colin was away.

Colin taught me how to weld better. He is a welder, an engineer, a fabricator, a farmer and a truck driver. All of those things have been very interesting to me. When I have to weld a fence or repair something on one of my kids' motorbikes it is a big deal because I was hopeless at it. Colin's advice as an expert welder has helped me and that is a skill I will never forget.

Colin unashamedly took his internal values to his electorate. As I said, he is a man of few words. He spoke little, but when he did I found that what he had to say was generally very interesting. I bet penny to a pound that the good electors of the seat of Callide who have met Colin and know of his honest representation of what he sincerely felt were the views of his electorate would agree with me on that.

I did hear some mirthful and some less mirthful quips today about the manner of Colin's departure. All I can say is that he has now focused himself entirely on the campaign that awaits him in Flynn. He certainly has my best wishes in that endeavour. I am sure if he is successful he will be an excellent federal member for that area. I would like to assure everybody that I also did not get a chance to say goodbye to him properly today, but I will certainly be having a beer with him at the earliest possible opportunity. On behalf of those of us who saw Col as a friend, I say that we should wish him well. I very much hope to run into him again shortly.