



Speech By  
**Lachlan Millar**


**MEMBER FOR GREGORY**

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Record of Proceedings, 26 May 2022

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT**

**Callide Electorate, By-Election**

 **Mr MILLAR** (Gregory—LNP) (2.06 pm): I have to ask one question: what is Labor scared of? What are they scared of and why are they not putting a candidate in the seat of Callide? What is going on? I represent a vast area of Queensland and I represent Barcaldine—the home of the Labor Party. Those 13 shearers would be rolling over in their graves because the Labor Party has abandoned regional Queensland.

The Labor Party started in regional Queensland because they wanted a fair go for regional Queensland. Now we have the Labor Party running from the seat of Callide. Why are they running from the seat of Callide? Let us test their policies? Let us test what they are doing in Queensland? Put a candidate in the seat of Callide.

What is going on in the Labor Party? Has the Labor Party abandoned Queensland? I think they have. Have they abandoned where they have come from? Yes, they have. They talk about the Tree of Knowledge. Those opposite go to Barcaldine to pay homage to the Tree of Knowledge, but they are not really from regional Queensland.

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): Pause the clock. Apologies, member for Gregory. Member for Moggill, if you want to interject and involve yourself in the debate, you have to move back to your own seat. The same goes for any other member who is out of their own seat. If you are not in your own seat you cannot participate in the debate.

**Mr MILLAR:** I was on such a roll, Mr Deputy Speaker.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** And I apologise, member.

**Mr MILLAR:** Where was I? I was talking about the Tree of Knowledge in Barcaldine. There is a bit of a saying in western and regional Queensland that when cabinet goes out to Longreach or somewhere in regional Queensland that the only person who makes money out of their trips is the bloke at RM Williams in Queens Street. They get a check shirt, an Akubra hat, the moleskins and the shoes. He loves it. I think he monitors *Hansard* and what the Labor government says to find out when the cabinet is going out west and he puts the prices up. It is full price because Labor are going out west. We deserve better.

The person who is going to do a good job in Callide is Bryson Head. He is a young bloke who has a lot of ability. He is a cattleman himself. He is a geologist working in the mining industry. He has a big future being the representative for Callide.

I had hoped that Labor would give its local members out there—its local CFMMEU and AWU members—an opportunity to have someone they want to vote for. I was on the polling booth at Tieri and Blackwater and I can say that there is not a great amount of love for the Queensland Labor Party.

The issues that come up are health, ambulance ramping, not being able to get elective surgery and not being able to see someone in the ED. They all think that Queensland Labor is failing them in health and education. How many teacher positions do we have vacant in regional Queensland?

**Mr Purdie:** How many?

**Mr MILLAR:** We have heaps. We have students out there not being able to complete the curriculum. I say to the people of Callide: if you want a person who is going to stand up for you and be true to you, Bryson Head is the man to vote for. He is a great man. Vote 1 Bryson Head.