




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR TOWOOMBA NORTH

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ADJOURNMENT

Toowoomba Royal Show

 **Mr WATTS** (Toowoomba North—LNP) (7.23 pm): I want to talk about our Toowoomba Royal Show, and I would like to invite everybody to Toowoomba for the show on 25, 26 and 27 March. It is the oldest show in Queensland. It predates the Ekka and is just one year older than this institution itself. The first show was held in 1860. It is primarily an agricultural show so there will be livestock judging, equestrian events and animal breeding competitions. Lots of people come to look at the genetic stock that is available to improve their herd. That has been particularly important after the last couple of years. There are produce competitions where people will compare various produce they have grown. Far be it for me to say, but there will be cake, slice and various other competitions.

There is something for everybody at the Heritage Bank Toowoomba Royal Show. Costa, the gardener from the ABC, will be there talking about how to make your garden grow. Paul West is coming to do cooking displays, and my wife has told me I have to watch some of those so I will do that. Bluey and Bingo will be there for the kids. There will be a farmyard where kids can interact with farmyard animals and feed them and get that experience of rural Queensland. It is a great opportunity for kids in urban footprints who want to connect a bit and see what goes on.

There will be sheepdog trials. There will be sideshow alley, which is probably more for the teenagers, and there are lots of activities and amusements for them to get up to. There will be fashion parades. In one of the dams, which I am sure is very full at the moment, there will be jet pack and jetski displays for people to look at. There is a bull ride. There is always a great fireworks display at the end of the evening. There is some horse archery going on in the Sentinel Square this year, which is the same area where the equestrian will be going on but hopefully not at the same time. There will be a Miss Showgirl competition and a Rural Ambassador Competition. There is a demolition derby as well.

If you cannot find something to do at the Toowoomba show, then you have really been stuck inside under COVID restrictions watching too much Netflix. It is a great opportunity to come out and see the country. I invite everybody to come up and enjoy the opportunity to see a proper royal show.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): I wish you well, member for Toowoomba North. I believe a former member of this House, William Groom, was one of the founding members of the agricultural society there.