



Speech By Aaron Harper

MEMBER FOR THURINGOWA

Record of Proceedings, 14 June 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Thuringowa State High School, Theatre Restaurant

Mr HARPER (Thuringowa—ALP) (7.26 pm): I rise tonight to talk about Thuringowa State High School, which for 35 years has done a theatre restaurant. It started in 1988 with a variety performance. Just a few weeks ago, my wife and I got to go to this year's performance of *The Vampire Strikes Back*. Forgive me while I use some of the lead actors' vocal pronunciations, but this is the story this year—

Drago, the evil Vampire of Kneewucker, comes to Earth to kidnap Penelope, to hold her for ransom to gain the unit of uranium he needs to destroy the land of Thuringowa.

When Drago arrives on Earth he finds his rocket is low on energy, which forces him to seek a new energy source. He steals Frankenstein's monster, Bolts, to use him as a human battery. He then goes to Penelope's house and takes her hostage, leaving a ransom note, demanding a unit of uranium.

Penelope's sisters and friend (Leia, Hana and Luke) decide to try and rescue her without giving in to the evil Drago. However, first of all they have to find out about Drago and what may stand in their way as they travel towards Kneewucker.

They make contact with assorted nasties on their journey to Kneewucker—zombies, skeletons, witchdoctors and even (gasp!) Politicians! Singing, dancing and dealing their way across the universe, guided by the mystical Suzie Q, they eventually face Drago, deep in the evil empire of Kneewucker. Can they save Penelope? Will Bolts make a monstrous mess of it all? Who is Suzie Q and why is she so very worried about our heroes? Will Drago be successful in his plan to destroy us all?

My wife Amanda and I got to completely enjoy the hospitality of the Thuringowa high school students. I thank the director who made a few comments, saying—

The success that we have been able to achieve would not be possible without the dedication and commitment of the community, families and staff and of course the cast and crew. These people have given up countless hours to ensure that the students at Thuringowa State High School had the opportunity to have a phenomenal experience over the past four months.

She thanked the band members and the P&C, saying—

... the P and C for supporting the purchase of show shirts that have been worn with pride and will continue to be a positive reminder of this venture ...

The students themselves did the catering and the hospitality and they served the crowd. It ran over three nights. It was a fantastic experience. I want to say well done to the students of Thuringowa State High School on producing another great performance. I am looking forward to next year. I am going to table their program, and hopefully I will not end up in Kneewucker.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, titled 'Thuringowa State High School Presents: The Vampire Strikes Back' 866.