



Speech By David Janetzki

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

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ADJOURNMENT

Toowoomba South Electorate, Charities

Mr JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (7.06 pm): I would like to talk about a couple of key charities in our city which provide so much support to so many. I want to start by talking about Protea Place which provides a safe space for women living and surviving domestic violence in our city. I recently met with Amanda who is the founder and CEO of this important charity in our city which has been supported by so many wonderful charities and philanthropic organisations in what they are doing. I want to praise Amanda and her team for the work they are doing supporting women in extraordinarily vulnerable situations, and the difficult cases they take on that many other service providers do not.

I want to acknowledge a couple of key supporters of Protea Place, including the Toowoomba Bears Rugby Club which has a big fundraising event coming up. I also want to acknowledge Blooming Gorgeous who have done an amazing job of helping out Protea Place. Tracy and David have recently taken over the business after Sally had done an amazing job for 15 to 20 years. They also have the best jingle on Darling Downs radio—

Mr O'Connor: How does it go?

Mr JANETZKI: I won't sing it here tonight, thank you. I want to give a shout-out to Dave Russell, the Protea Place Community Champion of the Year, who is not only the dealer for Wippells Autos but also is a well-respected figure in our community who supports a vast number of charities.

I also want to give a shout-out to Nat Spary and Tiff who today launched Homeless for a Week again. I acknowledge the member for Toowoomba North. He and I have both slept out over the years in support of this charity. Nat sleeps out for seven days in the middle of a Toowoomba winter. When we hear from QCOSS that homelessness has risen in Queensland by 22 per cent since 2017, we know the importance of homelessness charities. I encourage everyone to get behind the fundraising effort of Nat, Tiff and the entire team. They want to raise \$150,000 this year. At the launch today, Nat set out their task and that goal, and I encourage everyone in the community to get behind them.

I also want to give a shout-out to the Toowoomba Mountaineers and Armstrong Auto Group, who got behind BASE Services, which Nat and Tiff run who were recently broken into. They have suffered from the effects of crime in our community. The Mountaineers and Armstrong Auto got behind them and helped BASE Services get back on their feet.

Crime in our community continues to be a problem and the member for Toowoomba North and I will not stop talking about it. We still need more police resources. We cannot have a situation where real numbers of police do not match up with the approved numbers. We need people on the ground. We need stronger laws and the best early intervention possible. There is so much more work that needs to be done and we will continue to hold the government to account for it.