



Speech By David Janetzki

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

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ADJOURNMENT

Toowoomba

Mr JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (7.26 pm): I want to talk about a whole range of wonderful people right across the Toowoomba community. There has been a lot happening, and I want to reflect on some of those achievements and events in our community that make it so great.

Firstly, I want to talk about the Empire Theatre's production of *Cinderella*. My precious daughter and I went on Friday night, and it was an outstanding event. It is amazing to see such talent on our local stage. I think about people like Shannon, who has been a fixture and a star on our stage for a very long time. I look at Gabriel, who was also in a lead role. I remember that young man—I am feeling my age—when he was first on the stage. He was a knockout on the weekend. He did brilliantly. Of course, there were fixtures on the stage like Vicki, who was brilliant as always too. To Giuliana, the CEO at the Empire Theatre and her entire team, both behind and her creative team: congratulations on another wonderful event.

I want to call out to Paul, who ran Swim Out of the Darkness, which is a mental health initiative that featured teams of swimmers swimming through the evening to support mental health initiatives. Paul bravely shared his story, and he has done an amazing job getting this community event up and running. I only see great things ahead for it in the future as it continues to grow in prominence and raise more money to get behind mental health initiatives right around our community.

The Darling Downs Environment Council has a new home at Picnic Point in Heller Street. I say to Don and Jenny and the entire team: it was great to be there the other day for the opening of Buru Dain Dan, Mountain's Edge. It is wonderful for the council to have its own special place at home in my electorate at the most beautiful Picnic Point at the top of the Toowoomba range.

Peak 2 Park was on. We had another amazing event there with Troy and his team. There were record numbers in the 10k—1,200 people participated in that event. To Optimise, the sponsor; Troy and his team at Willows; and Hey Media, who did all of the media work to promote the wonderful event: congratulations on another great event.

I also want to give a shout-out to Jai Gordon, a wonderful young man and sprinter who just picked up second in the 100-metre finals at the Queensland State Athletics Championships. He has had some serious hurdles to overcome. He has overcome them and he is going to keep progressing into the future, so well done.

Finally, I want to say congratulations to our mayor, Geoff, and our council—the incumbents and new members. I want to give a shout-out in particular to Gary Gardner, who has now joined the Toowoomba Regional Council. He was executive chairman of FKG Group and one of the most respected businesspeople in Queensland. That he would want to get involved with the Toowoomba Regional Council to push its future is to be applauded, and I wish Gary and the team, and Geoff as mayor, all the very best for the term ahead.