




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

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ADJOURNMENT

Betros, Mrs P; Carter, Mr B; Fire Ants

 **Mr JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (7.06 pm): Two deeply loved and respected Toowoomba families have suffered a very sad loss over the last couple of weeks and I want to pay tribute to both of those families tonight. Firstly, Trish Betros has passed away. Trish was a deeply loved woman and partner and wife to Bevan. Toowoomba has grown up with the Betros family. For Bevan to have lost Trish is deeply sad, and I want to pass on my family's and the community's condolences to Bevan and his family but also the broader Betros family—Kerry and Di who my family is close to, and Murray as well who also run Betros Bros. Vale, Trish.

The second family I want to pay tribute to is the Carter family on the passing of Brian Carter. Brian Carter was a giant of Toowoomba. Brian had a 37-year career at Heritage Bank and was the chair for 30 of those years. I was fortunate to have Brian as my leader there after employing me many years ago now. He was a formidable figure in the boardroom and I learnt a great deal from Brian. Brian had a deep love not only for Heritage Bank but also his law firm, as well as for Northern Brothers Diggers. However, more importantly, Brian's love for his departed wife, Rosemary, was well known throughout the community. To their children, Austin and Julie, our hearts go out to you. Know that your father was a significant figure who was much loved, and we know how much he loved you. Unfortunately I cannot be there on Friday, but on behalf of my family and the broader Toowoomba community, to Brian, a giant of our community, vale.

In the last minute I have, I want to talk about fire ants. Fire ants are now in the Murray-Darling Basin for the first time ever, four kilometres from Oaky Creek which feeds directly into the Condamine River which feeds into the Murray-Darling Basin. It is a significant concern. It started as 78 nests, then 110, and now more nests. I call on the minister to take this seriously and to wake up.

Mr Furner interjected.

Mr JANETZKI: Wake up because this is a significant concern for our community. I reflect on what the minister has said in the past where they were in the horseshoe, or that they were surrounded, or that they had been successful in limiting them towards South-East Queensland. That is not the case, and the agriculture minister must face up to it now that the fire ant risk is throughout the Murray-Darling Basin. It is time to take it seriously. It is not good enough. We call on the agriculture minister to do more.