




Speech By
Dr Christian Rowan

MEMBER FOR MOGGILL

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Infrastructure; Anzac Day

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (2.30 pm): In a few weeks the Queensland state budget for 2017 will be handed down, and I again call upon the Palaszczuk Labor government, as I have done many times, to invest in infrastructure for my electorate of Moggill. My constituents urgently need solutions implemented to ease traffic congestion, to deliver increased secondary school capacity and to provide cost-of-living pressure relief for all.

Today I also rise to make a contribution regarding the recent Anzac Day commemoration ceremonies held in my electorate of Moggill. My day on 25 April 2017 commenced at the Bellbowrie dawn service where I laid a wreath at the Bellbowrie cenotaph. Dawn services have become an integral part of commemorations and the credit for their origins is divided between the Reverend Arthur Ernest White of Albany, Western Australia and Captain George Harrington of Toowoomba. Reverend White was a padre to the earliest Anzacs to leave Australia with the First Australian Imperial Force in November of 1914. After the war, Reverend White gathered some 20 men at dawn on 25 April 1923 on Mount Clarence overlooking King George Sound and silently watched as a wreath floated out to sea. He then recited the words, 'As the sun rises and goeth down we will remember them.'

After this year's dawn service at Bellbowrie I was delighted to attend the gunfire breakfast hosted by the Moggill Girl Guides at their hut. The breakfast, as always, was much appreciated by all who attended. Following breakfast I proudly then watched the Kenmore marchers as our local schools, service and community clubs and veterans marched proudly down Moggill Road to the Kenmore Village Shopping Centre. The Kenmore Anzac Day service was conducted at the Moggill digger memorial.

As I attended these events in the Moggill electorate I reflected on the meaning of Anzac Day as it is one of Australia's most important occasions. It marks the anniversary of major military action by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War. Today Anzac Day takes two forms: the first being the commemorative services that are held across the nation at dawn, the time of the original landing, while later in the day former servicemen and servicewomen meet to take part in marches throughout our country's major cities and smaller centres. This allows all Australians to reflect on the many different meanings of war and our freedoms and values that have been defended and protected by some very brave and patriotic Australians.

The final service I attended on Anzac Day was the RSL Care Fairview service where residents and staff joined official guests and attendees. After a quick drive from Fairview, I also attended the annual T20 cricket match between the Brookfield United Cricket Club 11 and the Army 11 which commemorates the match played at Gallipoli in 1915. The original match was played on 17 December 1915, the day before the mass evacuation of the 20,000 remaining Australian and New Zealand troops from Anzac Cove. I say congratulations to Pullenvale councillor Kate Richards for assisting in the organisation of the cricket match this year. It was also good to see the Lord Mayor, Graham Quirk, in attendance.

Anzac Day is a very special national occasion and I hope the commemorations continue to grow as time passes. I say well done to our Kenmore-Moggill RSL sub-branch, in particular president Trevor Dixon and also Rick Maher and all the other volunteers and community organisations that participated on the day. Lest we forget.