



Speech by

GARY FENLON

MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

Hansard 19 July 2000

HOLLAND PARK AND DISTRICT MEALS ON WHEELS

Mr FENLON (Greenslopes—ALP) (10.22 a.m.): I rise to report on a luncheon that I attended recently to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Holland Park and District Meals on Wheels. I congratulate the outgoing committee and I wish the new committee, chaired by Mrs Lyn Petie, the very best in the future and I commend all of the volunteers and workers at that centre. I know that the member for Mount Gravatt agrees with me, as she is also a great local supporter of that very fine institution.

On 9 April 1970 a meeting was held in the then Methodist Church hall in Holland Park. The people who attended that meeting had a vision to establish a Meals on Wheels service in the area. A steering committee was appointed for the project, which was to cover the suburbs of Holland Park, Mount Gravatt and Greenslopes. On 23 June 1970 a public meeting was held in the Holland Park RSL hall and it was there that first management committee was elected. On 13 July 1970 the first meals were cooked and delivered from the church hall kitchen.

Because of the limited meal capacity and the storage space available at the church hall kitchen there was a need to plan for a new kitchen. During October 1980 the Brisbane City Council was asked to lease suitable land on which to build a new kitchen. The council offered a choice of two sites, and the one at Abbotsleigh Street—which is now located within the Greenslopes electorate—was chosen. Towards the end of July 1985 the new kitchen was completed and the first meals were prepared on Monday, 5 August of that year. On Saturday, 2 November 1985 the new kitchen was officially opened. The total cost of that kitchen was \$173,000.

Early in 1987, 200 meals were being prepared in the kitchen. On 28 October 1996 the one millionth meal was served, and during 30 years of operation the centre has prepared 1,331,481 meals.

Time expired.
