



ANITA PHILLIPS

MEMBER FOR THURINGOWA

Hansard 5 September 2002

MRS A. CLACY

Ms PHILLIPS (Thuringowa—ALP) (7.22 p.m.): There have been many people in the Labor Party who have become household names due to their strength of character and larger than life personalities. We recall them vividly and eulogise them publicly. While this is fitting, there are others out there who in their own quiet way have given support and also deserve recognition. One such member was Annette Clacy. Annette was only 59 when recently she passed away, but for many years she was a backbone supporter of Labor in Townsville and Thuringowa. She did not run for office nor manage campaigns, but she made it possible for others to do these things.

Annette was the wife of James Clacy, who in his 24-year association with the party had held almost every position from branch secretary to president of the MEC. He has campaigned long and hard for Labor and even stood for local government election, but he says none of this would have been possible without the help of Annette.

Annette Jenkins was born here in the West End and attended Townsville State High School. Her first job was with Stan Short in his local business. She married Jim 40 years ago this week and began life as an Air Force wife. Jim left the force as the couple settled back here in Townsville and in 1978 helped form the Ross River branch of the ALP. While raising Ben, Marissa and Lee and creating a home literally from the ground up, Annette found the time to take on the kind of party chores that make most of us groan. She photocopied, stuffed envelopes, delivered leaflets, organised tea and bickies for meetings and did it all with a smile. Everyone admired Annette's love of her husband and loyalty to the Party, and her passing touched us all. I make this statement as a tribute to Annette and all the quiet supporters of Labor in Queensland.