



Speech by

DESLEY SCOTT

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Hansard 8 November 2002

MR E. H. W. WARREN

Mrs DESLEY SCOTT (Woodridge—ALP) (4.28 p.m.): Last week it was my very great privilege to present life membership of the ALP to Mr Edward Henry William Warren—Ted to his friends. A large gathering of family and friends had met to celebrate Ted's 80th birthday at the Logan Community Centre. It was indeed a celebration of the life of a man who has given a great deal to his country, his community, his friends and, most of all, his family.

Ted was born in England and as a young man joined the Labour Party. He served his country as a member of the famous dambusters squadron of the RAAF. War taught him to be a great champion for peace. When Ted immigrated to Australia he once again sought out the stimulus of political debate and joined the Como branch of the ALP. Over the years he has held almost every position possible, including branch president, secretary/treasurer, delegate to party units at local, state and federal levels, state conference delegate, member of various policy committees and campaign director.

He also ran as a candidate on a number of occasions at both local and state government levels. In total, his membership in Australia spans some 41 years. His branches have included Como, Oyster Bay, Rockhampton and Logan. Ted has not always agreed with his party but, when the chips were down, his sense of fairness, equity, justice, and access to education, health, safety and shelter for all kept him loyal to his party.

Ted has a great record of service in the union movement, holding positions of organiser in the New South Wales Teachers Federation, industrial officer of the QTU, Assistant Secretary/Publicity Officer of the QTU and Senior Vice-President of the Retailers Union. He has also held membership of the Australian Journalists Association and the Small Business Union. He has worked as a teacher, as a journalist, in various union positions, has an interest in mining, and has been a small-business owner and, very importantly, a wonderful husband to his wife, Ditas, and father to his four children of whom he is so proud. Ted's life has been guided by principles of truth, honesty and integrity.

As I looked down the list of Ted's accomplishments, I knew that here was a man who does not believe in standing on the sidelines. He has lived his life to the full. At present, Ted is chairman of the Logan branch of the ALP. Put a gavel in his hand and he is a force to be reckoned with. He loves political debate. He reads the indicators very well. Ted has gained that rare commodity of wisdom. He has no doubt saved me from political embarrassment on a number of occasions. His advice is well reasoned and sound.

So today I thank Ted for his friendship, his good advice, the laughs that we have shared, for keeping up my spirits when the going got tough, and for 18 years of very stimulating conversation. Ted has shared his love of books and science with me and, on many occasions, with my husband, who is like-minded. Through it all, Ted's mind and wit are as keen as ever. Our party is the stronger for men of principle such as Ted Warren. I salute Ted and wish him a long, healthy and happy future.