



Speech by

DON LIVINGSTONE

MEMBER FOR IPSWICH WEST

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TIVOLI STATE SCHOOL

Mr LIVINGSTONE (Ipswich West—ALP) (2.26 a.m.): This year I have been privileged to attend two 125th anniversary celebrations at schools within my electorate—Walloon State School in July and Tivoli State School in October. Ipswich has a long and colourful history as a coalmining city, and in the 1870s it became apparent that the growing number of families coming to the area would require a school. A provisional school at Tivoli commenced on 26 January 1877 with an enrolment of 115 pupils. Extensive fund-raising support resulted in a school and teacher's residence being constructed and Tivoli State School No. 224 was opened on 17 January 1881. The school commenced with one master, two pupil teachers and 132 pupils.

In those early days, enrolments depended greatly upon the success of the local mines, but during the 1970s the swing to residential tenancy gave greater stability to the school. Many of the old families still remain in the area and have grandchildren who attend Tivoli school. Current enrolments are around 130 students. The school is built around the original 1881 building which now houses the school library. The former schoolhouse has been removed to Brisbane where I understand it has been renovated to a private residence. After 125 years the students proudly wear the school colours of gold and black as well as the school badge which was unveiled in its centenary year.

Education programs that are offered today have come a long way from those of 125 years ago, providing students with the ability to expand their knowledge in many directions. Connections to the Internet allow students to have access to relevant information technology and every effort is made to prepare them for the challenges they will face in their future careers.

The teaching staff, the P&C association, the parents and the students have done an excellent job in creating a family-oriented, dynamic school environment and I congratulate them on their untiring efforts on behalf of Tivoli State School.