



Speech by

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MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

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GOODNA CULTURAL AND ARTS CENTRE

Mrs MILLER (Bundamba—ALP) (7.13 p.m.): Tonight is a momentous occasion in the history of this parliament because all of the Ipswich city councillors have joined the members for Ipswich, Ipswich West and me for a dinner tonight with the Minister for Local Government. I would like to thank the councillors for joining us here tonight. It is for the good government of Ipswich that we all work together for the future of our people.

I would like to report to the parliament that yet another commitment of the Beattie Labor government in the electorate of Bundamba has come to fruition. The Goodna Cultural and Arts Centre, a multipurpose building, was officially opened by the Minister for Employment and Training and Minister for the Arts, the Hon. Matt Foley. As the member for Bundamba and parliamentary secretary to the Minister for Education, I was honoured to be in attendance, as was the Ipswich Mayor, John Nugent, and our local media tart, Councillor Paul Tully. This centre was funded by the Department of Sport and is located in Evan Marginson Park at Goodna. It was built on top of the change room and storage facilities that became known locally as the dungeon or the bunker and other names that really should not grace the records of our *Hansard*. It was an election promise of the former member, Bob Gibbs, and I know that he would be proud of the facility that has been built.

The centre was fitted out with funds from the Department of Housing's Community Renewal Program. I am delighted that the officers of this program are operating in my electorate from this particular centre. Community renewal meetings are held there, as are other important community meetings. The regional community forum meeting was held on the morning that the building was officially opened and the people of the area were pleased that the Minister for Emergency Services was also in attendance.

The official opening was a great occasion, with the Goodna State School choir singing three songs, one with a boy who has a key future in drama, I would think, accompanying the choir in *The Road to Gundagai*. All the students looked absolutely fantastic in their gold and purple choir coats. I know that the principal, Gary McCarthy, their music teacher and choir teacher were very proud of each and every student. The opening was attended by many members of the Goodna community, and particular community organisations and many local citizens. Everyone enjoyed the barbecue lunch after the official opening ceremony.

I understand that the Ipswich City Council will use the centre for art displays and exhibitions, sporting and cultural events, and I am hopeful that the Redbank Plains State High School art department will also use the centre for the displays of their most talented art. Today, I had the pleasure of hosting the vice-captains and captains of Redbank Plains State High School to a lunch at Parliament House. Over the past few months I have displayed in my electorate office works of art from the students of Redbank Plains State High School and I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to the students and the school for the loan of their great artworks. I assure them that every person who has viewed their artworks, both the charcoal portraits and the paintings, has greatly praised their artistic talents and the very surprising fact that so many of the students of that school are gifted in art. Finally, one cannot open an arts complex without some poetry, so there was a recital of Paul Adams' great poem, *Pictures of Ipswich*.