



Speech by

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MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE

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ANZAC DAY

Mr LANGBROEK (Surfers Paradise—Lib) (6.18 p.m.): On Friday, 23 April I was very privileged to attend the Anzac Day ceremonies at the Ashmore State Primary School and on Anzac Day itself at the Surfers Paradise RSL. I would like to thank P&F president Paula Dover, principal Carmel Ryan and deputy principal Amanda Fry for inviting me to the Ashmore State School ceremony—a fantastic ceremony. It was a wonderful day and the Ashmore State School choir was in fine voice singing the national anthem and a host of other typically Australian songs. It was a very moving celebration.

To see the young children there celebrating the day was truly inspiring. To see the faces of the old diggers listening to the pride with which the children spoke of their forefathers is humbling and thought provoking. I must commend the teachers at Ashmore State School for the wonderful work they do with their students. The knowledge that the students had of the events of Anzac Day was matched only by their eagerness to hear from the guest speakers who were there to address them, including Chris Sweeny, a Harley-riding Vietnam veteran. Mr Sweeny gave a practical insight into the futility of war and its effects on all who are involved in such a situation.

For those worried that the Anzac spirit is dying, this Anzac Day surely proved that the spirit is alive and well in our young children. Many of the students from our local schools were involved in parades on Anzac Day itself. I must make special mention of the naval cadets from training ship *Tyalgum*, situated in the Surfers Paradise electorate, who participated in the Anzac Day ceremony at Cavill Park. The ceremony was conducted by the Surfers Paradise RSL and led by president Arch McDonald, and Surfers Paradise RSL secretary Alan Whelan. School captains from Benora High participated, as did the Merrimac High School choir.

The cadets were a credit to the program and their discipline and observance of the Anzac ideals was more than evident in this great display. I will also assure this fine unit that I will support them in upcoming decisions that may affect the location of their naval base. It has been mooted that the unit will have to move from their present location due to the value of the land that they occupy on Seaworld Drive. If this is the case I will work hard with concerned parties to ensure that they find an equally suitable place to the one they have at present.