



Speech by

Ms Grace Grace

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Tuesday, 29 April 2008

WINDSOR AND DISTRICTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, ANZAC DAY SERVICE

Ms GRACE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (9.45 pm): The fallen were well and truly honoured and remembered at the Windsor and Districts Historical Society's Anzac Day service held at Windsor War Memorial Park. The historic Windsor War Memorial was restored in time for Anzac Day this year thanks to a total of \$18,000 provided by the state government under the Community Memorials Restoration Program, which is now in its fourth year and has provided more than \$2 million to councils and community organisations on a dollar-for-dollar basis to help restore historic monuments and other local icons throughout Queensland.

The heritage listed Windsor War Memorial is an iconic landmark in Brisbane and thousands of motorists see it every day as they drive along busy Lutwyche Road. The government realises the deep importance the community places on preserving such community memorials and works with local councils and community organisations to subsidise the cost of restoration work.

The octagonal pavilion is rare among Queensland's First World War memorials—opened on Anzac Day 1925 and designed by prominent Brisbane architects Francis Hall and W Alan Devereux. The Windsor War Memorial Park was originally the site of the Bowen Bridge State School which burnt down in 1914. After this it became a park and the memorial erected in 1925 to honour local residents who had served in the First World War.

The pavilion is built with brown Helidon sandstone and rests on a wide podium of locally quarried Brisbane tuff which, I believe, actually came from the old Windsor quarry. The restoration carried out by the Brisbane City Council involved conservation of the lead cover to the dome and cornices, electrical work, stonework and painstaking restoration of the deteriorated gold leaf of more than 1,500 letters inscribing the names of our brave diggers.

On inspecting the Windsor War Memorial last week I can honestly say that an excellent job was done and the pavilion is back to its former glory. The newly restored memorial was enjoyed by more than 300 residents and friends who attended the moving Anzac Day service last week organised by Mr Alan Webster, subcommittee chairperson of the Windsor and Districts Historical Society and digger Jack Mann. The Windsor State School choir, the speeches and band playing were all excellent and added greatly to the community spirit at this year's Windsor Anzac Day service. Many of the floral wreaths laid during the ceremony, including my own, were made by local Windsor florist Mary Casey, who did a wonderful and artistic job.

I thank the Windsor and Districts Historical Society for organising a great Anzac Day service, which was enjoyed by all who attended. We especially enjoyed the cup of tea or coffee and homemade Anzac biscuits which were available across the road at the historic old Windsor Town Council Chambers which is home to the Windsor and Districts Historical Society. All volunteers did an excellent job and it was a truly moving and most pleasurable way to spend a beautiful Anzac Day morning. Lest we forget.