



Speech by
Grace Grace

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Wednesday, 16 September 2009

WILLIAM JOLLY BRIDGE

Ms GRACE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (11.37 am): Brisbane's iconic art deco William Jolly Bridge has been lit up with larger-than-life projections of images that mark the city of Brisbane's birth in September 1859. Representing the Premier at a function held on Saturday, 5 September at GoMA, I was especially pleased to launch one of the most imaginative projects to give us a lasting memorial of Queensland's 150th anniversary. The creative lighting project is part of a state government and Brisbane City Council partnership whereby the BCC received \$1 million in Q150 legacy infrastructure funding towards BCC's \$2 million Connecting Brisbane project, of which the lighting of the William Jolly Bridge is a significant part.

Brisbane's second oldest bridge was originally designed by local engineer Harding Frew and was opened on 30 March 1932. Originally the Grey Street Bridge, it was renamed the William Jolly Bridge in 1955 after Brisbane's first Lord Mayor. It was also particularly pleasing to have descendants of Mr William Jolly present to witness firsthand this spectacular, creative and beautiful lighting project's unveiling.

The work of internationally recognised Australian projection artist Ian de Gruchy has transformed the bridge into a work of art and a visual centrepiece for Brisbane. Images being projected onto the bridge include the signatures of Brisbane's forefathers who petitioned for Brisbane to become a municipality, the city's flag, coat of arms and official flower, the red poinsettia, as well as Australia's national floral emblem, the wattle. Projections will also include *Soft Night Falling*, the artistic work of Murri artist, educator and activist Lilla Watson.

The people of Brisbane will have an opportunity to become familiar with these and more projections between now and mid-December. This project is truly an extraordinary way to shine the light on the past as we celebrate our people, our places and our stories during our sesquicentenary. I urge all members who have the time to take a walk between sunset and 11 pm each night to view this amazing artistic project, which transforms an art deco bridge into a living work of art.