




Speech by
Ian Berry

MEMBER FOR IPSWICH

Hansard Thursday, 12 July 2012

ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, IPSWICH; AILWOOD, MR F

 **Mr BERRY** (Ipswich—LNP) (3.04 pm): Ipswich is a community which, in common with other communities in Queensland, has a foundation of history, partnerships and purpose. Ipswich was conceived after the discovery of coal and limestone in the 1820s and the establishment of a township in the 1840s. The symbiotic birth of the Anglican Church in Ipswich paralleled Ipswich's growth by the construction in 1859 of St Paul's Anglican Church in Brisbane Street, Ipswich. It is renowned as the oldest Anglican Church building in Queensland. It was commissioned six months before Queensland's statehood on 10 December 1859—an apt midwife to Queensland's birth, I respectfully submit.

St Paul's Church, I am told, has had 22 shepherds to care for the Ipswich and its environs flock and it was appropriate and proper for an Ipswich son, the Reverend Dr Randall Murray Nolan, to be commissioned as Rector of St Paul's Church in Ipswich. Coincidentally, the Reverend Randall Nolan received his commission through the guiding hand of the Right Reverend Robert Nolan, Bishop of the Western Region. Although they are not related, they have a lot in common in terms of their purpose of spreading the good works of the church. Bishop Nolan so kindly reminded both Reverend Randall and Ipswich parishioners—indeed, all of us, and I may say including me, who started to squirm a little—about the branches and stems and how the Reverend Nolan needed to ensure that those branches were well and truly cared for.

The Reverend Randall Nolan enjoyed his teenage years in Ipswich, but left only to return to Ipswich as its 22nd shepherd. With him, and capably assisting him, is his wife, Fran. It was again symbiotic that after we heard the speech by Bishop Nolan about stems and making sure that the branches are well cared for the parishioners of Ipswich granted to Fran a plant. I might say it was an apt present and something that is a symbol of their welcome to both Fran and the Reverend Dr Randall Nolan to Ipswich.

However, it is with a touch of sadness that at the same time a fellow Rotarian, the venerable Fred Ailwood, left us to go into retirement. I hope he continues to come to our Rotary Club of Ipswich City, because he is one of the very few people who laughs at my jokes. I think he is a person who ought to be around for a lot longer because, quite frankly, it is getting harder to make jokes, particularly here.

A government member: What? You've got more friends than everyone.

Mr BERRY: I do.