




Speech By
Hon. Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

ADJOURNMENT

Anning, Mr N

 **Hon. AC POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection) (11.05 pm): I rise to reflect briefly on the life of a wonderful constituent of the electorate of Glass House, Mr Nev Anning. Nev was so much larger than life that not only am I taking this opportunity to reflect on his life but also my colleague the member for Caloundra and Minister for Energy and Water Supply recently made a brief statement on Nev's passing. We definitely shared him. In fact, the whole of the Beerwah-Peachester community in the hinterland of the Sunshine Coast shared Nev Anning. He was born in 1916 and died at the ripe old age of 96, so there were very few people in our part of the world who did not know Nev in some way, shape or form.

Nev was known fondly as 'a mug from the bush'. He had his very humble beginnings in what was probably a seaside village at the time of Wynnum, but a turn of events saw him relocate to our wonderful part of the world, where he spent most of his time in Peachester and Beerwah. He became known as the timber man. Before he really got stuck into his life and his service he joined up to the Army for the purpose of protecting our shores. I thank him for doing so. I thank all who did so. We are the nation we are today because of what gentlemen like Nev Anning did during that war.

After the war Nev served as a tree cutter with a simple axe and a springboard. He then became a farmhand and progressed to become a skilled and productive builder and then a businessman running a chicken abattoir. What he called retirement his family really laughed at, because that was probably when he became even more active. It is when he really shone within our community and became so well known, loved and respected. Over the next 25 years he established the Kunda stud. He built up the showgrounds and the arenas at Beerwah. He worked extensively with the Peachester historical society. He established the procedure for plaques for the returned soldiers at the Peachester memorial cemetery. In his later life he took up oil painting and making coffee tables out of native scrub timbers. He gave most away to raffles.

Nev was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow. He was a life member of the Beerwah RSL. The Paint Horse Association of Australia inducted him to the hall of fame. He received a commemorative medal for the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II. He was an honorary member of the Caboolture show.

Rather fittingly, before he did pass away Nev was recognised by the naming of the new overpass at Beerwah the Nev Anning Bridge, right next door to those showgrounds he was so instrumental in building. He will be missed but we do know that he lived a wonderful life and has left an amazing legacy in our community. We thank him for all he did.