



Speech By  
**Trevor Watts**


**MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA NORTH**

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Record of Proceedings, 5 June 2014

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Highfields State School, Anzac Ceremony**

 **Mr WATTS** (Toowoomba North—LNP) (12.47 am): I would very much like to bring to the attention of the House the highlight of a really great day I had at one of my state schools—Highfields State School. It was an Anzac Day ceremony—

**Dr Douglas** interjected.

**Mr WATTS:** Thank you, member for Gaven.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Ruthenberg): Order! Member for Gaven, that is right in front of the speaker. I know it is late. Member for Toowoomba North, you have the call.

**Mr WATTS:** Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. There was a presentation made by Mr Al Taylor, who is the secretary of the RSL branch, at the Highfields subbranch. He spoke to the children about different things to do with Anzac ceremonies. It was also attended by Carla Clutterbuck, who is the Defence school transition aide. She was trying to support the families as some of the children have their dads and their mums away. She does a great job in the school trying to make sure the Defence Force families are looked after.

Close to the school is Borneo Barracks, the barracks that have served the community and Australia very well historically. Al spoke about bullying, leadership, mateship and cooperation—things that were all displayed by the Anzacs. I had the privilege of being presented with what they call a little Anzac moment, which is a packet of biscuits and a tea bag. This is an initiative by the Highfields subbranch. Brooklyn Ruddy, the year 7 captain, presented me with that. The idea is that you take it home, you sit down with your family, you make a cup of tea and you get your Anzac biscuits out and share them with the family and talk about Anzac and what it means to your family and how different your family would be if it had not been for the Anzacs. It was a great day to see the children interested in Anzac and to hear the different stories. I would like to thank the year 6 teachers—Mrs White, Mrs Carswell, Mrs King, Miss Butler, Miss Scott and Mr Mathewson—and the year 7 teachers—Peter Thornton, who taught my kids how to play chess very well, Mrs Keating and Mrs Cooper.

Highfields is a great school. They hold firm to the traditions of Anzac. Every year the children march. It was great to be there that day and hear from the children how excited they are to be taking their trip to Canberra and the study they have done both on the state parliament and the federal parliament and how interested they are in government. While the children were all very respectful towards the Anzacs, I would encourage people next year to have an Anzac moment: sit down and have a cup of tea and discuss what the Anzacs might mean to them and their families.

*(Time expired)*