



Speech By  
**Andrew Powell**


**MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### Anzac Day

 **Mr POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (10.06 pm): I rise to reflect on Anzac Day 2015 as we celebrated, commemorated and remembered the centenary of Gallipoli in Glass House. For me it started on the Thursday with a visit to Conondale State School—I will come back to that towards the end of this short speech—and continued on the Friday at Elimbah State School. I make special commendation of the school leaders—Jhett, Caitlyn, Kade and Zoe—who did such a fantastic job of leading the entire school through that special service. On Friday night I joined the federal member for Fisher, Mr Mal Brough, at a very special Anzac dinner at the Glass House Mountains RSL. Those who have been out to the Glass House Mountains RSL would know that it is a true country RSL—a small hall, cramped but so full of vibrancy and feeling. That night they actually recreated meals from wartime. I think I ate rabbit in the first time in forever.

Anzac Day itself kicked off early, as it did for every MP, with a 4.20 am service at Maleny. Everyone has commented on the size of the crowds this year. It is always a special time as I listen to my good friend and soloist Margaret Taylor as she sings *Abide With Me*. I am very grateful to young bugler Katie Jardine as well.

At 6 am in Wamuran I attended another fantastic service put on by the Caboolture and Districts Nashos. Howard Walters did a brilliant job as emcee. The catafalque party was provided by the 3rd cadet unit at Burpengary and led by a former member of this House, Trevor Ruthenberg. It was fantastic to see him out at Woodford, too. Always the highlight at Wamuran is when the Wamuran school captain recites the poem *Sir* to one of the former servicepeople. This time it was Captain Charlee McNeilly. She did an absolutely outstanding job.

I swung by Palmwoods and Witta on my way back to Woodford, where I had the opportunity and honour to be the guest speaker. I presented to the Woodford RSL a copy of those telegrams that former premier Campbell Newman tabled in August last year—from the Prime Minister to the Premier and subsequently from the Premier back to the Prime Minister—acknowledging the commencement of war.

I finished at Glass House Mountains. I again thank president Kevin Beasley and also students of Glass House Mountains and Beerburrum state schools for their stunning wreaths. Anzac Day for me finishes on the couch. Fortunately this year, Collingwood flogged Essendon, so that was fantastic.

If I can come back to Conondale State School, one of the most striking memories that I will have of this year's Anzac Day services was that, as I actually read out the names of their relatives, each student and staff member came out and laid a spring of rosemary at the memorial. It ranged from great-great-uncles and great-great-grandfathers to relatives who have young sons currently serving up in Townsville or who had served in Afghanistan. It is a very special memory that I will hold dear for many years to come.