



Speech By Linus Power

MEMBER FOR LOGAN

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ADJOURNMENT

Anzac Day

Mr POWER (Logan—ALP) (10.27 pm): I rise in this adjournment debate to speak of something that surprised me and moved me this Anzac Day. Of course, I am moved every year at the dawn service at the Greenbank RSL, as was the member for Algester, Minister Enoch, who was also in attendance. But this is not what I want to bring to the attention of the House in this adjournment debate. I wish to speak about the very moving show of talent that resulted from the Greenbank RSL Women's Auxiliary Centenary of Anzac art prize.

The surrounding schools of Browns Plains high school, Park Ridge high school, Stretton college, St Francis College—I spoke of that school earlier—and Marsden State School were all involved in producing fantastic artworks. When the three large paintings from each school were completed I was invited by the women's auxiliary to be one of the judges. When presented with the paintings I was simply blown away by their quality.

Students took different approaches. One created three panels of an old-fashioned banner, similar to one that would have been used in Anzac Day marches of the 1920s. Another more modern work included text painted onto a modern painting—a thought-provoking piece that needed time to be drawn into. But the one that was most moving was the artwork of Park Ridge high school. They created three austere and deeply moving paintings. They showed tremendous restraint with colour, using a minimalist palette that made the paintings all the more moving. The three panels were impressive. The one I am holding up, showing the despair, loss and suffering of war, was for me the most moving. This print does not really do justice to the size and power of the moving pieces of art by young artists. Mr Speaker, if you have the time you can view these artworks at the Logan Art Gallery. There is also a picture of them on my Facebook page.

The Park Ridge State High School artworks were created by Sharna and Kyle and were judged to be the winners of the contest, receiving \$1,500. The Logan council was so moved, as I said, that it has offered to hang the paintings at the Logan gallery. The artworks were all displayed at the dawn service and also at the later service and parade. You could see from the expressions on the faces of people that they were very moved by the sheer power of the paintings. I want to recognise the Greenbank RSL, especially the Greenbank RSL Women's Auxiliary run so well by Rosemarie Buckley, Kaye Lowe and Marcella Mortimer. With the Women's Auxiliary committee, they devised the concept, built the frames, donated the paint, delivered and picked up the artworks and put on the special morning tea to announce the winners and recognise the young artists. They are the unsung heroes that I am so proud to be able to recognise here today as well as recognise the deeply moving artworks that the students created. It should also be noted that the family of the late Ken Loxton gave a very generous donation to the contest and the contest is a legacy to Mr Loxton's service to our country and commitment to the activities of the RSL.