




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 10 May 2016

ADJOURNMENT

Anzac Centenary

 **Mr RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (1.06 am): Anzac Day this year marks 100 years of tradition. The Australian and New Zealand tradition of commemorating Anzac Day was originally proposed by Queenslanders. It is a day that is ingrained in the Australian psyche and represents a nation's commitment to honour our brave service men and women—those who stood tall to serve our country from past to present. A lot has changed over the 100 years since Queensland Premier TJ Ryan, Canon David Garland and others proposed 25 April as the national and international day of commemoration and Anzac Day has seen its own evolution. Crowds have dwindled and swelled over those 100 years, yet the Anzac spirit lives on and grows as we all find our own personal way of paying tribute, especially during this Anzac Centenary.

We can all play a role in commemorating the First World War and the century of Australian service which links us to the now passed veterans of the Great War. The Queensland government is committed to ensuring that the proud legacy of our Anzacs is preserved for future generations with \$49.3 million dedicated to the Queensland Anzac Centenary from 2014 to 2018. As we approach the halfway mark of a five-year commemorative program, we continue to make great progress. In partnership with Brisbane City Council, three stages of important restoration and enhancement work on Anzac Square have now been completed, ensuring the future of our state's memorial. Across the river, Arts Queensland and the Queensland Museum have also worked feverishly on a new permanent Anzac Legacy Gallery and exhibition. The State Library of Queensland has delivered an amazing array of exhibitions, symposiums, talks and educational initiatives across the state through the QANZAC 100 project, most recently with the Keepsakes of War display showcasing its First World War collections.

Our Anzac Centenary Community Grants Program has so far supported over 180 community projects with over \$4 million in funding. From Boulia to Brisbane, organisations big and small have delivered local community projects to mark the centenary of the First World War. To date, more than 16 major commemorative events have been hosted around the state, including the national premiere of the Gallipoli Symphony, re-enactments of the March of the Dungarees in the state's southwest and of the departure of the first Australian Imperial Force. Through music, drama and historical re-enactments, Queenslanders of all ages have had an opportunity to learn more of our military history in a way that reaches beyond the pages of a book. The Anzac Centenary is a great opportunity for all Queenslanders to get involved and honour those who have served and sacrificed so much for Australia.