



Speech By  
**Steve Minnikin**


**MEMBER FOR CHATSWORTH**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### Chatsworth Electorate, Anzac Day

 **Mr MINNIKIN** (Chatsworth—LNP) (9.28 pm): Just over two weeks ago thousands of Australians from across the country woke in the early hours of the morning to attend local Anzac Day services. In my great seat of Chatsworth, unfortunately I do not have a local RSL. However, I am fortunate to have an amazing school—Camp Hill State Infants and Primary School—which organises an incredible service to commemorate our living and fallen soldiers. This Anzac Day service is becoming well renowned throughout my electorate. This school takes it upon themselves each year to organise a march along Old Cleveland Road, which is closed off for the service from the Camp Hill Hotel to the Camp Hill Infants and Primary School grounds, which on average more than 2,500 locals attend.

This is my fourth year attending the service. Each year, without exception, I am still struck by the impressive discipline of the students and the hard work put in by the teachers, the parents and, most importantly, their principal, the incredible Mrs Deborah Driver. I was again privileged this year to be invited to lay a wreath and to pay homage to those service men and women who served our great country and fought to maintain our freedom and liberty.

I also had the honour of attending services at Gumdale State School and Tingalpa State School on the Friday before Anzac Day. These schools put on equally beautiful and dignified services, with representatives from the Wynnum RSL who spoke to students of the sacrifice of our esteemed Anzacs. I was particularly impressed with a former student of Gumdale State School, who did a wonderful job at playing the *Last Post* for the service. This is no easy feat and she did it with incredible poise, respect and skill. In the days following Anzac Day itself, I also attended a very moving parade at Mayfield Primary School, which also honoured our heroes splendidly.

Finally, over the past two weeks I have visited each of my local schools and donated to the school library a beautiful book titled *Victoria Cross Heroes of World War One*, written by Robert Hamilton. I hope the students have the opportunity to read and learn more about the Australian and New Zealand diggers who fought bravely for our great countries. Indeed, it is my humble opinion that Anzac Day is becoming more and more revered over time, judging by the increasing number of people attending commemorative services. This contrasts to when I was growing up as a primary school student in the 1970s as the Vietnam War tended to polarise Australian society. Thankfully, though, over the last few decades, the passage of time has mellowed societal attitudes combined with the school education system placing a renewed emphasis on the importance of this most solemn of public days. I am incredibly proud of all of the primary schools in the Chatsworth electorate that performed Anzac Day services for 2016. Lest we forget.