




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 26 October 2017

ADJOURNMENT

Woodridge Electorate

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (7.05 pm): All Queenslanders would be well aware during State Education Week that state schools are great schools. Last week I had the opportunity to visit a great state school in the Woodridge electorate that is leading the way in vocational education. Mabel Park State High School, under the leadership of principal Michael Hornby, has established itself as an innovator in vocational education, traineeships and apprenticeships. Last Friday I was pleased to officially launch their new certificate III course in aviation (drone pilots).

Mabel Park State High School is the first school in Queensland to offer this course. It is being taught by experienced former pilot and Mabel Park teacher, Gavin Jones, who has written the curriculum for this course himself. Thirteen year 11 students from Mabel Park State High School and Woodridge State High School are taking part in the course—an initiative harnessing the technology of today to prepare students for the jobs of tomorrow. Those jobs will be in a range of industries—from workplace health and safety, ambulance services, mapping and exploration to parcel and pizza delivery. The sky is literally the limit for the students of the Woodridge electorate.

Last week I was also delighted to drop in on the team from Legacy Brisbane, Tradelink and the 6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment to thank them for their work cleaning up the yard of Woodridge resident Queenie Budd. Queenie's husband, Raymond, was a corporal in the British Army. He became a prisoner of war on the fall of Singapore during the Second World War and was forced to work on the infamous Burma Railway. Raymond sadly lost his life in his 40s, leaving behind Queenie and four children. I am proud to say that Queenie and her family have lived in Woodridge for 50 years. It was great to see Legacy, including local Logan Legacy volunteers, Tradelink and the 6RAR team giving their time to help Queenie manage her garden—one of a number of houses around Brisbane and Logan where the Legacy team have lent a helping hand.

Finally, Metro South Health last week delivered free dental treatment to more than 100 refugees at the Logan Central Community Health Centre—many of whom had never received dental treatment at any stage in their lives. The Refugee Dental Fair is an important initiative for Logan, which has one of the highest rates of refugee settlement in Australia. Many of our refugees come from countries where there is limited access to health care, so providing a check-up and on-the-spot treatment means we can address any current dental problems they may have and help them enjoy a healthier future.

The dental fair was staffed by volunteers from Metro South Health and supported by partners Tzu Chi Foundation, Multicultural Development Association, Red Cross Australia, Access Community Services, Mater Health Services and the Brisbane South Primary Health Network. I want to thank them all for their contribution to our community.