




Speech By
Bruce Saunders

MEMBER FOR MARYBOROUGH

Record of Proceedings, 21 March 2018

ADJOURNMENT

Maryborough Government Office; Hansen, Mrs M

 **Mr SAUNDERS** (Maryborough—ALP) (7.15 pm): The day of 22 February was an amazing day in Maryborough with the reopening of the Maryborough government office. This is a fantastic building in Maryborough. It was built during the Depression to provide people with work. It has a fantastic parquet floor. It started off as a Forestry building followed by a DPI building. I would like to thank the member for Springfield because during the 2015 election campaign I made a commitment to reopen this building, which was closed in 2009, to restore it and to return it to its original use. It is a magnificent building. Once again, the Palaszczuk government is restoring services and putting things back into regional Queensland. The building has been restored. We received \$2.1 million and I would like to thank the minister for this.

On that special day, 22 February this year, the building was named after our first lady of Maryborough, Moira Hansen. Mrs Hansen is a fantastic woman. As we say in Maryborough, she is our first lady; she is a living legend of the Maryborough ALP branch. Mrs Hansen's late husband was Brendan Hansen. Brendan was one of the few people in this country to represent all tiers of government. He was a councillor on the Maryborough City Council, a state member for Maryborough and the federal member for Wide Bay. He was also the whip in the federal parliament during the Whitlam era. He was a great man, a fantastic man for the area.

Mr Power: Like the current member for Maryborough!

Mr SAUNDERS: I take that interjection from the member for Logan.

Mrs Hansen is one of the most amazing women you would ever meet in your life, Mr Speaker. She gives so much to the Maryborough community and has done all her life. Some of the stories she talks about were from the time when Brendan was the federal member for Wide Bay. When I was a young man in politics in Maryborough he was the mentor for a lot of us young up-and-coming people in the Labor Party in Maryborough. One could never get a truer man than Brendan Hansen. His word was his bond. If he gave you his word, you knew you were on to a winner. Mrs Hansen raised a great family and has done tremendous work throughout the community. She is still doing work in the Maryborough community.

I am so proud to be part of a Palaszczuk government and to be acknowledging a fine woman in Maryborough's first lady, Mrs Hansen. Now the building is called the Moira Hansen Maryborough State Government Office Building. I would like to thank the minister and member for Springwood for his support in putting this forward. I also thank the Palaszczuk government and the Premier for backing the naming of this building after Mrs Moira Hansen. On behalf of the community, I would like to say what a pleasure it is that Mrs Moira Hansen, Maryborough's first lady, let us use her name for such an important building.