




Speech By
Bruce Saunders

MEMBER FOR MARYBOROUGH

Record of Proceedings, 6 September 2018

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Maryborough Electorate, Gallipoli to Armistice Memorial

 **Mr SAUNDERS** (Maryborough—ALP) (2.03 pm): Mr Deputy Speaker, 21 July was a special day for the city of Maryborough as we opened the Gallipoli to Armistice Memorial, which is regarded as one of the best memorials to World War I in the country. It is a magnificent memorial. Thanks go to Nancy Bates, Greig Bolderrow, Jason Scanes, Stephen Yeates, Jenny Elliott and the rest of the committee who put this together. It is a magnificent memorial and we are getting visitors from right around the country to come and have a look at it. On 21 July we celebrated the official opening with the then prime minister of the country, the Premier and the mayor of the Fraser Coast Regional Council. The memorial is one of the most fantastic memorials I have seen, and I have seen a few around small towns and the Canberra museum. The memorial tells the story of what happened in World War I.

When I first got elected in 2015, I had a meeting with the committee and it looked to be a daunting task to put this together, but it was absolutely magnificent to see the help from all three levels of government—federal, state and council—as they worked together to create this memorial for the benefit of the community. We are getting heaps of visitors and tourists to Maryborough to have a look at this, and it has been a shot in the arm for the Maryborough economy.

I would like to again put on the record my thanks to those people involved: Nancy Bates; Jason Scanes; Greig Bolderrow, or Mr Maryborough as we call him; Stephen Yeates; and Jenny Elliott. I would also like to thank my old mate, the president of the RSL club, George Mellick, and the board from the RSL who got behind this 100 per cent to make sure this came to fruition in our community. I would also like to thank the Premier. After I was elected in 2015, one of my first meetings with the Premier was to show her the details of the Gallipoli to Armistice Memorial. The Premier backed this memorial 100 per cent. She was right behind it. The Palaszczuk Labor government contributed \$1 million for this wonderful memorial, and it would not have been built if the state government had not got behind it.

I would also like to thank the Maryborough community. When we opened the memorial on 21 July, Maryborough once again shone and showed the people of Australia and Queensland what a great city it is and how the people of Maryborough will welcome visitors to look at the memorial. It was a great day, so 21 July will go down in history in Maryborough as the day the Gallipoli to Armistice Memorial—which is better known in Maryborough as the Duncan Chapman memorial—was opened. On behalf of the Maryborough community, I would like to thank the Premier for her unwavering support and I also thank the Premier's father, who came up and was there for the unveiling and opening of it. The Premier's father had a lot to do with Maryborough. I would like to thank all of those people and invite everyone to come and visit it.