



Speech By  
**Joseph Kelly**


**MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES**

---

Record of Proceedings, 15 May 2018

## ADJOURNMENT

### Greenslopes Electorate, Anzac Day

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (7.03 pm): Like all members of the chamber and the people of our nation, on 25 April I joined my community to remember the sacrifice of those women and men who have stepped forward to defend our great nation and maintain peace throughout the world. At these community services I particularly thought of my grandfathers who served in the First World War and the Second World War, my cousins who served in Vietnam in peacekeeping missions, my friends who still serve our country and, particularly, my nephew, Ryan, who has just started his journey protecting our great country and our values. I would like to pay a special tribute to my wife's great-uncle, Harley, who died serving this country in the First World War. Although he lies in a grave in Europe, many of the subsequent generations of his family carry his name. I also reflect on those women and men who are still on active duty. Like many other Australians, I am proud of their service and I hope for nothing more than their safe return home to their families and friends when their mission is done.

I attended services at Coorparoo Secondary College and Greenslopes State School. The students at those schools clearly understand the importance and significance of the day. There were also three local community celebrations at Greenslopes Private Hospital, the Coorparoo RSL and the Holland Park-Mt Gravatt RSL Sub-Branch. All of those services are special and well attended.

I would like to pay a special tribute to Sonja and Alan Hellier of the Holland Park-Mt Gravatt RSL Sub-Branch. They devote themselves to the welfare of the veteran community. Together, they are a formidable team who spend their time ensuring that the sub-branch is well run and capable of meeting the needs of its members and their families. In doing so, they provide many other services that support the broader community, not the least of which is maintaining the fine community hall that is well used by the entire community of Holland Park.

Alan and Sonja organise Anzac and Remembrance Day celebrations. The fact that these are truly community events is evidenced by the huge support that the events receive. Local schools, churches, Scout groups, Girl Guides, local businesses, the police, the fire services and numerous veteran groups all come together to commemorate these important days. On top of that, thousands of community members line the route of the march on Anzac Day and attend the service, with many taking the opportunity to lay a wreath. Alan is the master of ceremonies, but Sonja is never far from hand making sure that the event runs smoothly and attending to all the details large and small. On behalf of my community, I wish to say thanks to Sonja and Alan for the work that they do all year round, but particularly for their service to the community on Anzac Day and Remembrance Day. Like other members of my community, I truly appreciate the opportunity to reflect on and honour the contribution of so many great Australians, particularly my relatives and friends. I am glad that I have the opportunity because of the tireless devotion of Sonja and Alan Hellier.