




Speech By
Shane King

MEMBER FOR KURWONGBAH

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Kurwongbah Electorate

 **Mr KING** (Kurwongbah—ALP) (2.56 pm): A few weeks ago at the Narangba Community Centre my wife and I hosted a pink ribbon event to help support research into breast cancer. I would like to once again thank all who supported us and, in particular, our Premier, who came along to speak and share in the event with us. That afternoon I said to the people in the room, and I will say it again here, that I do not think there is a person who has not been affected by cancer in some way.

A few years ago, my wife and I were hit hard when a dear young friend of ours had a double mastectomy and chemotherapy. She had been given the all clear. Then she developed a secondary cancer and lost her life, leaving behind a distraught husband, two young boys and other family. I lost my mum at an early age to cancer and just a few weeks ago her sister, my only aunt, died of breast cancer. My mother-in-law has just been diagnosed with a very nasty malignant tumour and another mate of mine is in the final stage. Also, our good friend Coralee O'Rourke, the member for Mundingburra, has had terrible news. I am sure all of us in this place hope that she knocks that on the head very quickly.

But there is some good news. Thankfully, my father is a survivor, as is an amazing woman from Narangba named Chelle Oakey, who I met last year when she was just doing what she does: working her heart out for the community. Like of all of us that afternoon, the Premier was very impressed with Chelle's story of her successful fight that she shared with us as well as the impressive way in which she stepped up as a community champion. Chelle is involved in several community groups as well as having started—something that is topical today—a Neighbourhood Watch in Narangba Valley. People like Chelle are an inspiration to others who are struggling with this disease. Chelle knows that the way to beat it is to fund research into a cure and events like we held certainly help do that. I will be holding more of these fundraisers over time and support others with theirs.

Also, I attended a moving Remembrance Day service in Burpengary. I thank my wife, Angie, and my electorate officer, Leanne, for attending the other two services that I was invited to. Burpengary turned it on, with over 10,000 crocheted poppies placed around the memorial in Buchanan Park. The roar of about 30 bikes as the Patriots motorcycle club turned up to join in the commemoration and the exceptional bugling from Aiden, a graduating student from Narangba Valley State High School, made the event special. The service was exceptionally well run by the Burpengary Community War Memorial Committee. I would like to thank Natalie Elliot, Dave Bennett, Larry Hamilton, Trevor Rackley and Moreton Bay Division 2 Councillor Peter Flannery. It was certainly a great event and it was a fitting tribute to the centenary of the Armistice.

I also attended an emotional service at Burpengary State School where we unveiled an amazing new memorial designed and built by Chris Hayes, the school groundskeeper, himself a veteran. This memorial was a labour of love and the final result is breathtaking. The school has had 47 students over its long history who made the ultimate sacrifice and this is a fitting tribute to them. Lest we forget.