




Speech By
Jessica Pugh

MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Mount Ommaney Electorate, Events

 **Ms PUGH** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (2.15 pm): In honour of International Mother Language Day on 21 February, I would like to sing a little of the Maori anthem. It goes like this—

E Ihowa Atua

O nga iwi matou ra

Translated to English, that means 'God of nations, at thy feet, in the bonds of love we meet'. I have performed it at the Anzac Day services in my community for the last year. It makes me very proud to be able to do so in the traditional Maori language, which is spoken by my father's people in New Zealand.

Mr Stevens interjected.

Ms PUGH: I take that interjection—I am sure it was good natured in intention—from the member for Mermaid Beach. I am indeed very proud of my entire multicultural community. I have some exciting updates to share with the House about the wonderful events we have coming up.

First, on a sad note, tomorrow the funeral of Dr Nguyen, a much loved member of my Vietnamese community, who sadly passed away at the age of 57, will be held. Tomorrow the entire Vietnamese community will come together in sorrow to share memories of Dr Nguyen. I will certainly be there to support my community.

On a happier note, this week the Holi festival will be held in my electorate for the second time at Rocks Riverside Park. I extend an open invitation to each and every member of this House to celebrate the triumph of light over dark. I know that the member for Jordan, who joined me last year, will be there again this year. Indeed, many cultures from around the world have made their home in Mount Ommaney and I am very proud of my electorate's status of being the fifth most multicultural electorate in the whole of Queensland—and that includes many small business owners.

Almost everyone in Mount Ommaney is familiar with the Jindalee FoodWorks and the horrendous run of bad luck that they have had, first flooding in 2011 and then burning down last year. I was in parliament the night that the FoodWorks burned down, but I stopped by the next day to talk to Gaby, the owner, and his staff. It was clear that no flood or fire was going to stop him from reopening. I have great news for the residents of Mount Ommaney: Gaby and the gang are back in business. I popped in to buy some milk on my way to see the Little Athletics Club. The new fit-out looks fantastic and the new product range is spectacular.

The good news for that little strip of shops on Curragundi Road does not stop there. This week I am writing to the Brisbane City Council, having secured agreement from the transport and main roads department that this busy local street needs a 40 kilometre per hour speed limit, especially in light of recent beautification. I am so proud to be the local member for this wonderful electorate.