




Speech By
Shane King

MEMBER FOR KURWONGBAH

Record of Proceedings, 1 May 2019

ADJOURNMENT

Kurwongbah Electorate, Anzac Day

 **Mr KING** (Kurwongbah—ALP) (7.03 pm): Every year in the Kurwongbah electorate our Anzac Day commemorations are growing. I am pleased to say that our community's and, in particular, our schools' participation is getting stronger and healthier. This year our team managed to get along to five school services in our electorate, and the participation and respect shown by school students continues to fill me with pride. As I am sure we would all agree, it would be great to be able to attend every one of our schools' Anzac services. However, time and concurrent scheduling of services sadly makes this impossible. This year I was fortunate to attend the services at Genesis Christian College and Lawnton State School, where Doug, the veterans' liaison to the school, gave a memorable reflection on his service. My staff and my wife attended Narangba State School, Jinibara State School and Burpengary State School, where the Anzac statue proudly constructed by Chris, the school groundsman, forms a major part of the service.

This year I was able to make it for the first time to the Bray Park RSL's dawn service at Club Pine Rivers and heard a moving story about the nurses who heroically cared for our returned servicemen who had contracted the Spanish flu and, sadly, also became casualties of the war themselves from this terrible disease. Also for the first time I attended the main service at Burpengary with my friend and colleague the member for Bancroft. The memorial there is spectacular and a tribute to the Burpengary War Memorial Committee which, with help from the state and council, made this amazing memorial happen. I was particularly pleased this year to have attended planning meetings with the Burpengary War Memorial Committee and have seen how this team of volunteers worked so tirelessly behind the scenes to make Burpengary's Anzac and Remembrance Day services work out so well. Our local Anzac comrades from New Zealand performed a haka. It was the first time I had seen one at a ceremony. It was moving and amazing.

The heavy involvement from our local schools in the march at Burpengary shows that our tradition of honouring those who have served in conflict is in safe hands into the future. Once the service was over I ducked down to the RSL subbranch behind Norths Leagues and Services Club, where I am still a member even though it is technically not in the Kurwongbah electorate but in my neighbour Steven Miles's electorate. As always, I was pleased to be able to buy a cold one or two for some of the veterans. Between us, my neighbour Steven Miles and I made sure our service men and women had a drink or two. As I have said before, Anzac Day is always special to me and I know that respect and commemorations will continue to grow as time passes. Lest we forget.