



Speech By  
**Dr Christian Rowan**


**MEMBER FOR MOGGILL**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 October 2022

**MOTION**

**Death of Queen Elizabeth II and Accession of King Charles III, Address of Condolence and Congratulations**

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (11.43 am): As the state member for Moggill and as a life member of the Australian Monarchist League, it is a honour to make a contribution to this condolence motion in the Queensland parliament and in doing so pay respects to an incredible, inspirational and devoted head of state and sovereign—a true leader whose limitless strength, wisdom and support was graciously offered not only to the people of Queensland but also to Australia and all of its states and territories as well as to citizens of the Commonwealth of Nations and indeed to people of various countries and cultures around the world.

On 8 September 2022 Queen Elizabeth II passed away peacefully at Balmoral Castle in Scotland. I wish to place on record my formal condolences to His Majesty King Charles III and all members of the Royal Family for the very personal family loss of their mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. The passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has certainly marked the end of an incredible period in world history. The historic seven-decade reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was the embodiment of absolute and unwavering service, loyalty, commitment and dedication. The life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was one that was well lived and was most certainly devoted to service, duty, faith and family.

From her proclamation on 6 February 1952 until her death on 8 September 2022, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II devoted a lifetime of service to Australia's constitutional monarchy as sovereign and monarch. Whilst many often reflect upon and measure Her Majesty's reign by the number of British prime ministers who served under Queen Elizabeth II, let us not forget that as sovereign of Australia Her Majesty oversaw 16 governors-general of Australia, 17 prime ministers, 12 Queensland governors and 13 Queensland premiers. Such an enduring reign of devoted service to the peace and prosperity and social, economic and cultural advancement of our state of Queensland, our nation of Australia, and of the great Commonwealth of Nations, undoubtedly bequeaths a legacy the likes of which we will most likely never see again.

In the days and weeks that followed the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II the world shared a united sense of bereavement and a profound sense of loss. The passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has been felt profoundly by so many in our state of Queensland and across Australia. In total Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II visited Queensland eight times: 1954, 1963, 1970, 1977, 1982, 1988, 2002 and following the devastating Brisbane flood of 2011.

While on the subject of the support and recognition provided by Her Majesty during and following our state's natural disasters, I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the late Hon. Bill Lickiss, the former deputy leader of the Queensland Liberal Party and the first state member for Moggill, who in 1975 was awarded the then newly created Queen's Gallantry Medal in recognition of his outstanding bravery and rescue efforts during the 1974 Brisbane floods. During these floods the late Bill Lickiss was engaged in flood relief operations in Moggill. He was working from an Army vehicle with two soldiers

and a civilian when it came into contact with powerlines, throwing all of the occupants into floodwaters. Despite the immediate danger Mr Lickiss persisted in trying to rescue these men, bringing one back to the amphibious vehicle. Sadly both soldiers, Captain Ian Kerr and Corporal Neville Hourigan, lost their lives. I am currently working in collaboration with the Moggill Historical Society, the Department of Transport and Main Roads and Brisbane City Council to ensure there is due recognition of this significant event through an appropriate local memorial as we approach the 50th anniversary of the 1974 Brisbane floods.

As the state member for Moggill, on Friday, 9 September 2022 I attended Government House here in Queensland to write a formal message of condolence to His Majesty King Charles III and the entire Royal Family. It was an honour to also attend the Queensland parliament as the state member for Moggill on Sunday, 11 September 2022 for the official proclamation of His Majesty King Charles III as our new sovereign.

Locally, in the electorate of Moggill it has been a pleasure to see and support the various ways in which residents and local organisations have chosen to remember and honour the service and reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. I wish to acknowledge and congratulate the staff, students and parents of both Chapel Hill State School and Kenmore South State School, who in recent weeks have held special commemorative tree-planting ceremonies honouring the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. I would also like to acknowledge the Pullenvale Progress Association, which next month will also host a special celebration and commemorative tree planting in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The sense of duty and devotion demonstrated by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II serves as an inspiration for all of us. There is no doubt that the significant legacy left by Her Majesty will triumph for generations to come. May Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II rest in eternal peace. Vale, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. God save the King.