



Speech By  
**Patrick Weir**


**MEMBER FOR CONDAMINE**

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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**

 **Mr WEIR** (Condamine—LNP) (12.55 pm): I rise to make my contribution to the condolence motion for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The passing of Queen Elizabeth has seen an outpouring of grief and sadness never before witnessed on such a huge scale. The whole world has mourned her death; not just the realm or the Commonwealth. The depth of despair etched in people's faces was sincere and their love and respect for this wonderful woman was truly evident. The Queen will be remembered always as a tower of strength to her family and her people. Her quiet dignity and humility were constantly on display. She personified grace and poise and was the embodiment of all things royal. Not once in the face of adversity did she falter. Her strength of character and sense of duty carried her through the many terrible personal and world tragedies she had to endure over 96 years on this earth.

It was incredible to witness the long lines of people waiting to catch a glimpse of the Queen's coffin as it left Balmoral Castle and travelled to St Giles' Cathedral, passing through villages and townships on the way to her final resting place. Peoples' sadness and earnestness were unmistakable. The almost 200,000 people who waited patiently to pay their last respects as the Queen lay in state in Westminster Hall was a fitting tribute to her and the vigil held by family members was an amazing sight. When you uttered the words 'the Queen', everybody knew who you were talking about. Nobody said, 'Which queen?' They all knew it was the Queen of the United Kingdom, who has been a constant in our lives for so long. I wish King Charles III a long and successful reign.

The Queen served the peoples of her realms loyally and cherished the unique experiences she had on many of her visits to various parts of the Commonwealth. Her sense of humour and quick wit were well known and her love for her family and the time she devoted to them was astonishing given her very busy schedule. The Queen never would have expected to take on this role at the young age of 25. However, in 1952, after the death of her father, King George VI, she suddenly became the head of the Commonwealth. The responsibilities that came with that could have been overwhelming. However, the young Queen took everything in her stride and went on to celebrate her silver, golden, diamond and platinum jubilees. Hers was a remarkable life of dedication and service.

During her 96 years, the Queen was a style icon. Her fashion choices were deliberate and unwavering. Her timeless style will long be remembered, with many women endeavouring to emulate her grace and fashion sense over the decades, including her ever-present handbags that always complemented her outfits and jewellery.

On 11 March 1954, the Queen and Prince Philip visited Oakey, in the electorate of Condamine. People travelled from all over the state to catch a fleeting glimpse of the royal couple. A young woman, Mary Coonan—who would later become Mary Weir, my mother—was amongst the crowd at Oakey that warmly welcomed the royals. That is a memory she holds dear to this day. Apparently the Queen commented at the time, 'What has impressed me the most is the long distances people have travelled

to see me.' Her humility was ever present. When speaking of his grandmother's passing, Prince William commented that she had given him the strength and love that he needed to survive the death of his mother, Princess Diana. She told him, 'Grief is the price we pay for love.' That is a wise and heartfelt statement.

On behalf of the residents of Condamine, I express my condolences to the Royal Family and my support to the King.