




Speech By
Dr Christian Rowan

MEMBER FOR MOGGILL

Record of Proceedings, 25 May 2023

ADJOURNMENT

St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital; Annat, Ms I, MBE, OAM

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (6.06 pm): On 17 May 2023, St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital marked its 65th anniversary. It was an honour to attend this event along with UnitingCare Queensland CEO Craig Barke; UnitingCare Group Executive of Hospitals Michael Krieg; St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital General Manager Mairi McNeill; Director of Medical Services Dr Michael Gillman; Director of Clinical Services Deborah Turton; Business Development Manager Susan Walsh; Wesley Medical Research CEO Andrew Barron; and Brisbane City Councillor for the Central ward, Councillor Vicki Howard. This 65th anniversary event was also held in conjunction with a special memorial service for the late Isobel 'Pixie' Annat MBE, OAM. I table a copy of the official program.

Tabled paper: Document, dated 17 May 2023, titled '65th Anniversary of St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital: A memorial service for the late Isobel (Pixie) Annat MBE OAM' [727](#).

I wish to formally acknowledge the extraordinary life and contribution of Pixie Annat, who was recognised as a Queensland Great in 2021 and who died on 24 September 2022 at the age of 92. Pixie Annat was an outstanding Queenslander, a true trailblazer and a visionary health leader. Above all else, Pixie Annat was a fierce advocate for nurses. She was absolutely dedicated to helping the homeless and vulnerable. Pixie assumed the role of matron—later known as 'nursing director'—at St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital in 1965. Pixie's subsequent tenure as chief executive officer from 1978 to 1992 at St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital revolutionised the delivery of health care in Queensland. Under Pixie's leadership, St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital launched one of the first neurosurgery units in the country, launched the first nuclear medicine department at a private hospital and established a cardiac unit, with St Andrew's becoming the first private hospital in Queensland to provide open-heart surgery. In 1977 Pixie was awarded an MBE and in 1992 she received a Medal of the Order of Australia. As a member of the Centaur Memorial Fund for Nurses, Pixie tirelessly championed postgraduate education for nurses.

As the shadow minister for education and state member for Moggill, it was an honour to represent the Leader of the Opposition at this year's Anzac Nurses Memorial Candlelight Vigil, held in Brisbane's Anzac Square on 24 April 2023. This service was also attended by Her Excellency the Hon. Dr Jeannette Young AC, PSM, Governor of Queensland; the then minister for health and ambulance services; the president of the Centaur Memorial Fund for Nurses, Colonel Julie Finucane OAM, Rtd; along with representatives of the 2nd Health Battalion including Major Kelsey Hamsey, Major Dee Hinde, Regimental Sergeant Major Warrant Officer Class One Matt Shoemark, Lieutenant Kelly Broughton and Lieutenant Alex Beaumont, who led and commanded the catafalque party.

It was an absolute privilege to know and work with Pixie Annat during my previous tenure as the executive director of medical services at St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital. At the candlelit vigil for nurses she was formally recognised once again for her work with nurses across Queensland. Vale, Isobel 'Pixie' Annat MBE OAM.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: A truly great nurse.