




Speech By
Jimmy Sullivan

MEMBER FOR STAFFORD

Record of Proceedings, 29 March 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Boyd-Boland, Father J, OFM; Out, Mr R

 **Mr SULLIVAN** (Stafford—ALP) (7.21 pm): It is with great sadness that I rise to offer my humble contribution to honour the lives of two extraordinary men in our Kedron community. Father John Boyd-Boland OFM and Mr Robert 'Bob' Out passed away remarkably just four days from each other. They were icons of our community and they will leave a huge hole in our collective life. Of course, our first thoughts are for their immediate and extended families, and my thoughts are with them at this difficult time.

Collectively, they represent more than 25 years of leading Padua College and many more years of service beyond that. Father John led the college from 1990 to 2000. Bob was vice-rector from 1987 to 2000 and became the first lay rector of the school in 2001. Serving until 2016, he became the school's longest serving rector. I had the luck of being taught by both over my years at the school and I had the privilege of working closely with them in my senior year.

Father John continued to serve the community as parish priest and then school chaplain. He inspired generations of north siders across his roles. He brought great intellectual rigour to all of his roles. He led by example, whether keeping us honest at cross-country training or challenging us in the classroom to leading the strategic direction of the school. That, of course, included the redevelopment of the St Francis Hall, the establishment of the modern house system and reform of the pastoral care model, and he was an integral part of the formation and success of the AIC.

Rather than reflect on the bricks and mortar he left behind, what is more telling is the generations of students, staff and community members that FJ inspired over so many years. He had a huge intellect and was a wonderful orator, always probing and challenging, which was always matched with the humility, the decency and the values of social justice that underpinned his hard work. Thank you to those closest to him who made sure in his final months and days that he was surrounded by care and love—people who had been taught by him, taught with him, led with him and who became Father John's other family.

To Bob's family—Julianne, Michael, Justin, Dan and their extended families—I offer my sincere condolences. Bob was a great classroom teacher, accomplished coach, deputy rector as I knew him and then rector. He was affectionately referred to as 'Bob the Builder' because under his leadership the school footprint is almost unrecognisable to that of my day. I also recognise the impact on the Mount Alvernia and St Anthony's communities, obviously co-located, and both men had an impact on all three schools and the combined Franciscan identity in Kedron.

In conclusion, none of us in this place get here alone. As an MP, I want to be one to remember where I come from. We all stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us. For me, that includes the education, mentoring and friendship I received from these two legends. I stand on the shoulders of giants. Vale, FJ. Vale, Bob. You will be missed.