



Speech By  
**Jessica Pugh**


**MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### Anzac Day

 **Ms PUGH** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (6.31 pm): I associate myself with the comments of the member for Moggill because Anzac Day is, indeed, a time for our community to come together to reflect on the courage and the sacrifice of the soldiers who have gone before us and, of course, who are still serving. Tonight, I would like to invite the House to the many wonderful Anzac services that are happening in my community. I will be attending the Corinda Primary Anzac service that happens prior to Anzac Day. Unfortunately, this year I will not be able to personally attend the Middle Park State School service, which is always well attended by members of the school community, our Centenary RSL and many other delegates from Rotary and other local groups.

Centenary State High always has a very moving service and an excellent guest speaker so I am excited to see who that will be this year. In years gone by they have had a Vietnamese refugee speak about what war has meant to them and how it has changed their lives. The audience was in tears listening to those recollections. They always do a wonderful job at Centenary State High of selecting a moving and important guest speaker.

Jindalee State School will also be paying their respects, and I will be delighted to do that with the school community before Anzac Day. On Anzac Day itself, I will be attending the dawn service at Clewley Street, which draws a crowd of around 5,000, before a gunfire breakfast over the road at Westside HQ, where everyone is welcome. If you are attending the Darra RSL service, they also have a gunfire breakfast that you can attend. About 5,000 locals come along to the morning service at Mount Ommaney and it is a beautiful service. If you are looking for somewhere to attend, I highly recommend it.

I will finish up my Anzac Day at the Oxley service, where I will be singing both the Australian and the New Zealand national anthems, which I am very proud to do. In the time that I have left, I want to acknowledge the reason that I learned the New Zealand national anthem in the traditional Maori. It was because of a bet my nana, Margaret Pugh, made with me. She bet that I could not learn it after one of my little nieces came home from school one day in New Zealand and sang it so beautifully and so perfectly. She said, 'I bet you can't do that, Jess.' So I thought I had better learn it to teach her a lesson.

**Mr Sullivan** interjected.

**Ms PUGH:** I will sing it on Anzac Day, member for Stafford. Members may remember that my grandparents celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on 6 March, but just a few short weeks later my Nan sadly passed away on 22 March, surrounded by family. Sadly, I was not there with her. She was such a strong woman and I am so lucky and so proud to have known her. I will be so proud to sing that song on Anzac Day in remembrance of her and of the soldiers we have lost. Lest we forget.