




Speech By
Joan Pease

MEMBER FOR LYTTON

Record of Proceedings, 16 April 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Surgery; Anzac Day

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (7.19 pm): For those of you who do not know, I recently had to undergo some unexpected emergency spinal surgery. I want to take the opportunity to thank a few people who really looked after me during that time. I would like to begin by thanking my staff who stepped up and had to work exceptionally hard during the period I was out of action, and I want to acknowledge the great work they did. They are devoted, loyal, hardworking community members and I am very proud to have them as my staff and I love working with them. I say thank you to Jo, Nikki and Hugh; you do a great job. I also thank George, who has stepped up recently.

I would also like to thank my family: my sisters, Catherine and Maureen, who did a wonderful job looking after me, and my husband, who unfortunately was away so he was not able to look after me particularly much. Lucky him, he thinks.

Mr Brown: Convenient.

Ms PEASE: Yes, conveniently. I would also like to acknowledge the wonderful doctor and the staff at the hospital for the great care they took of me. I would also like to particularly acknowledge my local community. I have been really humbled by their kindness and generosity of spirit in their understanding and acceptance of my inability to attend the functions I would normally attend. I have kept working. I worked from home but I was unable to attend many events. I would also like to thank them for the many cards and gifts they sent me. I have been really humbled by their generosity. I would also like to acknowledge my parliamentary colleagues who had to step into the void while I was not here. I really want to thank the members for Capalaba, Mount Ommaney and Mundingburra for helping out and covering for me while I was not here.

I would also now like to remind everyone that Anzac Day is coming up; it is just around the corner. It is a great opportunity for us to acknowledge those who have served. We are really fortunate in Australia that we live in such a safe and beautiful country. Coming up we have to acknowledge those returned service personnel—current serving personnel and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Like many MPs in the chamber, we all have many services to attend, but I was unaware that we had three dawn services. We have one at 4.15, one at 5 and one at 6.10 in Wynnum and we rush from one to the next. Then of course we have the wonderful parades at Manly-Lota and again at Wynnum RSL. We are very fortunate in that we have the Wynnum RSL, the Manly-Lota RSL sub-branch and also the National Servicemen's. All of these events are incredibly well supported by our local community and sporting clubs, schools—you name it; they attend. I want to give a shout-out to all the wonderful volunteers who make these events so important in our community.