




Speech By
Janelle Poole

MEMBER FOR MUNDINGBURRA

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ADJOURNMENT

Mundingburra Electorate, Anzac Day

 **Mrs POOLE** (Mundingburra—LNP) (9.03 pm): At dawn, we gathered. At dawn, we fell silent. At dawn, we remembered. Townsville City's 2025 Anzac Day dawn service was a solemn and profoundly respectful commemoration, just as it should be. Townsville, as we know, is the largest garrison city in Australia and we are a proud garrison city. Our current and former service men and women are woven through the fabric of our community. Each and every person has a link to Defence, a tie, a connection—their partner, their family member, their colleague or their teammate. It is our common bond. It is our badge of honour.

On Anzac Day, our city turned up. All along The Strand and up Melton Terrace, the people of Townsville gathered to honour those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. This is a testament to the eternal legacy of the Anzac. Every Anzac Day is special but this year commemorated the 110th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings during World War I. On the shores of Gallipoli, our soldiers fought against all odds with courage, endurance and mateship. This campaign was where the spirit of the Anzac was born.

For the centenary of Anzac Day 10 years ago, I was honoured and privileged to travel to France with my family and attend the dawn service on the Western Front at Villers-Bretonneux. We then travelled the Remembrance Trail through the Western Front, which is affectionately known as the poppy trail. It was a deeply emotional occasion not just for us Aussies and Kiwis but for the French men, women and children who joined us. The three-week tour left us with one important message—never forget the Anzac spirit.

I am proud to say that the Anzac spirit is well and truly alive in Townsville. The qualities of mateship, courage and endurance are everywhere in our great city. The Anzac spirit lives on not only at the big events but also in the quiet moments and small gestures. On Anzac Day, I was proud to stand alongside our Premier and Minister for Veterans as the Assistant Minister for Veterans, and I know that the entire Crisafulli government is committed to supporting those who defended, and continue to defend, our great country.

To our veterans and our current service men and women, we say thank you. Thank you for your sacrifice and thank you for your continued service that allows us to enjoy the freedoms that we have today.