




Speech By
Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

Record of Proceedings, 1 May 2025

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Coomera Electorate, Anzac Day

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (2.41 pm): On 25 April, Australia paused for the 110th anniversary of Anzac Day to commemorate our fallen and to recognise our returned service men and women. For the people of the northern Gold Coast, on the face of it it was a washout due to the heavy storms we had. Sensibly two of our events needed to be cancelled due to dangers around flooding and thunder and lightning. In fact, it was far from a washout. My brother Kevin, and his partner, Han, are in the gallery today. Kevin and I are part of a family with a proud history in this regard. I have three brothers and a nephew and collectively we have served almost 60 years in the Navy.

My brother Kevin, his partner, Han, my wife, Pauline, and I first of all joined the people of Woongoolba to lay wreaths. It was amazing. There was a huge crowd. The rain was bucketing down. There were people jammed into the Woongoolba Bowls Club and those who were outside were getting absolutely drenched in the rain but they were determined to stay there. There would have been in the order of 300 people who turned up.

Kevin and I then went to Pimpama. Many members would remember driving along the highway and saluting the soldier. We wanted to attend the event there but it was cancelled due to the heavy weather. There was an impromptu service at the site and we saluted the soldier. Many people stayed and laid wreaths at the site. We wanted to go on to Upper Coomera to the North Gold Coast RSL march. It was also cancelled due to the weather. One of Kev's life experiences was on the HMAS Sydney. We knew that many of his mates were down at Club Helensvale for the day and so Kev and Han went down and laid a wreath for us, which was a wonderful experience for him. All in all, it was a solemn day, with old mates getting together and having a yarn. To all of those service men and women, to my brothers Kev, Mark and Tony and my nephew John, thank you for your service. Lest we forget.