

Speech By

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ADJOURNMENT

Ipswich West Electorate, Volunteers; Haigslea State School

Ms BOURNE (Ipswich West—ALP) (11.18 pm): One of the greatest privileges of representing Ipswich West is seeing just how much people give back to our community. They are the volunteers who keep our local organisations going, support their neighbours and step up whenever something needs to be done. This month the QCWA Ipswich branch celebrated its 100th anniversary, an incredible century of service. For generations its members have supported local families, schools and students, donated handmade items to nursing homes and provided trauma beds to hospitals and ambulance stations. That proud tradition continues in Ipswich West through the QCWA Rosewood and QCWA Walloon, and I thank their members for everything they continue to do.

Sadly, this year we have also farewelled two remarkable Rosewood locals who embodied that same spirit of service. Trevor Halter gave more than 40 years to his community. He served the Rosewood State School P&C, coached local hockey, volunteered at the swimming pool and ambulance committee and gave countless hours to the Lions Club, Men's Shed and the Rosewood Community Centre. Trevor was someone who saw something that needed doing and got the job done.

Bernie Mason shared that same commitment. A Vietnam veteran and former president of both the Rosewood RSL subbranch and the Rosewood Lions Club, Bernie dedicated so much of his life to supporting veterans, their families and the wider Rosewood community. People like Trevor and Bernie remind us that strong communities are built by people willing to give their time and look after one another.

This Saturday we will celebrate another remarkable local legacy at Haigslea State School, which marks its 150th anniversary. For a century and a half, generations of students, teachers, staff, families and volunteers have contributed to the story of this wonderful little school. It is an extraordinary milestone and a chance to celebrate not only the history of Haigslea State School but also the community that has supported it for 150 years. I look forward to joining them this Saturday.

To everyone who has been part of the Haigslea State School story: congratulations on 150 years. To all of the volunteers and community organisations across Ipswich West: thank you for everything that you do.