

GUILDFORD ASSOCIATION

Statement by Member for Swan Hills

MR F.A. ALBAN (Swan Hills) [12.51 pm]: Several years ago, I visited Swan Hills resident Ms Dorrie Cowcher on the occasion of her 104th birthday at Yallambee Hostel in Mundaring. As a child, Dorrie was a resident of Guildford. In a quiet, clear voice, as though it was just yesterday, she recounted her memory of standing on the top veranda of Padbury's store in Guildford, with her parents and family, in 1915. The occasion she described was the departure of Australian Imperial Force troops as they marched from their training camp at Blackboy Hill and down Terrace Road through Guildford to Guildford station, boarding a train bound for Fremantle, with cheering crowds to farewell them—soldiers such as the Harper brothers and the Lukin boys marching towards their destiny at the Nek in Gallipoli. Just as Dorrie's memory is real, so were the people and places of Guildford's past. Such are the memories that are part of historic Guildford, these memories of history and subsequent sacrifice have been the driving inspiration for the Guildford Association's unique ANZAC poppy memorial plaques in both physical and electronic form on the homes of our past soldiers. The faces and places of our fallen sons will now be remembered in perpetuity. We thank Guildford Association Inc for its efforts in providing a modern interpretation and memory through the website and walk trail. Its commitment has made this a reality. As well, we thank the federal government for its grant of \$29 495 through the advocacy of Hon Ken Wyatt, MP. In this place of history, Guildford, we can say we continue to remember them.