

A strong voice for our future

BRITTANY LAUGA MP

B Urb Dev (Urb&Reg Plan)(Hons), C.dec

**MEMBER FOR KEPPEL
AND ASSISTANT MINISTER
FOR EDUCATION**



MEDIA RELEASE

25 February 2021

Lauga praises work of Legacy

The valuable work of Legacy in taking care of the families left behind in times of conflict, has been praised by the Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga.

Ms Lauga told Parliament that Legacy grew out of the ashes of World War I when tens of thousands were killed, injured or left widowed or orphaned.

“Originally returned servicemen took on the duty of caring for and supporting widows and children.

“They later became known as legatees and to this day it is the legatees who volunteer the support that Legacy provides to its beneficiaries.”

Ms Lauga said she became a proud legatee late last year, and joins the 4000-odd legatees throughout Australia, some having served Legacy for more than 50 years.

“I would like to acknowledge the legatees of Central Queensland: Brian Hollins OAM, our faithful Chairman of Legacy Rockhampton and Central Queensland and Carol Gorton, Belinda Engstrom, Michelle Ponton, Lorraine Harry, Russell Coombes, Joy Coombes, Kelly Kiddle, Jan Catip, Fran Waterson, Tom Polley, Jenny O'Donnell, Barbara Lawrence, David Nunn, Noel Gardner, Sue Conrad, Keanu Jones, Ann Botting, Bronwyn Hill and Graham Rutherford.

“We are supported by our outgoing CSO, Scharryn Kneen; our new CSO, Joanne Peace; and administrator Mary Scully.

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Ms Lauga said Legacy is still caring for tens of thousands of widows who have lost their loved ones and been affected by their partner's service in the Korean War, Malayan Emergency and Vietnam War, as well as campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan and in peacekeeping operations across the globe.

Legacy started as a small organisation with local legatees assisting local families, she said.

"Today, there are 45 Legacy clubs, plus one in London, providing emotional, social and financial support.

"I'm very proud to have been inducted as a Legacy Rockhampton & Central Queensland Legatee at the annual backyard blitz of widow Lila Collins' yard where legatees, local businesses and defence personnel come together to help clean up the yard of a widow.

"The team got stuck in and are transforming Mrs Collins' yard today with a new patio area, new fruit trees and giving the garden a good clean out!"

Legacy is dedicated to caring for the families of deceased and incapacitated veterans. Today Legacy's caring and compassionate service assists around 65,000 widow(er)s and 1,800 children and dependants with a disability.

Legacy is a voluntary organisation supported by veterans, servicemen and women, and volunteers drawn from all walks of life.

"Our support and services now extend to include the dependants of members of today's Australian Defence Force who lose their lives as a result of their military service.

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PHOTO: Brittany Lauga at her induction. “I joined as a Legatee because I want to provide support to widows, widowers and their families who have lost a loved one as a result of their military service.”

ENDS

Contact John 0400787037

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