



Speech by

**Hon. John Mickel**

**MEMBER FOR LOGAN**

Hansard Tuesday, 6 September 2011

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## **SPEAKER'S STATEMENT**

**Gardiner, Mr J**

**Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, it is with enormous sadness that I inform the House of the passing of a long-serving officer of the Parliamentary Service. Mr Jason Gardiner, the manager of Property Services, passed away on Friday of last week. He was only 39 years old at the time of his death, having been born in Brisbane in December 1971.

Jason commenced employment with the Department of Public Works in 1988 and completed his apprenticeship as a refrigeration mechanic in 1992 with some of his apprenticeship time being served at Parliament House. Jason occupied a number of positions with the Department of Public Works including leading hand, job foreman and Project Services officer and was located at Parliament House from the early 1990s. Jason left the Department of Public Works in 1996 and joined Honeywell Pty Ltd as a senior service technician.

In January 1997 Jason joined the Parliamentary Service and was appointed as the Maintenance Supervisor, Property Services for the parliamentary precinct. He commenced studying part time in 2004 and was awarded a Diploma of Business Management in December 2006. In August 2007 Jason was appointed to the position of Manager, Property Services and worked in this position until commencing sick leave in April 2011. Jason, as we all know, was passionate about this parliament and in particular the building—about conserving the stonework, the furniture and even the old clocks in the building. Many of the lovely old clocks in this building would have been lost were it not for the conservation efforts of Jason.

Jason was one of the first people to put up his hand for additional work and volunteered for numerous events including Parliament House open days, regional parliaments, Queensland Day functions and the P150 celebrations. Jason was awarded the Parliamentary Service Meritorious Service badge in 2002 for his work on the Queensland Day celebrations and regional parliament and again in 2005 for his work on workplace health and safety issues within the Parliamentary Service and regional parliament. Jason was very passionate about his staff—the staff of Property Services and also the Department of Public Works staff under his control, including the trade staff, gardeners, cleaners and stonemasons.

Members may not be aware of Jason's great love of trains and his work with Queensland Rail Heritage Volunteers. He devoted a lot of his time to Queensland Rail Heritage and in 2004 was awarded the Centenary of Ipswich City Medallion in recognition of those efforts. He was much loved by many of the staff within the precinct and also electorate office staff. I acknowledge the presence in the public gallery of his fellow workers who are here today. Needless to say, his death is devastating for his family and also for the Parliamentary Service family. I am sure that this House joins with me in passing on condolences to his family.

I had the melancholy duty of speaking with Jason's father this morning and I conveyed to him and his wife our sincere sympathy on behalf of all honourable members and the parliamentary staff. Jason's funeral service will be held at the Holy Trinity Church, 352 St Vincents Road, Banyo this Thursday at 1.30 pm and thereafter at the Nudgee Cemetery.