



## **RACHEL NOLAN MP**

### **Member for Ipswich**

Booval Professional Centre  
125 Brisbane Rd BOOVAL

PO Box 98  
BOOVAL Q 4304

Ph: 3202 3452  
Fax: 3202 4778

Email:  
[ipswich@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:ipswich@parliament.qld.gov.au)

7 February 2005

### **TRAGEDY BRINGS OUT TRUE IPSWICH SPIRIT**

The fire in the old nurses' quarters at Ipswich Hospital provides real-life evidence that Ipswich people are being kept safe by professional local emergency services and hospital staff, the Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan said today.

The fire started around 5:20pm and was quickly responded to by eight fire units from across Ipswich. While the fire raced through the old building, some firemen went inside to try to control the blaze. The fire units managed to control it within about 45 minutes and kept the building from burning to the ground. There was no damage to the main hospital buildings.

Many hospital staff came in to work to help with the evacuation without being called and parts of the hospital were evacuated with no danger and very little stress to patients. The visitors who were at the hospital also lent a wonderful hand.

The police on the scene managed the crowd so that people could look on without being in any danger. There are no signs at this stage to indicate that the fire was deliberately lit. The next step will be for a structural assessment of the building to determine its future.

“While it is a tragedy that this piece of Ipswich’s heritage was burnt, I warmly thank the many people who did such a wonderful job. The firies risked their lives, the hospital staff and visitors gave up their time to help and everyone was professional and co-operative.

“But then that’s the kind of decent community Ipswich is to live in.”