



RACHEL NOLAN MP

Member for Ipswich

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Monday 4 April 2005

New life for historic Ipswich memorial

Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan today presented a \$15,000 cheque to the Ipswich City Council to help fund the restoration of one of the area's most important historic monuments.

Division 7 Councillor Andrew Antoniolli accepted the cheque which is the first instalment of a \$25,000 dollar-for-dollar grant to restore the Governor Blackall Memorial drinking fountain and return it to its original location.

Ms Nolan said the memorial honoured Queensland's second Governor Samuel Wensley Blackall who served from 1868 until he died in office in 1871.

"It was erected at the intersection of Brisbane and Nicholas Streets, Ipswich, in 1879 and was moved to its current location in Chelmsford Avenue 100 years later because of motor traffic," she said

"The memorial was constructed from local sandstone and the people of Ipswich raised money to erect the memorial which became a popular meeting place and focal point for numerous election meetings.

"That is why the Beattie Government made a re-election commitment to spend \$1.5 million over the next three years on restoration projects like this one to ensure we preserve our unique history for future generations.

"The relocation of the Blackall Memorial to its original location would be a feature of the current redevelopment of the Central Business District and d'Arcy Doyle Place as part of the River Heart project."

The funding was awarded to the Council in addition to a \$2,000 grant to undertake community consultation to determine the restoration and future management of the Box Flat Mining Disaster Memorial announced by Premier Peter Beattie at the Ipswich Community Cabinet meeting last month.

Ms Nolan said the Department of Public Works was administering the program and working with communities throughout Queensland.

"This is a real partnership between the Queensland Government, local authorities and community organisations. We are providing dollar-for-dollar subsidies so they can afford to restore and repair these monuments," she said.

"Memorials like the Governor Blackall Fountain tell the story of our heritage and in many cases the achievements and sacrifices of our forebears. They need to be preserved so that we can continue to honour their memory."