



## **RACHEL NOLAN MP**

### **Member for Ipswich**

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#### **TWO FORMER IPSWICH POLITICIANS HONOURED**

Ten new public housing units in inner Ipswich have been opened today by Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan.

The new architect designed units provide affordable housing for local people with disabilities or who are otherwise on low income.

The units were designed by Project Services, a business unit of the Department of Public Works and constructed by QBuild at a cost of \$2.64 million. The department of Public Works received a Gold Award from the Ipswich City Council Awards for Excellence 2006 in the Bendigo Bank Design Awards Category for the Garden and Milford Street housing project.

The units, which are actually two blocks of five units, have been named in honour of Jim Donald and David Gledson and will be know as James Donald Place and David Gledson Place.

“The buildings have been named in these men’s honour in recognition of the outstanding contribution made by them to the Ipswich community and to the State,” Ms Nolan said.

“James Donald served the Ipswich community as a politician for 23 years and was the MLA for Bremer from 25 May 1946 to 28 May 1960 and the MLA for Ipswich East from 28 May 1960 to 17 May 1969.

“David Gledson was first elected as the MLA for Ipswich in May 1915 and was promoted to Cabinet in October 1925. After losing his seat in May 1929, he was returned as the MLA for Ipswich from 11 June 1932 until his death in office on 14 May 1949.”

“Housing is one of the most basic human needs but under the Howard Government it has become unaffordable for hundreds of thousands of Australians,” Ms Nolan said.

“The productivity commission has found that the average price of a house in Australia has increased from 6 times annual average earnings to nine times annual average earnings since 1996. This exorbitant increase is pushing some people into unsustainable debt while others are simply getting pushed out of the market.

“The need for public housing like this is greater than it has ever been before.

“Public housing is one of Australia’s great social institutions. It allows people who otherwise could never have a decent place to live, to have safe and secure housing in the community. The units we are opening today are of the highest building quality and they will make an enormous difference in these people’s lives.”