



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT**

**Community Recognition Statement**

9 February 2021

**ROY O'DONOVAN**

**Ms SONIA HORNERY ( Wallsend ) :**

By his own account, Irishman Roy O'Donovan would generally only play two seasons of football in any one place before he wanted a new challenge.

Five and a half years ago, Roy and his wife Ellen decided that they would try their luck in Australia. Their son, Alfie, was born about a year after arriving. The majority of their stay has been in Newcastle, with Roy becoming a superstar for the Newcastle Jets.

On Australia Day, Roy and Ellen became Australian Citizens and celebrated with a typical Aussie backyard barbeque. In the game prior to him becoming a citizen, Roy scored his 50th goal.

Despite scoring 50 goals, putting him in the top 10 goal scorers in the A-League, Ellen still made Roy mow the lawn. In the game after the ceremony, Aussie Aussie Roy Roy Roy scored a crucial goal against the Western Sydney Wanderers to give the Jets a 1-1 draw.

With their young son, Alfie, starting kindergarten, let's hope that Roy and Ellen remain in Newcastle and that he continues his career with the Newcastle Jets.

Congratulations to Roy, Ellen and Alfie on becoming fair dinkum Aussies.