Dr Bourke remembered

On Saturday morning 15 January 2011 a ceremony took place in Mount Barker that some people may think is many years overdue.

The ceremony was to commemorate and acknowledge former Mount Barker Doctor Christopher Bourke. The ceremony was to name the building out of which the Plantagenet Medical Centre operates the Dr Christopher Bourke Building.

The words on the plaque that was unveiled by Shire President Councillor Ken Clements is reproduced at the end of this article.

The ceremony was attended by many of Dr Bourke’s descendants, each of whom was thrilled that the people of Plantagenet had recognised and remembered Dr Bourke in this manner.

The original request to suitably commemorate Dr Bourke came up at a General Meeting of Electors in February 2010 and, after Council staff contacted the family and present Doctors in Mount Barker, the wheels were put in motion.

A light lunch followed the unveiling and many anecdotes about Dr Bourke were shared especially about Dr Bourke’s humanitarianism and humour.

Also in attendance at the ceremony were Freemen of the Municipality former Councillors Kevin Forbes AM and Joan Cameron.