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The Reynolds Report

6/11/2014



Last weekend I attended Amazing Albany's Anzac Centenary events with my father Laith (left) and partner Robert.

It was a spectacular commemorative event and one that I will never forget!

IT was an interesting two weeks in the nation's capital as the Senate gathered for budget estimates followed by its 14th sitting week in 2014.

My first Estimates as a WA Senator was a great learning experience, dealing with issues ranging from Ebola to

In Brief

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welfare, illegal boat arrivals and ISIL.

The sad passing of former Prime Minister Gough Whitlam saw parliament come to a rare standstill, as all sides paid tribute to this giant of Australian politics.

The shocking attack on the Canadian Parliament sent chills through Canberra and again reminded us of the threats we face here in our own society and that we must be constantly vigilant.

I am still on a high from last weekend's Anzac Albany centenary celebrations that brought Australians together to commemorate a significant part of this great nation's history.

Alongside my Senate colleagues I will continue to work hard to ensure West Australians are well represented in our national Parliament.

We will also continue to work on behalf of all Australians to build a strong, prosperous economy and a safe and secure Australia.

Linda

ANZAC ALBANY

Last weekend I made the journey through our State's magnificent South West to attend Amazing Albany's Anzac Centenary weekend.

Reflecting on the weekend, I feel an overwhelming sense of pride, not only as an Australian, but as a West Australian, an elected representative, a service woman and a granddaughter of an original Anzac.

All the planets aligned to deliver a once in a lifetime event filled with emotion, respect, reflection and blue skies. There were so many layers running through the events, I am sure all who attended took something different and very personal away from their experiences.

In my case, my grandfather Alfred George Reynolds was one of those young men who departed Albany in 1914

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"The First World War was the crucible in which the Australian identity was forged. In 1914, we were a country with a flag and a Parliament but little sense

bound for the Great War. Unlike so many of his mates he did return home from the horrors, alive but not unscathed. It was a thrill to see his memory kept alive in the National Anzac Centre and to be there for the opening with my father.

By commemorating the departure of our first Anzacs a century ago we can start to gain a better understanding of the true meaning of "Lest We Forget". For 100 years we have uttered these words to commemorate the service and sacrifice that many thousands of service men and women have made to preserve our freedoms and way of life, but very rarely do we stop and consider their deeper meaning.

A huge congratulations to the hundreds of volunteers who brought us all together to commemorate such a major part of this great nation's history.

Lest we forget.



of nationhood.

The baptism of fire that was the Great War changed all that. The scale of sacrifice and loss was beyond anything imaginable." – Prime Minister Tony Abbott



Click [here](#) to discover the National Anzac Centre and Amazing Albany.

DISCOVERING ANZACS WEBSITE LAUNCH

Last week I was honoured to represent Senator the Hon. George Brandis QC at the launch of the 'Discovering Anzacs' web page at the National Archives of Australia with the Governor-General, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC in Canberra.

The Discovering Anzacs website brings together the official records of the National Archives of Australia and Archives New Zealand in a joint project that contains online service records for the 600,000 Australian and



New Zealanders who served in World War 1, as well as many from the Boer War, creating an individual online profile.

The National Archives of Australia is encouraging the public to upload their own family stories, photos and mementoes.

I even discovered government records related to my grandfather who enlisted in Brisbane on September 3, 1914 at the age of 20. He was posted to A section, 3rd Field Ambulance with a Regiment number of 62!



Discover your own family Anzacs in this brilliant new initiative of the National Archives of Australia in partnership with Archives New Zealand. I did!

Click [here](#) to find out more.

BRIEF WITH THE HON. MICHAEL KIRBY

Last week members of the Joint Standing Committee for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade were honoured to receive a briefing from the Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG, who was appointed chair to a UN inquiry into human rights in North Korea.

The international community will watch the UN consideration of the commission of inquiry closely as details come to light.



LIBERAL WOMEN'S AGM

What an amazing team of Liberal women we have in WA!

"No one can say they didn't know" – the Hon. Michael Kirby

You can find the UN report [here](#). I believe it is important reading for us all.

I was privileged to address the WA Liberal Women's AGM and thank the team for the amazing work they have done over our four recent elections.

I am extremely passionate about women in leadership and I believe the time has come to address gender issues in a sensible and proactive way without resorting to quotas.

I will have more to say on this in coming months. Watch this space!



DURACK DIVISIONAL CONFERENCE

I always welcome the opportunity to get out and visit our great State, and my recent visit to the Pilbara for the 2014 Liberal Party Durack Division Conference was no exception.

The conference was a great opportunity to catch up with my State and Federal Liberal colleagues, and I enjoyed touring Dampier Port with State member for Mining and Pastoral Hon. Mark Lewis MLC which was hosted by Dampier Port harbour master Gavin Giblett.

My Senate colleague, Dean Smith and I also took the opportunity to participate in McDonalds McHappy Day in Karratha where I honed my car washing skills. McHappy Day has raised over \$28 million for Ronald McDonald House Charities for nearly 25 years.



To view my Liberal colleagues thoughts on feminism including Deputy Prime Minister Julie Bishop click [here.](#)

In other news:

Red tape

The Government promised to reduce red tape and has doubled the target, already removing over \$2.1 billion of compliance costs.

Stopping the boats dividends

Last week Senate Estimates revealed a \$2.5 billion saving in the Department of Immigration and Border Protection as a result of stopping the boats.

Speeches:

Matter of Urgency - Ebola

The primary responsibility of federal government is the safety and security its people. It is clear that Ebola is no longer simply a health issue, but also a security issue, not just because of the threat of disease, but because of the hysteria it can generate. You can see my response to the matter of urgency [here.](#)



National security must always be a primary priority of our national government, but so too must the preservation of our democratic freedoms. These are two seemingly incompatible policy objectives; to balance them is never easy and is always rightly contested. You can read my contribution [here](#).



On 16 April 1986, in a speech to the British Parliament on the US bombing of Libya, Margaret Thatcher noted that *terrorism thrives on a free society and that the terrorist uses the feelings in a free society to sap the will of civilisation to resist. If the terrorist succeeds, he has won and the whole of free society has lost.*

FROM THE SENATE

October 20th marked the start to my first Estimates as a West Australian Senator, and over four long days (9am-11pm), my colleagues and I spent time questioning both Ministers and the Heads of Department they are responsible for on a wide range of issues.

My participation on a number of committees kept me on my toes and it was fantastic to contribute to such a broad range of complex and relevant issues to WA.

Last week the Senate reconvened again for a regular sitting week, and while there were a number of matters on the agenda, it was issues surrounding national security, taxation reform, the Ebola virus and higher education reform and the passage of the Carbon Farming Initiative Amendment bill which dominated the program.

Links to my speeches are contained in the sidebar.

She also noted in her own inimitable way that: *Terrorism has to be defeated; it cannot be tolerated or side-stepped. When other ways and other methods have failed—I am the first to wish that they had succeeded—it is right that the terrorist should know that firm steps will be taken to deter him from attacking either other peoples or his own people who have taken refuge in countries that are free.*



Finally, a huge congratulations to the wonderful Libby Mettam on her recent victory at the WA State bi-election for the seat of Vasse. She will be a wonderful representative in State Parliament for the people of Vasse.

Well done Libby!



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