



SENATOR
LINDA REYNOLDS
Liberal Senator for Western Australia



THE REYNOLDS REPORT

DECEMBER, 2014



WHAT an incredibly diverse and productive time it has been since the November edition of the Reynolds Report with a packed parliamentary schedule and visits across Western Australia.

In Canberra, the composition of the Senate has presented challenges, particularly in the past month. Despite this, the Government has worked with the crossbenchers to deliver significant reforms for our nation.

“We continue to listen to the Australian people and are working hard to deliver a strong and prosperous economy and a safe and secure Australia.”

Looking ahead to the New Year, I am confident the Government will continue to build on our strong record and will work hard to represent the interests of all Australians.

It has been a great privilege to join such a strong and diverse WA Senate team and I am proud to be a member of such a passionate team of Federal WA Liberals.

“I thank all my colleagues and party members for their generous support in my first six months in the Senate representing WA and I look forward to continuing the fight in 2015.”

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Until next time,

Linda

OUT ABOUT IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Lupin Foods Australia

LUPIN Foods Australia (LFA) is an innovative WA company producing high quality value added food products from locally sourced Lupins.

During a recent visit to the company, LFA food technology manager Sofi Sipsa explained the benefits of Australian Sweet Lupins, which have been dubbed a natural super food due to their health benefits.

I was amazed to hear about the significant health advantages associated with lupin consumption including its positive effects on blood pressure, bowel health and prebiotic goodness.



It's always great to see WA companies thinking outside the box to produce new and exciting innovative products.

LFA was recently awarded the highly coveted Foods Industry Innovation Award by the Australian Institute of Food Science and Technology and was also named Best New Environmentally Sustainable Initiative award and Best New Health Food or Beverage at the prestigious Gulfood Trade Show in Dubai.

LFA also took top honours at Buy West Eat Best's inaugural WA Signature Dish competition in June for its Lupin and za'atar crumbed Dorper lamb cutlets with a Moroccan sweet potato salad. I congratulate LFA for their great work and look forward to following their success in the future.

Visit to Fortescue Metals Group

It was great to put on the hard hat and slip on the hi-vis again during a visit to Fortescue Metals Group (FMG) rail, port and Vocational Training and Employment Centre facilities in Port Hedland.

FMG port general manager Gerhard Veldsman gave an informative tour of FMG's world class facilities at Herb Elliott Port and provided me with a sneak peak at the construction of a fifth berth at the port which is expected to be completed in early 2015.

FMG rail general manager Ron Dagostino led a tour through Thomas Yard maintenance workshop and gave an overview of the sophisticated technology used to maintain the quality of the trains and the company's record breaking tracks which boast an impressive 40 tonne plus axle load capacity.

It was amazing to see the lifeblood industry of Australia's economy first hand.

The size and scope of Fortescue's growth in just a decade is staggering, and the company's development into one of the world's most efficient networks with renowned port, rail and training facilities demonstrates the importance of vision, innovation and drive.

A visit highlight was meeting FMG's indigenous trainees at the company's VTEC facilities.

It is clear the program is changing lives by encouraging and supporting Aboriginal people into employment.

"I believe all Australians should visit the State's north to understand what it takes to generate our nation's wealth."



WA Maritime Museum

It was an honour to represent the Attorney-General and Minister for the Arts Senator the Hon George Brandis QC at the official launch of the WA Maritime Museum's own curated Anzac commemorative exhibition "The Last Gentleman of War" in Fremantle recently. The exhibition recreates the events of an extraordinary battle in 1914 when the first HMAS Sydney met the German light cruiser Emden at the Cocos Islands resulting in a decisive victory to the Royal Australian Navy in its first-ever battle at sea. **I would like to extend a huge congratulations to the WA Maritime Museum on pulling this compelling new exhibition together.**

Key Government Achievements

In just over a year the Government has secured the passage of over 140 pieces of legislation and negotiated the following important pieces of legislation through the Senate:

- Temporary Protection Visas
- Repealed Carbon Tax
- Abolished the Mining Tax
- Implement Direct Action
- Two tranches of National Security Legislation
- Responsible Social Security measures that will deliver \$2.7 billion budget savings
- Implemented Korean FTA
- Fair indexation to Defence Force Retirement Benefits
- Implemented a three year Budget Repair Levy
- Enable the Roads to Recovery Programme to continue past June 2014

AMC Visit

LAST month I visited the Australian Marine Complex (AMC) in Henderson to view the latest developments at the Complex's Common User facility and surrounding precincts as a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade. AMC General Manager Johnathon Smith and Department of Commerce General Manager of Marine and Defence, Oil and Gas, AMC John O'Hare gave a tour of the world-class centre for excellence for manufacturing, fabrication, assembly, maintenance and technology servicing the marine, defence, oil and gas, and resource industry. **I was extremely impressed with the facility and acknowledge its important role in extending the capabilities of local industry seeking to win contracts for new business.**

This creates employment and facilitates local engagement in marine, defence, oil and gas, and resource projects.

Perth Airport Air Traffic Control Tower



DID you know Airservices Australia, Australia's government owned air traffic controller, manages 11 per cent of the world's airspace, controlling air traffic operations for over 90 million passengers on more than four million flights every day? **My colleague Senator Dean Smith and I recently visited Perth Airport's air traffic control tower to gain a first-hand insight into the tower's operations and the incredible growth that has occurred in Perth airspace in recent years.**

Air traffic control at Perth airport currently processes 530-540 air craft movements on its busy days, hundreds of which are fly-in-fly-out operators moving workers to every corner of our State.

Thankyou to Perth Airport tower manager Mike Tesser and Stephen Doyle from Airservices Australia who provided us with an interesting tour of the tower which plays a vital role in ensuring operations run smoothly at Perth Airport.



Foyer Oxford

FOYER Oxford is a great new initiative providing young people at risk of or experiencing homelessness with transitional housing for up to two years and a pathway to education and employment. Foyer Oxford houses 98 young people at any one time including 24 young parents and their children. At the heart of the Foyer Model is the establishment of the "something-for-something" Foyer 'Deal' which matches signed commitments made by the young person with a formal Foyer 'service guarantee' where residents are expected to engage in education, training or employment, meet with support workers, and meet the obligations that come with a normal lease. During the visit I caught up with Foyer Oxford manager Jethro Sercombe and Anglicare WA CEO Ian Carter and was extremely impressed by the work the organisation is doing to change the lives of young West Australians.



Fremantle Port School Visit

LAST week I returned to the Port School in Fremantle to witness the progress of a Young Parents Training Centre currently under construction at the school.

The facility was funded through the Federal Government's Capital Grants Program and will allow young parents to continue their education while learning valuable life and social skills. It was also great to attend the end-of-year ceremony and celebrate the achievements of year 10 students. I am extremely passionate about the plight of Australia's young people, and it is important we provide all children with the best possible start regardless of their background.



Gooseberry Hill Primary School Graduation

GRADUATION ceremonies were in full swing right across the country last week, and it is always wonderful to see the hope, anticipation and pride of school leavers. Last week I returned to Gooseberry Hill Primary School to celebrate the successes and achievements of the year 6/7 graduating class. It was particularly meaningful to return to Gooseberry Hill Primary where I was an inaugural student in the school's founding year.

A huge congratulations to the class of 2014!

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