

Remembrance Day speech

Good morning everybody, I'm Natalie Bradford and with me is Harley Heywood and today we come together to commemorate a very important day.

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 marks the moment in which the horrific battle of World War 1 came to an end after 4 years and 106 days of fighting. Millions of lives were lost due to this devastating war, 60,000 of whom were Australian, many more were wounded or left with permanent physiological damage. Now days November 11th is known as Remembrance Day or Armistice Day, it is a day where we can take time to remember the men and women who fought and served for their country not only in World War 1 but in all battles and conflicts. It is a day to commemorate those who were willing to risk their lives to fight for their country not knowing what might happen.

Remembrance Day to me, has always carried a large significance in my life and has affected my upbringing very greatly. It is a day where I can remember my grandfathers and other relatives who have served for their country. During the minute of silence I remember all who served and protected our country not only being my family but all those who stood alongside them. Today is a day that I can commemorate veterans and their sacrifices, today I also try and celebrate the lives of my relatives who fought for their country keeping all of us back home in their thoughts, as they will forever be in ours. Being born into a family of service men and women, I have learnt a great deal of appreciation for the fallen veterans and all who have served in the armed forces. I feel today should be a respected day as the soldiers went through so much so you and I as the next generations could live without fear and have a free life, and that is why today means so much to me.

Remembrance Day to me is a day that I can remember my great-great grandfather who fought in ww1 at the battle of Lihons. In the moment of silence, I take the time to remember his journey and the hardship he went through for his country. I try to put myself in his shoes to really understand the part he played in the successful battle. I feel it is important that we don't forget about soldiers who went overseas to fight for their country and their loved ones as they are the reason we can stand here today in a free country. We remember those who volunteered, sacrificed, severed, fought, and died, for our freedom. It is especially important that we continue to remember and commentate the veterans into the future and make sure that they aren't forgotten as they gave up a lot and lost a lot for their nation. It is not just the soldiers that should be remembered today but all of the nurses who aided the soldiers at the wars and other individuals who stayed at the home-front as they also played a substantial role in Australia's military history.

Remembrance Day to you and I would mean the same. It is a day to bow our heads in silence as a sign of respect for the men and women who sacrificed their lives for their countries. Remembrance Day can be thought of in many different ways, it can be a day where you take time to commemorate all the lives lost during war or it could be a day to celebrate the coming home of all men and women after the many wars. It is a day in which we can all remember the reason as to why we can live in a free country. Today we remember all those who endured suffering and loss for our generation and generations to come. On this very day the sacrifices, suffering and trauma was supposed to come to an end, but that is a burden they carried with them always, and that I believe was the biggest sacrifice of all. Today is a day in which we can remember. And we will remember them, lest we forget.