



Department of
Education and Training

Media Statement

1/5/09

Eastern suburbs students returns from the Western Front

Three students from Ballajura and Beechboro have returned from a once-in-a-lifetime trip to the Western Front in France and Belgium, as part of the 2009 Premier's ANZAC Student Tour.

The trio was part of a group of 12 from across the State who won a place on the history tour, which culminated with ANZAC commemorations at Ieper and Zonnebeke in Belgium.

Ballajura Community College students Kathryn Wilson, Year 12, and Chelsea Moran, Year 9, and Beechboro resident Marissa Barbaro, who attends Year 12 at Mount Lawley Senior High School, were all selected for the tour.

The tour group's ANZAC commemorations began a day early on April 24 when students formed an honour guard and laid a wreath at the nightly Last Post service at Menin Gate in Ieper, joined by Western Australian Agent General Kerry Sanderson.

The highlights continued on ANZAC Day with a dawn service at Polygon Wood, followed by the opening of a new exhibition at the Zonnebeke Museum, a special morning Last Post service at Menin Gate and speeches at the Ieper Town Hall.

Kathryn spoke at the Ieper Town Hall during the commemorations, representing the youth of Australia.

Throughout the tour, the students also visited key landmarks, memorials and battlefields on the First World War Western Front, including Pozieres, Villers-Bretonneux, Fromelles, Pheasant Wood, Thiepval and Le Hamel.

Applications for the 2010 ANZAC Student Tour are open now and close on 14 August 2009. Secondary school students from Years 8 to 11 throughout WA are encouraged to apply.

For more information visit the Department of Education and Training Premier's ANZAC Student Tour website at www.det.wa.edu.au/ANZAC.

(ENDS)

Note: interviews with and photographs of Kathryn, Chelsea and Marissa are available.

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