

Εκδήλωση για την Ημέρα Μνήμη της Γενοκτονίας των Αρμενίων στο Σίδνεϊ

Τη Κυριακή 24 Απριλίου 2016, τιμήθηκε η 101η επέτειος της Γενοκτονίας των Αρμενίων στο βόρειο Σίδνεϊ, παρουσία τριών Ομοσπονδιακών βουλευτών (John Alexander MP, Trent Zimmerman MP, Senator Leigh Rhiannon), πέντε πολιτειακών (Treasurer Gladys Berejiklian, Courtney Houssos MLC, Jonathan O'Dea MP, Clarke MLC, Rev Fred Nile MLC), δύο Γενικών Προξένων (Ελλάδος και Ρωσίας), πλήθος δημοτικών συμβούλων, ανυποσώπων της Ασσυριακής, Εβραϊκής και της Ελληνικής ομογένειας και πλήθους κόσμου. Μεταξύ άλλων, η «φιλέλληνη» όπως χαρακτήρισε τον εαυτό της κα. Χούσσου δήλωσε ενώπιον ακροατηρίου των άνω των 1.000 ατόμων, ότι «οι πολιτικές εθνοκάθαρσης και γενοκτονίας των Οθωμανικών και Τουρκικών κυβερνήσεων είχαν θύματα τόσο ανάμεσα στους γηγενείς Έλληνες και Ασσύριους της Ανατολίας, όσο και στους γηγενείς Αρμένιους.» Το παρών έδωσαν, επίσης, οι Δρ Παναγιώτης Διαμάντης (γενοκτολόγος και πολιτειακός γραμματέας της ΑΧΕΠΑ ΝΝΟ) και ο κ. Παναγιώτης Σουλελές (Παναρκαδικός Σύλλογος ΝΝΟ).

Η ομιλία της βουλευτού Courtney Houssos:

Thank you for the opportunity to be here tonight. It's a real honour this evening to be joining with you all in commemorating the 101st anniversary of the Armenian Genocide on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition. I think it is important to note that we meet



on the eve of ANZAC Day. Tomorrow, we will remember those men and women who have served our country, many of whom made the ultimate sacrifice, including across the lands of the Middle East where so many of you here tonight hail from.

I, along with my parliamentary colleagues, have spent much of this week commemorating the sacrifice and loss of the innocent victims of war - some of whom are sadly forgotten in too many aspects of our day-to-day life.

I believe tonight is another occasion to remember the innocent victims of war - it is a very special occasion to remember the particular tragedy of the genocide perpetrated against the indigenous Armenian people of Anatolia.

We know that as those first ANZACs prepared to land on the shores of Gallipoli, many of the leaders of the Armenian people (the doctors and lawyers, the journalists, priests and politicians) were rounded up and

arrested by Ottoman authorities.

Under the cover of world war, they took the opportunity to commit a genocide against an intellectual and cultural people.

We should be as clear as the resolutions of the NSW Parliament - these were not civilian victims caught in the crossfire of the war that raged around them. They were the considered victims of a genocide which occurred while the world's attention was elsewhere.

The genocide and ethnic cleansing policies of the Ottoman and Turkish governments were also directed towards the indigenous Greeks and the Assyrians. I am married to a Greek, and consider myself am a philhellene. I understand how important it is to recognise plainly the atrocities committed.

In this, I should pay tribute to Dr Panayiotis Diamadis, (who is present here this evening), whose research plays such an important role in the efforts to recognise these genocides for what they were - showing how it was reported,

at the time, in the Australian media and by many of those Anzacs serving in the armed forces.

Indeed, the Parliament of NSW has, for 19 years, been steadfast in its recognition of the suffering of the Armenian people. It was Premier Bob Carr, who initiated this, unveiling the historic memorial at the Parliament to the Armenian genocide.

Just as Anzac Day serves as a solemn reminder to the entire Australian community about the tragedy of war and conflict, so is 24 April an opportunity to remember and reflect on those dark chapters of Armenian history which some are too keen to forget, or fail to recognise at all.

On behalf of the NSW Opposition Leader, the Hon. Luke Foley MP, and all of my parliamentary colleagues, I pay tribute to the Armenian Genocide Commemorative Committee, whose tireless work arranging this event is to be recognised and thoroughly commended.

I pay tribute to everyone present here tonight for your commitment to never let the Armenian genocide be forgotten.

Lest We Forget



Mothers Day @ C-Side

Sunday 8th May 2016

110 General Holmes Drive
Cook Park Kyeemagh NSW 2216
Ph: 9567 9122

\$ 65.00 per person

On the table:

Greek Salad, Tarama, Tzatziki

Seafood Buffet:

- Fresh Oysters
- Fresh Prawns
- Fresh Crabs
- Smoked Salmon
- BBQ Octopus
- Calamari
- Fish Cocktails
- Souvlakia Lamb & Chicken
- Seafood Salad
- Oven Roasted Potatoes
- Fried Rice

