

LETTERS to The Editor for Thursday - March 29 2012

<http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/ipad/letters-for-their-sake-well-not-go-quietly-on-anzac-day/story-fn6br25t-1226312945180>

For their sake, we'll not go quietly on Anzac Day

I know what it cost

I AM an Australian, have always been one and am proud of it. I value just what it has cost to have all the benefits and freedoms we have in this lucky country.

To any youngster (or adult) reading this, please just wonder what you would have said had you been asked to help your country - your mother country - to save it from a bully, a murdering dictator in Europe or Asia.

Yes, I had to make that decision and I volunteered to fight for my country. And because of many things - including the loss of my brother, my cousin, my neighbour who joined up with me (I alone came home) - I know just what our freedoms of today cost and who paid the cost.

We are free to speak, to act, to do, to work, to play, to educate and have a religion of our choice.

Yes, I offered my five years and spent 1200 hours flying (400 exposed to the enemy). I survived, while thousands did not.

And to all our new Australians who come by boat or plane, just remember why you chose Australia to come to and help us to keep it that way.

I hope the Government will inform, educate, teach all those new arrivals of all ages what a great free country we have and just what a legacy they have received.

Expect the 90 and 80-year-olds to know but remind those in their 60s and inform those in their 30s and 20s before they express an opinion, for they mostly will not know nor think about it.

Use Remembrance Day and Anzac Day to think about and thank those who gave us this legacy and try to maintain that gratitude until the next generation comes along.

Yes, share with me this gratitude. Lest we forget.

LYNE SKINNER, Beaumont.