




Speech By
Verity Barton

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 1 December 2016

MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

Hewitt, Mr WD

 **Miss BARTON** (Broadwater—LNP) (10.06 am): In the late 1960s and the early 1970s my grandfather, Clive Hughes, had the pleasure of serving in this House with Bill Hewitt. They soon became firm friends. Along with some other Liberals, they were members of the ginger group, to which the Leader of the Opposition referred earlier. Together, on occasion they took advantage of the right that Liberal members of parliament had to cross the floor. On one particularly memorable occasion, my grandfather and Bill Hewitt took the opportunity to cross the floor against some very controversial legislation that the Bjelke-Petersen government had introduced, much to the very unparliamentary consternation of the late Russ Hinze.

On many occasions I had the great privilege to meet Bill when I would join my grandfather at former members' events and occasions. I was always struck by how much of a gentleman he was. Bill particularly acknowledged that my grandfather would have been very proud of the fact that I, too, went on to join the Liberal Party and followed in his footsteps into parliament.

My family has asked that I speak today on their behalf to acknowledge Bill's contribution not only to this House but also to his community. On behalf of my family, I pay tribute to Bill's family and acknowledge Bill's great contribution and service. May he rest in peace.