



## Family Members in the Parliament of Western Australia

*The new member for Belmont, Cassie Rowe, and her sister Samantha, who sits in the Legislative Council*

Picture: Nic Ellis. Courtesy of West Australian, 14 March 2017, p. 5.



## Family Members in the Parliament of Western Australia

### **Fathers and sons who have served together in the Parliament of Western Australian**

George Walpole Leake (Nominated MLC 1874–1875; 1879–1881; 1883 and 1890–1894) and his son, George Leake (MLC 1886 and 1888; MLA Roebourne 1890; MLA Albany 1894–1900 and MLA West Perth 1901–1902) were both members of the Parliament of Western Australia although in different Houses from 24 December 1890, until George Walpole Leake resigned in 1894.

Harry Thomas May (MLA Collie 1947–1968) and his son, Donald George May (MLA Canning 1962–1965 and MLA Clontarf 1968–1977) both sat in the Legislative Assembly during Donald's term in the Legislative Assembly from March 1962 until his defeat in February 1965.

Reginald John Tubby (MLA Greenough 1975–1989) and his son, Frederick Charles Tubby (MLA Dale 1988–1989 and MLA Roleystone 1989–2001) both sat in the Legislative Assembly after Frederick was elected in May 1988, until RJ Tubby retired in February 1989.

Sir Edward Horne Wittenoom (MLC Geraldton 1883–1884 and 1885–1886; MLC Central Province 1894–1898; MLC North Province 1902–1906 and 1910–1934) and his son, Charles Horne Wittenoom (MLC South East Province 1928–1940) both sat in the Legislative Council, after Charles was elected in May 1928, until Sir Edward retired in May 1934.

### **Fathers and sons who both served as ministers in the Parliament of Western Australia**

Charles Farquharson Baxter (MLC East Province 1914–1950), Minister June 1917–April 1921 and April 1930–April 1933 and Norman Eric Baxter (MLC Central Province 1950–1958 and 1960–1983), Minister April 1974–March 1977

Sir Charles Walter Michael Court (MLA Nedlands 1953–1982), Minister April 1959–March 1971 and April 1974–January 1982 and Richard Fairfax Court (MLA Nedlands 1982–2001), Minister February 1993–February 2001

Barrington Clarke Wood (MLA West Perth 1894–1901), Minister September 1900–May 1901 and Garnet Barrington Wood (MLC East Province and MLC Central Province 1936–1952), Minister April 1947–January 1952

### **Fathers and sons who both served as premiers of Western Australia**

Sir Charles Walter Michael Court (MLA Nedlands 1953–1982), Premier 1974–1982 and Richard Fairfax Court (MLA Nedlands 1982–2001), Premier 1993–2001 are the only father and son to have both served as premier of Western Australia.

## Family Members in the Parliament of Western Australia

### **Fathers and sons (other than those listed previously) who have served in the Parliament of Western Australia since 1890 but not simultaneously**

Nicholas Mark Catania (MLA Balcatta 1989–1996) and Vincent Alexander Catania (MLC Mining and Pastoral 2005–2008 and MLA North West 2008–)

James Cornell (MLC South Province 1912–1946) and George Meredith Cornell (MLA Avon 1947–1950 and MLA Mt Marshall 1950–1967)

David Peter Dellar (MLC North-East Province 1963–1965) and Stanley James Dellar (MLC Lower North Province 1971–1977). Stanley is also uncle of Melissa Price, Member for Durack.

David Forrest (MLA Ashburton 1900–1901) and Robert Mervyn Forrest (MLC North Province 1946–1952)

Andrew Harriot Henning (MLC North-East Province 1897–1898) and Charles Harriot Henning (MLC South-West Province 1951–1955)

Edward Charles House (MLC South Province 1965–1971) and Montague Grant House (MLA Katanning-Roe 1986-1989 and MLA Stirling 1989-2005)

Edward McLarty (MLC South-West Province 1894–1916) and Duncan Ross McLarty (MLA Murray-Wellington 1930–1950 and MLA Murray 1950–1962)

John Henry Monger (MLC York 1890–1892) and Frederick Charles Monger (MLA York 1892–1899; 1899–1903 and 1905–1914)

Cambell Crawford Nalder (MLA Narrogin 1986–1987) and Dean Cambell Nalder (MLA Alfred Cove 2013–2017 and MLA Bateman 2017–)

Sir Crawford David Nalder (MLA Wagin 1947–1950 and MLA Katanning 1950–1974) and Cambell Crawford Nalder (MLA Narrogin 1986–1987)

Everard McDonnell O'Brien (MLA Murchison 1952–1959) and Simon McDonnell O'Brien (MLC South Metropolitan Region 1997–)

William Patrick Sr (MLC Central Province 1904–1916) and William Patrick Jr (MLA Greenough 1930–1943)

Frederick Henry Piesse (MLA Williams 1890–1909) and Harold Vivian Piesse (MLC South-East Province 1932–1944)

John Bell Read (MLA Mandurah 1983–1989) and Keith John Read (MLA Murray 1989–1993)

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### **Fathers and sons (other than those listed previously) who have served in the Parliament of Western Australia since 1890 but not simultaneously**

Francis Edward Sykes Willmott (MLA Nelson 1914–1921 and MLC South-West Province 1921–1926) and Francis Drake Willmott (MLC South-West Province 1955–1974)

Barrington C Wood (MLA West Perth 1894–1901 and MLC Metropolitan-Suburban Province 1902–1903) and Garnet Barrington Wood (MLC East Province 1936–1950 and MLC Central Province 1950–1952)

### **Fathers and daughters who have served in the Parliament of Western Australia since 1890 but not simultaneously**

Dexter Melvyn Davies (MLC Agricultural Region 1998–2001) and Mia Jane Davies (MLC Agricultural 2009–2013 and then MLA Central Wheatbelt 2013–)

Anthony (Tony) O’Gorman (MLA Joondalup 2001–2013) and Jessica Mary Christine Stojkovski (MLA Kingsley 2017–)

Richard John L Williams (MLC Metropolitan Province 1971–1989) and Elizabeth Lloyd Behjat (MLC North Metropolitan Region 2009–2017)

### **Three generations of families who have served in the Parliament of Western Australia since 1890**

Three generations of Nalders have served in the Legislative Assembly of Western Australia including Sir Crawford David Nalder (MLA Wagin 1947–1974 and MLA Katanning 1950–1974), his son, Cambell Crawford Nalder (MLA Narrogin 1986–1987), and his grandson, current MP Dean Cambell Nalder (MLA Alfred Cove 2013–2017 and MLA Bateman 2017–).

### **Brothers or sisters who have served together in the Parliament of Western Australia from 1890**

#### **Four Brothers**

Arnold Edmund Piesse (MLA Katanning 1909–1914 and 1930–1935) served in the Legislative Assembly with his brother, Alfred Napoleon Piesse (MLA Toodyay 1911–1924) following Alfred's election in October 1911 until Arnold's retirement in October 1914. The third brother, Charles Austin Piesse (MLC South East Province 1894–1914) was a member of the Upper House until his death in July 1914. Charles' daughter-in-law, Winifred Margaret Piesse (MLC Lower Central Province 1977–1983) was also a member of the Legislative Council. The fourth brother, Frederick Henry Piesse (MLA Williams 1890–1904 and Katanning 1904–1909) was in Parliament (though in a different House) at the same time as Charles, after his election in July 1894, until his resignation in October 1909.

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### Three brothers

Brothers John Forrest (MLA Bunbury 1890–1901) and Alexander Forrest (MLA Kimberley 1890–1901) served together in the Legislative Assembly from the commencement of the first Parliament in December 1890 until John's resignation in March 1901. The third brother, David Forrest (MLA for Ashburton 1900–1901) served with John and Alexander until John's resignation in 1901 and then with Alexander until he retired at the April 1901 election.

### Two Brothers

Terence (Terry) Joseph Burke (MLA Perth 1968–1987) and his brother Brian Thomas Burke (MLA Balcatta 1973–1974 and MLA Balga 1974–1988) served together in the Legislative Assembly after Brian's election in July 1973, until Terry retired in February 1987.

Charles Edward Dempster (MLC East Province 1894–1907) and his brother Andrew Dempster (MLC East Province 1903–1904) were both members of the Legislative Council after Andrew was elected in May 1903, until his defeat in May 1904.

Albert Young Hassell (MLA Plantagenet 1890–1904) and his brother John Frederick Tasman Hassell (Nominated MLC 1893–1894 and MLA Albany 1900–1904) served from August 1893 in different houses until John's retirement in July 1894. Both served in the Legislative Assembly after John's election in August 1900, until his retirement in April 1901.

James Hegney (MLA Middle Swan 1930–1947 and 1950–1961; and MLA Belmont 1962–1968) sat in the Legislative Assembly at the same time as William Hegney (MLA Pilbara 1939–1950 and MLA Mt Hawthorn 1950–1968) after William's election in March 1939, until James's defeat in March 1947. They served together again when James was re-elected in March 1950. Both retired in March 1968. Twenty six years is the longest time that two brothers have served together in the Parliament of Western Australia.

Edward McLarty (MLC South West Province 1894–1916) and John Pollard McLarty (MLA Murray 1904–1909) served simultaneously in different houses after John's election in June 1904, until his death in January 1909.

Henry Kennedy Maley (MLA Greenough 1917–1924 and MLA Irwin 1929–1930) and Charles Crowther Maley (MLA Irwin 1921–1929) were both members of the Legislative Assembly following Charles' election in March 1921, until Henry's defeat in March 1924. Henry re-entered Parliament in 1929 at the by-election caused by the death of Charles.

Alexander Robert Richardson (MLA De Grey 1890–1897) and his brother John Elliot Richardson (MLC North Province 1894–1904) were in Parliament at the same time after John's election in July 1894, until Alexander retired in April 1897.

## Family Members in the Parliament of Western Australia

### **Two Brothers continued**

Robert Thomas Robinson (MLA Canning 1914–1921) served in the Legislative Assembly with Herbert Robinson (MLA Albany 1917–1919) after Herbert's election in September 1917, until his death in May 1919.

Horace William Sholl (MLA Roebourne 1891–1901) and Robert Frederick Sholl (MLA Gascoyne 1890–1897 and MLC North Province 1904–1909) were both members of the Legislative Assembly after Horace's election in January 1891, until Robert's retirement in April 1897.

Charles Prangle Wansbrough (MLA Beverley 1914–1917 and 1924–1930) served in the Legislative Assembly with Arthur William Wansbrough (MLA Albany 1924–1936) after Arthur's election and Charles' re-election in March 1924 until the latter's defeat in April 1930. Charles represented the Country Party while Arthur was a member of the ALP.

### **Two Sisters**

Samantha Rowe (MLC East Metropolitan Region 2013–) and Cassandra Rowe (MLA Belmont 2017–) are serving simultaneously in different houses since Cassandra's election in March 2017. The Rowe sisters are the first sisters to serve in an Australian parliament. The sisters' father, Barry Rowe held the seat of Essendon in the Victorian Parliament from 1979 to 1992.

### **Brothers who have served in the Parliament of Western Australia since 1890 but not simultaneously**

Harry Edward Bolton (MLA North Fremantle 1904–1917) and Leonard Burlington Bolton (MLC Metropolitan Province 1932–1948)

Everard Firebrace Darlot (MLA Murchison 1890–1894) and Leonard Hawthorne Darlot (MLA De Grey 1900–1901)

Edward William Davies (MLC West Province 1894–1896) and Arthur Elvin Davies (MLA South Fremantle 1906–1911)

### **Husbands and wives who have served in the Parliament of Western Australia**

Jonathan Robert Ford (MLC Mining and Pastoral Region 22 May 2001–21 May 2013) and Sally Elizabeth Talbot (MLC South West Region 22 May 2005–) were married on 19 February 2011, both while serving in the Legislative Council. Jon finished his term in Parliament on 21 May 2013 but Sally is still a current member of the Legislative Council.

Joseph Peter Gardiner (MLA Roebourne 1911–1915) and Mary (May) Alice Holman (MLA Forrest 1925–1939) were married in 1914 but the marriage was dissolved in 1920.

William (Bill) Joseph Johnston (MLA Cannington 2008–) and Catherine (Kate) Esther Doust (MLC South Metropolitan Region 2001–) were married on 14 January 1995. Kate has been a Member of the Legislative Council since 22 May 2001 whilst Bill has been a Member of the Legislative Assembly since 6 September 2008.

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## **Husbands and wives who have served in the Parliament of Western Australia continued**

Frederick Richard Hugh Lavery (MLC West Province 1952–1965 and MLC South Metropolitan Province 1965–1971) and Ruby Florence Hutchison (nee Herbert) (MLC Suburban Province 1954–1965 and MLC North-East Metropolitan Province 1965–1971) were married on 14 May 1966 (his second marriage and her third) while both serving in the Legislative Council. They were the first husband and wife to serve together in any Australian parliament. Frederick died in January 1971, a few months before Ruby retired from Parliament in May 1971.

## Sources

Black, David (ed), *The Western Australian Parliamentary Handbook 23rd edition*, Western Australian Parliamentary History Project, Perth, WA, 2014.

Ellis, Nic, “The new member for Belmont, Cassie Rowe, and her sister Samantha, who sits in the Legislative Council”, [photograph] *West Australian*, 14 March 2017, p. 5.