

Former Liberal senator Guy Barnett champing at the bit

BRUCE MOUNSTER, March 16, 2014 12:26AM



Guy Barnett, centre, celebrates with his family, Alice, mum Sally Ferrall, wife Kate, Nina and Ben while being surrounded by supporters at Perth. *Source: News Limited*

LYONS and Liberal candidate Guy Barnett had one message last night as the celebrations got under way at his Perth campaign headquarters: "It's good to be back."

Mr Barnett recalled standing on a table with wife Kate by his side on the night of the August 2010 federal election, as he conceded to a melancholy crowd that he had lost his Senate seat.

He said that had been a low point in his career.

"Life has its ups and downs," Mrs Barnett said.

"Guy has been determined — to have a positive outlook."

Mr Bartlett said he was feeling re-energised in the wake of a gruelling, hard-fought campaign during which he and Liberal incumbents Rene Hidding and Mark Shelton, plus Labor's Rebecca White, were the standout performers.

At 9pm, as Premier Lara Giddings conceded defeat, it appeared that Labor's David Llewellyn and the Greens' Tim Morris could be locked in a battle for the final seat.

Mr Barnett said a united campaign had been the key to the Liberals' success.

He thanked his wife, daughters Nina, 19, and Alice, 18, and son Ben, 14, along with his campaign team.

Mr Barnett said he was excited about serving in a majority Liberal Government.

“I will be advocating for those who are doing it tough. Many who can look forward to a better personal and economic future,” he said.

One of Tasmania’s most flamboyant politicians, Glamorgan Spring Bay Mayor Bertrand Cadart, was last night trailing the Liberal field after an experimental campaign which had focused on social media rather than conventional practices such as road signs and leaflets.

“Signs by the road were good in the 19th century but a bit passe in the 21st century, wouldn’t you think?” Cr Cadart said.

“There’s a fine line between celebration and commiseration ... the both begin with C,” he said.

See the online story [here](#).