



City of **HOBART**

MEDIA RELEASE

20 April 2017

2017 ANZAC Day Parade

The Lord Mayor of Hobart, Alderman Sue Hickey said ANZAC Day is a highly-significant day in the Australian calendar.

“ANZAC Day is a time for reflection, thankfulness and remembrance, and this year marks the 102nd anniversary of the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli.

“During the Centenary of World War 1 in Hobart we will remember not only the original ANZACs who served at Gallipoli and the Western Front, but commemorate more than a century of service by Australian servicemen and women,” Ald Hickey said.

The Chairman of the RSL (Tasmania) Hobart ANZAC Day Commemorative Committee, Mr Terry Roe said: “This year we have three significant activities that we are recognising.”

“Firstly, the 100th anniversary of the following significant WW 1 battles:

- Battle of Bullecourt – 11 April 1917
- Battle of Polygon Wood – 20 September 1917
- Battle of Passchendaele – 12 October 1917
- Battle of Beersheba – 31 October 1917

“This year also marks the 70th anniversary of the Australian Defence Force being involved in peacekeeping operations, when in 1947 when four Australians being the world’s first United Nations peacekeepers, were deployed to the first UN peacekeeping mission - the United Nations Good Offices Commission to Indonesia (UNGOC).

“Since UNGOC, the Australian Defence Force has been extensively involved in both United Nations and multinational peacekeeping and peacemaking operations.

“More recently, the ADF has seen operations on INTERFET in 1999 / 2000 which was the largest deployment of Australian Troops since the second World War and since 11 September 2001, thousands of Australian Defence Force personnel have been deployed in international campaigns against terrorism operating in the Middle East, Afghanistan and South West Asia.

“Australian services personnel continue to demonstrate outstanding capabilities in these often dangerous and hostile foreign environments,” said Mr Roe.

“Finally, we will have some members from the Timor Leste Defence Force along with students from Papua and New Guinea, participating in our ANZAC day march and clearly, we have a long military association with both these countries,” Mr Roe said.

The Lord Mayor urged all members of the community to support the ANZAC spirit in 2017 and be involved in the national day of commemoration.

“The annual Hobart Parade, organised by the RSL (Tasmania) Hobart ANZAC Day Commemorative Committee, will feature many different contingents forming up in Macquarie Street.

“More than 1000 people will march in the Parade including, Veterans and their families, Australian Defence Force contingents, Service Cadets and Community Groups,” said Ald Hickey.

The Parade will start at 11am and will proceed past the Hobart Town Hall where the Governor, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC will take the Salute from the official dais. The parade will then continue down Macquarie Street and on to the Cenotaph.

If severe inclement weather should force the cancellation of the Parade and Cenotaph service, the wet weather plan will be implemented; the decision to switch to the wet weather plan will be made on the morning and will be widely disseminated.

Other ANZAC Day events:

Hobart Dawn Service: 6am at the Cenotaph on the Queens Domain

Main Commemorative Service: 11.40am at the Cenotaph on the Queens Domain

Important note for media:

Cameramen and photographers are asked to acknowledge the protocol of the Parade and commemorations, paying due respect to the Governor by not intruding into the area in front of the dais at both the Hobart Town Hall and the Cenotaph.

ENDS

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