

RSL WODEN VALLEY SUB-BRANCH ENEWS



October 2020

Government House Investiture Ceremony on 15 September 20.

The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia His Excellency
General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC and Peter Eveille, AM



Photos above : His Excellency David Hurley and Peter Eveille.

Peter Eveille, AM

After a long career as a volunteer, advocate and welfare supporter of the RSL, DFWA, VVFA and Legacy, including a stint as RSL ACT President and influencer at RSL National, we were delighted to see Peter Eveille be appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia in the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

75th Anniversary end of the Second World War

Australia Remembers 2020

`A grateful nation expresses its sincere thanks to **TERRI LESSELS
for her service and contribution to the war effort and to the freedom of nations`**

1939-1945 Australia Remembers



Photos above from left: Peter Eveille, Terri Lessels, Lenche Kazan, Peter Sutton, Bill Smith, Rania Kalimeris, Anthony John, Mick O'Donnell, Alex Solecka, Peter Eveille, Bob Cremer.

Jeremy HANSON MLA

Member for Murrumbidgee



Jim Gilchrist
RSL Woden Valley Sub-Branch

president@rslwoden.org.au

Dear Jim,

The Canberra Liberals want to make Canberra the best place to live, work and raise a family.

The Canberra Liberals recognise the unique nature of military service and the sacrifice that many veterans and their families have made and continue to make for our nation.

We have consistently advocated for better recognition of veterans in our community, including the creation of the Veteran's Affairs portfolio in the ACT which was an initiative of the Canberra Liberals announced in 2009 and finally adopted by Labor in 2016. The government also adopted the Canberra Liberals' initiatives to establish a Veterans Advisory Council and provide specific grants for veterans.

While we welcome the government adopting our policies there is always more that can be done. This election, the Canberra Liberals are committing to provide an additional \$400,000 in additional grants for Ex-Service Organisations. These grants will provide for Ex-Service Organisations as they conduct commemorative activities and support the ongoing welfare of veterans and their families in our city.

The Canberra Liberals will continue to take the lead in honouring and supporting the thousands of veterans who live in our city.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeremy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter 'y'.

Jeremy Hanson CSC MLA
Liberal Member for Murrumbidgee
Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs

GORDON RAMSAY

Labor Member for Ginninderra

gordon.ramsay@actlabor.org.au

www.gordonramsay.com.au

0476 658 357



Labor^{ACT}



Jim Gilchrist
President, RSL Woden Sub-Branch

president@rslwoden.org.au

Dear Mr Gilchrist

I am writing to you ahead of the ACT election to let you and your members know about what ACT Labor has committed to over the next term of Government, should we be re-elected.

Military service involves risk and sacrifice. In recognition of this service, ACT Labor believes in supporting veterans, now and into the future. In doing so, we honour their significant contribution and demonstrate that we continue to value them.

ACT Labor affirms veterans are a diverse group with varying needs based on their experiences, ages and personal circumstances. We will tailor support to the individual as much as is practical. Labor recognises those who have served in the Australian Defence Force have gained many skills and have a high level of training. Veterans can face challenges explaining the skills and training gained in the defence force to civilian employers and Labor will work to help bridge that gap.

ACT Labor also believes that one veteran who takes their life is one too many. We will offer the leadership, compassion and resources to address this complex issue. This is why ACT Labor has, while in Government, commenced a feasibility study into creating a Veterans' Digital Mental Health and Research Hub here in Canberra. This hub will help draw resources to Canberra to increase the number of psychologists and psychiatrists who provide services to veterans here in this city. It will also provide mental health services, through telehealth to those in Canberra, the surrounding region and throughout Australia.

In addition to this, the Hub will also create a dedicated research centre to better inform our understanding of the veteran population, both in Canberra and across Australia, as well as how services can be best delivered to the veteran community. Labor will continue to pursue the creation of this hub in Canberra to provide better supports to the Veteran Community in our city.

ACT Labor wants to make both the public and private sectors in Canberra a model for the attraction, training and retention of veterans in employment. Earlier in 2020, I launched the ACT Veterans Employment Strategy this year, following on from our Public Service Employment Strategy winning the 2020 Prime Minister's Veterans Employment Awards for Veterans' Employer of the Year - Public Sector Organisation.

The new Employment Strategy covers both the private and public sector and aims to help those who have or are transitioning out of the ADF to find meaningful work, where they would like to. This also extends to the partners of veterans to ensure as ADF Members move around on postings and deployments, and when transition into post service life, the partners of veterans are aided in finding meaningful employment. I have attached a copy of this strategy for your information.

To further aid veterans and their families to find meaningful employment in the civilian sector, ACT Labor has also committed to running 3 Veterans Connect events each year, in conjunction with the ADF Transition Seminars. These events will be open to current and former ADF members and their families. This program was piloted by ACT Labor in Government, and involved matching current and former ADF Members, with private sector employers in the ACT. As part of this, all employers were required to have actual vacancies on the table to attend the event and analysis was done prior to the event to match the skills, abilities and desires of the veterans to the jobs on offer. Coaching on interview preparation and pitching was provided to all participants and mentors available on the day to provide support. A number of veterans walked away from this event with not only enhanced skills to pursue jobs in civilian life, but also a number received permanent employment as a result of the event.

ACT Labor believes families are our greatest asset with regards to supporting both current and ex-serving defence personnel. Defence family life presents a series of unique challenges and stressors for loved ones. The critical role families play in supporting our current and ex-serving defence personnel must be recognised and appropriate support provided.

ACT Labor has committed to the creation of specific Australian Schools Based Apprenticeship places for family members of current or former serving members of the ADF. This will allow the student to complete a certificate II or III course, while completing their year 11 or 12 studies, to increase their qualifications while completing their senior studies. It will also provide work in the ACTPS to as part of the program work experience and on the job skills these family members of veterans.

In addition to this, ACT Labor has committed to develop a Whole of Government Veterans Strategy. This will cover all areas of Government, including health, community services, education and other areas of Government. This will help ensure we are using all arms of Government to ensure support for the Veteran Community.

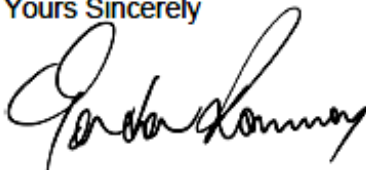
These commitments will continue to build on the work ACT Labor has and is doing for the Veteran Community. This includes:

- creating a dedicated grant rounds for organisations that support veterans, including Ex-Service Organisation and other community groups, such as those providing veterans programs in areas such as sport, the arts, nutrition and mental health. I have doubled the size of this grant round this term of Government;
- increasing the recognition of veterans at ACT government events, including Veterans Day at Floriade and Veterans Community Day. We have set aside money to continue this work and continue to increase the number of events with veterans components and to promote veterans participation;
- a veterans and their families mentoring program for those in the ACT Public Service;
- creation of a dedicated position within the ACT Public Service (ACTPS) to help veterans identify jobs in the ACTPS which they may be suitable for and help them apply, as well as an employment register so veterans can be sent suitable vacancies which match their skillsets;
- appointing Veterans Employment Champions to advise me on how to best support the transition of veterans into employment;
- provide personalised assistance at ADF Transition Seminars to individuals interested in applying for ACTPS jobs. The primary focus of this assistance relates to the translation of skills to match ACTPS positions and addressing selection criteria/preparing job pitches;
- creating a veterans transition guide to help veterans prepare for employment outside the defence force; and
- launched the www.act.gov.au/veterans portal, which is a growing resource of information for the veterans community in the act.

The commitments above are not an exhaustive list of the ways ACT Labor would seek to support the veterans community in Canberra. If Labor is returned to Government and I have the honour of continuing to be the Veterans Minister, I will continue to seek advice from the veterans community and veterans organisations on how to ensure Canberra is a veteran friendly town and what more we can do to continue to enhance the services and supports to the veteran community and their families. I will continue to work with my Ministerial Advisory Council on Veterans and their Families to develop programs, trial new ideas and continue to grow the Veterans Portfolio in the ACT.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you would like to discuss any of this further and I would be very happy to provide more information to you and your members.

Yours Sincerely



Gordon Ramsay

1/10/20



Air Force 100 – Centenary of Air Force

On 31 March 2021, the Royal Australian Air Force will mark 100 years as an independent service. This is an important time to reflect on our enduring contribution to Australia's national security.

In 2021, Air Force will reach out to the Australian nation with an exciting program of selected events and initiatives. There will be a specific focus on youth engagement. Our campaign will:

- honour the service and sacrifices of our people during the last 100 years,
- engage the Australian community and demonstrate today's highly capable force, and
- inspire young Australians to consider the range of opportunities in a future networked force.

Planning for the centenary is gathering pace. To coincide with the Avalon 2019 Australian International Airshow, we released our first Centenary video which highlights our enduring support to the nation: Then. Now. Always.

What's next?

Our next steps in planning for 2021 will be to:

- explore options for Youth engagement activities,
- continue discussions with Defence industry on potential partnerships for initiatives,
- meet State and Territory Government tourism and major events agencies to discuss options for Air Force involvement in significant public events during 2021, and
- develop options for local activities at RAAF bases.

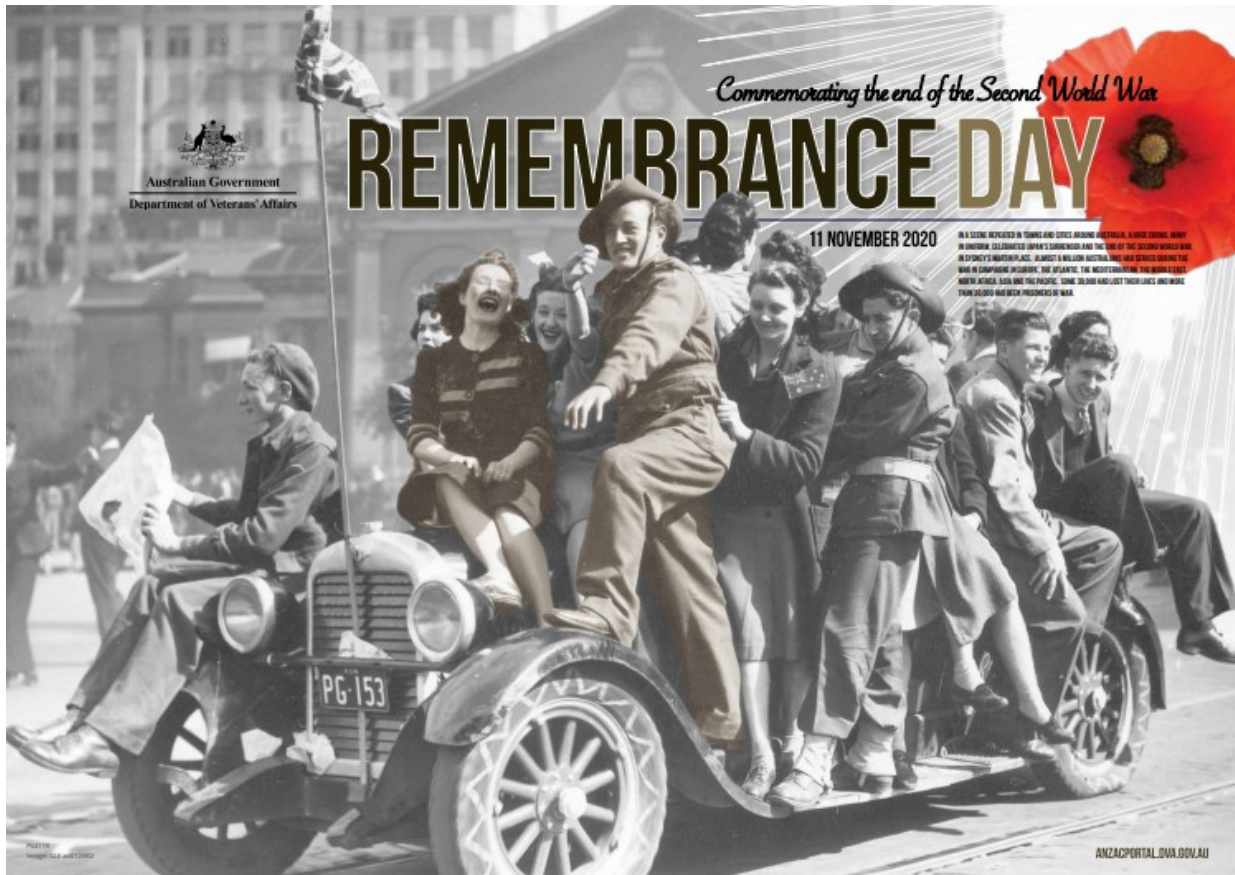
Air Force has come a long way in the first 100 years. Imagine what the next century will bring!

Stay updated

To connect with the centenary planning team, or to sign up to receive our updates,

email: airforce.2021@defence.gov.au

Remembrance Day



Remembrance Day falls on the 11th of November each year.

On the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month, a minutes' silence is observed and dedicated to those soldiers who died fighting to protect the nation.

In Australia and other allied countries, including New Zealand, Canada and the United States, 11 November became known as Armistice Day – a day to remember those who died in World War One. The day continues to be commemorated in allied countries.

After World War Two, the Australian Government agreed to the United Kingdom's proposal that Armistice Day be renamed Remembrance Day to commemorate those who were killed in both World Wars. Today the loss of Australian lives from all wars and conflicts is commemorated on Remembrance Day.



Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs

Veteran Card holders can access benefits and concessions at no cost from participating businesses across the country who are showing their support for the Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant.

Over 800 brands accept the Veteran Card thanks to our partnership with APOD, and 30% of all new business partners are owned by veterans.

When you've got your Veteran Card, head to the APOD website to register and access the complete listing of offers. There are no fees to access these offers, as long as you are a Veteran Card holder.

Over 100,000 veterans have applied for the Covenant, submit your application today via MyService www.dva.gov.au/myservice

Read more www.recognition.dva.gov.au



Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs

DVA Gold, White and Orange health cards have been replaced with Veteran Cards.

New Veteran Cards have been issued to avoid confusion about the different card styles and to ensure your card is recognised by services and providers.

Your health benefits and entitlements remain unchanged. You may also use your card to access over 10,000 offers from over 800 different brands who support the Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant. Register using your Veteran Card number at apod.com.au.

If you have not received your Veteran Card by the end of October, call us on 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372), or submit a request through your MyService account.

For more information on the new Veteran Cards visit :

<http://www.dva.gov.au/.../veteran-healthcare.../veteran-card>



**The new
Veteran Card.**

**Not received it?
Call 1800 VETERAN
(1800 838 372) today.**



Our service was forged through the bonds of mateship and a strong commitment to look out for one another.

Veterans of the Vietnam War lobbied for a specialised counselling and support service for veterans and their families. This led to the establishment of the Vietnam Veterans' Counselling Service (VVCS) in 1982.

Eligibility has since expanded to include veterans of all conflicts, and their families. The service was rebranded Open Arms in 2018.

Through Open Arms, Australia's Vietnam veterans have ensured future generations have a lifeline if they need support, [#OpenArmsSupport](#) [#StrongerTogether](#)

Call us on 1800 011 046 if you want someone to talk to.

[Defence Australia](#)





Australia in the Great War is the Memorial's permanent exhibition on display in the First World War Galleries.

The exhibition presents the story of Australia in the First World War chronologically, covering all major theatres of operations: Gallipoli; the Western Front; Sinai and Palestine; and the war at sea. The events taking place on the home front and the immediate and enduring legacy of the war are also included.

The Memorial holds one of the world's great collections of material related to the First World War. The First World War Galleries feature a wide variety of items from this collection, including dioramas and other works of art; uniforms; medals; technology such as artillery and firearms; photographs; film; and personal items such as letters and diaries.

Since the opening of the Memorial in 1941 the First World War Galleries have undergone several major alterations and many smaller updates. The new state-of-the-art galleries now occupy the entire west wing of the Memorial's ground level.

The First World War Galleries are located in the Western Wing on ground level.

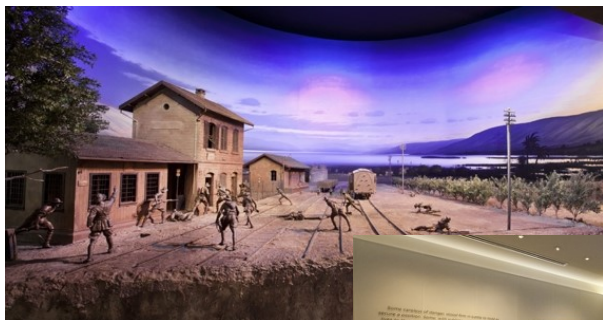
[About the redevelopment of the First World War Galleries](#)

About the Memorial's commemorations for the [Centenary of the First World War](#)

[View more images of the First World War Galleries on Flickr](#)

Australia and the Great War brand image: [E00019](#)

[Watch a timelapse video](#) of the installation of three artillery pieces in the Memorial grounds: a gun from the ship *Gayundah*, a 9.2-inch howitzer, and 15-centimetre Krupp Kanone 16 in recognition of the centenary of the First World War





Almost a million Australians, both men and women, served in the Second World War. This war affected Australians more directly than the First World War, and caused immense social change. Over 39,000 Australians died.

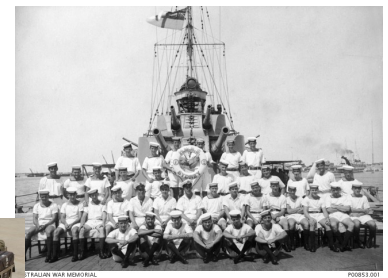
The Second World War Galleries show how Australians fought in campaigns against Germany and Italy in Europe, the Mediterranean and North Africa; and against Japan in south-east Asia. It covers the experience of those on the home front, for it was during this war that the Australian mainland came under direct attack for the first time.

The carley float from HMAS Sydney.

This suite of galleries tell stories of endurance and courage, of grief and humour, and displays the achievements and the sacrifices of a people at war.

The main areas of the galleries are:

- 1939: war is declared
- 1940–41: victory and defeat
- 1942: turning point
- 1942–44: beginning of the end
- 1943–44: New Guinea offensive
- 1944–45: final campaigns



In these galleries visitors will be able to see a number of large technology objects. a unique [Chevrolet lorry and Breda anti-aircraft gun](#) combination used by Australians during the siege of Tobruk

- a captured German Flak 38 anti-aircraft gun still in its original desert camouflage

a rare vehicle the [Carro Veloce L.3/33 Series II Italian tankette](#)

the iconic German [Kübelwagen](#) will also return to display

an exciting display on [HMAS Sydney](#)

an audiovisual presentation on the [Kokoda campaign](#)

The Second World War Galleries are located on the Ground Level of the Memorial



AVCAT



Essay Prize 2020

AVCAT presents the inaugural
AVCAT Essay Prize 2020
on the theme:

'Impact of the Vietnam War on Family'

Entries open on Vietnam Veterans' Day, 18 August 2020
and close midnight 16 October 2020.

First Prize: \$500
Second Prize \$200
Third Prize \$100

The AVCAT Essay Prize is open to all entrants over the age of 18 at 18 August 2020. Essays should be up to 2500 addressing the theme 'Impact of the Vietnam War on Families'.

avcat.org.au

Contest guidelines and entry form online at avcat.org.au.

COMMEMORATIVE MEDALLION AND CERTIFICATE OF COMMEMORATION



Available to every living veteran of the Second World War



75th Anniversary
**End of the
Second World War**
Australia Remembers 2020

Apply now at www.dva.gov.au or call 1800 838 372. #OneInAMillion

WALL OF RESPECT

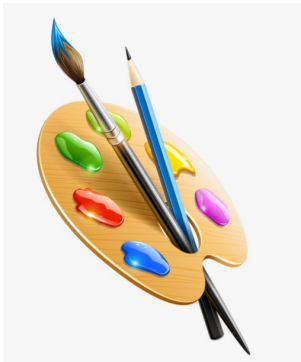
#OneInAMillion



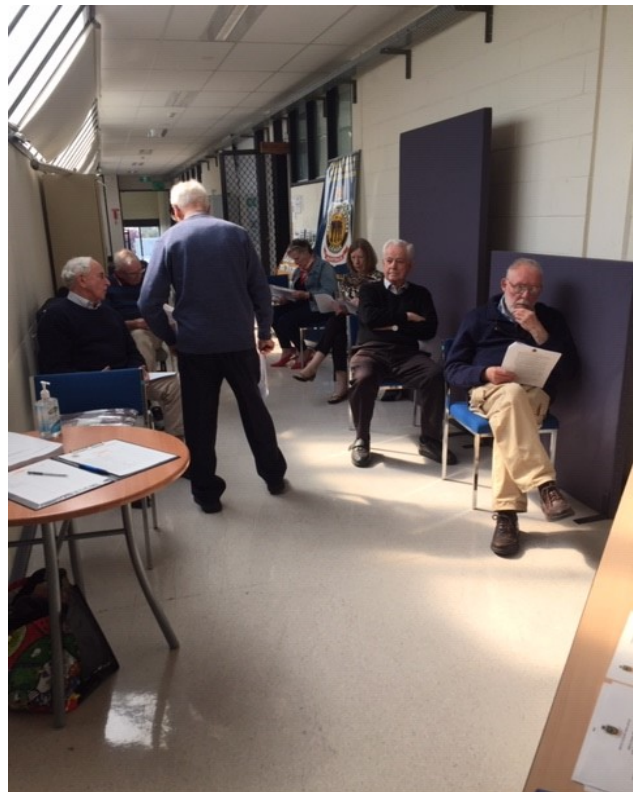


**Social Art
Program 2/20
for Veterans**

**Our sessions on
16 and 23 September**



**RSL Woden Valley
Sub - Branch
Recent Ordinary General
Meeting
on 29 September 2020**



Don't forget our Coffee Club is open again from 10-12 every Friday in The Corey Room, Level 2A, of the Grant Cameron Community Centre, 27 Mulley Street, Holder.



Any member or prospective member is most welcome to join us for a chat and enjoy freshly brewed coffee with former service mates.

. Eddison Day Club meetings

. Burrangiri

**SUSPENDED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**

**Carers Friendship Groups are
back in business**

**For details call Rania Kalimeris
6285 1931**

Did you know?

**E-News and *The Serviceman*
are also readily available to
read on our website
www.rslwoden.org.au**



Contact Us

Give us a call for more
information or access to our
services

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Visit us on the web at
www.rslwoden.org.au

Or drop in for a coffee
Fridays from 10.00am

Our office hours are
9am-3pm Mon-Fri