

## Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander War Memorial

After seven years hard work and the raising of over \$1 million, our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander War Memorial was dedicated by the Governor- General, Her Excellency the Honourable Quentin Bryce AC, CVO and the Memorial Committee Chair, Ms Marj Tripp, on Sunday, 10 November, 2013.

Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal servicemen and servicewomen – past and present, joined Aboriginal elders and friends for this long awaited and very special day.

The beautiful sculptures standing atop this culturally sensitive and quite beautiful memorial will now stand forever as true testimony to the military service of our Aboriginal brothers and sisters in peace and war.

The sculptures are particularly noteworthy and sculptor Robert Hannaford has captured perfectly the spirit of strength, resolve and love of country in the figure of the Aboriginal soldier in World War I uniform and of the servicewoman in World War II uniform.

Both sculptures are truly beautiful works of art and are a credit to the designers Tony Rosella, Lee-ann Tjunypa Buckskin and Michelle Nikou.



Aboriginal Veterans Les Kropinyeri, Frank Clarke and Gill Green

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander War Memorial Committee are to be congratulated for its hard work that first commenced in 2007. They faced many difficulties and it is pleasing to see their dedication and persistence rewarded.

It is the intention of the committee to ask the Adelaide City Council to apply for national recognition of the Memorial thus making it the first and only National Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander War Memorial. Such recognition is governed by Commonwealth legislation and an application for national recognition cannot be made until the memorial is opened to the public.

If you haven't seen the memorial it is well worth a visit – it sits proudly alongside the Vietnam War Memorial adjacent Torrens Parade Ground.

## Charter for Veterans

The State Government recently endorsed South Australia's Charter for Veterans that was prepared by the Veterans' Advisory Council, with contributions from government agencies, in particular the Crown Solicitor's Office.

The Charter is intended to provide government agencies with guidance on how they should act when veterans are involved and enunciates a number of principles that acknowledge:

Government services should consider the cultural, economic, social, emotional, physical and pastoral need of veterans.

Veterans should be involved in consultation about services that affect them and their community.

Services that directly impact veterans should aim to provide timely, appropriate and adequate assistance to veterans and take into account:

- The benefits of early intervention;
- The needs and role of carers.
- The susceptibility to social exclusion experienced by veterans from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities;
- The core of the veteran culture lies in the bonds of mateship, commemoration of the sacrifice of those who died, and support for the dependants of deceased comrades and all those impacted by military service.
- The barriers to access to services faced by veterans in rural and remote communities;
- The complex needs of allied veterans from culturally and linguistically diverse communities; and

The Charter will now be distributed to Government agencies and the veterans' community.

For more information about South Australia's Charter for Veterans please contact Veterans SA on Tel: (08) 8226 8552 or by email: [veteranssa@sa.gov.au](mailto:veteranssa@sa.gov.au)

### Enquiries about Veterans' Voice can be directed to:

Veterans SA  
GPO Box 2264  
ADELAIDE S.A. 5001  
Phone: (08) 8226 8552  
Email: [veteranssa@sa.gov.au](mailto:veteranssa@sa.gov.au)

## Veterans Radio Updates

Weekly Updates are featured on the following radio shows from the Office of the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Hon Zoe Bettison MP.

If you would like to receive our weekly 'Minister's Message' email, please email [veteranssa@sa.gov.au](mailto:veteranssa@sa.gov.au) to subscribe.

Show	Time	Station
VVF	Tue 6pm - 8pm	88.7 FM (CoastFM)
RSL	Thur 6pm - 6.15pm	1197 AM (5RPH)
Vietnam Veterans	Mon 6pm - 8pm	105.1 FM (TraxFM) Mid North of SA
The Legacy Hour	Mon 3pm - 4pm	101.5FM (Radio Adelaide)

## Funding Opportunities

To assist ex-service organisations, Veterans SA has put together a consolidated list of funding opportunities that governments, both State and Commonwealth, are offering to the veterans' community.

Please telephone my office on 8226 8552 should you require any further information about these funding opportunities.



# Veterans' Voice

## A Message from the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Welcome to the autumn edition of Veterans' Voice.

I am privileged to be appointed as your Minister and look forward to a long and productive association with the veterans' community. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Hon Jack Snelling MP for his three and a half years of tireless advocacy on behalf of the veterans' community. I am aware that Minister Snelling has been embraced by the veterans' community and fully lived up to the Government's commitment that matters of concern to the veterans' community will have a voice at the Cabinet table.

I have been working hard to familiarise myself with the Veterans' Affairs portfolio and I must say how impressed I am with what you do and more importantly, what you stand for. My Grandfather served in World War II and I am proud to be a member and supporter of the Salisbury RSL Sub-branch.

I am aware of the wonderful work of the Veterans' Advisory Council (VAC), so ably led by former State Governor, Sir Eric Neal AC, CVO. As a new Minister I am conscious that there is much to learn. I look forward to getting to meet with as many of you as possible in the coming months, especially over the all-important ANZAC period.

I was honoured to attend my first function as Minister for Veterans' Affairs on Tuesday, 1 April, 2014, to open the new Gallantry

Travelling Exhibition that tells the stories of the brave actions of five South Australians awarded the Victoria Cross and George Cross in the Second World War and the Vietnam War.

The five men were Peter Badcoe VC; Thomas Currie (Diver) Derrick VC; George Gosse GC; William (Bill) Kibby VC and Lionel Matthews GC. Their stories reveal the gallantry that made the men heroes to their families, comrades, and the Australian population at large.

The display includes a brief background to the Second World War and Vietnam War as well as framed replica medals of the five men and their citations.

We are approaching a critical point in our nation's history – the Centenary of ANZAC. I feel particularly privileged to be a part of your community at this special time.

I have long been impressed with the ex-service organisation (ESO) community and the wonderful work you do for your membership and the broader community. There are dozens of ESO's in South Australia and all do an exceptional job.

Upon reflection, I consider the role of a good ESO to be two-fold. Perhaps I could sum it up with the words "Advocacy" and "Commemoration". It is "Advocacy" and "Commemoration" that I hope to encourage while I am your Minister.



Sir Eric Neal AC CVO congratulates Hon Jack Snelling MP on his service as Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

Strong bi-partisan advocacy is critical to the success of any ESO. Indeed strong advocacy to government on behalf of your membership is essential – it was why many ESO's were established in the first place – the RSL for example was first established as a "no fear, no favour" advocate to care for veterans after World War I.

I look forward to hearing your concerns through the VAC or Veterans SA and will do all within my power to advocate for you at both the State and Federal level.

The other aspect is one of "Commemoration". In a real way it is ESO's that carry the commemorative responsibility for our State. You are the guardians and hold in sacred trust not just the ANZAC legacy, but the legacy of every Australian who has served.

You play a major role in educating the broader Australian community about the sacrifices made by your colleagues.

Commemoration should not be confined to ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day – it is a particular mindset that I suggest we should evidence every single day. It is about telling the story of service and sacrifice and making sure our fellow South Australians know what you and your mates did for us!

It is that story that is critical to you being able to achieve all the other good things you aspire to.

I look forward to meeting you in the coming months and I wish you all a successful and safe ANZAC Day 2014.

Lest we forget.

Hon Zoe Bettison MP  
Minister for Veterans' Affairs



Sir Eric Neal AC CVO, Chair, Veterans' Advisory Council, Hon Zoe Bettison MP, Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Bill Denny AM BM, Director, Veterans SA at the launch of the Gallantry Travelling Exhibition at the new Adelaide City Council Rundle Place Library.

## W/O Lloyd Leah OAM

Every veteran has a story to tell but few are as impressive as that of Aldgate resident Lloyd Leah OAM.

Lloyd hides his light under a bushel to some degree and Veterans SA has only recently heard of his remarkable tale.

Lloyd was a Lancaster navigator and flew with 460 Sqn RAAF in World War II. Returning from a bombing operation over Germany in 1944 his aircraft was shot down and he parachuted to "safety". Unluckily Lloyd landed on an airfield right on the German Dutch border.

In spite of his efforts to hide, he was tracked down by the German air field defence guards using tracker dogs.

Realising the "game was up" Lloyd stood, raised his hands and surrendered. In an attempt at execution Lloyd was shot in the neck and left to die.

Lloyd tells the story that after shooting him the guards stood around and "had a smoke." Lloyd was then carried by the guards to the guard house where he was left on the guard house floor.

Shortly afterwards when the airfield guards left Lloyd opened his eyes and the



Lloyd pictured shortly before taking to the sky at the Hindmarsh Island Tiger Moth reunion with son Andrew and Grandchildren Daniel and Mary Leah.

guardhouse staff realised he was still alive. Being a little more compassionate than their airfield defence colleagues they called an ambulance from the local hospital in nearby Venlo (in Holland).

Lloyd's luck had changed. Unknown to the Germans the ambulance was from a hospital that was the centre of the Dutch

Underground in that area. They gladly picked Lloyd up and tended to his injuries. In due course and not without other risks Lloyd finally made his way back to England after a period in three P.O.W. camps.

Lloyd was the only survivor from his Lancaster crew of seven.

What a story – what a man!

## Those Magnificent Men...



Hindmarsh Island Tiger Moth Reunion

Sunday, 29 March, 2014 saw a truly unique event at the Hindmarsh Island International Airfield near Goolwa.

Twenty one of our finest World War II RAAF veterans donned their goggles for one last flight in their beloved Tiger Moth.

These gallant men, all over 90, were all aircrew and they flew combat missions in

almost every theatre of World War II.

Most were former pilots and they had flown a huge array of aircraft - some had been shot down, others wounded, several had been prisoners of war. Many had been decorated for gallantry!

They all had one thing in common – they had trained on and loved the Tiger Moth.

Former RAAF and TAA Engineer Barry Hills coordinated the aircraft and acted as Chief Pilot for the day.

The World War II veterans were "keen as mustard" but as you would imagine the tongue in cheek order "Scramble" did not solicit quite the reaction it might have seventy years ago and climbing onto the wing and into the cockpit was something of a challenge for most!

Some of these gentlemen even wore their original goggles and flying helmets.

The day was a resounding success with all who flew commenting the experience made them feel years younger!

It was truly a unique occasion - indeed it was so successful that it might even happen again!

Veterans SA was privileged to host the event courtesy of the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Hon Zoe Bettison MP. We wish to thank Barry for his support. Barry and his colleagues conduct the flyover of the annual ANZAC Day Commemorative March in Adelaide and this wonderful event was another display of their generosity.

## ANZAC Centenary Funding

On 30 January, 2014, the Premier, the Hon Jay Weatherill MP and then Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Hon Jack Snelling MP, announced the State contribution to the ANZAC Centenary.

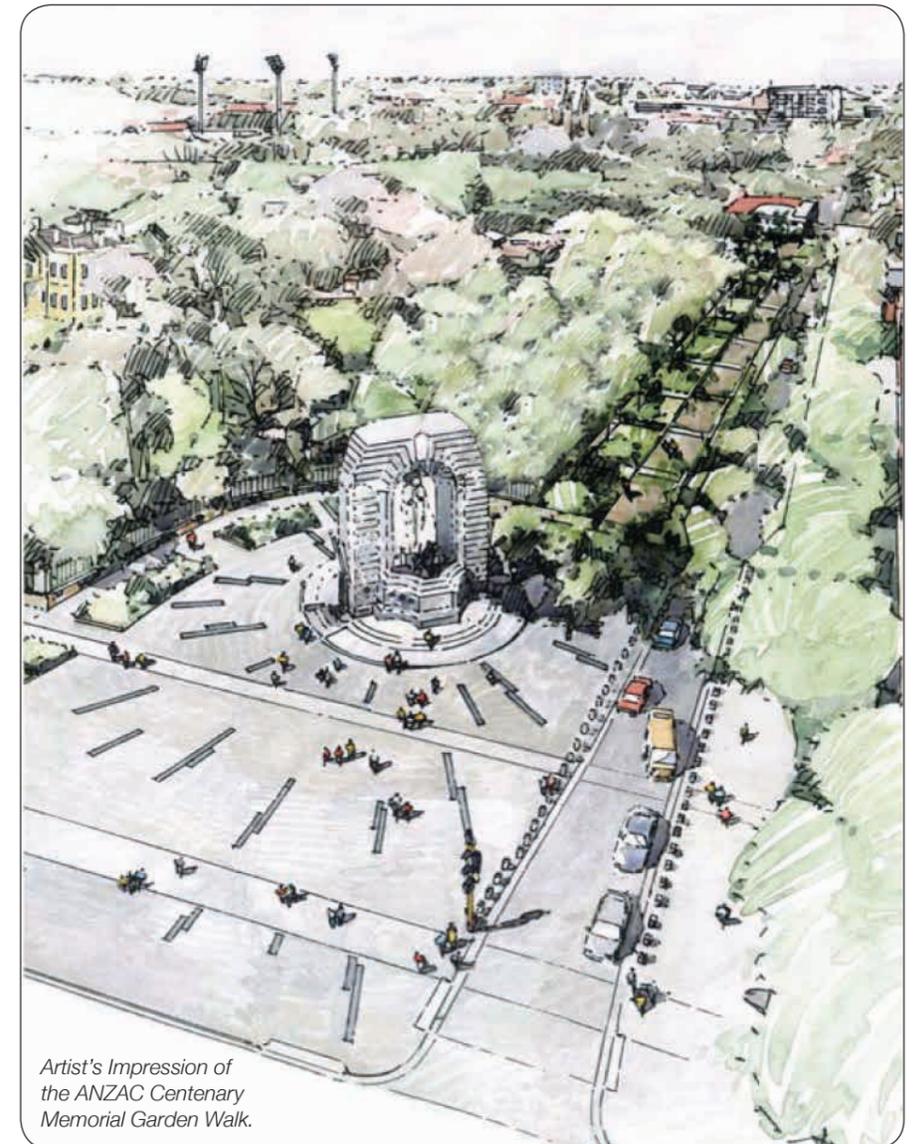
This involves a suite of initiatives, the most significant of which is the creation of the ANZAC Centenary Memorial Garden Walk along Kintore Avenue.

This new dedicated pathway will link the South Australian National War Memorial on North Terrace to the Torrens Parade Ground and the Pathway of Honour is the centrepiece of the State Government's commitment to marking the Centenary of ANZAC in 2015.

Among other initiatives in the \$5.6 million package the Government will:

- Increase funding to the ANZAC Day Commemoration Council by \$1 million over four years - taking total annual funding to \$350,000 - to restore and protect war memorials across South Australia;
- Provide \$1.6m to set up an ANZAC Centenary Coordination Unit;
- Establish a \$10,000 Flag Fund to ensure that ex-service organisations are able to replace/install national flags, state flags or military ensigns for the ANZAC Centenary; and
- Change residency requirements to allow Australia Defence Force personnel to receive the first home owners grant.

Premier Weatherill has written to the Federal Government and Adelaide City Council seeking a joint funding commitment for the ANZAC Centenary Memorial Garden Walk. "We believe a Memorial Walk would leave a lasting legacy for future generations by



Artist's Impression of the ANZAC Centenary Memorial Garden Walk.

creating a link between the War Memorial and Torrens Parade Ground that will signify remembrance, loyalty and service".

"In creating such a memorial we will ensure

the ANZAC legacy is protected and that we exercise our duty of responsibility toward past and present generations."

Mr Weatherill said.

## ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION FUND CENTENARY GRANT FUNDING 2014 - 2018 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Applications are now open for eligible organisations and community groups wishing to undertake projects commemorating the Centenary of ANZAC.

The period 2014-2018 will mark 100 years since Australia's involvement in the First World War and the South Australian Government is offering grants to assist and support educational and commemorative activities to honour Australia's war and service history.

The ANZAC Day Commemoration Council, an independent statutory authority established under the ANZAC Day Commemoration Act 2005, is responsible for the distribution of grant funds over the period of the ANZAC Centenary.

A annual funding pool of \$350,000 will be available for approved projects. These could include commemorative events, exhibitions, research, community education activities and the restoration of memorials.

To be considered for funding, applicants must meet the eligibility criteria as outlined in the ANZAC Day Commemoration Fund Guidelines and complete the required Application Form.

The round is now open and closes on **Friday, 20 June 2014 at 5.00pm.**

Application forms and guidelines may be downloaded from our website at <http://dpc.sa.gov.au/anzac-day-commemoration-fund-and-council>

Further information in relation to the grants or copies of the guidelines or application form may also be obtained from Clare Hennessy, Executive Officer of the ANZAC Day Commemoration Council at the Department of the Premier and Cabinet on **8226 3502** or email [ANZACDayCouncil@dpc.sa.gov.au](mailto:ANZACDayCouncil@dpc.sa.gov.au).