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Sharing Ideas

ANZAC CENTENARY INFORMATION SHEET

Australians have all sorts of ideas about how we might commemorate the Anzac Centenary and have been sharing them with the Government including:

- Developing education programs for school students such as 'adopt a digger' and including aspects of Australia's military history into the national curriculum
- Issuing commemorative coins and stamps to all Australians, and also medallions for school students
- Commemorative medals for all past and currently serving defence force personnel
- Involving descendants of those who served Australia in many wars and peace operations over the past 100 years in activities around the country, and at the commemorations at home and abroad in 2015
- International activities including study tours, cultural and sporting programs
- Art exhibitions and competitions, theatre productions, military history and cultural exhibitions and the production of educative documentaries for schools and the wider community.



*Papua New Guinean stretcher bearers tend to a member of the 2/33rd Battalion on the Kokoda Track, October 1942.
(Australian War Memorial 026856)*



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A bomber crew of No. 460 Squadron RAAF at RAF Station Binbrook, April 1944. Six of the men pictured were killed when their Lancaster was shot down that month; the single survivor became a prisoner of war. (Australian War Memorial 081318)



A Royal Australian Air Force flight sergeant directs a C130 Hercules at Komoro Airfield near Dili during Operation Stabilise, September 1999. (Dept of Defence V9903319, photographer Sgt W Guthrie)

What happens next?

The staff in the Anzac Centenary Taskforce have been providing the members of the National Commission with digests of all ideas that have been contributed so far. After the closure of this stage of the public consultation process the Commission will meet to discuss the ideas. In October, Commission members will meet with representatives from Embassies, High Commissions and National Cultural Institutions regarding their planning for commemorations.

What sorts of events might we commemorate

The National Commission on the Commemoration of the Anzac Centenary has received many submissions relating to Anzac Day services at Gallipoli. The Century of Service commemorated 2014–2018 will remember not only World War I but all wars, conflicts and peace operations since 1914.

Do you have a story to share and/or an idea about how this may form part of a broad commemorative program? The Commission is keen to hear from anyone who has an idea about how best to commemorate this important centenary.



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A few examples of the major anniversaries which will occur between 2014 and 2018

2014

- 6 June** 70th Anniversary of D-Day, France
- 4 August** 100th Anniversary of the commencement of WWI
- 9 November** 100th Anniversary of HMAS *Sydney* sinking the SMS *Emden*

2015

- 28 January** 70th Anniversary of the commencement of the first Sandakan death march, Borneo
- 28 March** 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Slater's Knoll, Bougainville
- 25 April** 100th Anniversary of the Gallipoli Landings
- 10 May** 70th Anniversary of the victory at Wewak, New Guinea
- 6-9 August** 100th Anniversary of the August Offensive, Gallipoli
- 15 August** 70th Anniversary of the end of WWII

2016

- 24 April** 65th Anniversary of Kapyong Day, Korea
- 1 July** 100th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme
- 18 August** 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan, Vietnam

2017

- 14 September** 70th Anniversary of the first deployment of Australian peacekeepers
- 31 October** 100th Anniversary of the Battle for Beersheba, Palestine

2018

- 30 January** 50th Anniversary of the 'Tet' Offensive, Vietnam
- 25 April** 100th Anniversary of the Battle at Villers-Bretonneux
- 18 June** 70th Anniversary of the commencement of the Malayan Emergency
- 11 November** 100th Anniversary of Armistice Day, WWI



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A pilot of No. 77 Squadron RAAF climbs into the cockpit of his Mustang at the snow-covered Hamhung Airfield, North Korea, November 1950. (Australian War Memorial P00675.068)



A Royal Australian Navy force protection party from HMAS Kanimbla escorts Royal Fleet Auxiliary Sir Galahad during the delivery of the first humanitarian aid to Iraq, March 2003. (Dept of Defence JPAU28MAR03WG04)

DID YOU KNOW?

WWI Nurses

Australian nurses served in many countries during World War One including France, Egypt, Palestine and India. In total 2139 served with Australian Army Nursing Service and a further 130 with the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service. Many more served in hospitals throughout Australia. Their work was not restricted to hospital work, but in many cases extended to casualty clearing stations and performing minor surgery. They not only provided incredible medical care and support, usually under extreme pressure and terrible conditions, but also provided much needed comfort to the many soldiers in their care.

Malayan Emergency 1950-1963

The Malayan Emergency was the longest continuous military commitment in Australia's history. Australian forces were involved for thirteen years from the declaration on 18 June 1950 to the final withdrawal of troops in 1963. Thirty-nine Australian servicemen lost their lives. It involved not only air and infantry forces but also naval, artillery and engineering support.

Liberation of Batu Lintang POW camp, Kuching, Sarawak by the Australian 9th Division

The camp operated from March 1942 until its liberation by the Australian 9th Division on 11 September 1945 following the unconditional surrender of Japan on 15 August 1945. The prisoners of war included Australian officers and NCOs and military personnel from Britain and the Netherlands. The civilian internees were mostly Dutch Roman Catholic priests, British civilians (including a number of children), and British and Dutch nuns.



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How many Submissions have we received?



An Australian Army Nursing Officer shares a few quiet words with a young patient at the Solomon Islands main hospital at Honiara, July 2003. (Dept of Defence JPAU30JUL03035)



A Royal Australian Army Nursing Service sister in the BCOF General Hospital at Kure, Japan, adjusts the sling of a patient who was wounded in the Korean War. (Australian War Memorial DUKJ3856)

Australian Capital Territory	6
New South Wales	73
Northern Territory	2
Queensland	24
South Australia	8
Tasmania	5
Victoria	32
Western Australia	16
International	3
Email/telephone/other	27
TOTAL to 31 August 2010	196



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There is still time to tell us your idea

People can still share ideas for commemoration with the National Commission until 17 September. You need to share your ideas in writing.

A submission form (PDF 126 Kb) is available for download from www.anzaccentenary.gov.au, or via email from the Department of Veterans' Affairs if you wish to use it.

All submissions, whether you have used the form or not, should include a detailed outline of the idea and themes it addresses, as well as a brief summary of the idea.

An Australian Army lieutenant from the 1st Combat Services Support Battalion greets an Afghan child during a patrol pause near a Forward Operating Base in Southern Afghanistan, December 2008. (Dept of Defence 20081219ara8502859_0372; photographer Captain Lachlan Simond)



Crew members of HMAS Australia carry the propeller and other parts of the Japanese kamikaze aircraft which had attacked their warship in the Lingayen Gulf, Philippines, in January 1945. (Australian War Memorial 306770)

How do you tell us your idea?

Electronic submissions

Submissions containing your idea may be lodged electronically by email to anzaccentenary@dva.gov.au with the word "Submission" in the subject heading.

Postal submissions

Submissions should be sent to:

The National Commission – Anzac Centenary
Department of Veterans' Affairs
PO Box 9998
Canberra ACT 2601

Further information on how to lodge a submission can be found at www.anzaccentenary.gov.au