

2021 NATIONAL CEREMONY

THURSDAY 11 NOVEMBER, 10.45 AM



Welcome to the Australian War Memorial on Remembrance Day 2021, commemorating the 103rd anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended the First World War.

Order of Service

Arrival

His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, and Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley

Catafalque Party

Australia's Federation Guard

Playing of the Didgeridoo

The didgeridoo (or, as it is known by the Traditional Custodians of the Yolngu clans of North East Arnhem Land, the *yidaki*), is not traditionally played in Ngunnawal country. It is played here today with the permission of the Ngunnawal people to acknowledge and pay respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have contributed to the defence of Australia in times of peace and war.

The Ode

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Mr John King, representing the National President Returned and Services League of Australia

They went with songs to the battle, they were young, Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow; They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted, They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them.

The Last Post
One Minute's Silence
The Rouse
Response

Lest we forget

Commemorative Address

Mr Matt Anderson PSM Director, Australian War Memorial

Laying of Wreaths

Wreaths will be laid by the following or their representative:

- The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia
- The Prime Minister of Australia
- The Chief Minister of the Australian Capital Territory
- The Speaker of the House of Representatives
- The President of the Senate
- The Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia
- The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps
- The Leader of the Federal Opposition
- The Chief of the Defence Force
- The Chairman of the Council of the Australian War Memorial
- The National President of the Returned and Services League of Australia
- The National President of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Veterans and Services Association
- The National President of the Naval Association of Australia
- The National President of the Air Force Association
- The National President of the Australian War Widows Incorporated
- The National President of the Australian Federation of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Servicemen and Women
- The Chairman of Legacy Australia, and Legacy Youth

Musical Performance

Band of the Royal Military College, Duntroon



In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

John McCrae

National Anthem

Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are one and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil;
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page, let every stage
Advance Australia fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia fair.

Acknowledgements of Traditional Custodians

The Remembrance Day National Ceremony is held in the nation's capital on the traditional lands of the Ngunnawal peoples. The Australian War Memorial acknowledges the traditional custodians of country throughout Australia. We recognise their continuing connection to land, sea and waters.

We pay our respects to elders past and present.

Acknowledgements

Mr Scott Bevan, Master of Ceremonies

Australia's Federation Guard

Band of the Royal Military College, Duntroon



This Remembrance Day marks the 103rd anniversary of the Armistice of 11 November 1918 that ended the First World War. It also marks the 80th anniversary of the opening of the Australian War Memorial on Remembrance Day 1941.

Australian official war correspondent and historian Charles Bean conceived of the Memorial while witnessing the terrible human cost of the war on the Western Front. He determined that Australian soldiers and their actions should not be forgotten. The Memorial continues to fulfil his vision as a shrine to the memory of all Australians who have served and died in war, a museum to house and display their relics, and an archive to preserve the record of their thoughts and deeds.

"Here is their spirit in the heart of the land they loved; and here we guard the record which they themselves made."

C.E.W. Bean



Flanked by Great War veterans, the commemorative stone was unveiled by Governor-General Lord Stonehaven at the inauguration ceremony for the Australian War Memorial on Anzac Day, 25 April 1929. The stone was part of the opening ceremony on 11 November 1941. (H15613)

