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ANZACS

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### THE ANZACS

### THE ANZAC

Australian & New Zealand Army Corp

Australia has been involved in a number of conflicts since the beginning of the 20th Century and the Anzacs (Australian & New Zealand Army Corps) have played significant roles in these. The conflicts include: World War I (1914-1918), World War II (1939-1945), Korean War (1950-1953), Vietnam War, (1962-1975), First Gulf War (1990-1991) and the Iraq War (2003). Our soldiers are known as Anzacs and have been recognised as an effective fighting force throughout history.





### **GALLIPOLI**

Australian & New Zealand Army Corp

The Anzac tradition grew from an eight month campaign at Gallipoli in Turkey which is remembered as one of the fiercest and most hostile battles for Australian forces, during World War I. Although the Australian and New Zealand troops only made up a small number of the overall contingent, they are remembered in our hearts today for fighting with courage, strength and valour.

The Anzacs as they became known after Gallipoli, fought to preserve Australia and New Zealand as free and prosperous countries for generations to come. Total allied casualties during the eight month Gallipoli campaign are listed as being over 21,000. During the entirety of World War I, over 61,000 Australians lost their lives.





### ANZAC DAY

Australian & New Zealand Army Corp

Anzac Day Services take place on 25 April each year in commemoration of the first landing of Australian and New Zealand troops in 1915 on what is now called Anzac Cove at Gallipoli in Turkey.

ANZAC Day involves a number of elements that are unique and special. They are all designed to remember those who died in battle protecting our great country, or those who served and returned.

The day can include a Dawn Service, a later ANZAC Service held sometime during the morning and a gathering of Servicemen and women where they can remember and spend time together.





### DAWN SERVICE

Australian & New Zealand Army Corp

The dawn service held just before first light on ANZAC Day is primarily for those who have fought in battle. While more and more members of the public are now attending Dawn Services across Australia, these are doing it out of respect for those that have served to protect our country. The Dawn Service generally includes the playing of the <u>Last Post</u>, the reading of the <u>ODE</u> and a minute's silence.

This service is usually followed with a larger service during the morning where the public are more able to attend. This later service remembers those who lost their lives defending Australia's sovereignty. This service often includes a march to the memorial by soldiers and family representatives of soldiers past.





### LAYING WREATHS

Australian & New Zealand Army Corp

It has been a tradition worldwide to lay flowers on the graves and memorials of those lost. On Anzac Day this tradition is performed to help us remember and pay homage to those who died making our country safe.

The herb Rosemary is often included in wreaths or worn by those attending Anzac Services. Rosemary has long been thought to help maintain a healthy memory, which is important if we are to remember those that went before us and died in the service of their great country. Native Rosemary was also one of the plant species present in Flanders Fields, on the Western Front in Belgium and France.





### THE ODE

#### The ODE of Remembrance

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.

A tradition of Anzac Day is the reading of a poem. The Ode is the most popular ceremonial reading on Anzac Day and is from the fourth stanza of the poem 'For the fallen' by <u>Laurence Binyon</u>. The poem and ode was first published in the London Times on 1914 and was the selected verse read at the opening of the London Cenotaph 1919. In Australia it was printed on the cover of a collection of sermons and addresses for Anzac Day which was collated by the Queensland Anzac Day Commemoration Committee and published by them on 1921. It was also read at the laying of the Inauguration Stone at the Memorial in 1929.



You can read the full verse on the linked two pages.



### POEM

### For the Fallen by Laurence Binyon

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children, England mourns for her dead across the sea. Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit, Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.

There is music in the midst of desolation And a glory that shines upon our tears.

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 ANZACS

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables at home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

*Laurence Binyon* (1869–1943)



Laurence Binyon
Public Domain Image.

#### THE ANZACS

### THE LAST POST

### **Bugle Calls**

The Reveille and the Last Post are military bugle calls that have specific significance in the military, with their beginnings being with British troops in the Netherlands during the 17th century. It drew upon an older Dutch custom referred to as 'taptoe', from which the term 'tattoo' is derived. Today this is referenced in the term <u>Military Tattoo</u>.

The Reveille signifies the commencement of a soldier's day while the Last Post signifies the end of a day's duties. The Last Post is used symbolically at funerals and ceremonial days such as Anzac Day and Remembrance Day to indicate that a soldier (or group of soldiers) have ended their tour of duty and have gained permission to enter their final resting place. The playing of the Last Post is one of the most poignant and moving times during the Anzac Day ceremony and it will often bring tears to the eyes of the most hardened soldier or attendee.



Listen to The Last Post by clicking <u>HERE</u>.



### LIGHT HORSE

### **Australian Mounted Troops**

The Light Horse was a name given to Australian troops who were mounted (able to ride into battle on horse back). The Australian Light Horse was established during the period of the Second BOER War, with units trained around Australia. In battle, Light Horse units were capable of travelling large distances in areas that were vast and desolate.

By WWI, there were 23 Australian Light Horse regiments within Australia's part-time military force, with over 9,000 personnel ready to defend Australia. The men of the Light Horse were active in WWI and their first active combat was at Gallipoli, but without their horses.

Today the term Light Horse is symbolic of the courage, determination and endurance of Australian troops in battle and some units exist today.





#### THE ANZACS

### THE POPPY

#### **Worn for Remembrance**

The Poppy was one of the first flowers to bloom after fighting ceased on some of the large battle fronts and quickly came to symbolize those lost in battle. The poppies bright red flower was seen as some as the blood of those lost as rising to a new life.

Today poppies are sold as a way of raising funds to support those that defended Australia during times of war. They are worn by family, friends and those wishing to pay homage to fallen Australians on Remembrance Day from the beginning of November to the 11th day of November (Remembrance Day). Poppies are also worn by some on Anzac Day again as a way of remembering those lost.



A soldier picking poppies at Flanders Field.
Courtesy Rod Falconer.



### ALEX CAMPBELL

Australian & New Zealand Army Corp

The last surviving Anzac, Private Alex (Alec) William Campbell, died at his Hobart home 16 May 2002 aged 103. His death from complications to a chest infection marked the end of the living ANZAC legend. Australian Prime Minister John Howard stated:

"...the last living link to that group of Australians that established the Anzac Legend".

"It is a story of great valour under fire, unity of purpose and willingness to fight against the odds that has helped to define what it means to be an Australian".



Private Alex William Campbell. 26 Feb 1899 - 16 May 2002 Courtesy Australian War Memorial.



### ANZAC BISCUITS

### **Anzac Hope Kept Alive**

The Anzacs relied on the support of their families and friends at home to keep their morale high and hope alive. Mothers, wives, sisters and girl friends not only provided their Anzacs with their prayers and love but also sent them letters, and miscellaneous items such as knitted garments. A tradition which evolved from these caring women was in the form of Anzac Biscuits they baked from simple ingredients including flour, rolled oats, coconut, sugar, golden syrup and bicarbonate soda.

They sent Anzac Biscuits to their soldiers fighting in battlefields around the world, during World War 1. They lasted far longer than other foods which made them perfect for the long overseas trip to the troops. The soldiers appreciated the 'taste of home' as they enjoyed them as biscuits, dunked them in their tea or even broke them up and added them to water to make a biscuit porridge.



Click here for officially accepted Anzac Biscuit recipes.



### ANZAC FACTS

Australian & New Zealand Army Corp

World War I was also called the Great War.

The Gallipoli Campaign involved British, French and Australian and New Zealand troops and began with a failed naval attack on the Dardanelles by British and French Naval forces.

The Australian troops involved in the Gallipoli Campaign trained in Egypt for four months prior to the dawn landing on 25 April 1915. The planned dawn beach landing went horribly wrong when the landing occurred on the wrong beach - giving the enemy a greater advantage who were already on the higher ground and throughout most of the campaign.

The ANZACs began a planned withdrawal on 20 December 1915, after suffering more than 25,000 casualties and 8700 deaths. Other allied casualties for the Dardanelles and Gallipoli campaigns included approximately 205,000 British and 47,000 French personnel.

The word 'ANZAC' is protected by Australian law and permission is generally required to use the word commercially. **More**.



### REMEMBRANCE

Australian & New Zealand Army Corp

Remembrance Day is held on 11 November each year in Australia. A ceremony held at 11 am at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of each year marks the exact time when guns fell silent on the Western Front.

Remembrance Day has grown to become a time when Australians remember all those who have served and died during wartime or in maintaining peace in war torn areas around the world. A minute's silence is observed and allows for all present to reflect on the devastation of war and to remember those lost in all theatres of war throughout time.



#### THE ANZACS

### **GLOSSARY**

### Basic glossary of terms used on ANZAC Day

A.I.F. Australian Imperial Force

ANZAC Australian & New Zealand Army Corp

Digger Someone who is serving in the Australian armed forces,

especially a soldier in the Army.

Bugle An instrument usually used to play The Last Post at a Dawn

Service.

**Corps** From a French word meaning 'body', it represents a body of

people organised into a group or formation.

**Furphy** A rumour.

Salute A gesture of respect used in the military involving the raising

of the hand to the head in a certain manner.

**Stoush** A fight.

Victoria Cross The highest wartime award for valour and gallantry in the face

of the enemy.





#### THE ANZACS

### WAR MEMORIAL

#### **Australian War Memorial Website**

The Australian War Memorial website has a significant amount of information for those wishing to learn more about the Anzacs.

A few links are available below for your convenience.







Artworkz

Serving the Community

Contributors Australian War Memorial, Rod Falconer, Leisa Lees, Kathie Maynes, David & Debbie Hibbert. Photograph by official Palestine Army Photographer J.P. Campbell & courtesy 2010 Rod Falconer