



For over a century, Australians have served in conflict and in peace around the world, protecting values of freedom and democracy.

Each year on Anzac Day, we commemorate this service and the great debt we owe the men and women of our Australian Defence Force for their courage and sacrifice.

In World War I the Anzac Spirit was forged at Gallipoli and then in the battles of the Western Front. In particular this year, we are commemorating 105 years since the battles of Pozieres and Fromelles.

Eighty years ago in 1941, the stoicism of Australian soldiers was again on display as the Rats of Tobruk of the 9th and 7th Divisions held firm while besieged by German and Italian forces, thus denying the vital port to the enemy.

Ten years later, our soldiers succeeded in Operation Commando in Korea. This was described by the official historian for the Korean War, Robert O'Neill, as "one of the most impressive victories achieved by any Australian battalion."

Australia made a significant contribution to the Vietnam War. Fifty-five years ago at the Battle of Long Tan, in the face of combat, our soldiers displayed what then Prime Minister, Harold Holt, called "skill, effectiveness and high courage."

Australians continue to serve with distinction around the world and this Anzac Day we commemorate more than a century of service.

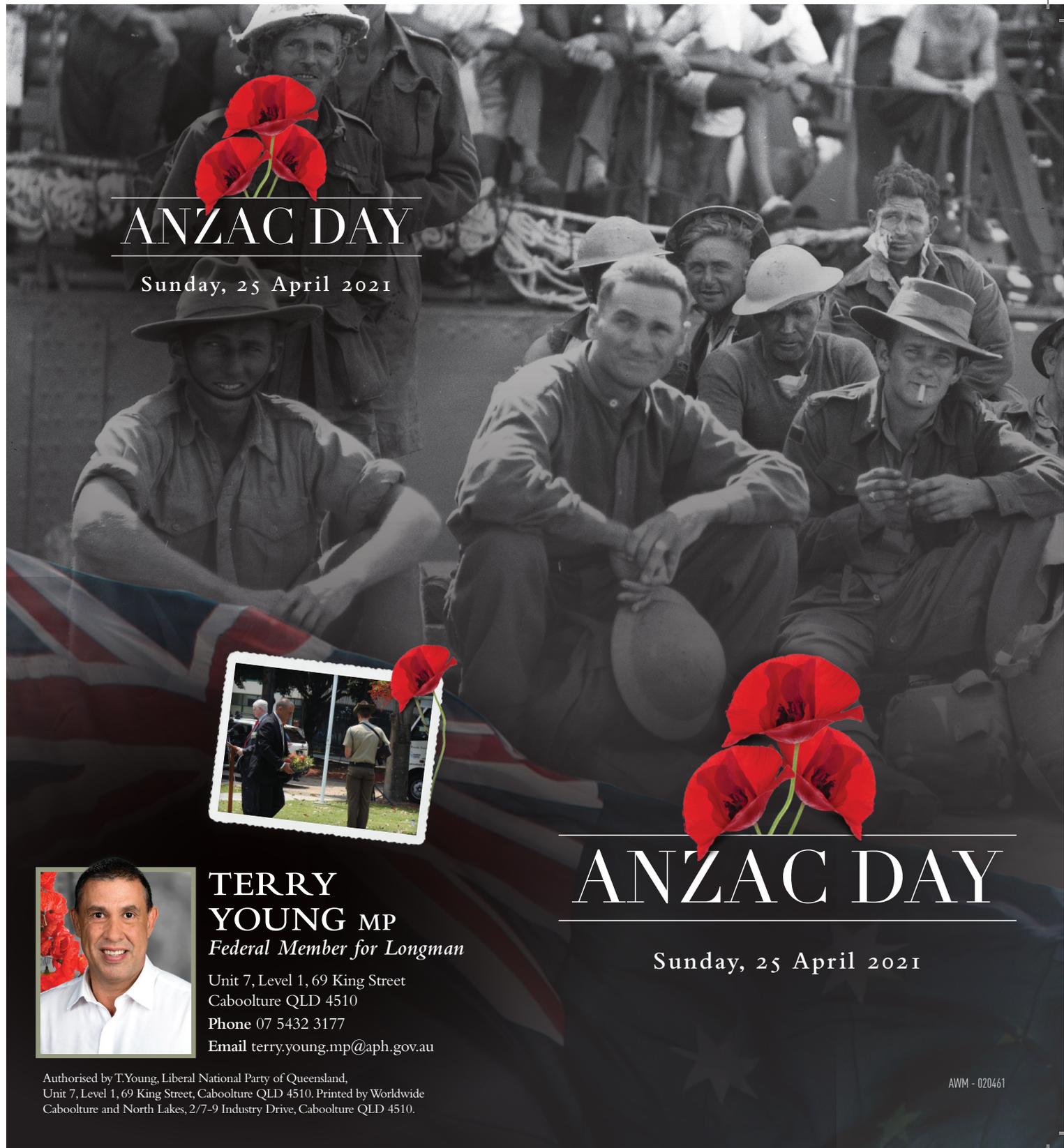
For those who have served – and who continue to serve – we offer our most sincere thanks. And we take this opportunity to remember those who are no longer with us.

To learn more about the Anzacs, please visit anzacportal.dva.gov.au

Kind regards,

Terry Young

TERRY YOUNG MP
Federal Member for Longman



ANZAC DAY

Sunday, 25 April 2021

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THE ODE

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.

AWM - ART40758

Long Tan action, Vietnam, 18 August 1966, by Official war artist Bruce Fletcher



PRaise FOR AUSTRALIAN FORCES

The Minister for Defence, Mr. Allen Fairhall, this morning released the text of an exchange of signals between Vietnam and Australia.

The signals followed the action in Vietnam late on Thursday in which members of the Australian Force and Viet Cong clashed in a fierce engagement.

The signals were:

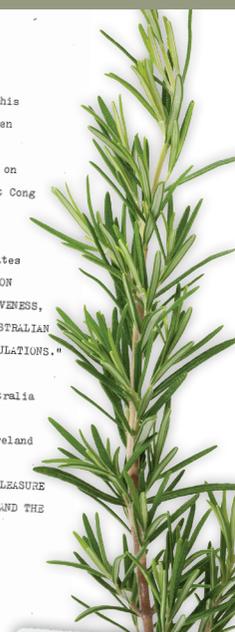
From General Westmoreland, Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam: "YOUR TROOPS HAVE WON ASPECTACULAR VICTORY OVER THE ENEMY NEAR BA RIA. AGGRESSIVENESS, QUICK REACTION, GOOD USE OF FIREPOWER, AND OLD FASHIONED AUSTRALIAN COURAGE HAVE PRODUCED OUTSTANDING RESULTS. HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS."

(This message was sent direct to Major General K. Mackay, Commander of the Australian Force, Vietnam, who is in Australia to attend the CGS Exercise at Duntroon, A.C.T.)

Major General Mackay's message to General Westmoreland reads: "YOUR PERSONAL MESSAGE CONVEYING YOUR PRAISE AND CONGRATULATIONS ON VICTORY IN PHUOC TUY WAS RECEIVED WITH PLEASURE AND PRIDE AND WILL BE APPRECIATED ESPECIALLY BY THE TROOPS AND THE PEOPLE OF AUSTRALIA."

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Teddy Sheean VC

Edward "Teddy" Sheean was an ordinary seaman serving on HMAS *Armidale* whose death during a Japanese aerial attack is an inspirational story of Australian loyalty and bravery.

Sheean was born at Lower Barrington, Tasmania, on 28 December 1923, educated at Latrobe and later worked on farms. He enlisted in the Royal Australian Naval Reserve in April 1941.

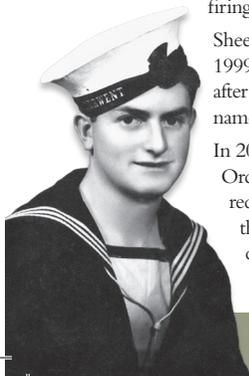
After a period on HMAS *Kuttabul*, which was sunk in Sydney Harbour while he was on leave, he began service as an anti-aircraft gunner on the newly commissioned HMAS *Armidale*.

On 29 November 1942 *Armidale* began her last operation, a resupply and evacuation mission to Japanese-occupied Timor.

On this mission, *Armidale* was hit by two aircraft-launched torpedoes and began to sink fast. Sheean was wounded and, rather than abandon ship, he strapped himself to his Oerlikon and began to engage the attacking aircraft even as the ship sunk beneath him. He shot down two planes, and crewmates recall seeing tracer rising from beneath the surface as Sheean was dragged under the water, firing until the end. He died on 1 December 1942 aged just 18.

Sheean was Mentioned in Despatches for his bravery and in 1999 HMAS *Sheean*, a Collins Class submarine, was named after him - the first vessel in the Royal Australian Navy to be named after a junior sailor.

In 2020, following a sustained public campaign to have Ordinary Seaman Sheean's selfless actions appropriately recognised, the Governor-General presented the insignia of the Victoria Cross for Australia to Teddy Sheean's family at a ceremony held at Government House in Canberra.



AWM - 044154

LOCAL SERVICES Sunday, 25 April 2021

Bribie Island RSL Sub Branch

- 4.28am Dawn Service, Bribie Island RSL, Korea Park.
- 8.30am March and Service, Bribie Island RSL, Korea Park.

Caboorture-Morayfield and District RSL Sub Branch

- 10.00am Service only (no March), Caboorture Town Square.

RSL Toorbul Anzac Day Sub-Committee

- 7.50am March and Service, Toorbul Fire Station War Memorial.

Woodford RSL Sub-Branch

- 5.00am Dawn Service, Woodford Memorial Park.
- 10.00am March, George Street, Woodford.

Please consider attending a local service. Services in Mount Mee and Wamunan will be held, details TBC. Information correct at time of publication. Please check with your local RSL or visit www.1015fm.com.au closer to 25 April for updates or changes due to COVID-19 restrictions.



ANZAC AT HOME

On Anzac Day, Australians gather, both in their thousands in capital cities and in smaller gatherings in the towns and communities across our country, to honour the service and sacrifice of the ANZACs and those who followed in our Defence Force.

As restrictions on public gatherings continue to impact our ability to come together, it is important that we don't let this stop us from reflecting on the many Australians who have fought and died in all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations over a century of service.

While it may look different this year, Anzac Day is not cancelled and there are a range of ways we can all pay our respects and mark the day.

I encourage you and your family to think about how you can do this, whether it be baking Anzac biscuits, standing on your driveway at dawn, or even holding your own ceremony at home.

At a time when we are all doing our bit to minimise the spread of coronavirus, some may be feeling isolated and I encourage everyone to think about reaching out to someone they know who has served, whether by phone, email, or even a letter.

On Anzac Day this year, the Australian War Memorial will televise a national dawn service on the ABC. I encourage you to watch this service and know that even though the day looks a little different to normal, we stand together as Australians in order to remember over a century of service and sacrifice.

Lest We Forget

