



MEDIA RELEASE: Ghosts of war will inspire remembrance mood

A platoon of 'ghost soldiers' – dressed in the military uniforms of past and current conflicts – will parade throughout Adelaide on Wednesday November 9. Each will carry a card bearing the name and service details of an Australian casualty of war.

The idea is to build community awareness, and develop a mood of widespread reflection, in the lead-up to Remembrance Day (November 11).

The 'ghost soldiers' platoon, comprising members of Re-enact SA, Barossa Light Horse Historical Association, and RSL volunteers has been recruited for the event. They will act as frontline ambassadors for the annual Poppy Appeal – the RSL's major fundraising initiative of the year. Poppies are available in a range of denominations from \$2 to \$50; the money raised provides relief for current and former members of the Australian Defence Force, and their dependants, at times of need.

Adelaide's 'ghost platoon' has been inspired by a similar initiative in the UK, in which groups wearing World War 1 uniform assembled at train stations and shopping centres to mark the Battle of the Somme centenary. Their appearances everywhere left an indelible impression on public consciousness, notably through mainstream media and internet exposure.

"It's a new way for us to engage with the community and highlight the spirit of remembrance," says RSL SA chief executive Julia Langrehr. "This will truly bring home the sacrifice and the loss suffered through war – and how we must never forget."

Members of the platoon will commemorate the Boer War, World War 1, World War 2, the Korean War, and Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq. They will appear in Rundle Mall and the Adelaide Railway Station from 8.00am, meet at the SA National War Memorial for a group photo at 10.00am, and then disperse back to the mall until 12.30pm.

WHAT: *Ghost Soldiers* re-enactment
WHEN: Wednesday November 9
WHERE: Rundle Mall and Adelaide Railway Station from 8.00am,
SA National War Memorial, North Terrace at 10.00am,
Then back to the mall until 12.30pm

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ATTACHED IMAGES: Scenes from UK 'Ghost Soldiers' campaign, July 2016

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