



'New age' plus tradition at 2016 ANZAC Day

18 April 2016

The ANZAC Day commemoration has become SA's biggest collective event. Last year's dawn services across the state attracted more than 300,000 people.

Buglers sounded Last Post and Reveille, wreaths were laid, the Ode to the Fallen recited, and two minutes' silence observed. Others chose to march, watch a march, or attend ANZAC-themed sporting functions.

This year, as the RSL marks its own centenary, it all gets underway well in advance of dawn on April 25 itself. The long weekend has created multiple opportunities for South Australians to commemorate.

On April 23 both the Thunderbirds (Priceline Stadium from 4.30pm) and the Power (Adelaide Oval from 7.10pm) will integrate ANZAC commemorations into their game day routines while the SA Jockey Club will host their traditional Race Day at Morphettville (12.30pm) in support of the RSL ANZAC Appeal.

Five local RSL's – Blackwood, Macclesfield, Morphett Vale, Murray Bridge, and Woodville – will hold their services on Sunday, April 24. That Sunday evening, downtown Adelaide starts its commemoration schedule too, with the RSL Youth Vigil (6pm, National War Memorial). The vigil lasts 12 hours, ending at the commencement of the dawn service.

The Adelaide march begins, from North Terrace, at 9.30am on Monday and is expected to include 6,000 participants marching towards the Cross of Sacrifice in Pennington Gardens, which has its own service following the march.

Large crowds are expected to gather for the march, and also experience the new ANZAC Centenary Memorial Garden Walk for the first time, connecting the National War Memorial with the Torrens Parade Ground. The RSL State Branch has re-badged the parade ground as the ANZAC Day Hub to accommodate the general public. Running throughout the day, it offers: food and drinks; toilets, seating and shade; displays and merchandise; live entertainment; and some respite for children including face painting and bouncy castle.

The commemoration continues at the traditional SANFL ANZAC Day clash, with the 2015 SANFL grand finalists (West Adelaide and Eagles) meeting at Adelaide Oval (1pm). The SANFL have provided free entry to veterans, current members of the Australian Defence Force and RSL SA members.

Returned & Services League of Australia (SA Branch) Inc

ANZAC House, Torrens Training Depot, Victoria Drive, Adelaide South Australia 5000

Telephone 08 8100 7300 Email admin@rslsa.org.au www.rslsa.org.au





The entire program for this revered day, which now expands a long weekend, can be found through a thoroughly 'new age' mechanism – the ANZAC Adelaide app. It's available from the iTunes App Store (for iPhones) or Google Play Store (for android phones).

Once it's downloaded, six options appear. They direct users to full information on dawn services, the ANZAC Day March and the sporting events. In addition, it eases the process of online donations to the ANZAC Appeal, the RSL's major annual fundraiser.

Cash collecting of a more conventional kind will take place throughout SA – at shopping centres and sporting arenas, and on street corners including Rundle Mall – from Friday, April 22.

Money raised from the appeal will, as always, enable the RSL to support past and present Defence personnel with medical assistance, counselling and advocacy, emergency accommodation, and food supply.

"The RSL congratulates and thanks everyone who contributes to our cause," says the president of the RSL (SA/NT), Brigadier Tim Hanna. "In particular, the remarkable increase in youth participation that we've seen in recent years has added an important dimension to our annual program of commemoration."

Further information: Darren Adamson (RSL Adelaide): tel. 8100 7310 m. 0404 077 634

The Dawn Services in SA and Order of March are available at www.rlsa.org.au

