



BULLETIN

TO: RSL SA/NT Sub-Branch Secretaries/Regional Co-Ordinators/RSL SA/NT Board Members/Staff

**FROM: IAN SMITH
ANZAC DAY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

DATE: 2nd March 2021

SUBJECT: ANZAC DAY IN ADELAIDE 2021

Dawn Service. In 2021, the Adelaide Dawn Service will be limited in size to 1,000, including 750 members of the general public, and the area around the National War Memorial will be fenced off and access controlled. One representative of each sub-branch will be invited to attend to place a tribute; any other sub-branch members who wish to attend will need to pre-register online (expected to open on 1 April), anyone attending will have to either be on the invited guest list or have a pre-registered ticket either on paper or on their phone and will have to scan a QR code or write down their name and contact number. As usual, the service will commence at 6 am, and will be live broadcast on ABC891 local radio, with a delayed and edited broadcast starting at 09:00 on ABC local TV.

Commemorative March. This year, the Commemorative March is limited to those who have served in the Australian armed forces or those of our allies, so no descendants groups (normally Groups 16 to 20). This is because we need the descendants' assembly areas in order to space marchers out, and the marshals that usually look after those five groups are needed to retrain as covid marshals. It also reduces the risk by reducing the number participating. When you arrive at your section assembly area, there will be a clipboard so you can either scan a QR code with your phone or write down your name and contact number. These will be collected by a covid marshal before step-off. All marchers will be four-abreast and at the open order. There will be no bands within groups in the March due to the unclear science around aerosol propagation by musical instruments, and also to reduce risk by reducing the numbers. Music will be provided by speakers along the route, piping music from three static service bands located near the National War Memorial. Step-off at the front of the March will be at 9.30 am. Detailed information about assembly areas (many of which have changed this year due to coronavirus management measures) will be available on the RSL SA/NT website closer to the day. Only immediate family members of those participating in the March should attend to watch the March. As usual, the March will be live broadcast by ABC local TV.

Service of Remembrance. The Service of Remembrance at the Cross of Sacrifice in Pennington Gardens after the March will also be limited in size to 1,000, including 750 members of the general public, fenced off and access controlled, with pre-registration for members of the general public. There will be a seat for the one invited representative of each sub-branch, but tributes are only placed by the Governor, Legacy youth and the War Widows' Guild. As usual, the service will be live broadcast by ABC local TV.

Any queries should be directed to Ian Smith, Chair, RSL (SA) Anzac Day Committee on 0413 909 080 or Anzac.Chair@rslsa.org.au. If you have any queries about the covid safe plans his committee has implemented for the Anzac Day events in the city and how they might be useful to make sub-branch services covid safe, please give him a call or send him an email.

Sub-Branches. In 2020 all formalities were cancelled. This year we have a bit more flexibility but need to accept that it is not back to normal, so adaptations need to be implemented. The authorities have been cooperative in helping us with managing compliance and trying to facilitate events, they are aware of the importance of Anzac Day in our society, but they have a greater duty to the population and the RSL is not exempt from its public responsibilities.

Public numbers are likely to be lower due to the covid changes and the success of the Light Up The Dawn concept.

We are now receiving amendments from Sub-Branches on the initial Anzac activities form they submitted to us a few weeks ago. Some are not proceeding with the large-scale, public events and are now holding ticketed/invitation only services within the clubrooms. Another had the covid safe plan not approved because they wanted to hold it as normal without sufficient crowd management precautions and are now going to a limited commemoration. While the public appreciate a Dawn Service, you are not obligated to conduct one if it impinges vastly on finances and resources. However, if you do conduct a Dawn Service, you will need to be covid compliant by obtaining a covid safe and management plan.

If you decide not to hold a public commemoration, then you can put a positive message out there for people to Light Up The Dawn; to visit the war memorial during the day to pay their respects; and to visit the RSL if it is open for trading.



IAN SMITH
Chair
RSL SA/NT Anzac Day Committee