

MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS

SENATOR THE HON. MICHAEL RONALDSON MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS MINISTER ASSISTING THE PRIME MINISTER FOR THE CENTENARY OF ANZAC SPECIAL MINISTER OF STATE

LOCAL GRANTS TO COMMEMORATE THE ANZAC SPIRIT

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs today announced a further \$6.3 million to fund 461 projects under the Anzac Centenary Local Grants Program, and additional funding towards six grants already awarded.

Minister Ronaldson said the funding would support a range of projects honouring Australia's servicemen and women as part of the Anzac Centenary national programme.

"The Centenary is the most significant period of commemoration in our nation's history. And, as such, the Australian Government is pleased to be supporting a number of commemorative, educational and cultural initiatives through the Anzac Centenary national programme," Minister Ronaldson said.

Amongst the diverse range of projects to receive funding are:

- the re-enactment of recruitment marches in a number NSW and Queensland electorates
- the projection of the names of the 849 First World War Fremantle soldiers on the Fremantle Town Hall

during the Fremantle Festival

- the broadcasting of the 2015 Anzac Day dawn service from Cronulla Park, NSW
- the restoration of a First World War Mark VI Field Ambulance and General Service Wagon which will

be used in First World War Centenary Parade and placed on permanent public display at Old Gippstown, Gippsland Heritage Park, Victoria

- various First World War exhibitions and displays across Australia.

Through the Anzac Centenary Local Grants Program more than 1,450 grants across 150 Federal electorates have been awarded funding to the value of \$15.8 million.

"It is outstanding to see so many local communities becoming involved with the Centenary so enthusiastically," Minister Ronaldson said. "We have seen incredible interest and support across the country for the Anzac Centenary Local Grants Program and communities have given great thought to how they can remember those who served in the First World War. The Anzac Centenary is a time for all Australians to commemorate a century of service and sacrifice."

More information about the Anzac Centenary Local Grants Program is available on the Anzac Centenary

website. The full list of grants approved 10 December 2014 to 20 February 2015 is available at the media release Local Grants to Commemorate the Anzac Spirit.

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Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS) and Veterans Line can be reached 24 hours a day across Australia for crisis support and free and confidential counselling.

Phone 1800 011 046 (international: +61 8 8241 4546).