



Media Release

The Hon Alan Griffin MP
Minister for Veterans' Affairs

VA045

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\$190,000 FOR PROJECTS TO HONOUR AUSTRALIA'S VETERANS

Projects honouring Australia's wartime heritage received a financial boost today with the announcement of \$190,412 in funding approved by the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Alan Griffin.

Mr Griffin said the funding for 69 projects is part of the Australian Government's *Saluting Their Service* grant program to help communities across the nation honour and commemorate our wartime history.

"The grants will fund local activities and initiatives that recognise the service and sacrifice of Australians who have served in wars, conflicts and peace operations," Mr Griffin said.

"Today, the Government is announcing funding for a range of projects including wartime exhibitions, restoring and upgrading memorials and cenotaphs and publishing previously untold unit histories.

"In particular, helping regional and rural communities across Australia maintain their places of remembrance is an important function of this grant program as these memorials play a central role in honouring local sons and daughters who have served the nation.

"Commemorative activities in local communities play a major role in encouraging Australians – especially younger Australians – to learn about our wartime experiences and provide an opportunity for veterans to share their stories.

"Australia has a proud service history that has been part of the lives of so many Australian families. The Government remains committed to honouring those who have served and continue to serve, ensuring their legacy is remembered for generations to come."

Mr Griffin encouraged local community and ex-service organisations interested in applying for funding to visit www.dva.gov.au or contact their nearest DVA office on 133 254 (for metropolitan callers) or 1800 555 254 (for non-metropolitan callers).

Editors note: *A list of grant recipients from each state is attached.*

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The VVCS – Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service can be contacted 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **1800 011 046**.

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Saluting Their Service grants Tasmanian recipients

- Northern Midlands Council will receive \$4000 to help restore two Second World War Minenwerfer guns at the Longford Cenotaph and install an interpretive plaque.
- Devonport RSL will receive \$3000 to help install a display case to exhibit wartime memorabilia.
- Scottsdale RSL will receive \$1000 to help install a secure display cabinet at the RSL's museum to house an M60 machine gun and SLR rifle from the Vietnam War.
- Beachcomber Press will receive \$3000 to help publish an autobiography of Phil Davenport's experiences as a pilot with 461 and 235 Squadrons during the Second World War.

Saluting Their Service grants Western Australian recipients

- St George's Cathedral in Perth will receive \$3000 to help install display cases in the Soldiers' Memorial Chapel to exhibit Lieutenant Sadlier's Victoria Cross and medal group along with Sergeant Charles Stokes full medal group.
- South Fremantle Football Club will receive \$3000 to help with the costs of the inaugural Sir Hughie Edwards VC Anzac Day Football Derby held at Fremantle Oval on Anzac Day 2009.
- Jarrahdale Community Association will receive \$2420 to help repair steps leading up to the Jarrahdale War Memorial and install a flagpole.
- Albany Lions Community Care Centre will receive \$680 to help install a flagpole to fly the Australian flag on commemorative occasions.
- Amana Living will receive \$1755 to help install a flagpole at the Lady McCusker Aged Care facility in Duncraig for use on commemorative occasions.
- RAAF No 9 Squadron Association will receive \$1050 to help with the costs of a commemorative service held at Kings Park in April 2009, marking the 40th anniversary of the Battle of Binh Ba.

Saluting Their Service grants Victorian recipients

- The 2/3rd Australian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment will receive \$3000 to help establish a website about the Regiment and its Second World War achievements.
- Barongarook Gardens will receive \$1639 to help install a flagpole to fly the Australian flag on commemorative occasions.
- Heidelberg RSL will receive \$2028 to help restore the Heidelberg War Memorial including cleaning the memorial and enhancing the lettering.
- The Rotary Club of Dingley Village will receive \$4000 to help install a new memorial dedicated to Australian veterans who served in all wars and conflicts.
- Chelsea Manor will receive \$3000 to help install a flagpole in their Anzac Rose Garden to fly the Australian flag on commemorative occasions.
- Hellenic RSL will receive \$3000 to help publish a book based on the oral histories of Greek-Australian servicemen who fought in Vietnam.
- Girgarre RSL will receive \$4000 to help erect a memorial commemorating local veterans who lost their lives serving in wars and conflicts; and an additional \$4000 to restore and relocate a 25 pounder artillery piece and attach interpretive panels explaining its use in action.
- Stratford Primary School will receive \$925 to help research former students who have served in the Australian Defence Force and publish the information in a booklet.
- Loch Public Hall Historical Society will receive \$3950 to help upgrade the Loch War Memorial to commemorate First World War veterans.
- Macarthur RSL will receive \$3000 to help restore and frame wartime photographs, and purchase a display cabinet to exhibit wartime memorabilia.
- Yarra Glen RSL will receive \$3000 to help erect a new memorial at the entrance of the Anzac Avenue of Honour dedicated to local veterans who served in the First World War.
- Skipton and District Historical Society will receive \$3350 to help replace roll of honour plaques on the Skipton War Memorial with more accurate versions.
- St Joseph's College in Echuca will receive \$4000 to help build a memorial garden in their grounds to commemorate local veterans who served in wars and conflicts.

Saluting Their Service grants South Australian recipients

- Tarlee Community Services will receive \$220 to help install a memorial plaque at the base of the Lone Pine tree in Tarlee.
- Norwood Primary School will receive \$4000 to help restore their deteriorating First World War Memorial.
- The SA Branch of the Women's Royal Australian Naval Service Association will receive \$2000 to help with the costs of their national reunion held in Adelaide in April 2009.
- Macclesfield RSL will receive \$3759 to help restore the Avenue of Honour at the Macclesfield War Memorial Community Oval Gates including planting several new trees.
- Port Germein Progress Association will receive \$4000 to help replace 63 deteriorated plaques at the base of the Port Germein Second World War Avenue of Honour.
- Blinman Progress Association will receive \$1360 to help install a flagpole and plaque at the front of the Blinman Memorial Hall commemorating veterans from all wars and conflicts.
- Brinkworth Koolunga Yacka RSL will receive \$1650 to help restore a First World War memorial plaque on the Brinkworth War Memorial.
- Barmera RSL will receive \$2900 to help install a display cabinet to exhibit wartime memorabilia donated by soldier settlers from the district.
- Victor Harbor RSL will receive \$2550 to help erect a Long Tan Cross in the local War Memorial Gardens to commemorate local veterans who served in the Vietnam War; and an additional \$3000 to research and compile a written and visual history of local soldiers who died in the First World War.

Saluting Their Service grants Queensland recipients

- Greenbank RSL will receive \$4000 to help install a shade cloth over the Greenbank War Memorial, providing sun protection for visitors attending commemorative services.
- No 9 Squadron Association will receive \$5663 to help purchase a banner for each state for use at Anzac Day parades and other commemorative events.
- Beenleigh & District RSL will receive \$2750 to help install bookshelves for a planned RSL Museum Library which will house an extensive wartime book collection.

- The Queensland Branch of The Royal Australian Regiment Association will receive \$1187 to help publish two booklets for visitors to the Memorial Walk at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera.
- A Section 1 Topographical Survey Troop will receive \$950 to help hold their first reunion in Brisbane in September. The unit served in South Vietnam and was based at Nui Dat.
- Blackall-Tambo Regional Council will receive \$11,000 to help undertake several projects including installing three interpretive boards in the Blackall Memorial Park Precinct; refurbishing and relocating honour boards to the new culture centre facility; and to help fund commemorative activities for the opening and rededication of the Park held in April 2009.
- The Queensland Branch of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam Association will receive \$4000 to help improve the grounds in front of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam War Memorial in Canungra for commemorative services.
- Mary Valley State College in Imbil will receive \$2484 to help create a memorial garden for use on days of commemoration.
- St Francis Xavier Catholic School in Runaway Bay will receive \$4000 to help create an Anzac Garden for use on days of commemoration.
- Kilcoy RSL will receive \$4000 to help replace plaques on the Kilcoy Korean War Memorial; and an additional \$3000 to install two display cabinets to exhibit wartime memorabilia.
- Mr Max Emery will receive \$3000 to help publish a unit history of the 8th Light Horse Regiment, Australian Imperial Force 1914-1919.

Saluting Their Service grants New South Wales recipients

- Blaxland/Glenbrook RSL will receive \$4000 to help attach three plaques to the Blaxland/Glenbrook War Memorial listing the names of 150 local veterans who served Australia in wars, conflicts and peace operations.
- Eltham Public School will receive \$3000 to help install a memorial garden, with a commemorative plaque featuring the Royal Australian Navy, Australian Army, and Royal Australian Air Force logos, dedicated to those who served in all wars and conflicts.
- The Brisbane Waters Sub-branch of the National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia will receive \$3675 to help erect a new memorial in Woy Woy Memorial Park dedicated to veterans who served during the Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation.

- The Royal Australian Survey Corps Association will receive \$1595 to help replace a deteriorated banner for use at Anzac Day marches and other commemorative events.
- The NSW Branch of the National Servicemen's Association of Australia will receive \$1080 to help restore a 1928 photograph of the first Anzac Day service held at the Martin Place Cenotaph in Sydney for display at the Ingleburn Military Precinct Bardia and RSL headquarters.
- City of Lismore RSL will receive \$850 to help relocate the National Servicemen and Legacy memorials located at the Lismore Memorial Baths to a more prominent position in Lismore Memorial Park.
- Bathurst Regional Council will receive \$4000 to help construct a new war memorial at the Yetholme Community Hall for use by the community on days of commemoration.
- Coledale RSL will receive \$2238 to help replace the deteriorated flagpole located at the Coledale War Memorial.
- Abermain RSL will receive \$2100 to help plant native trees at the rear of the Abermain War Memorial to screen it from the rail line and install a bench seat for elderly visitors.
- The 52nd Australian Composite Anti-Aircraft Regiment Australian Imperial Force Association will receive \$1162 to help install a plaque at the Australian War Memorial dedicated to the Regiment.
- HMAS *Vampire* Association will receive \$1550 to help hold a reunion at the Darling Harbour Maritime Museum on 23 June 2009 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the commissioning of HMAS *Vampire II*.
- Gloucester RSL will receive \$3000 to help install two display cabinets to exhibit wartime memorabilia.
- The Frank Partridge VC Military Museum in Bowraville will receive \$2240 to help purchase equipment for audio visual displays depicting Australia's involvement in all theatres of war.
- Crescent Head Lions Club will receive \$4000 to help replace the badly deteriorated Crescent Head War Memorial.
- Manly Warringah War Memorial Park Remembrance Trust will receive \$1849 to help install a flagpole to fly the Australian flag on days of commemoration.
- Avalon Beach RSL will receive \$638 to help apply anti-graffiti protection to the Avalon Beach RSL War Memorial to protect it from vandalism.

- Presbyterian Aged Care Ashleigh Lodge Nursing Home will receive \$1144 to help install a flagpole for use by residents on days of commemoration.
- The NSW Branch of the 5/7th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment Association will receive \$791 to help purchase a banner for use during commemorative marches.
- Singleton High School will receive \$2630 to help cover the costs of an Anzac Day service held at the school with a focus on the Vietnam War.
- Liverpool City Council will receive \$4000 to help landscape the new Liverpool Regional War Memorial in Bigge Park including installing a path, benches, turf, trees and other plantings.
- The ACT Branch of the Submarines Association Australia will receive \$600 to help purchase a new lightweight banner for use at Anzac Day services and other commemorative events.
- Gold Coast South-Twin Towns Branch of the National Servicemen's Association of Australia will receive \$4000 to help install a memorial with commemorative plaques at Point Danger in Coolangatta commemorating 287,000 National Servicemen who served between 1951 and 1972.
- The National Office of the Reserve Forces Day Council will receive \$3000 to help publish a commemorative souvenir booklet titled *The 39ers* to mark the 70th anniversary of the start of the Second World War.