



MEDIA ALERT

Lone Pine tree notches up 75 years

This Saturday, 24 October, marks the 75th anniversary of the planting of the Lone Pine tree in the grounds of the Australian War Memorial.

Tomorrow, Ray Hasler, who was present at the original planting of the tree by the Duke of Gloucester in 1934, will be available for interview at the Memorial.

An Australian War Memorial historian will also be on hand for interviews about the Battle of Lone Pine.

The pine cone was sent to Australia by Lance Corporal Benjamin Smith, whose brother was killed in the battle for Lone Pine Ridge on 6 August, 1915. Smith's mother grew two seedlings, one of which was planted at the Australian War Memorial in honour of her own and others' sons who fell at Lone Pine.

Cuttings from the Lone Pine are propagated and available from Yarralumla Nursery for ceremonial purposes and are now grown throughout Australia.

What:	75 th anniversary of the planting of the Lone Pine tree
Where:	At the Lone Pine tree (Sculpture Garden) Australian War Memorial Treloar Crescent, Campbell, ACT
When:	9.30am, Friday, 23 October

Further information:

<http://www.awm.gov.au/encyclopedia/lone.asp>

http://www.awm.gov.au/units/event_71.asp

<http://cas.awm.gov.au/art/ART41017>

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