REMEMBRANCE DAY

2018 NATIONAL CEREMONY

SUNDAY 11 NOVEMBER, 10.30 AM
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
“It is over.  
*The enormous effort of the men – yes, and women and children – of every decent nation is finished. The last gun has sounded.*”

Charles Bean  
Australia’s official First World War historian

The end of the First World War came suddenly. The Armistice that had brought an end to the fighting was signed in a railway carriage in a forest clearing in Compiègne, France, on 11 November 1918. Six hours later, at 11am, the guns fell silent after four years of fighting.

The diggers had been spared from none of the horrors. Their dead lay strewn across numerous battlefields, and among the survivors were tens of thousands who had been wounded.

The Armistice brought victory to the allied nations, but also sadness. Back home there seemed little to show for the dreadful loss of life, the disruption, and the grief. Yet Australia had changed. Amid the sorrow and suffering was a pride in the nation’s achievements and a new confidence about its place in the world.
Welcome to the Australian War Memorial on Remembrance Day 2018, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended the First World War.

Order of Service

Arrivals
The Honourable Scott Morrison MP, Prime Minister of Australia, and Mrs Jenny Morrison

Playing of the Didgeridoo
Wing Commander Jonathan Lilley
Air Force Senior Indigenous Liaison Officer and member of the Worimi people

The Ode
Mr John King, representing the National President of the Returned and Services League of Australia

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

The Last Post
One Minute’s Silence
The Rouse
Response
Lest we forget.
Commemorative Address
The Prime Minister of Australia, the Honourable Scott Morrison MP

Laying of Wreaths
Wreaths will be laid by the following or their representative:

• The Prime Minister of Australia
  The National President of the War Widows’ Guild of Australia, accompanied by a widow of contemporary operations

• The Chief Minister of the Australian Capital Territory
• The Speaker of the House of Representatives
  The President of the Senate

• The Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia
• The Leader of the Federal Opposition
• The Chief of the Defence Force
  The Chairman of the Council of the Australian War Memorial
  The National President of the Returned and Services League of Australia

• The Chief of Navy
  The Chief of Army
  The Chief of Air Force

• The National President of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Veterans and Services Association
• The National President of the Naval Association of Australia
  The National President of the Air Force Association
  The National President of the Australian Federation of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Servicemen and Women

• The Chairman of Legacy Australia and Junior Legatees
Hymn

O God, our help in ages past

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy Saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

Laying of Wreaths

Members of the Diplomatic Corps will lay wreaths on behalf of the citizens of their countries.

Epitaphs

The Honourable Bill Shorten MP, Leader of the Federal Opposition

Musical Performances

Mr John Schumann OAM and Mr Lee Kernaghan OAM
and The Vagabond Crew
National Anthem

Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are young and free;
We’ve golden soil and wealth for toil;
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature’s gifts
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history’s page, let every stage
Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.

Acknowledgements

Master of Ceremonies: Mr Scott Bevan
Australia’s Federation Guard
Band of the Royal Military College, Duntroon
Mr John Schumann OAM and The Vagabond Crew
Mr Lee Kernaghan OAM

FRONT COVER IMAGE: An Australian Light Horseman collects anemones near Belah in Palestine, c. 1918. Frank Hurley, P03631.046

Last Post Ceremony

The eulogy for the Unknown Australian Soldier, first delivered by the Honourable Paul Keating in 1993, will be read at today’s Last Post Ceremony at 4.55 pm in the Commemorative Area.

The Last Post Ceremony is also streamed live on the Memorial’s YouTube channel and Facebook page. These can be accessed via the Memorial website at www.awm.gov.au.
The Unknown Australian Soldier

Today marks the 25th anniversary of the interment of the Unknown Australian Soldier, who represents all Australians who have been killed in war. At the head of the tomb are the words, “Known unto God”, and at the foot, “He is all of them and he is one of us.”

Plans to honour an unknown Australian soldier were first put forward in the 1920s, but it was not until 1993 that one was at last brought home. To mark the 75th anniversary of the end of the First World War, the remains of the soldier were recovered from Adelaide Cemetery near Villers-Bretonneux in France and transported to Australia. After lying in state in King’s Hall in Old Parliament House, the Unknown Australian Soldier was interred in the Hall of Memory at the Memorial on 11 November 1993. He was buried with a bayonet and a sprig of wattle in a Tasmanian blackwood coffin, and soil from Pozières was scattered in his tomb.
In Flanders fields
In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
    That mark our place; and in the sky
    The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
    Loved and were loved, and now we lie
    In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
    The torch; be yours to hold it high.
    If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
    In Flanders fields.

John McCrae