

## ACKNOWLEDGING

Professor the Hon. Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO

Councillor Christine Forster, representing The City of Sydney

Mr. Paul Leroy, Honorary Consul of Belgium in New South Wales

Senior Defence Personnel

Lt. Col. Paul Simadas RFD, representing The Australian Army

Wing Commander David Mason, representing RAAF AVM Steven Robertson

DSC AM, Air Commander Australia

CAPT Stephen Bowater, representing RAN Rear Admiral Stuart Mayer AO CSC  
and Bar, Fleet Commander

NSW Centenary of Anzac Advisory Councillors

Mr Ron Brown, President of the National Serviceman's Association (NSW)

Mr Will Davies, Historian and author

Lieutenant Colonel Colin Dunston RFD, Past President of Sydney Legacy

Mrs Olwyn Green OAM, Korean War Widow

Mrs Wendy Thompson, Past President NSW War Widows Guild of Australia

Mrs Diane Vogt representing the President, NSW War Widows Guild of  
Australia

Ms Louise Ferguson: Director, Strategy & Coordination, Educational Services  
representing the Secretary, Department of Education as Trustee of the Anzac Memorial

Mr Alexander Weilsmann, Director of Institutional Relationships & United Nations Day  
Adviser, UNAA (NSW)

Mr Greg Cowle, President & Mrs Karen Dawson, Secretary, Australian World War One  
Descendants



The Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc (FFFAIF) is a not for profit registered charitable organisation whose purpose is to commemorate the service, sacrifice and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of The Great War of 1914-18, and of their families and friends. It is a non-political, non-sectarian and non-racial association of people who are interested in promoting a better understanding of what the AIF did and stands for.

The Digger in the photo is not known and it is hoped that he will be recognised and his identity restored.

Photo courtesy Sharon Barrett

For further information, please go to

[www.ffaif.org.au](http://www.ffaif.org.au)

[secretary@ffaif.org.au](mailto:secretary@ffaif.org.au)

PO Box 4245, FORSTER, NSW 2428



# Commemoration of the Centenary of the Battles of Third Ypres

including

**Menin Road, 20-25 September**

**Polygon Wood, 26 September to 3 October**

**Broodseinde, 4 October**

**Poelcapelle, 9 October**

**Passchendaele (First Battle), 12 October**

## ORDER OF SERVICE

**ANZAC MEMORIAL HYDE PARK SYDNEY**

**Tuesday 26 September 2017**



His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd)  
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

### *Third Battle of Ypres Service - 2017*

A century ago, Australian soldiers fought alongside allies from Britain and New Zealand as part of the Third Battle of Ypres.

The battles of this campaign were to be some of the most desperate and deadly of the Great War. At places like Menin Road, Polygon Wood and Passchendaele our soldiers would experience the full fury of trench warfare. Tragically there were some 38,000 Australian casualties, and casualties on all sides was in the vicinity of 900,000.

Today we remember all who served and pay our deepest respects to those who lost their lives. Our presence here today, our reverence each and every day, ensures the deeds of those young men who fought so far from home is always remembered and is always close to our nation's heart. Their character has become part of us and who we aspire to be, the bonds they forged with our allies—and with those we fought—lives on.

Today we remember the Third Battle of Ypres, and we vow that time will never diminish the magnitude or importance of the sacrifices made by so many in our name.



### College van Burgemeester en Schepenen

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### FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF Inc

UW BERICHT VAN UW KENMERK ONS KENMERK IEPER  
JVrs/2017915 15 sept. 2017

### Commemoration of the Centenary of the Third Battle of Ypres ANZAC Memorial, Sydney, 26 September 2017

Dear President Jim Munro,  
Honourable Ladies and Gentlemen,

We, the City of Ypres, City of Peace, in Flanders, Belgium acknowledge the efforts and the dedication of your organisation towards the commemoration of the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force in the Great War 1914-18 and of their families and friends.

Your organisation of a Commemoration of the Centenary of the Third Battle of Ypres at the ANZAC memorial in Sydney on Tuesday September 26 is an extremely great honour to us.

Therefore we are proud to send you this message from the City of Ypres, City of Peace in Flanders Fields in Belgium:

*At the In Flanders Fields Museum in the Cloth Hall in Ypres, every day, and on the day exactly one hundred years after their death, the casualties of the First World War in Belgium are commemorated. Today, 26 September 2017, 4,972 names will be projected on the museum walls. Of those 677 names are Australian, belonging to men who were killed in the Battle of Polygon Wood, as part of the 1917 Third Battle of Ypres. In relative terms it was the most successful action by the ANZAC Corps in Belgium. During the First World War 14,271 Australians were killed or mortally wounded in Belgium, more than 90% of whom died during the summer and autumn of 1917, when the Australian Imperial Force helped to support the British offensive towards Passchendaele..*

*This loss for Australia in the Great European War has forged a lasting link between Belgium and Australia, which is daily commemorated with a Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing in Ypres. On the walls of the gate 6,179 Australian missing are commemorated. The other 8,000 Australian dead in Belgium are buried and honoured in war graves cemeteries across the former front zone. That immense presence and absence of Australian lives is not forgotten.*

*The Menin Gate lions at the entrance of the war memorial in Canberra are daily reminders of our bond in time. Annually Australians visit Belgium and Ypres, and also Belgians come to visit Australia. The city of Ypres itself that was completely destroyed and reconstructed, and that receives now annually hundreds of thousands of pilgrims and visitors from across the world, has taken on a new identity. Ypres is a City of Peace now, and wants to remind us the ties that bind us with Australia and many other nations, should be our advocates for lasting peace in the world.*

We wish you a good receipt of this letter and our "Message from Ypres, Belgium". We can assure you that our thoughts will be with you on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

Yours sincerely

Ir. Jef Verschoore  
President of the In Flanders Fields Museum, Ypres  
First Deputy Mayor City of Ypres, deputy for the Remembrance 14-18  
Provincial councillor.

# Commemoration of the Centenary of the Battles of Third Ypres

## GATHERING SONGS

*Nearer My God to Thee* and *God Bless Australia*

Australian Army Band Sydney under the direction of  
Officer Commanding and Music Director, Major Matt Chilmaid

## WELCOME

Mr. Darren Mitchell  
Master of Ceremonies

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Mr Harry Allie BEM: Chair of the NSW Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
Veterans Commemoration Service Committee  
NSW Centenary of Anzac Advisory Council

## *Recessional*

Led by the Australian Army Band Sydney  
featuring Musician Jeff Camilleri

## VICE REGAL MESSAGE

His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC  
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia; and  
FFFAIF Patron-in-Chief

## MESSAGE FROM BELGIUM

Mrs. Andrée Kerremans  
Consul at the Embassy of Belgium

## PROLOGUE

The Hon. Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC  
Representing The Hon David Elliott MP, Minister for Veterans' Affairs

## PRAYER

Pastor Bob Durbin  
Chaplain, RSL LifeCare

## *Abide with Me*

Led by the Australian Army Band Sydney  
featuring Musician Amelia Johnson

## COMMEMORATIVE ADDRESS

*The Road to Passchendaele*

Emeritus Professor John Ramsland OAM

## FAMILY REFLECTION

Judy Wood  
FFFAIF

## WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

*Lament*

Piper Jim Braid  
NSW Scottish Regimental Association

## THE ODE

Mr Joshua Favalaro  
NSW Centenary of Anzac Advisory Council

## THE LAST POST

Bugler: Bandsman Ross Griffiths  
Fire and Rescue New South Wales Band

## SILENCE

## THE ROUSE

Bugler: Bandsman Ross Griffiths

## *Oh Passchendaele*

Musician Amelia Johnson  
and the Australian Army Band Sydney

## PRAYER AND BLESSING

Pastor Bob Durbin

## EPILOGUE

Mr. Jim Munro  
President, Families and Friends of the First AIF

## THE NATIONAL ANTHEMS OF BELGIUM, NZ, UK & AUSTRALIA

Led by Musicians Amelia Johnson and Jeff Camilleri  
with the Australian Army Band Sydney

### NEARER MY GOD TO THEE

1. *Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer to thee!  
E'en though it be a cross  
That raiseth me.  
Still all my song shall be  
Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer to thee!*

2. *Though like the wanderer,  
The sun gone down,  
Darkness be over me,  
My rest a stone,  
Yet in my dreams I'd be  
Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer to thee!*

### GOD BLESS AUSTRALIA

*Here in this God-given land of ours Australia,  
This proud possession, our own piece of earth,  
That was built by our fathers who pioneered our heritage,  
Here in Australia, the land of our birth.*

*God bless Australia, our land Australia,  
Home of the ANZACs, the strong and the free,  
It's our homeland, our own land, to cherish for eternity,  
God bless Australia, the land of the free.*

*Here in Australia we treasure love and liberty,  
Our way of life, all for one, one for all,  
We're a peace-loving race, but should danger ever threaten us,  
Let the world know we will answer the call.*

*God bless Australia, our land Australia,  
Home of the ANZACs, the strong and the free,  
It's our homeland, our own land, to cherish for eternity,  
God bless Australia, the land of the free.*

### RECESSIONAL

*God of our fathers, known of old,  
Lord of our far-flung battle-line,  
Beneath whose awful Hand we hold  
Dominion over palm and pine—  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!*

*The tumult and the shouting dies;  
The Captains and the Kings depart:  
Still stands Thine ancient sacrifice,  
An humble and a contrite heart.  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!*

### ABIDE WITH ME

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens;  
Lord, with me abide;  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;  
Change and decay in all around I see;  
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.*

*Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.*

### THE NATIONAL ANTHEMS OF BELGIUM, NEW ZEALAND, UNITED KINGDOM & AUSTRALIA

#### Brabançonne

*O beloved Belgium, sacred land of our fathers,  
Our heart and soul are dedicated to you.  
Our strength and the blood of our veins we offer,  
Be our goal, in work and battle.  
Prosper, O country, in unbreakable unity,  
Always be yourself and free.  
Trust in the word that, undaunted, you can speak:  
For King, for Freedom and for Law.  
For King, for Freedom and for Law.  
(repeat previous two lines)*

#### God Defend New Zealand

*God of nations! at Thy feet  
In the bonds of love we meet,  
Hear our voices, we entreat,  
God defend our Free Land.  
Guard Pacific's triple star,  
From the shafts of strife and war,  
Make her praises heard afar,  
God defend New Zealand*

#### God Save The Queen

*God save our gracious Queen.  
Long live our noble Queen  
God save the Queen  
Send her victorious  
Happy and glorious  
Long to reign over us  
God save the Queen*

#### Advance Australia Fair

*Australians all let us rejoice  
For we are young and free  
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,  
Our land 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*