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80TH ANNIVERSARY

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# BATTLE OF CRETE & GREECE

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1941 - 2021



2021 VICTORIAN PROGRAM UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE  
BATTLE OF CRETE & GREECE COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL



## **FEBRUARY**

### **CEREMONY**

The Trustees of the Australian Ex-Prisoners of War Memorial in conjunction with the City of Ballarat are hosting the 17th Anniversary Service of the Memorial, which will be held as a virtual service on Sunday 14th February at 11:00am, in honour of all Prisoners of War that have served Australia. The Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council will visit and lay a wreath at the Olive Tree and Plaque situated at the Memorial park in Ballarat during 2021. The service can be viewed live at [www.powmemorialballarat.com.au](http://www.powmemorialballarat.com.au). For more information please contact Memorial Trustee Mr. Bill Bahr on 0419 500 983.

### **THEATRE PERFORMANCE**

Highlight Productions in conjunction with the City of Boroondara and with the support of the Cretan Federation of Australia & New Zealand are proud to present "Blood and Bone", a play set in WWII about friendship won in Crete and Greece, written by Meg McNena and directed by Demetra Giannakopoulos. The performance will take place on Sunday 21st February at 3.30pm, at the Renaissance Theatre, 829 High Street Kew. For bookings and more information please call 0412 320 480.

## **MARCH**

### **NATIONAL ART COMPETITION**

The Cretan Youth of Australia & New Zealand are launching the National Art Competition which is based around the Battle of Crete titled "Our History through the eyes of the next Generation" during April 2021 (exact date will be advertised closer to the time). All Greek Australian Youth are invited to enter and take part in the competition. Entries will close in the first week of June and the winners will be announced on social media. For more information please contact the National Youth President Ms. Polina Nikolakakis on 0413 902 875.

### **ANZAC BISCUIT TIN MEDIA LAUNCH**

The Cretan Federation of Australia & New Zealand and the Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council in conjunction with Major League Brands are launching a series of 6 Anzac Biscuit Tins with different designs commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Crete. The launch will take place on Tuesday 16th March at the Cretan House, 148 – 150 Nicholson Street East Brunswick at 4.00pm. The tins will be exclusively distributed through all the Woolworths, Coles and Aldi stores across Australia.



## **ONLINE PRESENTATION**

The City of Kingston in conjunction with Highlight Productions under the auspices of the Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council are hosting a free online talk titled "Bonds Forged in WW2 Outlast the Battles." about the Australian and Greek friendship that grew from WW2. The discussion will be led by the Director of the theatrical play Blood & Bone Ms. Demetra Giannakopoulos and the Writer Ms Meg McNena. The online presentation is taking place on Wednesday 24 March at 7pm to 8.00pm. For more information, please contact Ms. Meg McNena on 0412 320 480.

## **APRIL**

### **SCHOOL COMPETITION**

The Australian Hellenic Memorial Foundation is launching the 9th Annual Victorian Schools Competition highlighting the 80th Anniversary for the Battle of Crete. The Competition will be launched on Monday 5th April 2021. The Presentation Ceremony will take place on Sunday 17th October. For more information please contact Mr. Manuel Karvelas on 0400 629 597.

### **TRADITIONAL CRETAN GLENDI**

The Pancretan Association of Melbourne and the Cretan Brotherhood of Melbourne are hosting a Traditional Cretan Glendi on Saturday 17th April at 7.00pm, at the Cretan Village, 90 Cathies Lane, Wantirna South. For more information please contact Mr Manolis Starakis on 0408 246 722.

### **CHURCH SERVICE & DOXOLOGY**

The Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council in conjunction with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia are hosting a Church Service and a Doxology commemorating the 80th Anniversary for the Battle of Crete. The Service will be presided by His Eminence Archbishop of Australia MAKARIOS, on Sunday 18th April at 10.00am, at St. Efstathios Cathedral, 221 Dorcas Street South Melbourne. For more information please contact Mrs. Natasha Spanos on 0449 232 783.

### **OFFICIAL PARADE & WREATH LAYING CEREMONY**

The Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council are hosting the Official Parade and Wreath Laying Ceremony commemorating the 80th Anniversary for the Battle of Crete on Sunday 18th April 11.30am, at the Forecourt of the Shrine of Remembrance. For more information please contact Mr. Jim Papadimitriou 0411 224 532.



### **CEREMONY**

The Australian Hellenic Memorial Foundation is hosting a Ceremony on Sunday 18th April at 12.45am at the Australian Hellenic Memorial in the Domain Gardens. For more information please contact Mr. Peter Andrinopoulos on 0416 020 865.

### **OFFICIAL LUNCHEON**

The Cretan Brotherhood of Melbourne and the Pancretan Association of Melbourne are hosting the Official Battle of Crete Commemorative Luncheon to commemorate the 80th Anniversary for the Battle of Crete on Sunday 18th April 2020 at 2.00pm, at the Cretan House, 148 – 150 Nicholson Street Brunswick East. For more information please contact Mr. Michael Houdalakis on 0408 855 109.

### **OFFICIAL LECTURE**

The Cretan Federation of Australia and New Zealand in conjunction with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia are hosting a lecture by His Eminence Archbishop MAKARIOS titled “The Role of the Church during the Battle of Crete in 1941 to 1945” on Monday 19th April 2021 at 6.00pm. The lecture will be held inside the church at the Holy Monastery Axion Estin, 7 Hartington St, Northcote. For more information contact Mr Tony Tsourdalakis on 0419 856 736.

### **SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**

The Oakleigh Grammar School is hosting a School Assembly to commemorate ANZAC Day and the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Crete on Thursday 22nd April 2021 at 10.30am, in the School Sport Complex. For more information please contact Mrs. Natasha Spanos on 0449 232 783.

### **CEREMONY**

The Austin Repatriation Hospital is commemorating the 80th Anniversary for the Battle of Crete with a Ceremony on Friday 23rd April 2021 at 10.30am, in honour of the ANZACs that fell that were connected to the Hospital, in the Remembrance Garden, Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital, 300 Waterdale Rd, Heidelberg Heights. For more information please contact Mr. Robert Winther on 9496 2324.

## **ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE**

The Australian Greek Ex Servicemen's Association in conjunction with the Shepparton RSL Sub Branch are commemorating ANZAC Day with a Dawn Service on Sunday 25th April 2021 at 6.00am at the Shepparton Cenotaph. For information please contact Mr. Peter Dourios on 0408 530 177.

## **ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICES – RSL SUB BRANCHES**

Due to uncertainty caused by Covid-19 restrictions, details of commemorative events and dawn services being held by our affiliate RSL sub-branches were not available at the time of printing this program. For more information contact the respective RSL sub-branches below:

- Essendon RSL Sub Branch – Mr Ange Kenos, 0408 999 003
- Darebin RSL Sub Branch - Mr. Robert Cross, 9484 4353
- Oakleigh & Carnegie RSL Sub Branch - Ms. Ann Barker, 0419 552 809
- Boronia RSL Sub Branch – Mr Rod Canobie, 0418 124 958
- Ringwood RSL Sub Branch - Ms. Shirley Devery on 0449 022 820

## **MAY**

### **OLIVE TREE PLANTING & PLAQUE UNVEILING**

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia, Northcote District in conjunction with the Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council, under the auspices of the 2021 Victorian Bicentenary Committee are planning an Olive Tree Planting and Plaque Unveiling Ceremony at the Robinvale Cenotaph, Swan Hill to mark the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Crete and the 200th Anniversary of the Hellenic Independence. The event will take place on Monday 4th May 2021 at 11.30am, which is also the feast day of St. George which is situated in the Victorian town of Robinvale. For more information please contact Father Gary Peripetsakis on 0401 296 346.

### **COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE**

The Society of Kalamata 23rd March is hosting a Commemorative Service for the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Kalamata on Sunday 16th May 2021 at 12.30pm, at the Australian Hellenic Memorial, Domain Gardens, corner Birdwood Avenue & Government House Drive. For more information please contact Mr. Peter Andrinopoulos on 0416 020 865.



## OFFICIAL LECTURE

The Greek Orthodox Community of Melbourne in conjunction with the Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council are hosting an official lecture at the Greek Centre on Thursday 6th May 2020 at 6.30pm by the Convenor of the Australian Football Heritage Group, Mrs Barbara Cullen, titled "ANZACs in Greece who played VFL / AFL Leagues". For more information please contact Mr. Nick Dallas on 0403 047 063.

## JUNE

### VISIT

The Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council will visit and lay a wreath at the Olive Tree and Plaque situated in the confines of Memorial park at the Epping RSL on Monday 7th June at 10.00am. The Memorial is situated at Harvest Home Rd, Epping. For more information, please contact Mr. Kevin Ind on 9408 1556.

### VISIT

The Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council will visit and lay a wreath at the Olive Tree and Plaque situated in the confines of Memorial park at the Pascoe Vale RSL on Monday 7th June at 1.00pm. The Memorial is situated at 40 Cumberland Rd Pascoe Vale. For more information, please contact Mr. Tom Parkinson on 9354 6364.

## DOCUMENTARY LAUNCH

The Cretan Federation of Australia & New Zealand will launch the Documentary titled "A lot of time for the Greek" which highlights the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Crete. The documentary was presented by Dr. Peter Ever and was directed by Mr. John Irwin. The event will take place on Wednesday 23rd June 2021 at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start, at the Education Auditorium at the Shrine of Remembrance, Domain Gardens. For more information, please contact Mr. Tony Tsourdalakis 0419856736.

## AUGUST

### CEREMONY

The Lemnos Gallipoli Commemorative Committee will be hosting its official Service on Saturday 8th August 2021 at 11:00am, at the Lemnos Gallipoli Memorial, Lemnos Square, Foote Street Albert Park. For more information please contact Mr Lee Tarlamis on 0411 553 009.

## OCTOBER

### CEREMONY

The Australian Greek Ex Servicemen's Association in conjunction with the Shepparton RSL Sub Branch are commemorating the 28th October OXI Day for the World War II on Sunday 17th October 2021 at 11.00am at the Shepparton Cenotaph. For information please contact Mr. Peter Dourios on 0408 530 177.

### AWARDS CEREMONY

The Australian Hellenic Memorial Foundation is hosting the official School Competition Awards Ceremony at the Australian Hellenic Memorial in the Domain Gardens on Sunday 17th October at 11.00am. For more information please contact Mr. Manuel Karvelas on 0400 629 597.

### DOXOLOGY & CEREMONY

The Australian Greek Ex Servicemen's Association is hosting the Official Doxology and Wreath Ceremony for the 28th October OXI Day on Sunday 24th October 2021 at 12.00pm, at the Hellenic Memorial in Northcote. For information please contact Mr. Peter Dourios on 0408 530 177.

### LIBERATION DAY

The Thessaloniki Association "White Tower" is hosting its Official Liberation of Thessaloniki Day Ceremony on Sunday 24th October 2020 at 12.00pm, at the Hellenic Memorial in Northcote. For information please contact Mr. Paul Mavroudis on 0418 353 086.

### CEREMONY

The Lemnos Gallipoli Commemorative Committee is hosting a Commemorative Service for the Armistice of Moudros at the Shrine of Remembrance on Saturday 31st October 2021. The Commemorative Service will commence at 11.45am and people are asked to assemble at the Lemnos Tree in the WW1 Section of the Shrine Grounds located behind the large flag poles at 11.15am. For more information please contact Mr Lee Tarlamis on 0411 553 009.

## NOVEMBER

The Cretan Federation of Australia & New Zealand in conjunction with Australia Post are launching the Commemorative Stamp and Commemorative Envelope marking the 80th Anniversary for the Battle of Crete in honour of the ANZAC's that fought and fell in Crete. Event details to be advised. For further information please contact Mr. Tony Tsourdalakis on 0419856736.

## PATRONS:

**His Grace Bishop of Dervis EZEKIEL**, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia, **Mr. Emmanuel Kakavelakis**, Consul General of Greece in Melbourne, **Mrs. Vanessa O'Neill**, Consul General of New Zealand in Melbourne, **Mr. Chris Holtby**, Consul General of Britain in Melbourne, **Mr. Jan Ravnholt**, Royal Danish Consulate General, **Dr. Rob Webster**, State President RSL, **Mr. John Pandazopoulos**, Former Minister of Multicultural Affairs and Former President of the World Hellenic InterParliamentary Union.

## COUNCIL MEMBERS:

**Mr. Jim Papadimitriou** (Chairman), **Mrs. Natasha Spanos** (Secretary), **Fr Evmenios Vasilopoulos**, Archdiocesan Vicar, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia-Northcote District, **Mr. Tony Tsourdalakis**, President, Cretan Federation of Australia & New Zealand, **Mr. Manolis Starakis**, President, Pancretan Association of Melbourne, **Mr. Michael Houdalakis**, President, Cretan Brotherhood of Melbourne, **Mr. Peter Dourios**, President Greek Ex Servicemen's Association, **Mrs. Shirley Devery**, Secretary, 2nd / 6th Australian Infantry Battalion, **Mr. Peter Ford**, President, New Zealand - Crete Association, **Mr. Jorge Menidis**, Chief Executive Officer, Greek Orthodox Community of Melbourne, **Mr. Peter Andrinopoulos**, Secretary, Australian Hellenic Memorial Foundation, **Mr. Lee Tarlamis**, President, Lemnos Gallipoli Committee, **Dr. Peter Ewer**, Author & Historian, Mrs. Dina Gerolymou, Author & Journalist, **Mr. Paul Mavroudis**, President Thessaloniki Association 'White Tower', **Mr. Sam Vlachos**, President, Kalamata Society '23rd March', **Mr. Jim Grivas**, President, Federation of Messinian Organisations of Victoria, **Mr. Steve Gotsis**, President, Pammessinian Brotherhood Papaflessas, **Mrs. Effie Kranitis**, Marketing Director, Australian Federation of Pontian Associations.

## AFFILIATE ORGANISATIONS:

Shrine of Remembrance, Australian National Ex-Prisoners of War Foundation, 2nd / 2nd Australian Field Regiment, Victorian Ex-Prisoners of War & Relatives Association, 2nd / 1st Australian Machine Gun Battalion, Nurses Memorial Centre, 2nd / 7th Australian Infantry Battalion, 2nd / 8th Australian Infantry Battalion, Essendon RSL Sub Branch, Darebin RSL Sub Branch, Epping RSL Sub Branch, Oakleigh – Carnegie RSL Sub Branch, Boronia RSL Sub Branch, Hellenic Military Historical Society, the Austin Repatriation Hospital, City of Greater Shepparton, Municipality of Ballarat, Municipality of Platania, Village of Mournies.



## BATTLE OF CRETE & GREECE COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL

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Anzacs in Crete - 1941