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79TH ANNIVERSARY

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**BATTLE OF  
CRETE  
& GREECE**

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1941 - 2020

2020 VICTORIAN PROGRAM UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE  
BATTLE OF CRETE & GREECE COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL

## FEBRUARY

### CEREMONY

The Australian Ex-Prisoners of War Foundation in conjunction with the City of Ballarat are hosting a Commemorative Ceremony on Sunday 9th February 2020 at 11.30am, in honour of all the ANZACs Prisoners of War that fell during World War I and World War II. For more information please contact Mr. Bill Bahr on 5331 2000.

## 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" on Monday 2nd March 2020. All Greek Australian Youth are allowed to enter and take part in the competition. Entries close on the 1st May, all national voting is closed by the 15th May and the winners will be announced on social media. For more information please contact the National Youth President Miss Polina Nikolakakis on 0413 902 875.

### COMMEMORATIVE DINNER

The Society of Kalamata 23rd March and the Pammessinian Brotherhood "PAPAFLESSAS" are hosting a Commemorative Dinner Dance on Saturday 21st March 2020 at 7.00pm, at St Kilda Town Hall, 99A Carlisle Street St Kilda. For more information please contact Mr. Peter Andrinopoulos on 0416 020 865 or Mr. Steve Gotsis on 0418 172 266.

## APRIL

### CEREMONY

The Nurses Memorial Centre is hosting a Commemorative Ceremony to honour those fallen ANZAC Nurses from the World War II on Sunday 19th April at 2.00pm, at the Nurses Memorial, 431 St. Kilda Road Melbourne. For more information please contact Ms. Arlene Bennett on 0419 527 273.

### CEREMONY

The Epping RSL Sub Branch is hosting a Memorial March to honour those fallen ANZACs from the World War II on Sunday 19th April 2020 at 9.30am, at Epping Memorial Hall. For more information please contact Mr. Kevin Ind on 9408 1556.

### CEREMONY

The Essendon RSL Sub Branch and the City of Moonee Valley is hosting a Commemorative Ceremony to honour those fallen ANZACs from the World War II on Sunday 19th April 2020 at 3.00pm, at the Queens Park Memorial, Mount Alexander Road Moonee Ponds. For more information please contact Mr. Ange Kenos on 0408 999 003.

## SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

The Oakleigh Grammar School is hosting a School Assembly to commemorate ANZAC Day and the Battle of Crete on Friday 24th April 2020 at 9.45am, in the School Sport Complex. For more information please contact Mrs. Natasha Spanos on 0449 232 783.

### CEREMONY

The Austin Repatriation Hospital is hosting a Commemorative Ceremony on Friday 24th April 2020 at 10.30am, in honour of all the ANZACs that fell that were connected to the Hospital, at the Memorial Plaque, Waterdale Road Heidelberg West. For more information please contact Mr. Robert Winter on 9496 2324.

### DAWN SERVICE

The Epping RSL Sub Branch is hosting a commemorative ANZAC Day Dawn Service at the Epping War Memorial on Saturday 25th April 2020 at 5.00am. For more information please contact Mr. Kevin Ind on 9408 1556.

### DAWN SERVICE

The Ballarat RSL Sub Branch is hosting a commemorative ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Lions Cenotaph on Saturday 25th April 2020 at 5.30am. For more information please contact Mr. Alan Douglass on 5332 3300.

### DAWN SERVICE

The Darebin RSL Sub Branch is hosting a commemorative ANZAC Day Dawn Service at the All Nations Park Memorial on Saturday 25th April 2020 at 5.30am. For more information please contact Mr. Robert Cross on 9484 4353.

### DAWN SERVICE

The Pascoe Vale RSL Sub Branch is hosting a commemorative ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Olive Grove Cenotaph on Saturday 25th April 2020 at 5.30am. For more information please contact Mr. Tom Parkinson on 9354 6364.

### DAWN SERVICE

The Essendon RSL Sub Branch is hosting a commemorative ANZAC Day Dawn Service at the Centre Path Memorial, at Heinze Reserve on Saturday 25th April 2020 at 6:00am. For more information please contact Mr. Ange Kenos on 0408 999 003.

**DAWN SERVICE**

The Oakleigh and Carnegie RSL Sub Branch are hosting a commemorative ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Oakleigh Cenotaph on Saturday 25th April 2020 at 6.00am, followed by refreshments at the Oakleigh RSL sub Branch. For more information please contact Ms. Ann Barker on 0419 552 809.

**DAWN SERVICE**

The Ringwood RSL Sub Branch is hosting a commemorative ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Clocktower Memorial on Saturday 25th April 2020 at 6:00am. For more information please contact Ms. Shirley Devery on 0449 022 820.

**PARADE**

Members Organisations of the Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council will join the 2/2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Infantry Battalion, the 2/6<sup>th</sup> Australian Infantry Battalion, the 2/7<sup>th</sup> Australian Infantry Battalion and the 2/8<sup>th</sup> Australian Infantry Battalion on ANZAC Day and lead the groups in the Parade with Traditional Greek costumes on Saturday 25th April 2020 at 9.30am, at the Shrine of Remembrance. For more information please contact Ms. Shirley Devery on 0449 022 820.

**WREATH LAYING CEREMONY**

The Australian Greek Ex Servicemen's Association in conjunction with the Shepparton RSL are hosting a Parade and Wreath Laying Ceremony for ANZAC Day on Saturday 25th April 2020 at 10.30am, at the Shepparton Memorial. For more information please contact Mr. Peter Dourios on 0408 530 177.

**MAY****COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE**

The Society of Kalamata 23rd March is hosting a Commemorative Service for the 79th Anniversary of the Battle of Kalamata on Sunday 3rd May 2020 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.

**SCHOOL COMPETITION**

The Australian Hellenic Memorial Foundation is launching the 8th Annual Schools Competition on Monday 4th May 2020. For more information please contact Mr. Manuel Karvelas on 0400 629 597.

**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 21st May 2020 at 6.30pm by the Convenor 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.

**OLIVE TREE PLANTATION & PLAQUE UNVEILING**

The Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council in conjunction with the Shepparton RSL Sub Branch & the Greater Shepparton City Council will be honouring all the ANZAC Greece and Crete men and women from the Shire of Shepparton with the planting of an Olive Tree and unveiling of a Commemorative Plaque on Friday 22nd May 2020 at 11.30am, at the Shepparton RSL War Memorial in the presence of the Hellenic Armed Forces. For more information please contact Mrs. Natasha Spanos on 0449 232 783.

**TRADITIONAL CRETAN GLENDI**

The Pancretan Association of Melbourne and the Cretan Brotherhood of Melbourne are hosting a Traditional Cretan Glendi on Saturday 23rd May 2020 at 7.00pm, at the Cretan Village, 90 Cathies Lane Wantirna South. For more information please contact Mr John Nikolakakis on 0413 440 033.

**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 on Sunday 24th May 2020 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 79th Anniversary for the Battle of Crete on Sunday 24th May 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 24th May at 1.00am 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 in honour of our last surviving ANZAC Crete Veterans on Sunday 24th May 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.

**OLIVE TREE VISIT**

The Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council in conjunction with the Victoria – Greece Parliamentary Friendship Committee will visit the ANZAC Olive Tree in the Gardens of Parliament House in the presence of the Hellenic Armed Forces on Monday 25th May 2020 at 10.00am. For more information please contact Mr. Jim Papadimitriou 0411 224 532.

**OFFICIAL LECTURE**

The Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council in conjunction with the Shrine of Remembrance are hosting an official lecture at the Visitors Centre of the Shrine of Remembrance on Wednesday 27th May 2020 at 12.30pm by Professor Peter Monteith, titled "Battle of 42nd Street". Also, a presentation of the podcast "From a whisper to a bang" produced by Mrs. Megan Spencer. For more information please contact Shrine Reception on 9661 8100.

**AUGUST****CEREMONY**

The Lemnos Gallipoli Commemorative Committee will be hosting its official Service on Saturday 8th August 2020 at 11:00am, at the Lemnos Gallipoli Memorial, Lemnos Square, Foote Street Albert Park. For more information please contact Mrs. Christina Despoteris on 0426 682 682.

**CEREMONY**

ANZAC Descendant Meg McNena with the support of the Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council is presenting the WWII play titled "Blood and Bone" which is based on the Battle of Crete, set in Melbourne, Greece and Crete. The shows will take place at the Phonexi Theatre at Elwood High School on Friday 28th of August at 1:00pm & at 7:00pm, on Saturday 29th of August at 7:00pm and on Sunday 30th of August at 7:00pm. For more information please contact Ms Meg McNena on 0401 060 620.

**SEPTEMBER****ANZAC ANCESTORS REUNION**

The Federation Messinian Organisations in conjunction with the Battle of Crete and Greece Commemorative Council are hosting a Greece & Crete Anzac Ancestors reunion on Sunday 13th September at 3:00pm at the Cretan House, 148 – 150 Nicholson Street Brunswick East. An opportunity to meet and greet and share your stories. Entry is Free and everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be provided. For more information please contact Mr. Peter Andrinopoulos on 0416 020 865.

**OCTOBER****DOXOLOGY & 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 18th October 2020 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 18th 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 25th October 2020 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 27th October 2020 at 12.00pm, at the Hellenic Memorial in Northcote. For information please contact Mr. Paul Mavroudis on 0418 353 086.

**CEREMONY**

The Lefkadian Cultural Association is hosting a Commemorative Ceremony to honour those fallen ANZACs from World War II on Friday 30th October 2020 at 7:00pm, at the Lefkadian Brotherhood, 124 Bell Street Coburg. For more information please contact Mrs Claire Gazis on 0487 222 237.

**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 2020. 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 Mrs. Christina Despoteris on 0426 682 682.

## PATRONS:

**His Grace Bishop of Dervis EZEKIEL**, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia, **Mr. Dimitris Michalopoulos**, 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), **Mr. Tony Tsourdalakis**, President, Cretan Federation of Australia & New Zealand, **Mr. John Nikolakakis**, 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, **Mr. Jim Claven**, Author & Historian, **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, **Mrs. Betty Dimitropoulos**, President, Pammessinian Brotherhood Papaflessas, **Mrs. Effie Kranitis**, Marketing Director, The Australian Federation of Pontian Associations, **Mrs. Clare Gazis**, Secretary, Lefkadian Cultural Association.

## 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