



82ND ANNIVERSARY

BATTLE OF CRETE & GREECE

1941 - 2023

2023 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 12th February 2023 at 11:00am, 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 Wednesday 1st March 2023. All students studying Greek are allowed to enter and take part in the competition. Entries close on the 1st of May 2023. For more information please contact the National Youth President Miss Eirini Kyriakaki on 0451 265 689.

APRIL

PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE

The Greek Orthodox Youth of New Zealand with the support of the Cretan Youth of Australia & New Zealand are hosting a pilgrimage to Greece. The youth will accompany the New Zealand Minister for Defence for the official Anzac Day services in Athens and in Crete. For more information please contact Fr. George Kanellis on 04212 220 299.

CEREMONY

The Austin Repatriation Hospital is hosting a Commemorative Ceremony on Friday 21st April 2023 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.

CEREMONY

The Nurses Memorial Centre is hosting a Commemorative Ceremony to honour those fallen ANZAC Nurses from the World War II on Sunday 23rd April 2023 at 2:00pm, at the Nurses Memorial, 431 St. Kilda Road Melbourne. For more information please contact Ms. Arlene Bennett on 0419 527 273.

ANZAC DAY DAWN & COMMEMORATIVE SERVICES – RSL SUB BRANCHES

The following RSL sub-branches, with affiliation to the Battle of Crete and Greece Commemorative Council, will hold respective ANZAC Day Dawn and Commemorative services. 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
- Epping RSL Sub Branch – Mr. Kevin Ind, 9408 1556
- Oakleigh & Carnegie RSL Sub Branch – Ms. Ann Barker, 9568 0407
- Boronia RSL Sub Branch – Mr Rod Canobie, 9762 2314
- Ballarat RSL Sub Branch – Mr. Alan Douglass, 5332 3300
- Pascoe Vale RSL Sub Branch – Mr. Tom Parkinson, 9354 6364
- Ringwood RSL Sub Branch – Col David Jamieson on 9870 66

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

The Australian Greek Ex-Servicemen's Association in conjunction with the Shepparton RSL Subbranch are hosting an ANZAC Day Commemorative Service on Tuesday 25th April at 6:00am at the Shepparton War Memorial, situated at Welsford Street Shepparton. For more information please contact Mr. Peter Dourios on 0408 530 177.

PARADE

The Ringwood RSL is hosting a parade to commemorate ANZAC Day on Sunday 23rd April 2023 at 9:30am. The meeting point is at Ringwood Square (corner New Street and Maroondah Highway) and march along Maroondah Highway ending up at the Sub Branch. For more information please contact Ms. Shirley Devery on 0449 022 820.

PARADE

Member Organisations of the Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council will join the 2/2nd Australian Infantry Battalion, the 2/6th Australian Infantry Battalion, the 2/7th Australian Infantry Battalion and the 2/8th Australian Infantry Battalion on ANZAC Day and lead the groups in the Parade with Traditional Greek costumes on Tuesday 25th April 2023 at 9:30am, at the Shrine of Remembrance. For more information please contact Ms. Shirley Devery on 0449 022 820.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

The Oakleigh Grammar School is hosting a School Assembly to commemorate ANZAC Day and the Battle of Crete on Wednesday 26th April 2023 at 11:30am, in the College Sport Complex. For more information please contact Mrs. Natasha Spanos on 0449 232 783.

OFFICIAL LECTURE

The Greek Orthodox Community of Melbourne is hosting an official lecture on Thursday 27th April 2023 at 6:30pm, by the Senior Lecturer and Course Leader of the Bachelor of Event Management at William Angliss Institute, Melbourne, Dr. Effie Steriopoulos titled "The ANZAC Pilgrimage to Gallipoli: A heritage with mythical status". For more information please contact Mr. Nick Dallas on 0403 047 063.

COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

The Society of Kalamata 23rd March is hosting a Commemorative Service for the 82nd Anniversary of the Battle of Kalamata on Sunday 30th April 12:30pm, at the Australian Hellenic Memorial, Domain Gardens, corner Birdwood Avenue & Government House Drive Melbourne. For more information please contact Mr. Peter Andrinopoulos on 0416 020 865.

BOOK LAUNCH

The Cretan Federation of Australia & New Zealand in conjunction with the Australian Institute of Hellenic Research and under the auspices of the National Research Foundation "Eleftherios Venizelos" is launching the book titled "Filius Patriae: Lieutenant General Ioannis Kouromichelakis" authored by Prof. Anastasios Tamis. The book will be launched by Greek Australian Lieutenant Commander from the Australian Defence Forces, Mrs. Pelagia Markogiannakis, on Sunday 30th April 2023, at 5:00pm, at the Andrianakos Centre, Alphington Grammar School 18 Old Heidelberg Road Alphington. For more information please contact Mrs. Kristina Kotsifakis on 0412 238 665.

MAY

SCHOOL COMPETITION

The Australian Hellenic Memorial Foundation is launching the 11th Annual Schools Competition on Monday 8th May 2023. The aim of the competition is to explore the Australian and Greek involvement in Greece during both World Wars. For more information please contact Mr. Manuel Karvelas on 0400 629 597.

COMMEMORATIVE TRIP

A trip to Greece is hosted by the New Zealand-Crete Association from 19th May to 29th May 2023. The group will attend the commemorative events of the Battle of Crete including wreath laying ceremonies at Maleme, Souda, Galatas, 42nd Street and Sfakia. For more information, please contact Mr. Peter Ford on 0411 445 695.

OFFICIAL PARADE & WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

The Battle of Crete & Greece Commemorative Council are hosting the Official Parade and Wreath Laying Ceremony commemorating the 82nd Anniversary for the Battle of Crete on Saturday 20th May 11:30am, at the Forecourt of the Shrine of Remembrance. For more information, please contact Mrs. Natasha Spanos on 0449 232 783.

CEREMONY

The Australian Hellenic Memorial Foundation is hosting a Ceremony commemorating the 82nd Anniversary for the Battle of Crete on Saturday 20th May 2023 at 1:00pm at the Australian Hellenic Memorial in the Domain Gardens Melbourne. For more information please contact Mr. Peter Andrinopoulos on 0416 020 865.

TRADITIONAL CRETAN GLENDI

The Cretan Brotherhood of Melbourne and the Pancretan Association of Melbourne are hosting a Traditional Cretan Glendi on Saturday 20th May 2023 at 7:00pm, at the Cretan House, 148 – 150 Nicholson Street Brunswick East with live Musicians from Crete Anastasios Bouhllis, Antonis Kourakis and Nikos Georgakakis. For more information, please contact Mr. Milton Stamatakos on 0408 315 070.

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 82nd Anniversary for the Battle of Crete, on Sunday 21st May 2023 at 10:00am, at St. Efstathios Cathedral, 221 Dorcas Street South Melbourne. The Service will be presided by His Grace Bishop of Sozopolis KYRIAKOS. For more information please contact Mrs. Natasha Spanos on 0449 232 783.

OFFICIAL LUNCHEON

The Pancretan Association of Melbourne and the Cretan Brotherhood of Melbourne are hosting the Official Battle of Crete Commemorative Luncheon in honour of our last surviving ANZAC Crete Veterans on Sunday 21st May 2023 at 1:00pm, at the Cretan Village, 90 Cathies Lane Wantirna South. For more information, please contact Mr. Manolis Starakis on 0408 246 722.

JULY

PILGRIMAGE TO CRETE

The Crete Federation of Australia and New Zealand in conjunction with the Region of Crete and the Hellenic National Defence General Staff organise a Youth Trip to Crete titled "Honouring our ANZACS" from the 8th July until to 24th July 2023. For more information please contact Mr. Tony Tsourdalakis on 0419 856 736.

AUGUST

CEREMONY

The Lemnos Gallipoli Commemorative Committee will be hosting its official Service on Saturday 12th August 2023 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.

SEPTEMBER

WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

The George Treloar Memorial Committee together with the City of Ballarat is hosting the annual commemorative service recognizing the work of George Devine Treloar in assisting the Christian refugees fleeing the Asia Minor catastrophe in the early 1920's on Sunday 17th September at 11:00am, at Ballarat's George Treloar Memorial. For more information please contact Mrs. Litsa Athanasiadis on 0421 804 968.

OCTOBER

DOXOLOGY & CEREMONY

The Australian Hellenic Ex Serviceman Association in conjunction with the Shepparton RSL Sub Branch are commemorating the 28th October OXI Day for the 2nd World War on Sunday 15th October 2023 at 11:00am, at the Shepparton Cenotaph. For information please contact Mr. Peter Dourios on 0418571800.

AWARDS CEREMONY

The Australian Hellenic Memorial Foundation is hosting the official School Competition Awards Ceremony at the Australian Hellenic Memorial in the Domain Gardens Melbourne on Sunday 22nd of October 2023 at 12:00pm. For more information please contact Mr. Manuel Karvelas on 0400 629 597.

DOXOLOGY & CEREMONY

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia – Northcote District is organising the official commemoration of "OXI" Greek National Day, hosted by the Inter-Communities & Parishes Council of Victoria. The 28th October "OXI" Greek National Day, reminds us of the historic and pivotal occasion of the refusal of the Greek nation to allow fascist Italian and German armed forces open passage to occupy Greek sovereign land during the Second World War. The Commemorations will be held on Sunday 29th October 2023, at the Holy Monastery of "Axion Estin", 7 Hartington Street, Northcote. The program will commence at 10:00am with a Doxology Service. Guests will then be invited to proceed to the Cenotaph, located on site, where a Trisagion Service will be conducted, and there will be an opportunity to lay wreaths. Guests will then be welcomed to a cocktail reception in the Refectory of the Holy Monastery. For more information please contact Mr. Tony Tsourdalakis on 0419 856 736.

DOXOLOGY & CEREMONY

The Australian Greek Ex Servicemen's Association Inc. is hosting a Doxology and Wreath Ceremony for the 28th October OXI Day on Sunday 29th October 2023 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. The event includes a presentation and a short film on historical facts on Sunday 29th October 2023 at 2:00pm, at 439 High Street, Northcote. For more 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 Mudros at the Shrine of Remembrance on Tuesday 31st October 2023. 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.

NOVEMBER

BOOK LAUNCH

The Cretan Federation of Australia & New Zealand in conjunction with LaTrobe University and the University of Crete, will host the launch of the book titled "Cretan Pioneers in Australia: 1828 – 1950", author of which is Mr. Socrates Tsourdalakis. The book gives an in depth portrait of the first Cretan Settlers in Australia and at the same time announcing officially the first Cretan Migrant to Australia in 1828. The book is also auspiced by the General Secretariat for Greeks Abroad, through the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. For more information please contact Mr. Tony Tsourdalakis on 0419 856 736.



PATRONS:

His Grace Bishop of Sozopolis KYRIAKOS, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Melbourne District, **His Grace Bishop of Kerasountos EVMENIOS**, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia Northcote District, **Mr. Emmanuel Kakavelakis**, Consul General of Greece in Melbourne, **Ms. Bella Karz**, Consul General of New Zealand in Melbourne, **Mr. Steph Lysaght**, 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:

Mrs. Natasha Spanos (Chair), **Mrs. Maria Maniou** (Secretary), **Mr. Tony Tsourdalakis**, President, Cretan Federation of Australia & New Zealand, **Mr. Manolis Starakis**, President, Pancretan Association of Melbourne, **Mr. Milton Stamatakos**, 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, **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. Steve Gotsis**, President, Pammessinian Brotherhood Papaflessas, **Mrs. Simela Stamatopoulos**, Committee Member, 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