



WAFootball

Anzac Day Event Toolkit

25th April 2025

For Anzac Day weekend activations



CONTENTS

CONTENTS	2
BACKGROUND	3
HOW TO GET INVOLVED	3
ANZAC DAY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	3
ANZAC DAY CEREMONY	4
USEFUL LINKS AND RESOURCES	5
WARTIME SNAPSHOT	6
CLUB PHOTO GALLERY	8

BACKGROUND

Anzac Day is a significant event in Australia, where we pay tribute to the sacrifice of servicemen and women and celebrate the Anzac spirit. Whilst ANZAC Day isn't a themed round, clubs may like to take the opportunity to show their support.

Anzac Day honours all Australian personnel who have served in wars, conflicts and peace operations. 2025 marks 110 years since the Gallipoli Campaign.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

ANZAC DAY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All clubs are encouraged to acknowledge Anzac Day within their community. Some suggestions on how this may be done include:

- Share a post on social media using the social tile in the Promotional Tools section or sharing another one
- Observe a minutes silence prior to commencement of each game
 - Players, umpires and officials line up in front of interchange and spectators (this can occur before or after the umpires have completed their pre-game checks)
 - Home team Coach, Captain, Manager or other Official reads the following, or a variation of the following:

On the of 25th April 1915, Australian and New Zealand soldiers landed on the beach at Gallipoli commencing one of the most significant campaigns in Australian Military History. This day became known as Anzac Day and every year since, for 110 years, Australians have paused to reflect and remember the service and sacrifice of all those who have served our nation in wars and operations.

I will now read the Ode of Remembrance, after which we will observe a minute's silence.

Ode of Remembrance

*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.*

- At the conclusion of the minutes silence, thank everyone and let play commence.
- Sell Anzac cookies or red poppies with proceeds going to your local RSL Sub-Branch
 - In Australia and other countries of the Commonwealth, the red poppy is recognised as the commemorative flower of remembrance. The flower reminds us of those who lost their lives or suffered in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.
- Hand out sprigs of rosemary to spectators on arrival
 - Rosemary is an ancient symbol of fidelity and remembrance. The herb grows wild on the Gallipoli peninsula in Turkey, where the original Anzacs served.
- Display posters around your club

ANZAC DAY CEREMONY

An invitation should be extended to your local RSL Sub-Branch prior to planning an Anzac Day ceremony. Contacting your local Sub-Branch can create many opportunities. Your club may be able to have involvement in the Sub-Branches Anzac Day activities such as laying a wreath, and they may be able to assist with the club's activities. This includes delivering the Ode of Remembrance, readings and commemorative address.

How a club's ceremony is shaped will be dependent on many factors including available time and resources. It is important that the opposition is aware of the ceremony as well as the competition administrators to ensure adequate fixturing, such as timing are put in place.

A suggested order of service is provided below. Clubs may choose to undertake some or all of these.

- Welcome and acknowledgement of Traditional Owners (2 mins)
- Hymn or other music (2 to 4 mins)
- Prayers, poems or readings (2 to 5 mins)
- Commemorative address by invited guest (3 to 5 minutes)
- Wreath laying (4 to 5 mins)
- Ode of Remembrance (1 min)
- The Last Post (1 min 22 sec)
- Period of silence (1 min)
- Reveille (1min 1 sec) or The Rouse (22 sec) while raising flags
- National Anthem (1 min)
- Closing remarks (2 min)

USEFUL LINKS AND RESOURCES

The Australian Government Department of Veteran Affairs has a suite of promotional materials and resources through its [Anzac Portal](#) as part of the [Anzac Day Kitbag](#) to help promote and engage in Anzac Day.

- [Anzac Day Poster](#)
- [Social Media Tile](#)

Within the [Planning an Anzac Day service or a commemorative event](#) tab, clubs can find

- [Order of Service](#)
- [Music and anthems](#)
- [Ode of Remembrance](#)
- [Speeches](#)
- Ideas to involve the community

To contact your local RSL Sub-branch visit [RSL WA](#)

It is important to remember that all Australian Army emblems, including the Rising Sun Badge are protected by legislation and can only be used where formal approval has been granted by the Department of Defence. (RSL clubs and sub-branches are not authorised to grant permission).

The AFL uses the Anzac Appeal logo for Anzac round activities and this logo is available to all community football clubs with high resolution images available on request to: clubdevelopment@wafotball.com.au.



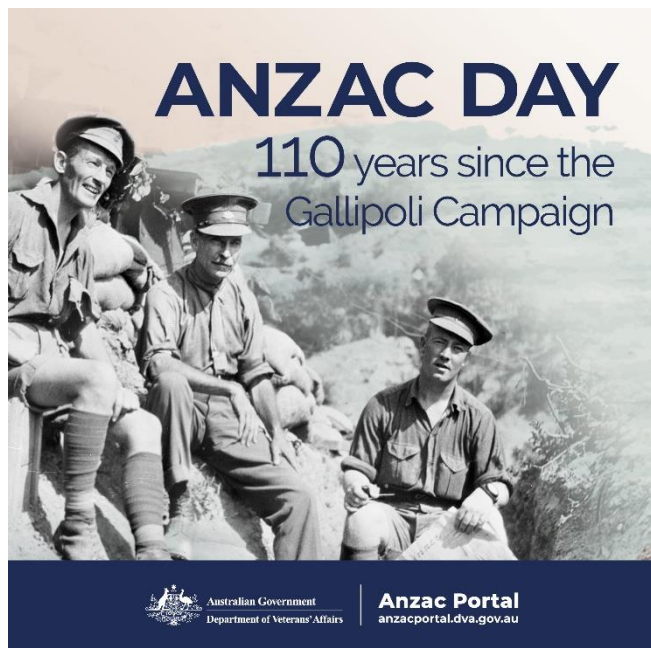
Other alternatives for symbolic imagery which are not protected by legislation and don't require approval include:

- Poppy
- Rosemary
- Slouch Hat
- Soldier resting on reversed arms alongside wording "Lest we forget" or "We will remember them".

WARTIME SNAPSHOT

On 25 April 1915, Australian, New Zealand and British forces landed on the Gallipoli peninsula while French troops launched a feint on the opposite shore at Kum Kale. This started an 8-month-long campaign to seize control of the Dardanelles strait and capture the Ottoman capital of Constantinople.

At dawn, the Australians and New Zealanders landed at a place that has since become known as Anzac Cove. It was named after the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) who served there. Dashing across the beach and




towards the cliffs above, the Anzacs fought to seize the high ground. Instead, they were forced to dig in and establish a fragile position on the slopes of the peninsula. Turkish forces fired on them from above, pinning them down and preventing them from reaching their objectives. The Anzacs sustained heavy casualties as they tried to gain ground in the face of dense scrub, steep ridges, narrow gullies and heavy Turkish resistance.

As the fierce fighting continued on land, an Australian submarine, HMAS *AE2*, became the first Allied vessel to penetrate the Dardanelles. Dodging minefields, searchlights, enemy patrols and shore batteries, *AE2* reached the Sea of Marmara. Its crew had orders to disrupt enemy supply routes. Five days later, *AE2* was discovered and attacked by an enemy torpedo boat. The submarine was scuttled. Its entire crew was captured, becoming prisoners of war.

Back at Gallipoli, the Allies had not secured their objectives against a determined Turkish defence. A stalemate began when neither the Allies nor the enemy could gain an advantage. Each side dug in to defend their positions. During this time, the troops lived in trenches and dugouts, suffering in awful conditions. They endured blistering heat, flies, inadequate sanitation and poor food, which increased misery and led to disease outbreaks. Each day, the men faced the danger of enemy snipers, shrapnel and raids on their trenches.

In August 1915, Allied forces renewed their attempt to break the stalemate. They launched a series of attacks to help achieve their initial objectives. In this offensive, the Australians fought in battles at places such as Lone Pine, the Nek, Hill 971 and Hill 60. Terrible casualties resulted from these attacks, often for very little gain. The August Offensives failed to break the stalemate.



By the end of 1915, as winter closed in and the Allies sought reinforcements for France and Egypt, it became clear that fighting at Gallipoli could not continue. Allied high command decided to evacuate the troops from the peninsula in late December. However, Turkish forces had the advantage of the high ground, providing them a clear view of Allied movements on the cliffs, beaches and beyond. As such, when the evacuation began, Anzac forces left their positions in secret. Under darkness, they boarded ships waiting offshore to return them to Egypt via Lemnos. The secrecy of this operation prevented Turkish forces from inflicting heavy casualties as the Allies withdrew. Several thousand troops were successfully evacuated from Gallipoli by 20 December 1915. British and French forces evacuated Cape Helles in January 1916.

Gallipoli was one of the most significant campaigns in Australia's military history. It was the first campaign for the newly formed Australian Imperial Force (AIF). The AIF recorded over 26,000 casualties and almost 9,000 deaths. These huge losses, coupled with the exploits and bravery of those who served and died there, had a profound effect on Australian society. From 1916, Australians began to gather on the anniversary of the Gallipoli landing to commemorate those who served and those who lost their lives. This day became known as Anzac Day. Every year since, for over 100 years, Australians have paused on this anniversary to reflect and remember the service and sacrifice of all those who have served our nation in wars and on operations.

CLUB PHOTO GALLERY



North Beach JFC Anzac Day Service



Noranda JFC Anzac Day Round



Piara Waters JFC acknowledgement post



Ellenbrook Senior FC Anzac Day Service