



**Message
from**

**His Excellency Malcolm McCusker, AC CVO QC
Governor of Western Australia**

for

**the Boer War Memorial Association of Western Australia's
112th Anniversary of the signing of the
Vereeniging Peace Accords**

On 31 May, 1902 the Vereeniging Peace Accords were signed, formally ending the Anglo-Boer War, generally known as the Boer War.

This State dispatched nine contingents to fight in that fierce and tragic conflict, in which 40 Western Australians died, and about 300 were wounded.

When the war began in 1899, men and women from the six Australian colonies, having in common only the fact that they came from the same Australian continent, joined up. From 1901, when 6 colonies became a federation, the Australians fought as citizens of the Commonwealth of Australia. Thus, this was the first war in which Commonwealth soldiers engaged, a war which preceded the first world war, but nevertheless one in which Australians showed the same bravery and mateship that became legendary after World War I, and one in which many were killed or wounded.

It is, therefore, proper and fitting that there should be a memorial service to commemorate the part Australians played in the Boer War, to reflect on the tragic loss of lives on both sides, and on the need always to strive for peace and put an end to war.

I extend good wishes to all who take part in this event.

GOVERNOR