



1899



1902



The Ode

Let this be an Ode to the Men and Women of Australia and our allies who gave their lives in the Boer War and in all wars and conflicts since that time, that we may live in peace and freedom.

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. (*We will remember them*)
Lest We Forget. (*Lest we forget*)

Last Post - *One minute's silence* - Rouse

Australian National Anthem

Australians all let us rejoice,	Beneath our radiant Southern
For we are young and free,	Cross
We've golden soil and wealth	We'll toil with hearts and hands;
for toil;	To make this Commonwealth of
Our home is girt by sea,	ours
Our land abounds in nature's	Renowned of all the lands,
gifts	For those who've come across
Of beauty rich and rare;	the seas
In history's page, let every	We've boundless plains to share,
stage	With courage let us all combine
Advance Australia Fair.	To Advance Australia Fair;
In joyful strains then let us sing,	In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.	Advance Australia Fair.

Close

Thank you for joining with us in this commemorative service.

SERVICE TO COMMEMORATE THE BOER WAR 29TH MAY 2011



"LEST WE FORGET"

ST MARYS SUB-BRANCH
RETURNED AND SERVICES LEAGUE
OF AUSTRALIA

Welcome and Introduction to the Service.

Ted Fish, Treasurer, St Marys RSL Sub-Branch

Prayer of Remembrance

Today we remember with thanksgiving those who made the supreme sacrifice for us in time of war. We particularly remember those first Australian military personnel who sacrificed their lives in the Boer War of 1899 – 1902. We pray that the offering of their lives may not have been in vain. Today we re-dedicate ourselves to the cause of justice, freedom and peace; and for the wisdom and strength to build a better world.

Poem: Epitaph for a Soldier

Build me no monuments. Should my time come,
please do not weep for me and waste your tears.

Write not my name on honour rolls of fame
to crumble with man's memory through the years.

Wear no dark clothes; speak in no saddened voice,
Seeking rare virtues which didn't exist.

I ask one thing - that in still, far off days,

Someone who knew me should in their daily rounds,

Suddenly pause, caught by some sight or sound,

Some glance, some phrase, some trick of memory's ways

which brings me to mind, then I shall wait,

eager with hope, perhaps to hear –

“how great if he were here with us still !”,

And then at the end, all that I wish for is just -

"he was my friend!"

by David McNicholl, written in Syria in 1941 – later was a well-known Sydney newspaper columnist

A Prayer for the Nation

Eternal God, today we remember the men and women who fought in South Africa – the first to serve our newly formed Nation - to preserve the integrity, peace and freedom we still enjoy today. We honour those who paid the supreme sacrifice and all who suffered. Lord of ages, we pray for the Nation of Australia, that you will bless her people and that we may all continue to work for a nation that is free, prosperous and caring. AMEN.

Poem: “We're All Australians Now”

Australia takes her pen in hand, to write a line to you,
To let you fellows understand, how proud we are of you.

From shearing shed and cattle run, from Broome to Hobsons Bay,
Each native-born Australian son, stands straighter up today.

The man who used to "hump his drum", on far-out Queensland runs,
Is fighting side by side with some Tasmanian farmer's sons.

The old state jealousies of yore are dead as Pharaoh's sow,
We're not State children any more; we're all Australians now!

The mettle that a race can show is proved with shot and steel,
And now we know what nations know and feel what nations feel.

The honoured graves beneath the crest of Gaba Tepe hill,
May hold our bravest and our best, but we have brave men still.

With all our petty quarrels done, dissensions overthrown,
We have, through what you boys have done, a history of our own.

Our old world differences are dead, like weeds beneath the plough,
For English, Scotch, and Irish-bred; they're all Australians now!

Fight on, fight on, unflinchingly, till right and justice reign.
Fight on, fight on, till Victory shall send you home again.

And with Australia's flag shall fly a spray of wattle bough,
To symbolise our unity; we're all Australians now.

by A. B. 'Banjo' Paterson 1915.

A Prayer for the Defence Force

God our Father, we pray for all who serve our Country in the Australian Defence Force. Grant that they may serve the cause of justice and peace with discipline and loyalty, and meet danger with courage, to the honour of your name. AMEN

Address: Mr Vin Cosgrove

Wreath Laying Ceremony