



110th Anzac-Day-Speech-for-Community-Events- Honouring-Sacrifice-and-The-Anzac-Spirit

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed guests, fellow citizens,

This morning, we gather on [Gadigal] Country, and with deep respect, we acknowledge their Elders past, present, and emerging. We recognise the significant contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have served in the defence of Australia, both in times of peace and in times of war.

I also extend my sincere gratitude to all current and former members of the Australian Defence Force, as well as the families of Defence personnel. Your service, sacrifice, and unwavering support are the bedrock of the freedoms we hold dear.

Today, we come together with solemnity and reverence to commemorate the 110th anniversary of Anzac Day – a day that signifies not only a pivotal moment in our nation's history but also the embodiment of the courage, sacrifice, and indomitable spirit of Australian service men and women. This occasion offers us the opportunity to honour their legacy, reflect on their impact, and reaffirm our commitment to the values they fought to protect.

Anzac Day holds a special place in the heart of every Australian. It is not merely a day of remembrance; it is a day of reflection, gratitude, and respect. As we pause to remember, we honour not only the courageous soldiers who landed on the shores of Gallipoli 110 years ago, but also those who have served in conflicts and peacekeeping missions around the world since.

The story of our Anzacs began in 1915, when soldiers from Australia and New Zealand made the historic landing at Gallipoli. In that moment, our young nations forged an identity that was shaped by resilience, sacrifice, and the emerging Anzac spirit. These soldiers, though faced with unimaginable adversity, displayed courage and unity that set the tone for all those who would follow.

As we reflect on the battles fought, the lives lost, and the hardship endured, it is also vital that we recognise the mateship that was born in those trenches and fields – a bond forged in the heat of battle, unwavering and unbreakable. The Anzac spirit is not just defined by the bravery of our soldiers, but by the strength of the camaraderie they shared. This spirit transcends time and continues to inspire us today.

However, Anzac Day is not only about the soldiers who served. It is also a day to recognise the sacrifices made by the families and loved ones who stayed behind. The waiting, the uncertainty, the heartache – they too displayed remarkable courage, and their sacrifices must never be forgotten. Their resilience has been just as integral to the preservation of the Anzac spirit as the courage shown on the battlefield.

In our communities, the Anzac spirit continues to live on. It manifests in simple acts of kindness, in moments of unity during times of crisis, and in the ongoing support we provide to our veterans and their families. It is the responsibility of every Australian to

carry forward this spirit and honour it in our daily actions, ensuring that the legacy of our Anzacs remains an inspiration for generations to come.

As we stand here today, let us also take a moment to remember all those who have served our nation in roles beyond the battlefield. Our nurses, medics, engineers, and peacekeepers – each of them, in their own way, has contributed to our collective mission of safeguarding the values of freedom, democracy, and justice. Their dedication and commitment are just as deserving of our recognition.

Anzac Day also serves as a powerful reminder of the cost of conflict. It underscores the importance of working tirelessly toward a world built on peace, diplomacy, and understanding. Let us reflect on the lessons history has taught us and recommit ourselves to the pursuit of lasting peace in the world, ensuring that the sacrifices of our service men and women are not in vain.

In conclusion, as we gather in the solemnity of this 110th anniversary of Anzac Day, let us honour the sacrifices of our Anzacs through more than just words and ceremonies. Let us embody their values in our actions, in our communities, and in our commitment to a just, peaceful, and united world.

May we continue to ensure that their legacy endures, not just in our memories, but in the society we build for future generations.

Lest we forget.