



The Hon Victor Dominello MP

Minister for Citizenship and Communities
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

MEDIA RELEASE

19 April 2011

60 YEARS OF ANZAC REMEMBRANCE

Australia's fallen diggers were honoured today at the 60th annual ANZAC Field of Remembrance Service and Dedication at St Andrew's Cathedral in Sydney.

Minister for Citizenship and Communities Victor Dominello - who has responsibility for the Veterans' Affairs portfolio - attended the service and planted a wooden cross in remembrance of soldiers who never came home.

"I am honoured to attend this service, which has been hosted by the War Widows' Guild of Australia NSW every year since 1952," Mr Dominello said.

"The non-denominational service, led by the NSW Governor, pays tribute to those who gave their lives in the service of our country.

"The wooden crosses planted in the Field of Remembrance signify fallen members of the Australian and New Zealand armed forces; husbands, relatives and friends who are gone but not forgotten.

"It is a solemn and moving reminder of the ultimate sacrifice made by our diggers and the loss forever borne by their families.

"The Field is open from the service until the late afternoon on Anzac Day for war widows and members of the public to place crosses in personal remembrance of their loved ones who died during or following war service.

"I commend the devoted volunteers of the War Widows' Guild for their unwavering dedication in delivering this service over the past six decades.

"It is an important opportunity to respectfully recognise not only those who served but also those who were left behind.

"Sixty years has passed since the first Field of Remembrance Service and Dedication was held in NSW, but the tradition and our collective obligation to remember the bravery of the ANZACs and the suffering of their families has not dimmed.

"I would encourage anyone who wishes to honour the memory of a loved one who died in conflict to visit the Field of Remembrance in the grounds of the Cathedral this week," Mr Dominello said.

The War Widows' Guild of Australia NSW is a not for profit membership-based organisation whose mission is to promote and protect the interests of war widows in NSW.

For more information visit www.warwidowsnsw.com.au.

Media contact: Peter Shmigel 02 9228 4333