

# NEWS RELEASE



**The Hon. Graham West MP**  
Minister for Juvenile Justice  
Minister for Youth  
Minister for Volunteering  
Minister Assisting the Premier  
on Veterans' Affairs

**Embargoed 5:00am Sunday 5 July 2009**

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## **Reserve Forces Day parade celebrations**

A Parade and March recognising the Navy Army and Air Force Reserve will today take place at the Domain in Sydney's Botanical Gardens.

Mr West said Reserve Forces Day parades and celebrations will occur in 20 Australian cities and towns, seven of those in NSW.

"Today's Parade and March, which begins at 10:30am, recognises our serving and former Reservists and also thanks families and employers for their support," Mr West said.

"The celebrations are expected to be colourful and exciting, both for marchers and spectators, and I would encourage people to come along.

"This is a great opportunity to thank our Reserve Forces.

"The first parade was held along George Street, Sydney in 1998, with 8,000 members of the Reserve Forces Day Council participating.

"This year's parade highlight's 70 years since the commencement of World War 2, with those who served in 1939, known as the 39ERS, being presented with a Gold recognition ribbon.

"In 1939, there were around 530 Officers serving in the Royal Australian Naval Reserve, 80,000 in the Militia, 210 in the Citizens Air Force and 2220 Airmen.

"Today will be a fantastic day in Sydney, and I encourage NSW residents to head into the Domain to enjoy the Parade," Mr West said.

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