



Geoff Lee

Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education

Acting Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans

MEDIA RELEASE

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*****vision and interviews available for download***

NSW PAYS TRIBUTE ON THE 75th ANNIVERSARY OF VP DAY

Today marks 75 years since the end of the Second World War triggered euphoric celebrations across NSW and dancing through the streets of Sydney.

Acting Minister for Veterans Geoff Lee said the sacrifice of our great service men and women will never be forgotten as we remember this major moment in our history.

“Victory in the Pacific (VP Day) is the day NSW began celebrating the end of a long campaign to fight for the freedom we cherish today,” Mr Lee said.

“We are asking everyone in NSW to make a big effort to ensure this significant anniversary isn’t forgotten during the pandemic, whilst commemorating in a COVID-Safe way and abiding by the latest health advice to keep our community and veterans safe.

“We pause to reflect on the ultimate sacrifice paid by the men and women who served throughout the Pacific to defend our nation. On the home front, hundreds of thousands more provided essential services to support the war effort.”

Almost one million Australians served in the armed forces in the Second World War. More than 39,000 Australians gave their lives, more than 23,000 were wounded, and more than 30,000 were taken prisoner of war.

The NSW Government has compiled a digital catalogue of stories and videos of Second World War veterans and widows sharing their memories to ensure they are not forgotten.

“Everyone can share their stories, pictures and videos on social media for this special 75th anniversary tribute using the hashtag [#VeteranStory75years](#),” Mr Lee said.

“NSW communities are also encouraged to jump online and use the digital catalogue to learn about our history and the legacy of our veterans and their families.”

The digital catalogue will be continually updated over the coming months at: www.warmemorialsregister.nsw.gov.au/75th-anniversary-stories

VP Day events: www.veterans.nsw.gov.au/commemoration/wwii-75th-anniversary/

*****vision and interviews available for download: [CLICK HERE](#)***