

**THE RETURNED & SERVICES
LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
WA BRANCH INCORPORATED**

PATRON: HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE KERRY SANDERSON AC
THE GOVERNOR OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Thursday, 22 March 2018

MEDIA RELEASE

Upholding our Traditions in a New Venue for ANZAC Day 2018

RSLWA's decision in mid-2017 to hold the ANZAC Day Commemorative Service inside the Perth Concert Hall was fundamentally about the welfare and comfort for all valued veterans.

"This free public event will continue to honour the sacrifice and service of all veterans, and we welcome everyone, young and old to attend," RSLWA State President Peter Aspinall said.

The Concert Hall sits approximately 1,700 people and with attendances over the past 10 years for the outdoor commemoration attracting approximately 1,200 people, there is an expectation that there will be plenty of room.

"The Perth Concert Hall provides for a comfortable environment where veterans can gather, enjoy morning tea and then sit in comfort for the service. The care and well-being of our veterans is RSLWA's absolute priority and this was the key reason for changing from an outdoor to an indoor venue," Peter Aspinall said.

"Following the 2017 ANZAC Day commemorations, a review was conducted into the Commemorative Service that traditionally follows the Dawn Service and the ANZAC Day March through the Perth CBD," RSLWA CEO John McCourt said.

"After consultation with our Unit and Kindred Associations (i.e. Ex-Service Organisations), it was decided to move the Commemorative Service to an indoor venue for a number of compelling reasons, especially the care and well-being of veterans," John McCourt said.

"With many of our veterans getting older it was considered a good option to have an indoor venue as, in the past, veterans either had to sit in wet weather or in the heat of the day which (especially for our older veterans) was detrimental to their health and well-being," he said.

The event has been ticketed in order to have an orderly seating of attendees. Tickets are free to all and have been since the inception of the move to the Concert Hall. Priority has been to get tickets to veterans and their families and, from 1 April 2018 they will be available (free) to members of the public. The Commemorative Service will also be broadcast live by ABCTV.

Further information about the Commemorative Service and ANZAC Day are available at www.rslwa.org.au

"THE PRICE OF LIBERTY IS ETERNAL VIGILANCE"

State President: Peter Aspinall | Chief Executive Officer: John McCourt

PO Box 3023, EAST PERTH WA 6892 | Level 3, 66 St Georges Terrace, PERTH WA 6000

T: (08) 9287 3799 | F: (08) 9287 3732 | WA Country Callers: 1800 259 799 | E: admin@rslwa.org.au | W: www.rslwa.org.au |  RSL WA

ABN: 59 263 172 184 | Charitable Collections Licence No: 17953



ENDS.

MEDIA CONTACT

RSLWA Operations Manager – Martin Holzberger AM CSC. 0458 201 413. opsmanager@rslwa.org.au