



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 16, January, 2015

100 day countdown to honour ANZACs

With 100 days until the hundredth anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli, Marion Council has today detailed plans for a major community event to commemorate Anzac Day.

For the first time, the Anzac Day Youth Vigil will be held on the evening of April 24 at a new memorial being built overlooking Hallett Cove foreshore followed by a dawn service hosted by the Lions Club.

The 14 hours of joint commemorations are expected to attract up to 4000 people.

Council will create a tent of memorabilia as part of the events, and is calling on the community to loan photographs from World War One, letters, medals and other historical artefacts.

The announcement coincides with construction of the memorial, which overlooks the sea in a poignant reminder of Anzac Cove, taking shape. The memorial is scheduled for completion in March and pays tribute to the Anzacs with a 13m long stone wall, 150 sq m garden, two flag poles and lighting.

Mayor Kris Hanna said the commemorative event is being made possible by a partnership between Marion Council and the Lions Club of Hallett Cove.

"This will be the biggest Anzac commemoration ever held in the City of Marion, the first of its kind in Hallett Cove, and a fitting way to honour the Australians who landed at Gallipoli 100 years ago," Mayor Hanna said.

"Combining the Anzac Day Youth Vigil and dawn service, which is being run by the Lions Club of Hallett Cove, brings two important ceremonies together over two consecutive days.

"The event will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience at a unique site that overlooks the sea and evokes the spirit of Anzac Cove.

"I urge the community to play a part in the event by lending Anzac memorabilia."

President of the Lions Club of Hallett Cove Jill Kimber said the local community was excited about the events.

"There's a lot of excitement in the community about the events with people telling us they are looking forward to commemorating the Anzac centenary around the memorial at the foreshore," Ms Kimber said.

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"This is the first dawn service Hallett Cove Lions have organsied and it has drawn new people to the club as they see it is a great example of community building.

"By working in partnership with Marion Council we have been able to create something special that is in keeping with the Anzac centenary."

Council is contributing more than \$14,000 towards the unique community events.

Commemorations will begin with two hours of activities, including musical performances, roving actors, displays and the unveiling of the new memorial from 6.30pm on Friday, 24 April.

An 8.30pm ceremony will signal the start of the Anzac Day Youth Vigil.

The vigil will involve up to 100 young people from service organisations, including the Australian Air Force Cadets, Brighton Surf Lifesaving Club and Hallett Cove Scouts, stand guarding in shifts through the night leading up to the dawn service.

The dawn service will begin with a lone piper playing a lament and include a poetry reading by local school students and the Last Post.

Vietnam veterans will serve a free breakfast immediately following the service.

To find out about loaning items for the tent of memorabilia contact Pia Vogrin at the City of Marion on 8375 6600.

More information about the dawn service is available from Hallett Cove Lions by contacting Graeme Botting on 0439 804 711.

For more information about the commemoration visit City of Marion website marion.sa.gov.au/anzac-centenary or Facebook page facebook.com/CityofMarion



