

# ANZAC DAY SERVICES



APRIL 25, 2018



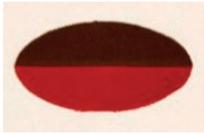
*Officer Heading Soldiers of the 39th Battalion outside the Town Hall, Ballarat, Victoria*



## **Ballarat RSL Sub-branch**

We commemorate with great pride and respect, today and every day, the men and women of Australia who have served their country when called upon to do so.

***LEST WE FORGET***



## THE 39TH (BALLARAT) BATTALION

The **39th Battalion** was formed on 21 February 1916 at the Ballarat Showgrounds in Victoria and drew most of its recruits from the state's Western District. It became part of the 10th Brigade of the 3rd Australian Division. Sailing from Melbourne on 27 May, the battalion arrived in Britain on 18 July and commenced four months of training. It crossed to France in late November and moved into the trenches of the Western Front for the first time on 9 December, just in time for the onset of the terrible winter of 1916-1917.

The 39th fought in its first major battle at Messines, in Belgium, between 7-9 June 1917. During its march to the start-line for this operation, the battalion suffered heavily from a German gas bombardment and less than a third of the troops earmarked to attack actually did so. The battalion however, captured all of its objectives. The 39th fought in another two major attacks in this sector - the carefully planned and executed battle of Broodseinde on 4 October, and the disastrous battle of Passchendaele on 12 October.

Belgium remained the focus of the 39th Battalion's activities for the next five months as it was rotated between service in the rear areas and the front line. When the German Army launched its last great offensive in the spring of 1918, the battalion was rushed south to France and played a role in turning the German drive aimed at the vital railway junction of Amiens.

The Allies launched their own offensive on 8 August 1918, but the 10th Brigade was the 3rd Division's reserve on this day so the 39th did not play an active role. It was involved, however, in an ill-conceived attack that failed to capture the village of Proyart on 10 August. Not daunted by this experience, the battalion continued to play an active role throughout August and early September in the 3rd Division's advance along the Somme Valley.

The 39th participated in its last major action of the war between 29 September and 2 October 1918 as part of the Australian-American operation that breached the formidable defences of the Hindenburg Line along the St Quentin Canal. Along with much of the AIF, the 39th was resting out of the line when the war ended in November. It was disbanded in March 1919.

Ballarat Star (Vic.: 1865 - 1924, Thursday 11 May 1916, page 1

### BALLARAT BATTALION

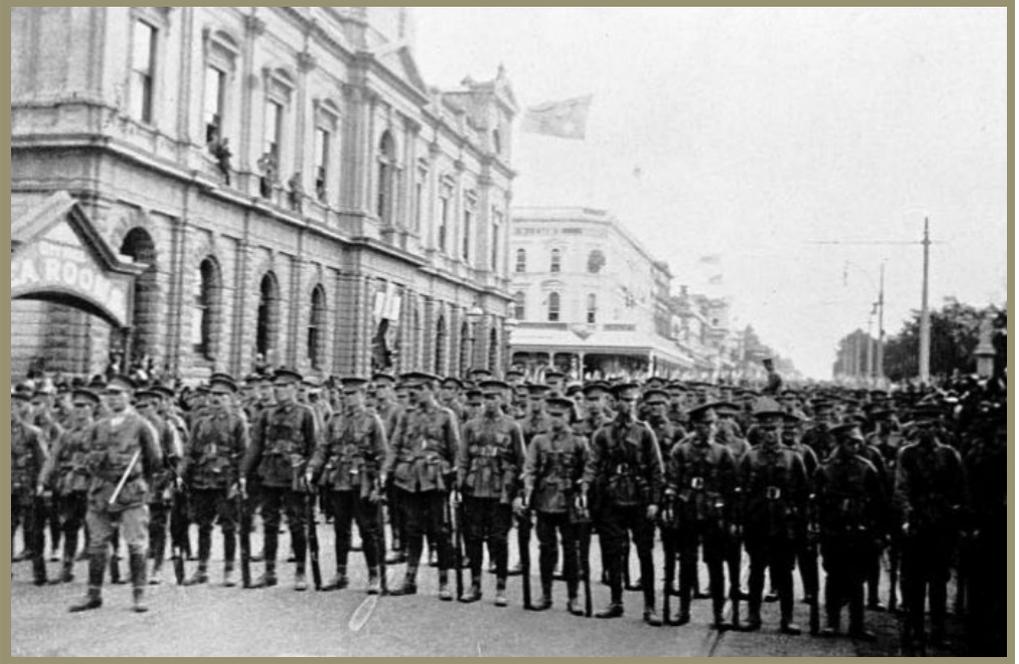
#### FINAL STREET MARCH

#### A DEMONSTRATIVE RECEPTION

In full marching dress and carrying practically the whole of their equipment, the 1200 officers and men comprising the 39th (Ballarat) Battalion held a procession through the streets of the City and Town yesterday afternoon. It was the final march of the Battalion and in spite of the most disagreeable weather thousands of people lined the thoroughfares and the troops met with a most demonstrative reception as they passed by. In honor of the occasion flags were flown at the public buildings and business places, and there was quite a gay display of bunting.

Shortly before 3 o'clock the soldiers left the Show Grounds Camp, headed by the pioneers, carrying their axes. Then followed the signallers with their flags, the military band, behind which marched the troops, headed by Colonel Rankine and his orderlies on chargers. At the tail end of the procession were the stretcher bearers, carrying stretchers folded up. As the troops came down into Sturt street, from Doveton street, the crowd rushed into the roadway, and the police had some difficulty in keeping the people back. The soldiers bore themselves splendidly, and it is doubtful if a finer body of men could have been got together. They were in excellent spirits, their buoyancy being in marked contrast with the feeling of depression that seemed to hang over the people as a whole. While they cheered the troops it was not the cheer of gladness, and the tears rolled down the cheeks of many as the youthfulness of a big percentage of the soldiers was commented on.

It had been arranged at the last moment almost, that the men should be addressed first in front of the City Hall, and later in front of the Ballarat East Town Hall. Thousands of people assembled in the vicinity of the City Hall, and the troops were speedily drawn up in front of the building, the entrance to which had been gaily decorated (*After the addresses by Cr. Pearse,*



Soldiers of the 39th Battalion Standing at Ease in front of City Hall, Ballarat, Victoria

*speaking in the absence of Mayor Brawn; Cr. George Crocker; and Colonel Rankine)* Hearty cheers were given for the Battalion. The troops then continued their march through Bridge and Main streets to the Ballarat East Town Hall, where they made another short halt. In front of the Town Hall a large crowd of citizens had gathered ... (The officers and men were addressed by Mayor Hoare and The Rev Canon Colebrook.)

Colonel Rankine briefly replied. Cheers were given for the brigade and Colonel Rankine, and at the call of the commandant the men gave three hearty cheers for the mayor and citizens of Ballarat East. The soldiers then resumed their march back to camp via East, Victoria, Bridge and Sturt streets and they were loudly cheered by the people along the route.

Ballarat Star (Vic.: 1865 - 1924, Monday 29 May 1916, page 4

**Departure of 39th Battalion.** - In the "wee sma' hours" of Saturday morning the 39th Ballarat Battalion took its departure for Melbourne. There was great activity at the camp shortly after midnight, and excitement reigned high when reveille sounded. The Battalion Band was playing patriotic music, and the clear, frosty air carried the musical strains near and far. After a hot breakfast had been served out to the men, they were formed into line and marched away from the scenes of many hard, but happy, days of training. Headed by the band, they proceeded via Drummond street north and Sturt street and Lydiard street, to the Western station, where there were hundred of people to see them off. Two special trains

had been provided for the troops, who, though glad to be taking their departure for the more serious part of warfare, were manifestly affected at having to leave near and dear ones. The departure of the first train, which was timed for 4.40, was delayed about half an hour. In the meantime the band played lively airs, including "Australia Will be There", "Keep Your Eyes on Germany", "The Marsellaise", "The Girl I Left Behind Me". As the train steamed out of the station boisterous cheers were given for the men by the large crowd in the vicinity of the platform. At about a quarter to six o'clock the second special took its departure. There was then an even larger attendance of people, who were equally enthusiastic in their send-off to the soldiers.

# ANZAC DAY



Parade of Soldiers of the 39th Battalion, Ballarat, Victoria.  
*Both photographs taken in Bridge Street*

## Ballarat Star (Vic.: 1865 - 1924, Monday 29 May 1916, page 4

**Last Night in Camp.** - A night which will be always remembered by those who had the privilege and pleasure of enjoying it was that spent by the 39th Ballarat Battalion on the occasion of their last night in the Showgrounds Camp. The order being "closed camp", three programmes of entertainment were carried out. The first, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., was a picture show by the Y.M.C.A. The secretary of the Citizens' Committee (Mr. T. Harris) had arranged with Mr Bert Humphries and this party to take up the programme from 9.30 till 11 p.m., assisted by Misses O. and E. Seddon, Mrs Wilmot, and Messrs W. H. Chandler, W. Crougey, Stewart, J. H. Davey, Norman Dent, and little Maisie Humphries. A splendid concert programme was given. Miss Frances Nicholl sang, by special request, "*Till the Boys Come Home*", and as an encore, "*Your King and Country Need You*", both items being loudly cheered. Arch-deacon Tucker, who was present, in a most impressive address bade farewell to the men, who rose and cheered him again and again, the scene being one that will be long remembered. At the conclusion of the programme the Serenaders Company, after their own performance in the Mechanics' Hall, motored to the camp, and entertained the soldiers till one a.m. The brightness of the items helped to break the seriousness of the partings, which were soon to be taken. At the conclusion Mr Harris, in calling for cheers for the performers, took the opportunity of bidding good-bye to the boys, saying how great a pleasure it was to him to have been so closely associated with them in their business and work, as well as in the lighter side of their lives in sport and entertainment. The splendid and loyal support which had always been rendered by the people of Ballarat to the Citizens' Committee, whom he had the honor to represent in the camp, showed how deeply the citizens appreciated the great sacrifices the men were making in going to fight their country's battles. At the close of his remarks the men called for cheers, which were heartily given and gathered round to take a final hand-shake. The singing of "*Auld Lang Syne*" concluded the night's proceedings.

**Y.M.C.A. in Camp.** - The last night of the 39th Battalion in camp was a busy one, and the building was in great demand. Colonel Rankine was very hearty in his thanks for all that the association had done for his battalion, and personally conveyed the thanks to the secretary. One of the ways in which the Y.M.C.A. officer can help was manifested on Friday night, when he was making wills for the men up to 10.30 p.m. The committee will be glad of a donation of some flags and pictures suitable for decorating the building, and making it cheerful and homelike. These may be left with Mr A. E. White, Sturt Street, or will be sent for if so desired.

## BALLARAT, SEBASTOPOL AND BUNINYONG SERVICES:

5.45am Ballarat Dawn Service, Cenotaph, Sturt Street

**Followed by Gunfire Breakfast at Midlands - Ballarat RSL Sports and Services Club**

8.30am Arch of Victory Service

8.45am Sebastopol RSL Service

9.00am Ex-Prisoner of War Memorial Service

9.15am St Patrick's Cathedral Church Commemorative Mass

10.00am Ballarat ANZAC Day March form-up in Lyons Street South

10.15am Buninyong RSL Service

10.30am Ballarat ANZAC Day March

10.45am Wreath Laying at Cenotaph

11.00am Commemorative Service at Cenotaph

### **Refreshments, fellowship and Two Up:**

Please join us at Midlands - Ballarat RSL Sports and Services Club, for refreshments following the service. 'Two Up' will be in the Fairways Room from 1 – 6pm

## BALLARAT MARCH INFORMATION

**Assembly:** Chief Marshal Alan Douglass will have overall responsibility for the commemoration march. Participants should complete assembly 30 minutes prior to the expected time for the formation step off.

Anyone eligible to be a member of the Returned and Services League of Australia can participate in the march.

**Marchers** are requested to co-operate with March Marshals in the assembly area and along the march route. **All marchers** should conform to forming up as directed by a March Official.

World War II veterans are advised to register to use transport provided. Please form up behind the veterans' banner and remain in the buggies until the march is completed.

**Next of kin representation:** *One family member or carer* per veteran is invited to march, who should be old enough to march the full distance and/or push a wheelchair

**Attire** should be neat and tidy out of respect for the fallen. Torn denim, sporting and jogger attire are not appreciated.

**Prams:** The use of prams and pushers in the march is not supported.

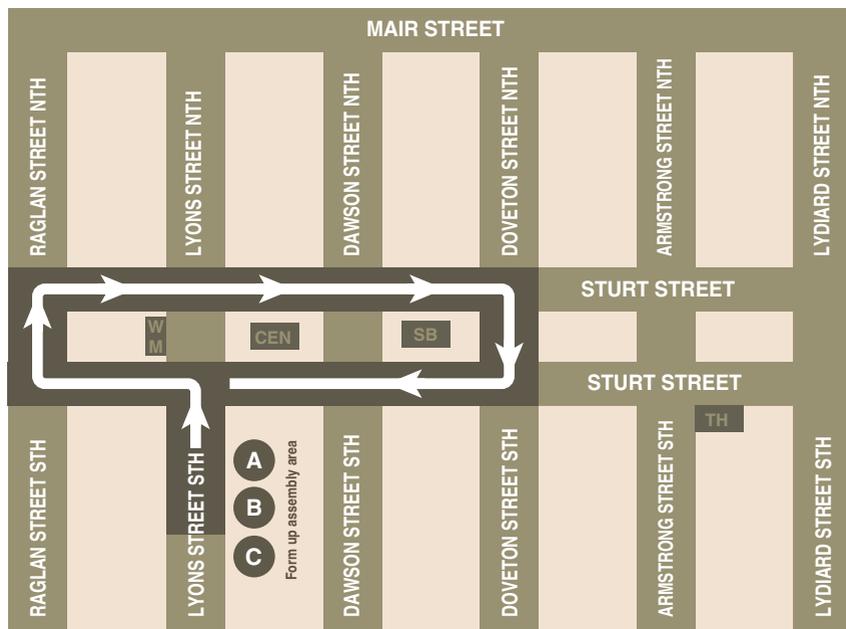
**Electronic Mobility Aids:** EMAs or gophers will be permitted in the march but at the front with the golf buggies.

**Medals:** The wearing of ribbons and medals is encouraged to honour your family's forebears; please place them on your right breast to indicate the medals or awards are not your own. Service medals should only be worn on the left breast by the person who was awarded them.

**Questions:** If you have any questions on the day, please consult one of the marshals, who can be identified by a shoulder patch inscribed "Parade Marshal".

# ANZAC DAY

## MARCH ROUTE



**KEY:** W Wreath assembly M Marshal point CEN Cenotaph TH Town Hall SB Saluting bay

## ORDER OF MARCH 2018

### Group A

Marshals - Alan Douglass,  
Andrew Ottini Snr and  
Andrew Ottini Jnr

- Ballarat City Brass Band
- Parade commander
- Flag party
- Ballarat RSL
- Royal Australian Navy
- 1st AIF Banner
- 2nd AIF in buggies
- RAAF Association
- Vietnam Veterans
- New Zealand Forces
- Afghanistan
- Timor and Solomons
- Royal Australian Nursing Corps
- Animals at War
- Korean & South East Asia Association

### Group B

Marshals - Dean Ditchfield

- St Patrick's College Band
- 8th/7th Bn - 2RVR Association
- National Servicemen's
- Legion of Ex-Servicemen and Women
- UK Forces
- Peacekeepers
- Descendants of Veterans

### Group C

Marshal - Captain Margaret  
Benoit

- Federation University Pipe Band
- Army Cadets
- Air Cadets
- Flying Academy Ballarat Airport
- Ballarat SES
- Scouts
- Guides
- Schools

## ORDER OF SERVICE

### 5.45am Ballarat Dawn Service

#### The Cenotaph, Sturt Street

MC Reg Mowat

Bugler Tamara Barrett

Piper Neil MacDonald

Bishop Gary Weatherill

**Catafalque Party** 8th/7th Bn, Royal Victoria Regiment

**Flag party** Ballarat & District Scouts & Guides

**RSL President** Alan Douglass

### Ballarat RSL Gunfire Breakfast

After the Dawn Service, a Gunfire Breakfast will be served at Midlands – Ballarat RSL Sports and Services Club. FREE transport to the RSL provided by Gold Bus. Food and drinks will be provided by Ballarat community organisations until 9.30am.

### ANZAC Day March and Commemorative Service

Wreaths to be delivered to Marshal at the corner of Lyons Street and Sturt Street prior to 9.30am.

#### 10.00am - March assembly and form-up

Lyons Street South, adjacent to Cenotaph.

**10.20am** - Flag Party and Drums march from rear to head of parade in Lyons Street South.

#### 10.30am - March moves off

Parade led by Ballarat RSL President, Alan Douglass will head off for official party acknowledgement and salute at Queen Alexandra Bandstand before arriving at the Cenotaph. Official salute taken by Mayor Samantha McIntosh, LTCOL David Cadigan-Cowper, COL Jan McCarthy AARC (retd.), Superintendent Jenny Wilson and Catherine King MP.

#### 11.00am - Commemorative Service

**Welcome** - MC Brett Macdonald

#### Wreath Laying

**Catafalque Party Mounts** 8th/7th Bn, RVR

**Flag Raising Party** - Ballarat Scouts and Guides

**Welcome** - City of Ballarat Mayor, Samantha McIntosh

**ANZAC Oration** - COL Jan McCarthy AARC (retd.)

**Hymn** - Sing Australia Choir

**Prayer** - Reverend Catherine Tierney

**Recitation "Dulce Et Decorum Est"** -

Tayte Fraser, Ballarat High School and Caitlin Grieve, Ballarat Grammar School

**Ode** - RSL President, Alan Douglass

**Last Post**

### One Minute Silence

#### Rouse

**Benediction** – Reverend Catherine Tierney

#### Australian National Anthem

#### New Zealand National Anthem -

Ballarat North Primary School

#### Catafalque & Flag Party Dismounts

#### Piper's Lament

#### Hymn "Recessional"

God of our fathers, known of old,  
Lord of our far-flung battle-line,  
Beneath whose awful Hand we hold  
Dominion over palm and pine—  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

The tumult and the shouting dies;  
The Captains and the Kings depart:  
Still stands Thine ancient sacrifice,  
An humble and a contrite heart.  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

Far-called, our navies melt away;  
On dune and headland sinks the fire:  
Lo, all our pomp of yesterday  
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!  
Judge of the Nations, spare us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

#### Australian National Anthem:

#### Advance Australia Fair

Australians all let us rejoice,  
For we are young and free;  
We've golden soil and wealth for toil;  
Our home is girt by sea;  
Our land abounds in nature's gifts  
Of beauty rich and rare;  
In history's page, let every stage  
Advance Australia Fair.  
In joyful strains then let us sing,  
Advance Australia Fair.

Beneath our radiant Southern Cross  
We'll toil with hearts and hands;  
To make this Commonwealth of ours  
Renowned of all the lands;  
For those who've come across the seas  
We've boundless plains to share;  
With courage let us all combine  
To Advance Australia Fair.  
In joyful strains then let us sing,  
Advance Australia Fair.

#### Refreshments, fellowship and Two Up:

Please join us at **Midlands – Ballarat RSL Sports and Services Club**, for refreshments following the service. Two Up will be in the 'Fairways Room' 1 – 6pm

# THANK YOU

The Ballarat Sub Branch of the Returned and Services League would like to thank the following organisations and individuals for making this important day a success:

- City of Ballarat
- 8th/7th Battalion, The Royal Victoria Regiment
- ***Dawn Service Official Party:***
  - Reg Mowat, RSL President Alan Douglass, Bishop Gary Weatherill,
- ***Commemorative Service Official Party:***
  - Brett Macdonald, Mayor Samantha McIntosh, Reverend Catherine Tierney, RSL President Alan Douglass, COL Jan McCarthy (retd.) Catherine King MP, Superintendent Jenny Wilson, Tayte Fraser and Caitlin Grieve
  - Musicians Tamara Barrett, Neil MacDonald, Troy Cheesman, Peter Gunn
    - Chris Ducardus and Lindsay Govan
  - City of Ballarat Municipal Brass Band
    - St Patrick's College Band
    - Sing Australia
  - Federation University Pipe Band
  - LTCOL David Cadogan-Cowper (8th/7th Battalion, RVR)
    - Ballarat's Army Cadet Units
    - Victoria Police
    - Ex-Service Associations
    - State Emergency Service
    - Midlands Golf Club
  - Gold Bus and Ross Huntington
    - Ballarat Golf Club
  - Ballarat and District Girls Guides and Scouts
    - Ballarat and district schools
    - The Salvation Army
  - Rotary Club of Ballarat South
  - Rotary Club of Ballarat West
    - Sebastopol Men's Shed
  - The Citizens of Ballarat and District

The Ballarat Sub Branch of the Returned and Services League of Australia ensures national remembrance days are commemorated to honour veterans who served and those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the defence of our country.

We value the community's support and call on you, your school, business or organisation to be involved in the organisation of and participation in of future events.

**Please contact: The Secretary, Ballarat RSL Sub Branch,  
Midlands – Ballarat RSL Sports and Services Club,  
330 Heinz Lane, Invermay Park, 3350  
secretary@ballaratrsl.com.au**

