

MEDIA RELEASE

24 April 2020

Council encouraging community to ‘Light Up The Dawn’ on ANZAC Day

Gladstone Regional Council (GRC) is encouraging its residents to ‘Light Up The Dawn’ this ANZAC Day in support of RSL Queensland’s initiative to honour our veterans and serving members.

ANZAC Day services across the country have been modified to help reduce the spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) health emergency, and RSL Queensland is asking communities to stand in their driveway, balcony or living room at 6am on ANZAC Day to remember all those who have served and sacrificed.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said this year’s ANZAC Day commemoration would be like no other as the nation continues its battle against COVID-19.

“We all know the impact that COVID-19 has had on our daily lives and the disruption it has caused, but that pales into insignificance when compared to what our parents, grandparents and great grandparents had to endure during times of war,” Councillor Burnett said.

“We’ve all had to make sacrifices over the past weeks, some more than others, but those who have served our nation have made sacrifices that have stretched months, years, decades or even a lifetime, while some who served made the ultimate sacrifice.”

Cr Burnett said Council was fully supportive of the Light Up The Dawn initiative and from 6am on ANZAC Day would stream a short commemorative service on its website comprising of The Ode, The Last Post, a minute’s silence, and Reveille.

“I invite Gladstone Region residents who are able to stand in their driveway, balcony, porch or living room from 6am on ANZAC Day so we can help make the Light Up The Dawn initiative a special one for those who it intends to honour,” Cr Burnett said.

“While we aren’t standing shoulder to shoulder in a physical sense by lining our streets, parks and public places to remember those who have served and sacrificed, I hope many people can make the pledge to honour those who have given their lives so that we may live ours in freedom.”

Please visit www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/ANZAC-day prior to 6am on ANZAC Day (25 April) to pledge your place in the Light Up The Dawn initiative.

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