



ANZAC Day, Berlin, 25 April 2020

Due to the COVID-19 world in which we currently live, and restrictions regarding movement of people and social gatherings, we sadly will not be proceeding with a public ANZAC Day commemoration in Berlin this year. It would not be responsible to do so especially as these gatherings are often supported by elderly members in the community to whom we all have a special responsibility.

However, the New Zealand and Australia Embassies in Germany will still mark ANZAC Day in 2020. As in our own countries, it will be different this year.

The New Zealand and Australian Ambassadors will visit the Commonwealth War Grave Commissions' Berlin War Cemetery on Saturday 25 April and, with quiet solemnity, lay a wreath at the cenotaph, recite the ode, and observe one minute of silence, to mark the occasion on behalf of both our communities. This will be an ANZAC Day like no other. But we shall honour our nations' commitment to never forget our fallen and our veterans. Even in these times, we shall remember them.

For those that wish to observe your own individual or family ANZAC Day act of commemoration the ode and a traditional prayer of remembrance are included below.

The Ode

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.*

A Prayer of Remembrance

*Lord God, help us this day to remember the sacrifice of the first ANZACs, Australian and New Zealander, and the generations of men, women and children who have died in the cause of liberty and peace.
Help us to remember those who still bear the physical and mental scars and disabilities of their service.
Help us to remember the widows, girlfriends, parents and orphans and all those who waited in vain for the return of a loved one.
Help us to remember the mateship, agony, courage and compassion of war service, but save us from ever glorifying the horror and tragedy of war.
Lord God, help us to remember.
Amen*

We are sure you share with us the hope and determination to gather together to commemorate ANZAC Day in the years ahead.

New Zealand Ambassador, HE Mr Rupert Holborow
Australian Ambassador, HE Ms Lynette Wood