

Media Release

The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP
Minister for Veterans
Minister for Small Business
Minister for Youth



Wednesday, 20 November 2024

GRANTS TO SUPPORT AND HONOUR OUR VETERANS

The Allan Labor Government is supporting Victorian veterans with funding for projects that honour their legacy and activities that improve their wellbeing.

Minister for Veterans Natalie Suleyman today visited the Ballarat Veterans Assistance Centre with the Member for Eureka Michaela Settle MP to announce the recipients of grants in the Victoria Remembers and Anzac Day Proceeds Fund programs – which form part of the Labor Government’s support for Victorian veterans.

The Anzac Day Proceeds Fund grants will support 18 organisations to provide welfare and wellbeing activities for veterans across the state.

Grants of up to \$150,000 have been provided to ex-service organisations and community groups, with regional sub-branches eligible for up to \$50,000 for local initiatives that support veterans.

Ballarat Veterans Assistance Centre (BVAC) will deliver direct support to local veterans and their families as they navigate life after service. The BVAC uses a wellbeing model to ensure the centre has the broadest possible reach and provides inclusive activities that enhance social connection.

Vasey RSL Care has been awarded \$100,000 to support veterans through its ‘Adventure and Connection for Veterans Wellbeing’ project – designed to build community connections and promote wellbeing for veterans facing mental health challenges including post-traumatic stress disorder and isolation.

The Victoria Remembers grants will support 27 projects that recognise veterans’ service or educate Victorians about the sacrifices and contributions veterans make – with funding of up to \$30,000 for each project.

Wodonga RSL Sub-Branch will receive a grant to create a short film, *Remembering the Sacrifice*, aimed at educating local school students about the legacy of those who served. The film will feature guest speakers from the Australian Defence Force, RSL Victoria and Defence Mentors alongside local students.

Melbourne Legacy will receive funding to support their annual Anzac commemoration for students at the Shrine of Remembrance. This event has kept the Anzac spirit alive with Victoria’s young people for over 90 years and Melbourne Legacy will receive \$30,000 towards the event in 2025.

To see a list of recipients of the Anzac Day Proceeds Fund grants, visit vic.gov.au/anzac-day-proceeds-fund.

For a list of recipients of the Victoria Remembers grants, visit vic.gov.au/victoria-remembers-grant-program.

Quote attributable to Minister for Veterans Natalie Suleyman

“Veterans have given so much to our state and nation – we are so proud to support their wellbeing and honour their service and sacrifice.”

Quote attributable to the Member for Eureka Michaela Settle MP

“These grants are one of the ways we are helping veteran communities in Ballarat and across the state – the activities and programs they support will protect their legacy and help veterans and their families thrive in their lives after service.”

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Quote attributable to Victorian Veterans Council Chair Greg Yorke, AM, CSC

“The Anzac Day Proceeds Fund and Victoria Remembers grant programs bring communities together to honour, strengthen and value the ex-service members who have dedicated their lives for our country.”