

ANZAC Day: April 25

6 Ways to help your staff & residents observe ANZAC Day

1. Learn about the foundations of ANZAC Day

In 1915, Australian and New Zealand soldiers formed part of an Allied expedition that set out to capture the Gallipoli Peninsula, under a plan by Winston Churchill to open the way to the Black Sea for the Allied navies.

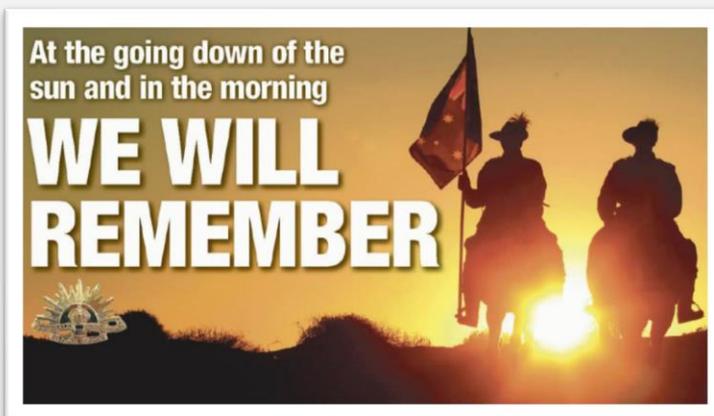
The ANZAC force landed at Gallipoli on 25 April, meeting fierce resistance from the Turkish Army. The campaign dragged on for eight months.

At the end of 1915, the Allied forces were evacuated after both sides had suffered heavy casualties and endured great hardships. Over 8,000 Australian and 2,700 New Zealand soldiers died.

News of the landing at Gallipoli made a profound impact on Australians and New Zealanders at home and 25 April quickly became the day on which they remembered the sacrifice of those who had died in war.

By the mid-1930s, all the rituals now associated with the day—dawn vigils, marches, memorial services, reunions, sly two-up games—became part of Australian ANZAC Day culture.

ANZAC Day now commemorates all those who have served and those who have died in military operations for our country.



2. Attend a Dawn Service or a National ANZAC Day Ceremony

After the First World War, returned soldiers sought the comradeship they felt in those quiet, peaceful moments before dawn.

With symbolic links to the dawn landing at Gallipoli, a dawn stand-to or dawn ceremony became a common form of Anzac Day remembrance during the 1920s.

Modern dawn services contain the following features: introduction, hymn, prayer, an address, laying of wreaths, recitation, the playing of "The Last Post", a minute of silence, "Reveille", and the playing of both New Zealand and Australian national anthems.

For more information about local ANZAC Day Ceremonies in your State, please contact your local RSL: <http://rslnational.org>



3. Listen to or read some past or present speeches

<http://www.anzacwebsites.com/events/speeches.htm>

4. Look at some ANZAC pictures

<https://www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/anzac-day/dawn-service>

5. Make ANZAC biscuits

Also called the soldier's biscuit because they were a main staple in the diets of ANZAC soldiers.

[Here's a recipe for 30 from Bite](#)



6. Play the traditional ANZAC Day game, "Two-Up"

You will need:

- 2 coins
- A flat surface
- Chips for betting (optional)- if betting is not wanted, instead keep a tally of when each participant correctly guess how the coins will land.

Traditionally this game is played on a large square platform and a 'paddle' (a flat piece of wood with a handle and two grooves for the coins to sit) is used to throw the coins in the air. Instead, a table is sufficient, and the coins can easily be thrown up into the air by hand.



The game is run by a "boxer", who calls the first "spinner" (one of the players around the circle) to toss the coins. The spinner wagers an amount of their choice on either "heads" or "tails". Other players around the ring can then also bet on either "heads" or "tails". Once all bets are taken, the boxer calls "no more bets", and the player tosses the coins in the air. To be a valid throw, they must go above the head height of the spinner, be rotating sufficiently and land entirely in the ring - if they do not the boxer calls "barred" and the throw is retaken. Ideally the call must occur before the coins settle.

If the coins land both on the same face, the round ends and all players who bet on that face are paid. A new round of bets is then taken before the spinner throws again. If the coins come up with one tail and one head, the spinner spins again. If this happens five times, all players lose, and a new spinner is selected. If the spinner throws his nominated face three times before either a head and tails is thrown five times in a row they win.