



Recognition and respect at their final resting place

Wednesday, 19 February 2025

The Hon Matt Keogh MP
Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Minister for Defence Personnel

For more than a century Australians have worked tirelessly to commemorate the stories of those who have served our nation, and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Around 270,000 Australians returned home after serving in the First World War. Many were later laid to rest without a grave marker that declared their service. The Albanese Government can today announce almost \$107,000 in funding has been allocated to nine organisations to mark the graves of 182 First World War veterans under the 2024-25 round of the Marking (First World War) Private Graves Grants Program.

The program was developed to ensure First World War veterans who lie in 'unmarked' graves receive the respect and recognition that they deserve.

Successful applicants will receive a one-off funding contribution of up to \$620 per grave to install a commemoration, such as a new plaque or grave marker, to recognise First World War service personnel who returned home and passed away of causes unrelated to their war service.

These commemorations honour the service and sacrifice of First World War veterans in their final resting place.

It is an honour to support the work of groups and individuals across Australia who are committed to ensuring the bravery and sacrifice of our nation's First World War veterans is remembered—and that their legacy endures.

Through this round of the Marking (First World War) Private Graves Grants Program, an additional 143 veterans were deemed eligible for official War Grave status and commemoration by the Repatriation Commission. Their service will be recognised with a Commonwealth War Grave commemoration installed at the site of interment, paid for and maintained in perpetuity by the Australian Government.

See the below for the full list of grant recipients:

Grantee	State	Cemetery	Number of private grave markers	Funding approved
Forgotten Diggers Inc	NSW	Goulburn General Cemetery	1	\$620
		Macquarie Park Cemetery	1	\$620
		Sandgate Cemetery	18	\$11,160
		Woronora Memorial Park	1	\$620
Individual grantee	NSW	Casino Lawn Cemetery	1	\$620
Australian Remembrance Army	QLD	Lutwyche Cemetery	84	\$46,864
Individual grantee	QLD	Gympie Cemetery	1	\$620
Longreach Archival & Historical Research Group Inc	QLD	Longreach Cemetery	2	\$594.90

Friends of Toowong Cemetery	QLD	Toowong Cemetery	42	\$26,040
The Headstone Project (SA) Inc	SA	Kadina Cemetery	2	\$1,240
		Walleroo Cemetery	1	\$620
		Peterborough Cemetery	6	\$3,720
		Balaklava Cemetery	1	\$620
		Kersbrook Cemetery	1	\$620
		Tailem Bend Cemetery	1	\$620
		Macclesfield Cemetery	1	\$620
		Hawker Cemetery	1	\$620
		Coromandel Valley Cemetery	1	\$620
		Caltowie Cemetery	1	\$620
		Currency Creek Cemetery	1	\$620
		Terowie Cemetery	1	\$620
		Clare Cemetery	2	\$1,240
		Quorn Cemetery	1	\$620
The Headstone Project (TAS) Inc	TAS	Queenstown Lyell	7	\$4,340
The Headstone Project Victoria Inc	VIC	Queenscliff Cemetery	2	\$1,240
		Warringal Cemetery	1	\$620
		Total	182	\$106,978.90

Media contact

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Open Arms – Veterans & Families Counselling provides 24/7 free confidential crisis support for current and ex-serving ADF personnel and their families on [1800 011 046 \(tel:1800-011-046\)](tel:1800-011-046), or the [Open Arms website \(https://www.openarms.gov.au/\)](https://www.openarms.gov.au/). **Safe Zone Support** provides anonymous counselling on [1800 142 072 \(tel:1800-142-072\)](tel:1800-142-072). **Defence All-Hours Support Line** provides support for ADF personnel on [1800 628 036 \(tel:1800-628-036\)](tel:1800-628-036) or the [Defence Health Portal \(https://www.defence.gov.au/adf-members-families/health-well-being\)](https://www.defence.gov.au/adf-members-families/health-well-being). **Defence Member and Family Helpline** provides support for Defence families on [1800 624 608 \(tel:1800-624-608\)](tel:1800-624-608).