



AUSTRALIA DAY 2013

mark national holiday

Ceremony a chance to reflect on the past

WARRNAMBOOL
By MATTHEW O'TOOLE

THE Warrnambool War Memorial will be the scene of a flag-lowering ceremony on Australia Day.

The Warrnambool RSL and south-west group of the Order of Australia Association have organised the event as "recognition of Australia's past and what people have given", Warrnambool RSL secretary Alex Gannaway said.

"We really want to promote the values of Australia and Australia Day to people, in particular to the youth and it's really a case of recognising what we've got," he said.

The ceremony will coincide with a flag-lowering ceremony held by the Order of Australia Association at the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne.

Warrnambool's event will start at 3.20pm, beginning with a parade from the Lighthouse Theatre to the memorial.

It is the second year the Warrnambool RSL has organised the ceremony in conjunction with the Order of Australia Association.

The association's south-west group secretary Duncan Stalker said the event aimed to allow the



Warrnambool RSL secretary Alex Gannaway and OAM Association secretary Duncan Stalker will conduct a flag-lowering ceremony at the war memorial on Australia Day.

130121RG31 Picture: ROB GUNSTONE

public to pay their respects for those that have made Australia what it is.

"The major objective of the Order of Australia is to foster a pride and love in Australian citizenship and

we see that on Australia Day and we think this is appropriate to it," Mr Stalker said.

The ceremony will also include a number of musical items, the

participation of a number of schools and members of various branches of the Australian Defence Force and associated cadets.

The two organisations also ran an essay writing

competition on "My Australia" for primary and secondary schoolchildren. Essays have been read each day on 3YB and Coast FM and displayed at the Warrnambool RSL.

Dalvui open to public

NOORAT
By MATTHEW O'TOOLE

THE doors to Dalvui Homestead's private gardens near Noorat will be open to the public for Corangamite Shire's Australia Day celebrations.

From 10am there will be a free morning tea, tours of the gardens and live music provided by the Lakes and Craters Band and Tune-A-Week.

There will be a presentation of Australia Day award winners with citizen of the year, young citizen of the year and community event of the year to be awarded along with an address from Australia Day ambassador Russell Rees.

The shire's community relations manager Glen Bernoth said he hoped the community would support the event.

"Corangamite's Australia Day celebrations have been really well attended in past years and staging them in such an amazing setting will hopefully encourage even more people to attend and to stay longer for a stroll around the grounds," Mr Bernoth said.

"The Australia Day awards are a chance to celebrate the achievements and contributions of individuals and groups in the community."

Light shines on sad history

CAPE OTWAY

FOR those seeking a thrill on Australia Day, a ghost tour of the Cape Otway Lightstation might be right up your alley.

Tours through the 165-year-old lightstation run only on Australia Day each year and are rumoured to be steeped in paranormal history with five resident ghosts said to have caused mischief on site

over the years. Lightstation manager Paul Thompson said that the ghost of a young girl regularly affected visitors and has convinced plenty of paranormal sceptics that there are things that go bump in the night.

"It's said that in the late 1880s a little girl who was living in the telegraph station died, around the age of four, and they had to keep her body in a cupboard in the coolest

room while they waited for a coroner to come on horseback," Mr Thompson said.

"On one of our ghost tours, a number of women were moved to tears in a bedroom in the old telegraph station after sensing the girl and a deep sadness."

Tours leave at 7pm and 8:30pm. Places are limited and bookings essential. For more information ring 5237 9240

City's garden party

WARRNAMBOOL

WARRNAMBOOL'S botanic gardens will host the city's Australia Day festivities again this year.

An official Australia Day ceremony and citizenship awards will run from 10:30am and will feature an address by television identity and Australia Day ambassador George Donikian.

There will be plenty of free live entertainment with young star

Nancie Schipper, Never Surrender and Louie Clancey.

Other activities on the day will include a barbecue lunch, giant inflatable slide, face-painting and other free children's activities.

The Warrnambool RSL and Order of Australia Association will also conduct a flag-lowering ceremony at the Warrnambool war memorial with the official ceremony starting at 3.30pm after a short parade from the Lighthouse Theatre.

Welcome for new citizen

HAWKESDALE: The Hawkesdale memorial hall will be the centre of Moyne Shire's Australia Day celebrations with a free community breakfast from 8am. Mayor Jim Doukas will start the official Australia Day proceedings at 9:30am including awarding the young citizen of the year, citizen of the year and community event award. A citizenship ceremony will also take place to welcome a new Australian along with an address by veteran lifesaver and Australia Day ambassador Alistair McCooke.

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AUSTRALIA DAY SPECIALS All your favourites for the long weekend