

Anzac Day 2020, Saturday 25th April – Stand at Dawn

To all MNA Members (Merchant Navy Association)

Obviously, like all commemoration events at this time of Covid-19 lockdown, Anzac Day 2020 on 25th April will take on a different format. The New Zealand Defence Force and Returned Services Association) this year are asking New Zealanders, Australians and friends to **Stand at Dawn**, and have arranged a programme of events which will be broadcast on Radio New Zealand at 6am (NZ time.)

They are encouraging us, in the UK, to also **Stand at Dawn** in our homes, driveways or at our front door, at 5.30am UK time, to support our Commonwealth colleagues in the Antipodes. They will post links here to the RNZ broadcast once those have gone live, so that we too can listen – **see below**.

As they have emphasised, the Anzac spirit has taught them (and us!) many things: endurance, courage, ingenuity, good humour and comradeship. In these unprecedented times, it's important we unite together using all of these qualities. *“The sacrifice everyone is being asked to make as part of the COVID-19 Lockdown is the same kind of Anzac spirit that we honour for all those who have served Australia and New Zealand past, present and future”* says RNZSA National President B J Clark.

Media on-line Service

In lieu of the various traditional Anzac Day Services held in London annually, this year the New Zealand and Australian High Commissions, together with Westminster Abbey, will release an online Service at 11am on Saturday 25 April. This will be available to view on the following Social Media channels:

- New Zealand High Commission: Facebook, Instagram and Twitter
- Australian High Commission: Facebook and Twitter
- Westminster Abbey: Website and Facebook

This pre-recorded Service will include a number of elements of the usual events held at the Hyde Park Corner Memorials, the Cenotaph and in Westminster Abbey.

David Parsons, National Secretary, MNA

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Anzac Day celebrated in Kings Park Western Australia