



Canon Garland Memorial Society Incorporated

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MEDIA RELEASE

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REMEMBRANCE DAY – CELEBRATING THE PEACE

As we know, Remembrance Day falls on the 11th day of November each year.

The Armistice signed between the Allies of World War I and Germany at Compiègne, France, heralded the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front of World War I.

It took effect at the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" of 1918 – 98 years ago. As a consequence, the entire world spontaneously rejoiced at the cessation of brutality and the promise a lasting peace for all mankind.

In the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the United States of America and other allied countries, the 11th day of November became universally dubbed "Armistice Day" and it was first commemorated in 1919.

After World War II, the Australian Government agreed to the United Kingdom's proposal that Armistice Day be renamed "Remembrance Day" to commemorate those who were killed in both World Wars.

The nation each year pauses to publicly acknowledge, with solemn gratitude, the service of Australian Defence Force personnel who have laid down their lives in the cause of securing peace, wherever and whenever called upon.

The Canon Garland Memorial Society Incorporated, this Remembrance Day, invites the citizens of Brisbane to celebrate the peace and harmony we all enjoy because of the gallant and self-less commitment to duty demonstrated by generations of fellow Australians in the defence of principles we all hold dear.

Perhaps the sentiments expressed by Private Michael Joseph Flaherty, a soldier serving on the troop landing ship, *HMAS Kanimbla*, as he contemplated being demobbed at the end of World War II, expresses the promise of Remembrance Day best:

"I look forward with the thought that mankind has, at last, realised the futility and brutality of war and that the peoples of the world can, at last, live peaceably and amicably together in a tolerant world free of aggression and persecution...I, and thousands like me, have not put up with the discomforts and terrors of war to go back to the old Australia – but a new, brighter and better Australia which will provide hope and promise for its people to lead a happy and productive life free of want. This is the Australia I want to go back to and I want to feel pride that those who have fallen have not fallen IN VAIN."

A free, Family Concert under the stars has been organised for Friday evening, 11th of November, on the lawns of Kangaroo Point Cliffs Park in front of *Canon Garland Memorial – ANZAC Day Origins*, close by historic St Mary's Anglican Church, Main Street, Kangaroo Point.

Some of the city's finest vocalists and musicians will perform songs that speak to the privilege of living in peace and harmony in our local community.

ENDS. For details about the performers, visit <http://www.garlandmemorial.com/dateclaimer/>

The Canon Garland Memorial – ANZAC Day Origins, Kangaroo Point Cliffs Park, Brisbane, Australia.

