



Shire of York

MEDIA RELEASE

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ANZACS COMMEMORATED IN YORK

York's War Memorial Park has had some upgrades and will again be the focus of this year's ANZAC Day commemorations in the town.

"Thanks to a Department of Veterans' Affairs Anzac Local Centenary Grant, lettering of the names on the Memorial has been repainted and an additional small plinth has been added at the base of the Memorial to commemorate the men whose names were not originally included", Cr Wallace Shire President explained.

A new rock has been installed to better honour VC winner Lawrence Dominic McCarthy, born in York, and all service personnel who served in WW1. The existing plaque has been refurbished and the addition of a specially sculpted bronze bas-relief of Lawrence McCarthy VC, plus a bronze plaque commemorating York's part in WW1 have been added.

The Krupp Gun awarded to the Shire in 1920 now has a shelter. After WW1, captured German armaments were distributed all around the country by the Government; they were intended for public display as a reminder that they had been won at great cost in human sacrifice. It has strong links to York through the 28th Battalion, in which many local men served. Lieutenant Edwin Edmondson, born in York, participated in the capture of this Krupp gun on 11-12 Aug 1918. He was killed less than a month later. Since being conserved by the WA Royal Artillery Historical Society in 2006 thanks to a grant obtained by York RSL, the Gun has been in storage, so this shelter enables it to be put on long term display, honouring the original intention".

In addition to this, ten life size silhouettes of York ANZACS will be popping up in unusual places in York during this week. Made for the major exhibition 'Walk With Us – Remembering Them' to be held in York Town Hall in 2018, these figures are the first of 100 to be produced, so are being shown in advance for ANZAC Day this year. They have been created as part of the York Residency Museum's commitment to involving the local community in their ANZAC heritage.

Historic images have been collaged with photographs taken by residents in a series of Community Arts Workshops funded through a CANWA Catalyst grant, creating evocative imagery that reflects the lives, loves, occupations and characters of these men.

Wherever possible, the silhouettes are being situated in places that have links to that character; for instance, one of Trooper Maitland Hoops of the Tenth Light Horse will be displayed in the York Palace Hotel, as the Hoops family had a Store on that site until 1909 when it was demolished to make way for the hotel.

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Shire of York

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