



# BATTLE FOR AUSTRALIA COMMEMORATION

Honouring those who served on land and sea  
and in the air repulsing the direct threat  
to Australia, 1942-1945

THE CENOTAPH  
MARTIN PLACE, SYDNEY  
WEDNESDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2022  
AT 11.00am



LTGEN Peter Leahy AC (Ret'd) arrives

Announced by Master of Ceremonies Dr Darren Mitchell  
Vice-President, Committee BFAA (NSW)

Catafalque Party Mounts

Provided by RAAF Base Richmond

Welcome and Introduction by the MC

Dr Darren Mitchell

Acknowledgement of Country

Uncle Harry Allie BEM (Gudjala) - Committee BFAA (NSW)

Hymn: Abide With Me (Henry Francis Lyte, 1793-1847)

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;  
change and decay in all around I see;  
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Prayer of Remembrance

Rev Geoffrey R Usher - Committee BFAA (NSW)

The Captives' Hymn (Margaret Dryburgh, 1890-1945)

Sydney Women's Vocal Orchestra

Commemoration Address

LTGEN Peter Leahy AC (Ret'd)

Laying of Floral Tributes

Accompanied by The Lament – Piper Robert Pearce OAM

Ode of Remembrance (Laurence Binyon, 1869-1943)

Junior Legatee Jordan Burey and his mother Rebecca Burey

Last Post

Sacred Silence

Rouse

Hymn: The Recessional (Rudyard Kipling, 1865-1936)

God of our Fathers, known of old,  
Lord of our far-flung battle line,  
Beneath whose awful hand we hold  
Dominion over palm and pine.  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget - Lest we forget!

Far called our navies melt away,  
On dune and headline sinks the fire;  
Lo, all the pomp of yesterday  
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!  
Judge of the Nations, spare us yet,  
Lest we forget - Lest we forget!

Australian National Anthem

Alexandria Park Community School Choir sing first verse in  
Dharawal Language; followed by first verse repeated in English  
sung by all

Prayer for Peace

Rev Geoffrey R Usher

Catafalque Party Dismounts

LTGEN Peter Leahy AC (Ret'd) departs

Close of Ceremony

## **THE BATTLE FOR AUSTRALIA**

This year marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Prime Minister John Curtin's 16 February 1942 "Battle for Australia" speech which foreshadowed the momentous battles on land, sea and in the air in Australia's immediate and adjacent operational areas following the Fall of Singapore the day before.

On 19 June 2008, His Excellency, Major-General Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC, Governor General of Australia, proclaimed the "Battle for Australia Day" to be a National Day of Remembrance, to be held annually on the first Wednesday in September.

<https://www.battleforaustralia.asn.au/>

The Battle for Australia Association (NSW) Inc acknowledges the support of many people and organisations in the conduct of this service, including:

- LTGEN Peter Leahy AC (Ret'd)
- Alexandria Park Community School Choir
- Cenotaph attendants Wally Murrans & Charles Gallagher
- Junior Legatees Jordan Burey and his mother Rebecca
- NSW Police Band
- Piper Robert Pearce OAM, Bagpipe Services Australia
- RAAF Base Richmond Catafalque Party
- RSL NSW
- St John Ambulance (NSW) Sydney University Division
- Sydney Women's Vocal Orchestra
- WO1 Darryl Holzhauser, RSM Joint Ceremonial NSW & ACT