

## State Minister's Message Issue 17 (3 June, 2009)

A regular update from the Office of the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, The Hon. Michael Atkinson M.P.

### **Aboriginal Veterans Commemorative Service**

Aboriginal veterans were honoured at the third annual Aboriginal Veterans Commemorative Service on Friday 29 May, 2009 at the South Australian National War Memorial, North Terrace, Adelaide. It was pleasing to see over 100 people attend the Service.

This event originated in 2007 as part of Reconciliation Week to acknowledge the 60th anniversary of the granting of full rights of citizenship to our Aboriginal peoples. The broad acceptance given to the event has ensured it has become a permanent fixture on our state commemorative calendar. Aboriginal Australians have served with distinction and very little recognition in every conflict in which Australia has been involved, from the Boer War and Gallipoli to Iraq and Afghanistan.

An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander War Memorial is currently being planned and will be constructed adjacent to the Torrens Parade Ground. It will commemorate the service and sacrifice of all Aboriginal veterans. **Commemorative pavers can be purchased and funds will be directed toward the cost of the memorial. Details can be obtained on 8226 8881.**

### **Government Announces ANZAC Day Fund Recipients**

Minister Atkinson recently announced which community groups will share \$100,000 in the latest Round of the ANZAC Day Commemoration Fund.

45 projects ranging from web-based learning programs and memorials to multimedia productions and community programs, have been awarded funding by the scheme.

The ANZAC Day Commemoration Fund makes available grants of up to \$8,000 to organisations or individuals, enabling them to express, celebrate, promote and maintain the ANZAC spirit.

### **With Courage and Humanity Regional Tour - Weekly Update**

In the coming weeks the Badcoe VC will be on display in the following locations:

15-16 June	Port Lincoln	Civic Hall Tasman Terrace, Port Lincoln 15 June: 9.00am-5.00pm 16 June: 9.00am-5.00pm
17-18 June	Ceduna	Memorial Hall 31 Poynton Street, Ceduna 17 June: 2.00pm-8.00pm 18 June: 8.30am-12noon
18-19 June	Wudinna	Wudinna Town Hall Ballantyne St, Wudinna 18 June: 4.00pm-7.00pm 19 June: 10.00am-5.00pm