

Wednesday 23 July 2014

RYDE REMEMBERS BATTLE OF LONE PINE

The City of Ryde Centenary of Anzac Committee invites members of the community to attend a commemoration ceremony of the WWI Battle of Lone Pine (6 – 9 August 1915) at the Ryde Cenotaph, on Wednesday 6 August 2014.

The Lone Pine ceremony coincides with the 100th anniversary of the declaration of war and is the first of five special projects undertaken by the Committee to commemorate the Centenary of Anzac.

Symbolically, the Mayor Clr Roy Maggio and Mrs Betty Willis, President of the Ryde Historical Society, will plant a lone pine tree in recognition of the fallen soldiers, those who served, and the families affected by their involvement in the “war to end all wars”.

The Ryde Historical Society has undertaken extensive research into the role of local servicemen and families in WWI and part of their work will be revealed in a tribute to the seventeen soldiers from the Ryde area who lost their lives in the famous Battle of Lone Pine.

The ceremony will be attended by local dignitaries and representatives of returned services and will include the laying of wreaths, the Last Post, a minute’s silence and Reveille.

The Battle of Lone Pine was one of the bloodiest and hardest fought actions of the Gallipoli campaign that saw 2,277 Australian soldiers killed or wounded, almost half of those committed to fight.

The Battle was named after a solitary pine tree on the ridge near the Turkish trenches that was whittled away by shell fire in the early battle. Australian soldiers called it “Lonesome Pine” after a popular song of the time.

Members of the community are invited to attend the ceremony, lay wreaths and join the gathering for refreshments. A morning tea will follow the ceremony and to assist with catering community members are asked to respond to the RSVP below.

When Wednesday 6 August 2014
Time Ceremony 10.00 – 10.45am, followed by morning tea
Where Ryde Cenotaph, Ryde Park, Blaxland Road, Ryde
RSVP Monday 4 August events@ryde.nsw.gov.au

Attachment: Details of 17 local WWI soldiers who died at Lone Pine – courtesy Ryde District Historical Society.
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