

Anzac Day Today

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Anzac Day is a day for the people of New Zealand to acknowledge the sacrifice of all those who have died in warfare, and the efforts of all those who have served. Anzac Day is now also seen as a day to celebrate a sense of unity for New Zealand. The Anzac Day ceremony of 25 April contains two major parts: one at dawn and another, more public event, later in the morning.

The Dawn Service

Anzac Day generally starts with a Dawn Service held at the local war memorial. There are well over 500 public memorials to the soldiers of the Great War, 1914 - 1918. Some memorials include statues, while some have towers, bridges or clocks. Those who have fought in wars (veterans) march to the war memorial where they are joined by members of the armed forces and the public.

A short service is held, before The Last Post is played by a bugle player. This is followed by a minute's silence. Someone will then say a short speech and the hymn 'Recessional' is sung. The service ends with a prayer and the singing of the national anthem.

Anzac Day Parade

Later in the morning a citizens' service is held, featuring a parade of veterans wearing their medals. Veterans are joined by community groups such as the Red Cross, Cadet corps, Scouts and Girl Guides. They march to the local war memorial where ceremonies include the laying of wreaths and speeches.

After the official ceremonies, Returned and Services' Association (RSA) clubs host veterans and their families who take the opportunity to catch up and talk about the past, present and future.

There has been a noticeable increase in interest in Anzac Day commemorations in recent years. A growing number of young New Zealanders are attending the various ceremonies that are a feature of this day, both in New Zealand, and also in Gallipoli.

ANZAC Day Today?

Remember -
Recall and
make
inferences

1. What are the two services held on Anzac Day?
2. Is Anzac Day a long day for War Veterans? What clues in the text show this?
3. Complete the 5 W's
WHO?: Who plays The Last Post?
WHAT?: What tune is played by the single bugle
player at Anzac Day services? WHEN?: When is Anzac Day marked?
WHERE?: Where are Anzac Day commemorations held?
WHY?: Why is Anzac Day important to New Zealand?

Understand -
explain ideas
and concepts

1. Summarise the text in your own words.
2. Write two adjectives you can find in the text.

Apply - Use
what you
read

1. Write a newspaper report to explain a recent Anzac Day commemoration. What did you see, hear and experience?
Write a newspaper report describing what you know about this event. Use information from the text.

Analyse -
Show how
the story
works

1. Write six facts from the text.

Evaluate -
Form an
opinion using
evidence

1. Making Connections: When I think of Anzac Day, it reminds me of:
2. Anzac Day is important to all New Zealanders.”
List your reasons for agreeing AND disagreeing with this statement
Agree:
Disagree:

Create - Come up with new ideas	1. Create your own ANZAC memorial statue.