

Dawn Service Address 25 April 2015 by His Worship, Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP at the Hamilton Hill Memorial.

- Veterans and their partners;
- Serving men & women of the Australian Defence Force;
- Distinguished guests;
- Members of WA Police;
- Members of Cockburn State Emergency Service;
- Guides, Scouts, Emergency Services cadets;
- Ladies and gentlemen; girls and boys;
- One and all.

They stand proud and tall.

They are strategically located on the street corners of Perth, Fremantle and other parts of suburbia, in our regional cities and towns spread across the length and depth of Western Australia.

Indeed they are found across Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.

Going back in time, the rattle of the tins could be heard reverberating down the Terrace, alerting us to their presence.

Today the collection tin has generally been replaced with the plastic version – not quite the same – in my opinion it has taken away a degree of the romance associated with the occasion.

It's a bit like the gradual disappearance of the men and boys standing on the Terrace, their trolleys alongside them laden with The West Australian newspaper or the Daily News Paper.

That aside, just as they did then, the veterans and serving men and women stood proud and tall, plastic collection tins in hand – a box of various valued badges in their other hand – your choice of badge to proudly wear over coming days and weeks.

It is always interesting to watch people once their attention is focused – they reach into their pocket taking their wallet out or into their handbags for their purse – is there a coin or two or perhaps a note that can be placed into those plastic containers – there's the occasional dropping of coins or even banknotes on the pavement – the occasional coin that rolls away with a mind of its own.

The ultimate outcome of these engagements of our veterans and serving men and women with the general public provides a revenue flow to support Legacy; an organisation dedicated to caring for the families of veterans who have died or become incapacitated either on service or subsequently.

Their service extends to veterans who have served in war and on peacekeeping and humanitarian missions and to our serving men and women.

Today Legacy's compassionate service assists over 90,000 widows and 1900 children and dependants with a disability through innovative and practical programs aimed at:

- Protecting the basic needs of individuals and families;
- Advocating for the entitlements, rights and benefits of individuals and families;
- Assisting families to cope with bereavements; and
- Helping people thrive, despite their adversity and loss.

So ladies and gentlemen, girls and boys our young men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice on our shores or in far off lands and those who returned have left a legacy that:

- personifies the ANZAC spirit;
- has kept the home fires burning;
- defined the term mateship for all time;
- placed leadership and courage in its real context;
- immortalised our relationship with our New Zealand mates; and importantly;
- ensured that wherever our young men and women serve they will stand tall and proud just like those who shake those plastic tins in the Terrace and elsewhere.

On the next occasion you see someone shaking a plastic tin for Legacy:

- make a donation for the cause;
- take the time to shake the hand of the collectors;
- share a word of support and recognition of services rendered; and
- walk away tall and proud in recognition of a shared legacy.

Lest we forget.