



New Zealand Memorial
ANZAC Bridge

Sydney

Dedication
27 April 2008

Foreword from the Prime Minister of New Zealand



The dedication of a statue of a New Zealand World War One soldier on Sydney's ANZAC Bridge, forming a pair with the existing Australian soldier, is a deeply significant event which symbolises the enduring strength of and mutual respect embodied in the ANZAC spirit.

The bond between New Zealand and Australia is as close a relationship as can be found between countries anywhere in the world. It is underpinned by common values and extensive trans-Tasman family links.

New Zealand and Australia have a shared military history dating back to when both countries sent troops to the South African War. The ANZACs have since served side-by-side with bravery, distinction, courage, and mutual respect on many occasions, from Gallipoli and the Western Front to peacekeeping operations today.

The statues of the two soldiers offer a tribute to the sacrifice made by ANZAC servicemen and women. They provide a fitting reminder to us all of the wider ANZAC tradition and the very close bond which exists to this day between New Zealand and Australia.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Helen Clark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rt Hon Helen Clark
Prime Minister



ANZAC soldiers occupying a trench on Table Top, Gallipoli, during the night of August 6, 1915, in preparation for the attack on Chunuk Bair. J C Read Collection, Alexander Turnbull Library

Mates

The special relationship between New Zealand and Australia goes back to their early decades of European settlement.

New Zealand was the seaward frontier of New South Wales. Sydney provided many of the whalers, sealers and missionaries who were the first Europeans to set up homes in New Zealand, while Māori selling flax or grains in turn looked across the Tasman for their markets. New Zealand's first resident British official derived his authority from the Governor of New South Wales.

When British rule was established with the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840, people continued to move both ways across the Tasman – farmers looking for new pastures for their flocks in the 1850s,

miners prospecting for gold in the 1860s, unionists seeking improved conditions in the first decades of the 20th century, all moved east; shearers and recent British migrants seeking larger opportunities moved west. Ideas too moved both ways – women's suffrage, the welfare state, the eight hour day, how to manage burgeoning immigration. New Zealanders read the *Bulletin*, Australians laughed at New Zealand cartoonists. For much of the 19th century there was one 'Australasia' made up of seven colonies.

For a few months in 1899 New Zealanders debated vigorously whether to join the new Australian Federation which was eventually established in 1901. In the end a sense that there would be no trading advantages, and an emerging New Zealand nationalism, swung the decision firmly against participation. The sheer fact of distance was also important – the most commonly quoted observation was Sir John Hall's that the 1200 miles separating the countries were 1200 arguments against federation. But this decision could not hide the fact that at the turn of the century Australia and New Zealand largely shared one trans-Tasman culture and an Australasian set of values. Both European populations thought of themselves as 'colonists' and 'pioneers' – who were energetic, physically strong and healthy, innovative, and practical, by comparison with the citizens of the 'mother country'.

Although the two societies had already participated together in war – Australians had fought in the New Zealand Wars, New Zealanders joined the Australian states in sending contingents to the South African War – it was the First World War which brought to consciousness the two societies' common qualities and gave birth to the ANZAC spirit. On the steep slopes of Gallipoli and then in the muddy fields of the Western Front, New Zealanders and Australians came to hold each other in the highest respect and to recognise shared qualities – toughness, bravery, initiative, and mateship. Each chose to commemorate ANZAC Day as a sacred moment. In the Second World War, New Zealanders and Australians served together once more – in Greece, Crete and North Africa and in the air war over Europe. In over 60 years since then, the two countries have stood shoulder to shoulder in numerous conflicts, and post-conflict situations – in Korea, Malaya, Borneo, Vietnam, East Timor, and Solomon Islands.

'...Australians and New Zealanders are 'best mates'. Few can doubt the special nature of the relationship, born of strong historical bonds and a shared struggle.'

In other ways, too, the brother and sisterhood of Kiwis and Aussies showed itself in the first half of the 20th century. New Zealanders enjoyed poems by Banjo Paterson, the comic strips of 'Bluey and Curly' and the radio serial, 'Dad and Dave'. Australians adopted New Zealand-bred horses such as Phar Lap as their own heroes. As each society became more independent of Britain in the post-war years, there was a new exchange of goods and customs. In trade the NAFTA (New Zealand-Australia Free Trade Agreement) of 1965 became CER (Closer Economic Relationship) in 1983, and in 2004 both governments committed themselves to a Single Economic Market. As a result, New Zealanders now buy Queensland pineapples, and Australians buy wine from Marlborough, and there is a highly prosperous economic relationship between the two countries. In music and the entertainment industry there is a highly cooperative market. Greater contact between sports teams from both countries and the participation of Australian and New Zealand teams in each other's competitions has enriched sporting codes in both countries. Free movement across the Tasman underpins these sporting, business and family endeavours, and is itself an expression of the special nature of the relationship.

This is not to say that New Zealand and Australia have become one community with identical values. The indigenous peoples of the two countries have very different traditions. The two landscapes, climates and ecologies are quite different – Australia's dry red continent shares little with the wet and windy islands of New Zealand. The sheer contrast in the scale of the two countries makes for a large psychological difference; and each country has developed its own distinctive political systems and cultural emphases. Yet as history shows, when the chips are down, Australians and New Zealanders are 'best mates'. Few can doubt the special nature of the relationship, born of strong historical bonds and a shared struggle.



Above: Crete 1941. A happy meeting of troops of Australian Imperial Forces and the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces on the island. *Australian War Memorial*

ANZAC Bridge

The ANZAC Bridge was originally called the Glebe Island Bridge when it was officially opened in 1995. It took five years to build at a cost of \$A170m and is now an important and much admired Sydney landmark, as well as being a vital artery for traffic. The eight-lane bridge carries the freeway across Johnstons Bay linking the central business district, the inner west suburbs and north Sydney.

It is an elegant addition to a city already famous for one bridge spanning its harbour. Two diamond-shaped pylons, 120m tall and topped by the Australian and New Zealand flags, rise up from the bay to anchor the 126 steel cables that fan out to support the concrete deck. At 805 metres in length, it is one of the longest concrete cable-stayed bridges in the world.

The ANZAC Bridge was renamed on 11 November 1998, the 80th anniversary of the end of the First World War, in honour of



Above: Australian and New Zealand Personnel at ANZAC Park, near forward defensive positions in Korea, October 1951. *War History Collection, Alexander Turnbull Library*

the soldiers of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps who served so bravely together.

At the time, New South Wales Premier Bob Carr said: “ANZAC belongs to New Zealand as much as to Australia. It has done so ever since that Gallipoli dawn on 25 April 1915, and the landing of the Australian New Zealand Army Corps at ANZAC Cove, more than 12,000 miles from home.

“New Zealanders and Australians were together in Belgium, France, Palestine, North Africa, the Battle of Britain, Greece and Crete, El Alamein and in the Pacific, Korea, Malaya and Vietnam. So truly, this ANZAC Bridge crosses the Tasman.”

The partnership is marked by a New Zealand flag flying on top of one pylon, and an Australian flag on top of the other. A four-metre tall bronze statue of an Australian ANZAC soldier was dedicated at the western end of the bridge on ANZAC Day in 2000. This Australian digger has his head bowed, his eyes following the

Above: Nui Dat, South Vietnam, November 1971. Flags lowered for the last time marking more than five years occupancy of the base by Australians and New Zealanders. *Australian War Memorial*

barrel of his gun down to the ground where he stands on a handful of sand from Gallipoli.

> Two ANZAC Soldiers Now Standing Tall Together

The Australian soldier at the western end of Sydney’s ANZAC Bridge has had a lonely vigil for the past eight years, but now he has a comrade in arms – a New Zealand soldier to stand sentry on the bridge with him.

The new sculpture was unveiled on 27 April 2008, by New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark and New South Wales Premier Morris Iemma, with veterans from both countries present. It shows a proud Kiwi turning towards his ANZAC partner on the other side of the bridge.

Both soldiers were sculpted by acclaimed artist Alan Somerville and each took about nine months to create.



Sculpting the soldier. New South Wales Road and Transport Authority

'These twin soldiers in the heart of Australia's largest city remind us of our close relationship and of the proud traditions we share. It's a fitting tribute to the sacrifices made by ANZAC servicemen and women over more than 100 years.'

The bronze statues are the same height – about 4.2 metres – although Somerville likes to joke that the New Zealand soldier is “two inches taller because of his lemon squeezer hat”.

Creating the statues was no easy task. Each soldier is made up of about 20 different sections, which have to be welded together. “The hands are separate, the head is separate and we have to put 50cm stainless steel pins into the thighs to give the sculpture extra strength,” says Somerville.

The plinth for each soldier is also the same although the plaque is a little different for the Kiwi ANZAC. It reads “We Will Remember Them” in both English and Māori.

The New Zealand soldier was commissioned in 2007, as a joint initiative between the New Zealand and New South Wales governments.

“Through commemorative projects like this sculpture of the Kiwi soldier, New Zealand can project its unique national identity

and acknowledge the sacrifices of our people alongside others,” Helen Clark says.

“These twin soldiers in the heart of Australia’s largest city remind us of our close relationship and of the proud traditions we share. They are fitting tribute to the sacrifices made by ANZAC servicemen and women over more than 100 years.”

Having created the “digger” statue in 2000, Alan Somerville was the obvious choice to also sculpt the second.

Not only that, he is a true trans-Tasman citizen. He was born in Dunedin, now lives in Sydney, and is a dual citizen of New Zealand and Australia. He has created many public statues in both New Zealand and Australia, and internationally, and has won many awards for his work.

Opposite: Australian digger and ANZAC Bridge. *New South Wales Department of Premier and Cabinet*

Order of Service

Master of Ceremonies

Mr John Gatfield

The ANZAC Guard march on

Premier of New South Wales arrives

General Salute for the Premier of New South Wales
The Honourable Morris Iemma

Prime Minister of New Zealand arrives

General Salute for the Prime Minister of New Zealand
The Right Honourable Helen Clark

Welcome to Country and Māori Response

Display of the New Zealand and Australian flags

Two Australian Naval helicopters rise above the site displaying the New Zealand and Australian flags

Address by the Premier of New South Wales

The Honourable Morris Iemma

Address by the Prime Minister of New Zealand

The Right Honourable Helen Clark

Dedication by New Zealand and Australian Chaplains

The Catafalque Party takes position

Wreath Laying

The Premier of New South Wales
The Prime Minister of New Zealand

Ode

President of the RNZRSA
President of the New South Wales branch of the RSL

Last Post

Silence

One minute's silence will be observed

Flypast

Flypast and handling display of aircraft (FA18 Hornet) of the Tactical Fighter Group, Royal Australian Air Force

National Anthems of New Zealand and Australia

The Catafalque Party dismounts

General Salute to the Premier of New South Wales and the Prime Minister of New Zealand by the ANZAC Guard

Ceremony concludes





Above: Australian Defence Force and New Zealand Defence Force personnel on duty in Timor Leste, July 2006. *Australian Defence Force*

New Zealand National Anthem

E Ihowā Atua,
O ngā iwi mātou rā
Āta whakarangona;
Me aroha noa
Kia hua ko te pai;
Kia tau tō atawhai;
Manaakitia mai
Aotearoa

God of nations at Thy feet,
In the bonds of love we meet,
Hear our voices, we entreat,
God defend our free land.
Guard Pacific's triple star
From the shafts of strife and war,
Make her praises heard afar,
God defend New Zealand.

Australia National Anthem

Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are young and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil;
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page, let every stage
Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.

Acknowledgements

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Alexander Turnbull Library



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FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE
MANATŪ AORERE

New Zealand Government