CRAIG LAUNDY MP

Federal Member for Reid

MEDIA RELEASE

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Federal Government delivers funding to restore Davey Square Memorial

Craig Laundy MP, Federal Member for Reid, was joined by Senator the Hon. Michael Ronaldson, Minister for Veteran Affairs, this afternoon to announce that the Federal Government will provide $36,707 in funding for the restoration of the Davey Square World War I Memorial in Strathfield.

Strathfield Council have been granted the funding under the Anzac Centenary Grant programme; a programme of grants designed to fund community-based projects recognizing the contribution of servicemen and women who served during the First World War in defence of our nation.

Mayor of Strathfield, Councilor Gulian Vaccari was in attendance at the announcement, together with residents from the local community including Mr Allan Chapple, President of Homebush-Strathfield RSL sub-branch and members of the Reid Anzac Committee.

Mr Laundy said “I am pleased to be joined by so many as we shine a light on Anzac support in Strathfield.

“This special centenary funding will assist in providing the necessary maintenance to restore the memorial, ensuring that the memory of the servicemen and women who lost their lives fighting for our country in WWI will be kept alive for our future generations.”

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Minister Ronaldson said “during the Centenary of Anzac, we mark a century of service and sacrifice, encompassing all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations in which Australians have been involved.

“The Centenary will be the most significant period of commemoration in our nation's history and the Government is committed to providing opportunities for all Australians to participate.”

Councilor Vaccari, Mayor of Strathfield, extended his sincerest thanks on behalf of Strathfield Council to the Federal Government and said “the Davey Square Memorial is an integral part of how Strathfield residents commemorate the fallen in all fields of war, and particularly on Anzac Day.

“It is very poignant that this grant has been received in the centenary year of the Gallipoli conflict where so many thousands of Australians gave their lives so we could live better ones.”

The grant to restore the Davey Square Memorial is the latest of the Anzac grants to be approved in Reid; Canada Bay Council is to receive $38,600 to contribute towards the conservation work on the Concord War Memorial, and Concord Public School is to receive $3,913 to fund the restoration and relocation of two Commemorative Boards at the school. Further grants are expected to be approved in the coming weeks.

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