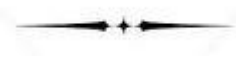


Durrington



Day to Remember



Ella Willis, eight, wearing her great, great grandfather's medals, places an ANZAC flag

Lieutenant Colonel David Penniall, deputy commander of Larkhill Garrison, lays a wreath

Crowds commemorated ANZAC day and the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli Landings at Durrington Cemetery on Sunday.

More than 300 people attended the event run by Durrington Town Council and the Returned Services League of Australia (RSL).

Guest of honour was John Goss from Brisbane, whose great uncle Private Robert Cleary died in 1917 and is buried in the cemetery.

Councillor David Healing explained there were 227 First World War graves in the cemetery of which 141 were of ANZAC soldiers.

A Catafalque Party was provided from the Royal Artillery and members of the Australian and New Zealand Armies took part in the ceremony conducted by the Rev Rachel Bussey.

Wreathes were laid on behalf of Australian, New Zealand and British Armies and local organisations and Major Matthew Worthington of the Australian Defence Force made an address.

The Ode of Remembrance was read by Sergeant Major William Cook.

Mr Goss made an emotional closing address, thanking the people of Durrington for looking after the graves of his fallen countrymen for the past 100 years. He presented a certificate of appreciation from the Lord Mayor of Brisbane to Durrington Town Council chairman Sue Paines and a letter of thanks from the Australian Prime Minister.

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Children from local schools then placed flags on the graves. Among them was eight-year-old Ella Willis from Larkhill Primary School who wore her great, great grandfather's medals. He was Lieutenant Commander Thomas Burgess of the Royal Navy, who took part in the Gallipoli campaign a century ago.

All of the schoolchildren and cadets taking part were given commemorative medals from the Australian RSL.

Councillor Graham Wright said: "The service was poignant and very moving. "Kind thanks go to all those volunteers who helped deliver this amazing event showing that Durrington Will Remember".



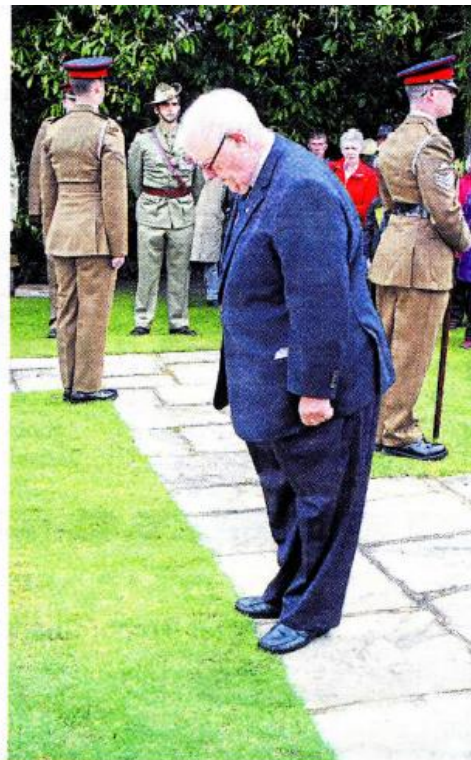
John Goss presents a commemorative shield to Eileen Compton of Shrewton Royal British Legion



Children from nearby schools lay flags on the soldiers' graves



British, Australian and New Zealand flags and the Shrewton RBL Standard are lowered



John Goss pays tribute to fallen ANZAC soldiers buried at Durrington cemetery

(*Salisbury Journal* – 30th April, 2015)