



Marking World War One Graves

This initiative provides \$1.5 million over the forward estimates to establish an ongoing grant program to support community recognition of First World War veterans interred in private graves who are not eligible for the Australian Government's program of official commemoration.

Why is this important?

This grant program recognises the unique impacts of service on veterans unable to access appropriate and timely health and welfare support in the decades following the cessation of the First World War. It will ensure individuals and communities throughout Australia can access financial assistance in marking the private graves of veterans of the First World War who died post war and are at rest in Australian civil cemeteries.

More than 331,800 Australians deployed during the First World War with 271,800 service men and women returning to Australia at the cessation of hostilities. More than 30,000 of these veterans have had their deaths accepted as related to their war service and have been commemorated as post-war dead in the century since the end of the war. Of the remaining 240,000 veterans of this war, there are likely to be a considerable cohort of veterans whose post war lives were affected not only by their service, but the prevailing economic and social conditions in Australia in the decades following the First World War.

Throughout Australia there are committed individuals and groups working to identify the unmarked graves of First World War veterans and who are marking the grave to ensure the veteran's service and sacrifices are remembered.

Who will benefit?

First World War veterans and families.

Date of effect?

1 January 2023.

How much will this cost?

\$1.5 million over the forward estimates.