

Dawn Service

Service

The service starts with a march by the returned servicemen and women to the local war memorial. At the war memorial, there is usually a cenotaph or monument to honour the dead. At this point, the servicemen and women are joined by other military, and members of the community. Dedications are read and there is a time of silence so we can remember them. The dedication that is read is the last verse of Laurence Binyon's poem "For the Fallen".

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.*

Laurence Binyon

Laying Wreaths

On April 25 each year, there are special Anzac Day services to commemorate our fallen. People lay wreaths to remember the soldiers. The wreaths often have rosemary and laurel as part of them. The laurel leaves were used by Romans in ancient times as a symbol as part of them. They were also woven into wreaths to crown the winners and brave people. Rosemary is a flower and herb that is used as a symbol for remembrance.



Sound of the Bugle

People at the service are told to stand and observe two minutes silence as a sign of respect. At the end of the silence, a lone bugle, or trumpet player, plays the "Last Post". Then the service ends with "Reveille". Reveille means to wake again and it was used to wake soldiers at dawn.



Questions

1. What is included in Anzac wreaths as a symbol of remembrance?

2. What is played on the trumpet at the end of the two minutes of silence?

3. What is the name of the monument that was built to honour the soldiers who died in a war?

4. Explain the meaning of Laurence Binyon's poem.

5. What is the history behind the use of laurel leaves on the wreath?

Questions

6. Write a message on this wreath that reflects your thoughts about Anzac Day.



Answers

1. What is included in the Anzac wreaths as a symbol of remembrance?
Anzac wreaths include laurel as a symbol of honour and rosemary, for remembrance.
2. What is played on the trumpet at the end of the two minutes of silence?
'The Last Post' is played on the trumpet.
3. What is the name of the monument that was built to honour the soldiers who died in a war?
A monument built to commemorate the war dead is called a cenotaph.
4. Explain the meaning of Laurence Binyon's poem.
The final stanza of Binyon's poem asks for us to remember those that have died and the fact they will not have the opportunity to fulfil the promise their lives held. It wants us to do this positively though, with use of phrases like 'grow not old' and 'age shall not weary'.
5. What is the history behind the use of laurel leaves on the wreath?
The use of laurel comes from the Roman times, when wreaths were used to crown those people being honoured.
6. Write a message on this wreath that reflects your thoughts about Anzac Day.
Response will vary.