



David Elliott
Minister for Counter Terrorism
Minister for Corrections
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MEDIA RELEASE

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HONOURING VETERANS IN ST GEORGE AREA

Soldiers from across the St George area who answered the call to fight in the Great War will be honoured as part of a moving artwork in the Anzac Memorial in Sydney's Hyde Park.

Minister for Veterans Affairs David Elliott today took a soil sample from Arncliffe War Memorial for the Anzac Memorial Centenary Soil Collection project.

Soil samples are being collected from more than 1,600 sites across NSW where young soldiers enlisted. All soil samples will be placed in the renovated Hall of Service next to the name of the town they came from.

Mr Elliott said collecting the soil from the broad range of sites across the state is a reminder of the great sacrifices made by men and women across all of our communities in the Great War.

"We remember soldiers like Jessie Herbert Taylor, who enlisted near Rockdale and died of wounds in Gallipoli on 15 December 1915," Mr Elliott said.

"A Century on, we honour these Australians by taking a sample of soil and placing it in the Hall of Service at the refurbished Anzac Memorial so that it can be appreciated and commemorated by generations to come."

"The St George area gave a huge number of people to the war effort and this important contribution will be recognised in the collection of soil from Arncliffe."

Soil samples have also been collected from Banksia, Rockdale, Brighton-Le-Sands, Kogarah, Kogarah Bay, Ramsgate, Sandringham, Sans Souci, Carlton, Bexley, Oatley, Hurstville, Penshurst, Mortdale and Peakhurst, honouring those soldiers who considered the St George area home when they enlisted in the Great War.

The Anzac Memorial Centenary Project Soil Collection is part of the NSW Government's upgrade of the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park during the Centenary of Anzac. The Anzac Memorial upgrade will be complete in late 2018.