

PIPE BANDS AUSTRALIA

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[Awards](#)

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[Championships](#)

[Solos](#)

[Workshops](#)

[National Council](#)

[Awards](#)

[Q](#)

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Dec 2, 2019



VP DAY 2020 – 75TH ANNIVERSARY WORLD WAR TWO

Updated: Jun 7, 2020

On 15 August 2020, Australia will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of World War Two – VP Day.

Pipe Bands Australia has been in consultation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs ahead of this important occasion in the history of Australia, the last major commemoration where we will be fortunate to still be able say a personal thank you to some surviving veterans.

As a result, Pipe Bands Australia is developing a special Australian contribution on VP Day 2020, the day when for Australia there was finally peace after almost six years of conflict in Europe, the Middle East and South East Asia and for the first time, had seen Australia come under attack.

Pipe Bands Australia will commission a special tune to be performed on 15 August 2020 as a tribute to the Australians who served in World War Two and particularly pipers and drummers in regimental and battalion bands, including the Mildura Pipe Band that enlisted virtually en masse. The tune will also be a thank you to those who remained at home and worked in supporting industry and on the land, people who kept pipe bands alive during those dark days.

The tune, including recordings, will be available from early 2020 and online registrations for bands and individual pipers will open shortly on the Pipe Bands Australia website.

Members are welcome to participate in the VE Day world-wide piping commemoration next May being co-ordinated in Britain however, the advice received by Pipe Bands Australia is that the focus of Australia's commemoration will be on VP Day three months later as was the case in 1945 when Australia acknowledged VE Day but felt it inappropriate to celebrate while the war in the Pacific continued.

Pipe Bands Australia co-ordinated the involvement of more than 1500 pipers and drummers at more than 200 locations across Australia on the centenary of the Armistice in November 2019 and trusts that bands, members and former members will be part of the VP75 Piping Tribute in August 2020.





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