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The above soldiers are the sons of G. E. and E. M. Curlewis, Lilian-street, Cottles

General SELWIN LORD CU

# 2015 ANZAC Day Message

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April 24, 2015

On the 25th of April 1915, the men of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps set foot on a darkened beach 12,000 kilometres from home. For many, the day would be cut cruelly short. But for our nations it was the beginning of a long journey.

The ANZAC spirit was born at Gallipoli that day. A tradition that has been passed from generation to generation of our defence forces who have fought for freedom on behalf of our country.

Some 8000 Australians died at Gallipoli and on that peninsula thousands of our soldiers remain buried. Each one has a story.

Let us remember Cottesloe brothers Corporal George Curlewis, Lance Corporal Selwyn Curlewis and Captain Gordon Curlewis who served in the 16th Battalion and Corporal Arthur Curlewis of the 12th Battalion. All four landed at Gallipoli on 25 April, only one would return to Australia.

Selwyn was killed at Quinn's Post on the night of 2 May, he has no known grave. Gordon was killed at Quinn's Post only one week later and buried at Beach Cemetery. In August, Arthur was wounded at Lone Pine and evacuated to Egypt where he died. He was buried at Chatby Cemetery.

George received a head wound early in the campaign only to fall ill and was repatriated back to Australia in December 1915. On his return, he reflected "it was their duty to go, and they did not deserve so much praise, but they were glad to have it".

As we reflect on this loss, let us also think of their families and their parents George and Lilla Curlewis. The Curlewis family's story reminds us of the terrible cost of war which falls harder on some.

On the 100th anniversary of the landings at Gallipoli, we reflect on all wars in which Australian servicemen and women have served. We pay homage to their service and we honour the memory of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Lest we forget.

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