Fallen Anzacs remembered
99 years on

In April 1915, thousands of young Australian and New Zealanders stormed the beaches of Gallipoli in an horrific battle from which many of them would not return.

Although 99 years have passed since that day, the large crowds that attended local Anzac Day services showed they have not been forgotten.

Around 200 people attended the Dawn Service and well over double that crowded into what shade they could find around the Cenotaph in Central Park later that morning.

Local piper Annette Earl led armed services veterans, family members, police, emergency services, and school children in the march along Oxley Street to the park, playing traditional military bagpipe tunes like 'Scotland the Brave' 'The Green Hills Of Tyrol' and 'When the Battle's O'er.'

Bourke RSL sub-branch president Victor Bartley welcomed the large crowd to the service, which Ian Cole opened with a prayer.

Local school girl Alyssa Parnaby gave a thoughtful occasional address, drawing on how her own family had been touched by war.

Bourke RSL sub-branch president Victor Bartley then led the procession of those laying floral tributes at the Cenotaph, while Mark Gordon sang Eric Bogle's "And the Band Played Waltzing Matilda."

Schools, community organisations and private citizens then laid wreaths in tribute at the Cenotaph before the reading of the Ode of Remembrance.

Bugler Roy Hall played 'The Last Post' and the crowd observed a two minute silence before the closing of the service.

School students lay a wreath at the Anzac Day Service on Friday morning