NEW ZEALAND ANZAC DAY NATIONAL COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE, MESEN, BELGIUM | 25 APRIL 2018

THE NEW ZEALAND BATTLEFIELD MEMORIAL, MESEN. BELGIUM

New Zealand Anzac Day National Commemorative Service

Some of the heaviest fighting involving New Zealand took place in this area. On June 7th 1917 the New Zealand Division captured the ridge and advanced through Mesen to their objective. The New Zealand Memorial is dedicated "in honour of the men of the New Zealand Division."

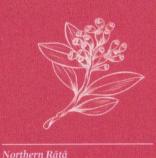
The memorial was unveiled on August 1st 1924 in the presence of King Albert I and Sir Alexander Russell, former Commander of the New Zealand Division.

The Battle of Messines undermined the confidence of German command and radical changes were made to defensive tactics. It was one of the most successful operations of the First World War.

Corporal Samuel Frickleton of the 3rd Battalion New Zealand Rifle Brigade stormed two machine gun posts on June 7th 1917, killing both machine gun crews. He was awarded the VC for his actions.

















Chinese Elm

Eucalyptus

Kōwhai

New Zealand Fern







Ros

Gerber

Order of Service

Catafalque Guard Mounts

Announcements

Wing Commander Graham StreatfieldRoyal New Zealand Air Force

Arrival of the Official Party

The official party is led by the New Zealand Defence Force Māori Cultural Group

National Anthems

La Brabançonne and God Defend New Zealand sung by Lance Corporal Campbell McKellar Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

Opening Prayer

Chaplain Class Two Kevin BrophyRoyal New Zealand Chaplains' Department

Call to Remembrance

Wing Commander Graham Streatfield Royal New Zealand Air Force

Waiata

Whakaaria Mai

Performed by the New Zealand Defence Force Māori Cultural Group

Address

His Excellency Mr Gregory Andrews New Zealand Ambassador to Belgium

Waiata

Te Inoi O Te Atua – The Lord's Prayer Performed by the New Zealand Defence Force Māori Cultural Group

Reading

Commodore Ross Smith, MNZM Royal New Zealand Navy representing the New Zealand Defence Force

Youth Readings

Representative of the youth of Belgium and New Zealand

Hymn

Tell My Father sung by Lance Corporal Campbell McKellar Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

Prayer for Peace

Chaplain Class Two Kevin Brophy Royal New Zealand Chaplains' Department

Wreath Laying

The Ode

In Māori – Warrant Officer Bernard Reihana Royal New Zealand Navy

In English – Sergeant Tokahaumata Oltaches-Tagavaitau Royal New Zealand Army Logistic Regiment

Last Post

Sergeant Benjamin Hunt Royal New Zealand Air Force Belgium and New Zealand Flags are lowered

Silence is Observed

Rouse

Belgium and New Zealand Flags are raised

The Blessing

Chaplain Class Two Kevin Brophy Royal New Zealand Chaplains' Department

Official Party Departs

The Catafalque Guard Dismounts

Members of the public are invited to lay floral tributes.







