

Guy Barnett MP

Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing
Minister for Energy and Renewables
Minister for Veterans Affairs
Liberal Member for Lyons



Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

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Guy Barnett, Minister for Veterans Affairs

Vietnam Veterans Day 2022

Today, Thursday 18 August 2022, is Vietnam Veterans Day, an annual day of remembrance for those who served during the Vietnam War.

Vietnam Veterans Day was originally known as Long Tan Day which commemorates the day in 1966 when the battle of Long Tan was fought by the men of D Company, 6th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR).

Vietnam Veterans Day was first commemorated in 1969 with the raising of a cross at the battlefield by the men of 6RAR, this has been adopted to cover all veterans who served in the Vietnam War – the longest conflict in Australia's history.

This week in the Tasmanian Parliament I tabled a Notice of Motion to pay tribute to the almost 60,000 Australians who served in Vietnam between May 1962 and April 1975; including 521 who paid the ultimate price and more than 3,000 who were wounded.

My Notice of Motion acknowledges the service of the approximately 1,800 Tasmanians who served in Vietnam, including 16 Tasmanian born soldiers who died in their country's service.

Commemorative services and wreath-laying ceremonies will be held across Tasmania to mark the event and we thank all the members of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia including State

President Terry Roe, for their efforts in supporting Vietnam Veterans across the State over the years.

The Tasmanian Government honours the service and sacrifice of all those who fought for freedom in this conflict and remembers the motto of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia: "Honour the Dead but Fight like Hell for the Living"