

Recalling peace

How do we recall the voices for peace as we express our respect for the war-dead and our heartsickness about the trauma of war?

Maybe, like others, you have heard this sort of question humming through the Canberra community as preparations are made to commemorate another anniversary of the Anzac campaign at Gallipoli.

Maybe, like others, you are concerned that Australian history is being militarised and national identity fabricated as a product from the forges of war.

This Anzac Eve, we are seeking to evoke the sacred as we remember the wardead, the environmental destruction of war and the traumatic impacts of war on individuals, families and our culture through generations.

We will acknowledge the frontier wars and the ongoing suffering of Aboriginal people, refugees and migrants, remembering that almost everyone in this country has a family story of trauma and loss through war.

We want the Peace Vigil to become a chorus of citizens, giving voice to lament and the longing to reorient our nation's attitudes to war.

Contact Graeme Dunstan on 0407 951688 if you have a prayer or a song or story or dance or any other creative gift to contribute.

Vigils will be happening elsewhere in Australia as we gather in Canberra. Our aim is to grow the light year by year so that 10,000 peace lanterns shine in the darkness of Anzac Eve 2015 when the centenary of the Gallipoli landing is celebrated.



