



THE BRITAIN-AUSTRALIA SOCIETY

PATRON: HRH The Duke of Edinburgh KG KT OM GBE AC QSO
PRESIDENT: The Rt Hon The Lord Carrington KG GCMG CH MC CHAIRMAN: The Earl of Buckinghamshire

WEST COUNTRY BRANCH

BRISTOL - CORNWALL - DEVON - DORSET - GLOUCESTERSHIRE - SOMERSET – WILTSHIRE

Patron: Sir James Tidmarsh KCVO MBE JP

Branch President: Kay Pavitt Branch Chairman: Keith G. Newton

Commemorate ANZAC Day 2018 Sunday 22nd April 2018

I am pleased to provide the details and invitations for this year's ANZAC Day lunch and Service of Remembrance at Sutton Veny. We look forward to seeing many of our members and their guests in attendance.

Before the service, the West Country Branch of the Britain-Australia Society will again enjoy lunch at The Infantry Officers' Mess at Warminster. The cost of the lunch is £32 for members and £35 for non-members. This includes a short reception, buffet lunch and wine followed by coffee served in the anteroom.

We are delighted that Major Leanne Chambers RNZIR, has accepted our invitation to speak at the lunch to give a New Zealand perspective of ANZAC day both as a serving military officer and as a citizen of New Zealand. A brief bio of Major Chambers is attached.

We are also pleased that GPCAPT Antony Martin will be attending representing the Australian Defence Force.

The Commemorative Service, held at St Johns the Evangelist Church, Sutton Veny, is a very special service and was one of the first ANZAC Day services conducted in the world, it was broadcast live to Australia by the ABC for many years.

Keith Newton
Chairman, West Country Branch, Britain-Australia Society

To book please download the [Anzac Day PDF booking form](#).

There are two options to completing the form:

1. Download and save to your computer, fill in the form, save and attach to an email.
2. Open from the link above, complete the form in your internet browser, select the Print icon top right and print it as a new Adobe PDF. Then attach it to an email.

Email the completed form to Kath Lilley: klbritishaustralia@gmail.com. Please ensure your form entries are present on the form before sending.

You will need to ensure we have your Car registration and you will need to bring your Licence with you on the day.

As in prior years, the Branch will also hold our Annual General Meeting immediately before the Reception in the Room adjoining the dining room at the Infantry Officers' Mess. Following this notice, you will find some information on the Sutton Veny Church and directions around Warminster.

THE PROGRAMME:

11:30 – 12:00	Branch Annual General Meeting
12:00 – 12:30	Reception at the Infantry Officers' Mess Warminster
12:30 – 13:45	Lunch in the Infantry Officers' Mess with wine and soft drinks included.
13:45 – 14:15	Coffee – in the anteroom.
14:25	Please drive to the Church and ensure you take your seat there promptly by 14:45.
15:00	ANZAC Day Service of Remembrance at St. John the Evangelist, Sutton Veny followed by wreath laying at the War Memorial in the churchyard.
16:00 – 17:00	Afternoon Tea at Sutton Veny Village Hall Provided by the Australian High Commission

**Would members please reply as soon as possible but no later than Monday April 16th.
Refunds for cancellations can be made up to that date. No tickets will be issued.**

MAJOR LEANNE CHAMBERS, RNZIR

Major Chambers was born in Timaru in November 1968. She completed her secondary schooling at Timaru Girl's High School during which she pursued an interest in music. Major Chambers is a proficient player of the Trombone and performed with bands and orchestras in Timaru, Ashburton and Christchurch. She completed one year of a Bachelor of Music degree in Composition before enlisting into the New Zealand Army.

Major Chambers enlisted into the Territorial Force of the New Zealand Army in July 1987 into the Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment as a Bandsman with the 2nd Battalion Canterbury Nelson, Marlborough and West Coast Regiment, in the rank of Private. In 1988, she transferred to the Regular Force as a member of the New Zealand Army Band in the same rank. While posted to the Army Band, Major Chambers held the appointments of Trombone Section Leader, Music Theory Instructor, Public Relations NCO and Deputy Drum Major. She attained the rank of Sergeant in June 2000.

In October 2001, Major Chambers was commissioned from the ranks in the rank of Lieutenant and continued to serve with the Army Band. During her commissioned service with the band, she held the appointments of Administration Officer and Director of Music.

As Director of Music, Major Chambers has directed the New Zealand Army Band at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo twice in Edinburgh and twice in Sydney as well as several other international events in South Korea, Switzerland and Australia. Major Chambers was the Defence Musical Director for the Return of the Unknown Warrior in 2004, the Year of the Veteran Pageant in 2006 and the Tribute 2008. Major Chambers was the Defence Music Director for the 90th anniversary of the landings at Gallipoli at Gallipoli in 2005. In August 2008, Major Chambers lead the New Zealand Army Band during the Coronation of King Tupou V in Tonga. In 2010, Major Chambers undertook Exercise Long Look, which saw her working with the British Army Bands of the Household Division on State and ceremonial occasions, including the State Opening of Parliament, Queen's Birthday Parade and a Royal investiture.

Major Chambers was posted to Army General Staff, Wellington in December 2010 and assumed the role of Deputy Director Events and Ceremonial Support. In this role Major Chambers qualified as an Event Manager and was involved in planning and executing the ceremonial support to State Welcomes, The State Farewell and Swearing-In ceremonies for the Governor-General, State Opening of Parliament and numerous National Wreath laying ceremonies. During this posting, Major Chambers was selected for the role of Aide-de-Camp 3, a part-time role as an additional Aide-de-Camp as cover for the full-time Aides to the Governor-General of New Zealand and as additional support for Credential ceremonies and State visits.

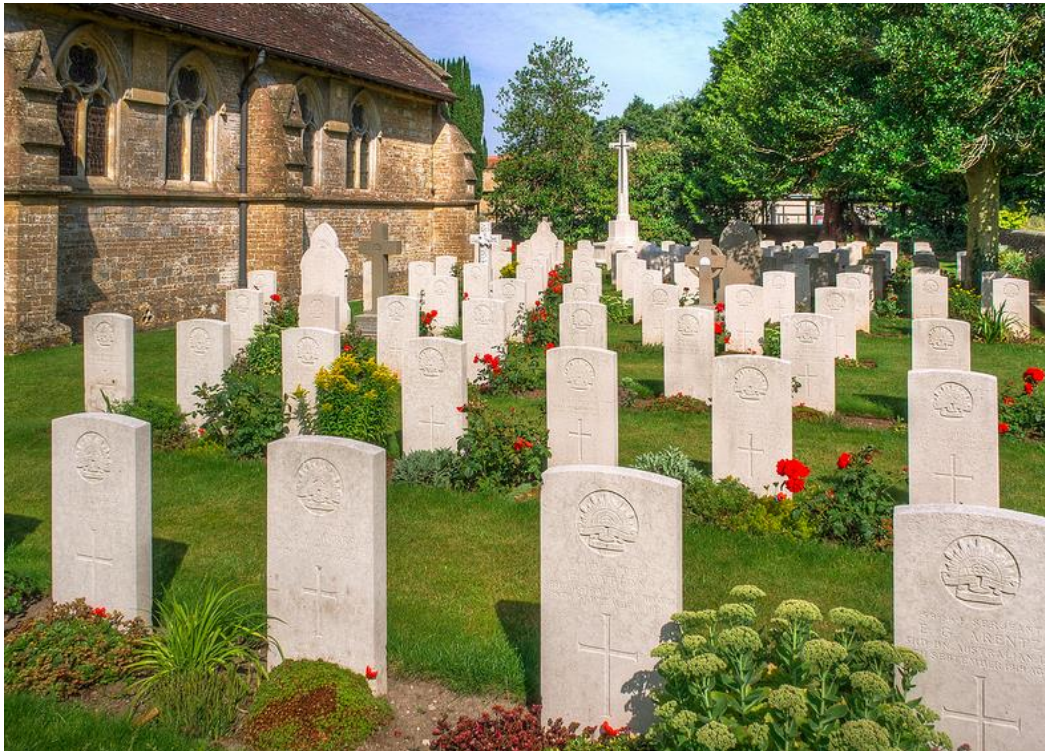
Major Chambers was posted to Headquarters Joint Forces New Zealand in December 2013 into the role of J133-1 – Staff Officer in support of personnel on operations. In this role, Major Chambers was responsible as the primary personnel support officer for personnel on ten different overseas missions and during Operation Pacific Relief in Vanuatu 2015.

In 2015, Major Chambers was internally posted to the J17- Staff Officer in support of Exercises and Other Directed Activities. This role included a shadow posting to Headquarters Deployable Joint Inter Agency Task Force as the J1 when required. In this role, Major Chambers was appointed the CJ1 for Ex Southern Katipo, an exercise with over 2000 participants and deployed to Fiji in February 2016 as DJ1 for Operation Pacific Relief Tropical Cyclone Winston. This deployment was the largest for the NZDF in recent years and was nearly two months in duration.

Major Chambers is currently residing with her partner Jo in Bristol, United Kingdom and is working part-time as a project officer for HQ JFNZ J1 Branch writing doctrine and a part time Co-ordination Officer for the New Zealand Defence Staff in London.

Major Chambers still plays trombone in a swing band, a marching band, assists with conducting a local concert band and sings with Bristol Choral Society.

St. John's The Evangelist, Sutton Veny



In 1918 a number of servicemen, many of them Australians, who died in the influenza epidemic of that year, were buried in the graveyard alongside those who died from wounds. Five Australian nurses are buried there and up until 1963, 39 German prisoners were also buried in the graveyard but were transferred in that year to a German prisoner of war cemetery in Staffordshire. Regular services are held today by the Upper Wylve Parish Team. There is a yearly memorial service on the Sunday closest to Anzac Day.

In addition to the graves at Sutton Veny and Codford there are more Australian war graves in Bristol and Gloucestershire as follows:

Bristol (Arnos Vale) Cemetery -21	Bristol (Arnos Vale) RC Cemetery - 7
Bristol Avon View – 1	Chedworth (St Andrews) Churchyard - 10
Cirencester Cemetery – 5	Gloucester Old Cemetery – 4
Leighterton (St Andrews) Churchyard - 23	Painswick Cemetery - 1
Minchinhampton (Holy Trinity) Churchyard – 1	Quedgeley (St James) Churchyard - 1
Moreton-in-Marsh New Cemetery – 6	Sandhurst (St Lawrence) Churchyard - 1
Tetbury (St Saviors) Churchyard - 1	

DIRECTIONS TO THE INFANTRY TRAINING OFFICERS MESS AT WARMINSTER & AFTERWARDS TO SUTTON VENY CHURCH

The main entrance to the Land Warfare Centre is on Imber Road to the North East of the town. Please report to the guard at the gate and you will then be checked in and directed to the Infantry Training Officer's Mess, which is situated at the far end of the Centre. Details of the route to Sutton Veny from the Infantry Mess will be handed out as you leave.