

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 23 April 2025

For Immediate Release

Pipe Bands Reinstated for ANZAC Day Parade Brisbane

Two previously unprogrammed pipe bands will return to the 2025 ANZAC Day Parade Brisbane following a constructive meeting between Parade organisers and members of the pipe band community.

ANZAC Day Parade Chair **Kerry Gallagher AM** said the meeting was an opportunity to reaffirm respectful engagement and chart a collaborative path forward, following commentary around this year's line-up that had caused undue distress, particularly within the Veteran community.

"As Chair of the Parade, I was deeply concerned that this matter had become a distraction from what should be a time of unity and remembrance," Gallagher said.

"The meeting was a chance to reset and reaffirm our shared purpose to honour the ANZACs and pay respect to those who serve and their families."

Two of the three previously unprogrammed bands – the **Queensland Irish Association Pipe Band** and **Brisbane Pipe Band** – have confirmed their return to this year's event, joining the five pipe bands already scheduled to march.

The third band – **the Emmanuel College Highlanders** – expressed their strong interest in returning in 2026 but is unable to participate this year due to a scheduling conflict.

"We're pleased to welcome these bands back into the Parade and to begin a meaningful dialogue about how we can work together in the years ahead," Mr Gallagher said.

"Their contribution to the spirit and tradition of ANZAC Day is deeply valued and we're grateful for the collegiality and goodwill shown by all involved."

Vice President of Brisbane Pipe Band **Terry Sawers** welcomed the opportunity to resolve the issue and return to the Parade.

"As Brisbane Pipe Band, this event holds special meaning for us," Mr Sawers said.

"We appreciate the opportunity to move forward and we're committed to helping make the Parade the best it can be."

The Parade committee will work closely with the pipe band community in planning future events, including an early planning meeting for the 2026 Parade to support more inclusive coordination.

Mr Gallagher said the experience had strengthened both parties' commitment to collaboration.

"We're all here for the same reason: to honour those who have served and those who continue to serve," Gallagher said.

The ANZAC Day Parade Brisbane will take place in Brisbane City on Friday 25 April 2025 from 9.45am.

ENDS