



# RSL Media Release

20 April 2015

## 2015 RSL ANZAC Awards

National President of the Returned & Services League of Australia (RSL), Rear Admiral Ken Doolan today congratulated Mr Frederick Hyde AM of Queensland on being awarded the 2015 RSL ANZAC Peace Prize, and Professor Jeffrey V Rosenfeld AM OBE, Ms Letitia Anne Sylvia Leach OAM, Mr Gerard Kevin Butler, Mr Les Bunn OAM, Mr Bill Denny AM BM, Mr Wayne Darwin Gardiner RFD and Ms Suzanne McGuinness-Butler on being recognised for RSL ANZAC of the Year Awards.

"Mr Hyde was selected by the RSL ANZAC Awards Committee for the award of the ANZAC Peace Prize in recognition of over three decades of philanthropic work rescuing and educating orphaned and abandoned children in Bangladesh, and the promotion of cooperative relationships between the many diverse religious groups in that community", Rear Admiral Doolan said. "He exemplifies the Spirit of ANZAC within the broader community through his dedication and commitment to others."

The ANZAC Peace Prize, announced annually, is awarded by the RSL to *recognise any outstanding effort by an Australian citizen who has promoted the concept of international understanding and who, in so doing, has made a contribution to world peace.*

"On behalf of the RSL National Board and Members of the RSL I also congratulate the 7 outstanding Australians who have been selected for ANZAC of the Year Awards," Rear Admiral Doolan said. "They are exemplars of community service."

The ANZAC of the Year Awards are presented to *recognise the efforts and achievements of up to seven Australians who have given service to their fellow Australians and to their community in a positive, selfless and compassionate manner.* The 2015 recipients are:

- Professor Jeffrey Rosenfeld AM OBE of Victoria in recognition of his many years of dedicated service to medicine as a researcher, scholar, surgeon and military physician.
- Ms Letitia Anne Sylvie Leach OAM FNM of Western Australia in recognition of her exceptional courage and devotion to victims of armed conflicts or natural disasters and her pioneering spirit in the areas of public health and nursing education.
- Mr Gerard Kevin Butler of Victoria in recognition of his inspirational leadership of BlazeAid in its outstanding work to assist Australians affected by bushfire, flood and drought to rebuild their lives.
- Mr Les Bunn OAM of Queensland in recognition of his many years of steadfast service to the veteran and wider community of Mount Isa.
- Mr William (Bill) Denny AM BM of South Australia in recognition of his dedicated and committed service over many years to the veteran, ex-service and wider community of South Australia.
- Mr Wayne Gardiner RFD of Western Australia in recognition of his years of sustained and enthusiastic commitment to the community through his involvement with many community organisations, and in particular through his fostering the understanding and remembrance of Australia's military history.
- Ms Suzanne McGuinness-Butler of the Australian Capital Territory in recognition of her selfless and compassionate service to the veteran community of the ACT, and in particular as a Veterans' Liaison Office at the Calvary Hospital.

**For more information contact:**

Rear Admiral Ken Doolan AO RAN (Retd), National President  
on 02 6280 4079 or 0410 627 873