



13 September 2019

Guy Barnett, Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Commemorating the Battle of Britain

Across the Commonwealth this weekend, people will take the time to commemorate the 79th anniversary of the famous Battle of Britain.

Tasmanian pilots played a key role in this World War II conflict, as the Royal Air Force (RAF) defended the United Kingdom against the German Air Force (Luftwaffe) between July 10 and October 31 1940.

Of the 2,365 pilots from Commonwealth and allied countries who fought the battle, 446 gave their lives saving Britain from imminent invasion and defeat, including 14 Australians.

The battle lasted almost three months as the Germans carried out relentless bombing of British cities and airfields.

The Battle of Britain commemorations give the Tasmanian community the opportunity to join with veterans and their families to reflect on the sacrifices made by those who served during the Battle.

The 79th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain National Commemoration of Air Power and Air Forces will include a Commemorative Church Service at St David's Cathedral, Hobart, on Saturday September 14 at 2pm, and a Commemorative Wreath Laying Service at the Hobart Cenotaph, Sunday September 15 at 11am.