



Riki Ohia who served with the Royal New Zealand Navy and Daniel Anderson who served with the Australian Army will pause on Remembrance Day. Picture: Nikki Davis-Jones

Never forget sacrifices to keep our way of life

Grace Baldwin

Veterans have asked Tasmanians to pause and reflect this Remembrance Day, to honour and acknowledge the lives and contributions of service people everywhere.

To mark the sombre day, returned service people have called for strengthened support and solidarity with the people who have risked their lives for both Australia and other nations around the world.

Daniel Anderson, a veteran from the Australian Army and now a member of RSL Tasmania, said Remembrance Day was a critical time to reflect.

“For me – obviously having that lived experience – it’s a time that we can reflect on

“**Remember ... we have young men and women manning the walls to ensure our way of life continues, just as our forefathers did**”

John Hardy

Chief executive of RSL Tasmania

friends who we may have lost and the people who have sacrificed over the many, many years that we’ve been a part of this all,” Mr Anderson said.

“Not just those who were closest to us, but a day to remember everyone who served and continues to serve.”

Riki Ohia, a veteran from the Royal New Zealand Navy and now a member of RSL Tasmania, said there were lots of different organisations available offering different services for those who need specific support.

“I think a really big part of

helping veterans get support is teaching kids the history in schools, so they can understand what happened in the past and what’s going on now, still, day to day,” Mr Ohia said.

“For people to realise the gravity of what people have done – not just in the past – but what we continue to do, that will be a huge step in helping people get the support they need.”

As a Maori serviceman, Mr Ohia said a big part of Remembrance Day was remembering where he was from.

“For international veterans, it’s about remembering our own backgrounds but also respecting the fact that we’re still ANZACs,” he said.

“Remember that wherever we are today – or wherever we were at that time – that we’re

part of a big collective family.

“It’s not just our family here, but in all of Australia. It doesn’t matter where we are, the memorial services bring back a lot of pride.”

Chief executive of RSL Tasmania John Hardy also called on Tasmanians to attend the Cenotaph on Saturday morning for the service.

“It will only take a moment of your time, or like many, without fuss, press pause and reflect wherever you are,” Mr Hardy said.

“Remembrance is as relevant today as it ever was. Wherever you are and whatever you are doing, please remember that as you read this, we have young men and women manning the walls to ensure our way of life continues, just as our forefathers did.”