

Shire of Broome
PO Box 44, Broome WA 6725
Phone: 08 9191 3456
Fax: 08 9191 3455

MEDIA RELEASE



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For immediate release

Remembering the WWII Air Raid on Broome

Saturday 3 March 2018 will mark the 76th anniversary of the World War II air raid on Broome that killed 88 people and destroyed 22 Australian, Dutch and US aircraft.

On the morning of 3 March 1942, nine Japanese Zero fighters and a reconnaissance plane swooped down over Broome, leading to the second-greatest wartime loss of life on Australian soil.

This tragic event also included amazing tales of survival and bravery, including the shooting down from the ground of a Zero by Dutch pilot Lt Gus Winckel, and the rescue by the Beagle Bay community of the crew and passengers from a Dutch DC3 that was shot down and crash landed at Carnot Bay.

On Saturday 3 March this year the community is invited to join the Broome RSL, TS Broome Naval Cadets, St Mary's College, Shire of Broome and others in a small ceremony in Bedford Memorial Park, with participants assembling at 8.45am for a 9am start.

Broome Shire President, Harold Tracey, said he encouraged the Broome community to come along to help keep alive the memory of this very significant event that played a big part in shaping our town as we know it today.

Interpretive information about the air raid is on display year-round at the Broome Historical Society Museum and in Bedford Memorial Park and Chinatown.

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