



**Jason Wood MP**  
Federal Member for La Trobe

## MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 14 November 2014

### CHRISTMAS FOR THE TROOPS 2014

Christmas is fast approaching and with more than 2,200 Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel deployed overseas on operations Australians are being asked to spare a thought for our troops who won't be able to spend Christmas with their families and friends.

Jason Wood said the best and most effective way to show support is to send an email message to the troops at [supportthetroops@defence.gov.au](mailto:supportthetroops@defence.gov.au).

"Messages are always appreciated by ADF personnel and sending a message that simply says 'thank you for your service' can have a tremendous positive impact," said Jason.

"This year I am also asking the community to consider donating to ex-service organisations such as the RSL, Legacy and Soldier On in recognition of the increasing numbers of recently returned veterans."

Ex-Service Organisations such as the RSL, Legacy and charities such as Soldier On provide phenomenal support to our ADF personnel, past and present, and their families. I strongly encourage residents in the electorate of La Trobe looking to make a difference in the lives of ADF personnel and veterans to consider donating to one of these excellent organisations."

Donations can be made to Legacy ([www.legacy.com.au](http://www.legacy.com.au)) or Soldier On ([www.soldieron.org.au](http://www.soldieron.org.au)) to support those personnel who have been wounded on operations and those family members who are suffering financially and socially from the death of a loved one.

For those still wishing to send a care package, the Australian Forces Post Office box address below will be open from 3 November until 8 December 2014.

An Australian Defence Member  
AFPO 60  
Australian Defence Force NSW 2890

All items must be submitted to an Australia Post outlet by the cut-off date of 8 December 2014.

Those who wish to send a care package but are short on time may like to consider donating money to the RSL's Australian Forces Overseas Fund. The RSL provides care packages to Australian troops as well as Australian Federal Police personnel biannually and your support would contribute to this valuable programme. Please see my website for further details regarding the RSL's Australian Forces Overseas Fund.

"This Christmas I urge all Australians to again dig deep and support our serving men and women and their families whose sacrifices ensure our safety and security," said Jason.

Merry Christmas.

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