



# Time for Remembering

12PM | SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2025

To remember those who have died, acknowledge those who have been injured and recognise the impact of road trauma on our community.



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

In the spirit of reconciliation Amber Community acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community.

We pay our respect to their elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

## **OPENING LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE** Jeanette Suhr OAM

## **WELCOME** Renee Brauer and Merryn Wallace

## **PREMIER'S MESSAGE** Bronwyn Halfpenny

## **RESPONSIVE READING**

(Invitation to say together)

In the rising of the sun and in its going down, we remember them.  
In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter, we remember them.

In the opening of buds and in the re-birth of spring, we remember them.  
In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer, we remember them.

In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn, we remember them.  
In the beginning of the year and when it ends, we remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength, we remember them.  
When we are lost and sick at heart, we remember them.

When we have joys we yearn to share, we remember them.  
So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us,  
as we remember them.

## 'UNDERNEATH THE STARS'

Friends of La La Ville

### AFFIRMATIONS

(Invitation to say together)

Hold on to what is good,  
Even if it's a handful of earth.  
Hold on to what you believe,  
Even if it's a tree that stands by itself.  
Hold on to what you must do,  
Even if it's a long way from here.  
Hold on to your life,  
Even if it's easier to let go.  
Hold on to our hand,  
Even if I've gone away from you.

### **Pueblo Indian Prayer**

Sometimes,  
it's not the grand gesture,  
but the cup of tea,  
the silent company,  
the held hand,  
the knowing glance.

These small things,  
they anchor us.  
They remind us,  
we are not alone.

### **The Small Things, Anonymous**

**PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE** Karen Robinson

**HARP SOLO** Michael Johnson

**WORDS OF CONTEMPLATION**

I have not heard your voice in years.  
But my heart has conversations.  
With you everyday.

**Jennifer Williamson**

I think it's brave that you get up  
in the morning even if your soul is weary  
and your bones ache.  
I think it's brave that you keep on  
living even if you don't know how to anymore.  
I think it's brave that you push  
away the waves rolling in every day  
and you decide to fight.  
I know there are days when you  
feel like giving up but I think it's brave  
that you never do.

**Lana Rafaela**

Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet  
voice at the end of the day saying 'I will try again tomorrow'.

**Mary Anne Radmacher**

If ever there is a tomorrow when we're not together there  
is something you must always remember...  
You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem  
and smarter than you think.  
But the most important thing is even if we are apart I'll always  
be with you.

**A Quote from Winnie the Pooh**

## **HOPES OF THE PEOPLE**

Andy Calder

Irena Zilberman

Robin Bowerman

## **CANDLES OF REMEMBRANCE**

You are invited to light a candle of personal remembrance. Some names of people who have been injured or lost their lives on our roads will be read aloud as the candles are lit.

## **'SISTER MY SISTER'**

Friends of La La Ville

Representatives of the community and services involved in road trauma offer the following hopes.

## **THE BEREAVED** Wendy Bowler

I come representing those who are bereaved – the family members and friends who now have the memory of those they love. (Brief silence)

(ALL) We remember the many who have died as a result of road crashes. We give thanks for their lives and all that they have meant to ourselves and others. We support and offer comfort to those who grieve. We remember them.

## **THOSE INJURED AND THEIR CARERS** Andy Calder

I come representing those who suffer the effects of road trauma in body, mind and spirit and those who care for them. (Brief silence)

(ALL) We remember with compassion those who carry injury and disability following road trauma. We support them, their families and friends. May they be strengthened in hope and perseverance. We remember them.

**THE WITNESSES** Irene Harrington OAM

I come representing people who have witnessed road trauma and who have experienced a range of thoughts and feelings that can be difficult to process. (Brief silence)

(ALL) We remember and support with care everyone affected by road trauma, who are weighed down by the sadness of what they have seen, heard and experienced. We remember them.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES** Glenn Weir

I come representing the emergency services – Ambulance, Fire Services, State Emergency Service and Victoria Police. Members see the impact of road trauma and do all they can to support the community. (Brief silence)

(ALL) We acknowledge with gratitude the skills, knowledge and compassion of emergency service workers, past and present, and their deep commitment to the community. We remember them.

**HEALTH AND HEALING SERVICES** Samantha Demmon

I come representing those who offer physical, emotional and spiritual support for people impacted by road trauma. We acknowledge people's pain and suffering, and together work towards adapting to the loss and changes they face. (Brief silence)

(ALL) We remember with thankfulness the skill and dedication of all health care professionals who treat and support those injured in body, mind and spirit. We appreciate them as they use their knowledge and skills to optimise health and instil hope for the future. We remember them.

**THE LAW** Stuart Le Grand

I come representing those involved in the making and administration of our laws. Through the law we seek to promote justice and responsible behaviour in all who use our roads, and we strive for fair outcomes. (Brief silence)

(ALL) We remember and respect those whose responsibility it is to make and administer laws for the sake of us all. We thank them for their wisdom in making decisions that help shape a just, caring and responsible community. We remember them.

**OUR COMMUNITY** Samantha Cockfield

I come representing the community. Our community is only as strong as the commitment we each give to its wellbeing. We acknowledge the responsibility we share for keeping our roads safe. (Brief silence)

(ALL) We remember everyone in our diverse community and acknowledge the ripple effect of road trauma. We reinforce our collective commitment to making our roads safer. We remember them.

**'THROW YOUR ARMS AROUND ME'**

Friends of La La Ville

**CONCLUDING MESSAGE**

And now our journey continues.  
As we have remembered with love,  
let us leave with renewed hope  
to support and care for each other,  
and with the determination to make our roads  
safer for all who use them.

**PLEASE STAY AND ENJOY REFRESHMENTS WITH US**



Jeanette Suhr OAM speaking at the first Time for Remembering ceremony in 2001





Rev. Dr Andy Calder on the steps of Parliament House

## **This year, Amber Community commemorates 25 years of our Time for Remembering ceremony**

In 1999, at the invitation of Jeanette Suhr OAM, Rev. Dr Andy organised a gathering of people bereaved and injured by road trauma.

Two years later, in 2001, Andy instigated the first Time for Remembering ceremony, beginning with speeches at City Square before the congregation walked together to St Paul's Cathedral.

Over the 25 years since, most ceremonies have been held in Queen's Hall at Parliament House. Today, Time for Remembering stands as a significant and enduring event in Amber Community's calendar, a space of reflection, connection, and remembrance.





Members of our art therapy group in front of the Forever Tree



# THANK YOU

Time for Remembering is supported by the Transport Accident Commission.

Board directors, staff and volunteers of Amber Community for their tireless work

Bronwyn Halfpenny MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Roads

Glenn Weir, Assistant Commissioner, Victoria Police

Irena Zilberman, Counsellor, Amber Community

Irene Harrington OAM, Honorary Life Member, Amber Community

Jeanette Suhr OAM, Honorary Life Member and Cofounder, Amber Community for lighting the candle

Karen Robinson, Honorary Life Member, Amber Community

Lisa Gelbart, Counsellor, Amber Community, for reading the names

Merryn Wallace, Chair, Amber Community

Michael Johnson, Harpist

Renee Brauer, Manager, Counselling & Support Services, Amber Community

Rev. Dr Andy Calder, Honorary Life Member, Amber Community

Robin Bowerman, Board Director, Amber Community

Samantha Cockfield, Executive General Manager Road Safety, Transport Accident Commission

Samantha Demmon, Counsellor, Amber Community

Stuart Le Grand, Board Director, Amber Community

The choir, Friends of La La Ville

Wendy Bowler, Volunteer, Amber Community

**Amber Community's counselling services are free and available  
to people affected by road trauma contact 1300 367 797**

1300 367 797  
[www.ambercommunity.org.au](http://www.ambercommunity.org.au)

 **amber  
community**  
ROAD INCIDENT SUPPORT & EDUCATION