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Sisters Alex and Matilda Seery will play an Anzac Day tribute on their trombones. Credit: Supplied

WOODVALE

Woodvale students to pay tribute in Music for Mateship

Lucy Jarvis | Joondalup Times
April 24, 2020 2:24PM

TOPICS Joondalup Times

WOODVALE sisters Alex (15) and Matilda (12) Seery will pay tribute to servicemen and women by playing their trombones at dawn this Anzac Day.

The Woodvale Secondary College students would normally perform at school services to commemorate the event, however this year's gatherings have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Matilda said their grandparents in Meekatharra asked them to play the Last Post outside their home on April 25 as part of the Music for Mateship initiative.

"Our great-grandfathers served in World War II," she said.

Their mother Adrienne said while trumpets usually played the Last Post, musicians generally were being encouraged to play their instruments to mark the occasion.

"There are a few other Woodvale Secondary students that are planning to do the Last Post in the driveway," she said.

Mrs Seery said a neighbour in his 80s planned to come out of his home to pay tribute with them for the 6am event, and the family planned to write letters to neighbours encouraging them to take part from their driveways too.

"We will be observing the silence and hopefully sharing the moment with our neighbours," she said.

While it was a different way of commemorating Anzac Day, Mrs Seery encouraged other music students to join in and show their respect to those who had served their countries during war.

Ocean Reef resident Taiga Anzai (15), who also attends the Woodvale school, will play the Last Post on his trumpet twice, with the first outside his home about 6am for the driveway dawn service.

He will then play the tribute over the public announcement system at the Timberside Villas retirement village in Woodvale, where residents will take part in another driveway service from about 8am.

Taiga has previously taken part in the 100 buglers tribute and done the Last Post at his school's Anzac services.

He said it was important to continue observing Anzac Day despite the times people were in.



Taiga Anzai. Credit: Supplied



Another Woodvale Secondary student, Ryan Head (16) will play the euphonium outside his Kingsley home about 6am.

Kingsley MLA Jessica Stojkovski urged musicians to support the 'Music for Mateship' initiative, which

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Ryan Head. Credit: Supplied

musician James Morrison has been [promoting through social media](#).

"The electorate of Kingsley has many brilliant musicians, particularly music students from Woodvale Secondary College, who have been encouraged by their principal and music teachers to get involved," she said.

"Hearing the Last Post being played by musicians across our local suburbs will add to our community spirit and special commemoration of the ANZACs.

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"The driveway tribute is a great way to collectively pay our respects, while maintaining social distancing."



Samantha Marley. Credit: Supplied/UWA

UWA music student Samantha Marley (21) will also play the Last Post on trumpet in a virtual tribute that WA Opera and the university will promote through social media on Anzac Day.

The Pearsall resident has played the Last Post for six years as a volunteer at events across Perth, including at Wanneroo Golf Club and primary schools.

"It's a really beautiful, symbolic piece of music which means a great deal to Australians and engages our emotions," she said.

"It's a strong part of our memories, history and Australian identity.

"I'm excited to be part of this - I think music means a lot to people, no matter their age, background or personality and unites people.

"With us unable to arrange gatherings this Anzac Day, I hope this initiative will enable people to unite and join together through music."

All other residents are being encouraged to stand on their driveway or balcony about 6am, and light a candle for a moment of remembrance and commemoration.

The music for the Last Post is available online for free at musicformateship.org.

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