Adam Giles
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory

Lia Finocchiaro
Parliamentary Secretary

ANZAC Spirit lives on with Gallipoli study tour

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Chief Minister Adam Giles has officially farewelled a contingent of Territory students and teachers bound for ANZAC Centenary commemorations at Gallipoli next month.

“Four lucky students will be representing the Northern Territory at ANZAC Cove on April 25 as part of the 2015 Chief Minister’s Anzac Spirit Study Tour,” Mr Giles said after presenting the students with their tour uniforms today.

“Amy Chittick from Darwin High School, Juliette Parsons from Darwin Middle School, Jack Lake of Palmerston Senior College and Stevie Pocock from Taminmin College are off on a trip of a lifetime, keeping our ANZAC story alive.

“It was fantastic to farewell these students at Robertson Barracks and see the next generation showing such respect for Australian soldiers past and present.”

As a special tribute, the four students were presented with the Australian Army Rising Sun badge by Commander 1st Brigade Brigadier Mick Ryan.

"The 1st Brigade is honoured to host this event in the year of the Centenary of ANZAC and we wish the participants the best of luck on this important trip,” Brigadier Ryan said.

The students will be asked to lay the Rising Sun badges at the Anzac Day ceremony at Lone Pine.

“Taking this small piece of the Territory to Gallipoli will be a moving symbol that connects the current soldiers serving in 1st Brigade with the soldiers from the same brigade who fought at Gallipoli 100 years ago,” Mr Giles said.

History Teacher and Assistant Principal at Palmerston Senior College Robert Lee will accompany the group on their trip to Turkey.

“Robert is hugely knowledgeable about this chapter of our military history and I know the students will appreciate his insights as they visit battlefields and places of significance to the ANZACs around Turkey,” Parliamentary Secretary Lia Finocchiaro said.
Corporal Cynthia Gilchrist from RAAF Darwin will be the Defence Chaperone on the tour.

“These students will be part of history on ANZAC Day and I know it’s an experience they will never forget,” Mrs Finocchiaro said.

“ADF members and their families are a huge part of our community and it’s vital for young Territorians to understand the sacrifices they make for our country.”

The Study Tour is part of a four year, $4.5 million Territory Government program of events commemorating the Centenary of World War I.

Other NT Government Centenary commemoration activities from 2014-2018 include:

- The Borella Ride which recreated the journey of the Territory’s only Victoria Cross recipient Albert Borella from Tennant Creek to Darwin to enlist.
- A $100,000 community grants program funding grassroots events, projects and activities.
- The construction of an ANZAC Memorial Garden on the Esplanade.
- Re-naming one of the pathways near the Darwin Cenotaph to become known as the ANZAC Centenary Walk.

To follow the tour group and keep up to date with their progress, Territorians are encouraged to like the Chief Minister’s Anzac Spirit Study Tour Facebook page: www.facebook.com/anzacspirit

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