

Remembrance Day Contest - Introduction - 2026

lead-in countdown beeps

THIS TRANSMISSION STARTS

so that the *last* word (“Open”) is at 02:59:58UTC

(Competition starts: Sat 15th August 2026, 0300 UTC / 1300AEST)

Alan Cherry VK2COD

Welcome in 2026 to the Remembrance Day Contest, also known as the RD contest, Australia’s biggest and most significant annual amateur radio competition.

My name is Alan Cherry, a foundation level amateur radio operator with the call sign of VK2COD, and what is known as a Youngster on the Air or YOTA for short.

Each year we Amateurs reflect on the roles that amateur radio operators played in World War II.

We do this by conducting the RD Contest for 24 hours on the weekend closest to the day called VP Day – Victory in the Pacific Day, 15 August 1945, the day that formally marks the end of World War II.

This contest honours the passing of the brave service men (and we know of no women) who were killed during those hostilities.

The goal of the contest is for operators to have fun.

For the next 24 hours, the bands will be at their busiest for the whole year, so please be involved.

The rules for this weekend’s contest were published on the WIA website, wia.org.au.

Whether you participate or just listen, enjoy this 24 hour contest.

With even 30 minutes on air, particularly by submitting a log, your involvement will make a difference.

This contest is for us Amateurs, just it has been every year since the late 1940s.

Each year in the RD we reflect with some quiet time contemplating prior to its 0300 Zulu start, remembering those whose efforts helped to save our nation while they paid the ultimate sacrifice.

After 0300 Zulu we celebrate by competing together for up to 24 hours in a state versus state race to win the most on air contacts.

And next you will hear from Scott Williams VK3KJ with the WIA President's welcoming address followed by the reading of the names.

Last, my Brother, Alec VK2MV will open the contest.

Msg ~1min 24sec President WIA

Scott Williams VK3KJ

Hello, this is Scott Williams VK3KJ and President of the Wireless Institute of Australia.

On behalf of the WIA, the Board of Directors and all of our members, I extend a warm welcome to all those participating in the 2026 Remembrance Day Contest this year.

This important Contest commemorates Amateur Radio operators that lost their lives serving their country. The 15th of August or the weekend closest to this date marks the date that hostilities ceased in the Southwest Pacific.

This weekend the contest will take place on the 15th and 16th of August, commencing at 0300 UTC and concluding the following day at 0300 UTC. There is no better way to mark the significance of this event and reflect on the sacrifices made, but to get on air this weekend and make a few contacts.

Please take a moment to remember those who lost their lives and served our great nation.

We look forward to your active participation in the contest this weekend and on behalf of all of those at the WIA, thank you for your support of the contest and good luck.

reading of the names of the fallen WIA Amateurs

CONTEST OPENING

Alec Cherry VK2MV

To all Radio Amateurs of Australia, New Zealand, and Papua New Guinea, I am Alec Cherry, VK2MV and a YOTA.

On this day, 15 August, back in 1945 was Victory in the Pacific Day, marking the end of World War II.

Today it is exactly 81 years ago.

We honour those amateur radio operators who paid the ultimate sacrifice during World War II by participating in this contest, the Remembrance Day Contest.

It is my great pleasure to formally **declare the Remembrance Day Contest for 2026 -**

Open.

CONTEST COMMENCES

****END****

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