

MEDIA RELEASE



The Hon **David Hawker** MP
Federal Member for Wannon



24 September 2009

SALUTING THEIR SERVICE WITH THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE MEDAL

Federal Member for Wannon, David Hawker, will next Thursday recognise the service of local former Defence Force member, Robert McMillan, with the Australian Defence Medal.

The Australian Defence Medal is awarded to Regular and Reserve personnel across Australia who have demonstrated their loyalty to our nation through service to the Australian Defence Force.

"I believe it is important that all Australians recognise the outstanding contribution to our proud military history made by men and women in uniform," Mr Hawker said.

"The Australian Defence Medal seeks to recognise the service of members of the Australian Defence Force, past and present, who have made a commitment to our nation's security."

More than one million Australians are eligible for the Australian Defence Medal which was established in March 2006 to recognise Defence force Personnel who have served four years or their initial establishment period, whichever is the lesser, since the end of World War II. Both volunteers and national servicemen are eligible for the medal.

Mr Hawker will host a presentation ceremony at his Warrnambool electorate office, 73 Kepler Street, on Thursday 1 October at 1.30pm for Mr McMillan.

Mr Hawker is also urging other eligible ADF personnel in the region, both current and former, to apply for the medal.

"This is an important way to recognise the outstanding contribution to our proud military history made by Australian men and women in uniform" he said.

"Eligibility also extends to those who have died in service or are medically discharged due to permanent injury and unable to reach four years or complete their initial period of enlistment."

For further information, a special application form for the Australian Defence Medal is available from the Defence website at www.defence.gov.au/medals/ and from RSLs and other ex-service organisations or by calling 1800 111 321.

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