

# Brave remembered at service

HONOURING the moment when the battlefields of Europe fell silent in 1918 at 11am on November 11 and marking the end of World War One, services were held in Auburn and Lidcombe on Sunday for Remembrance Day.

On Friday, the Granville RSL Sub Branch also held a service in the auditorium of the Granville RSL which was attended by students from Granville Public School, Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School and Holy Family Primary School.

Granville RSL Sub Branch president John Haines, who is also state vice president of NSW RSL, said each year they tried to ensure children were part of the Remembrance Day services.

"The whole purpose is to encourage the younger members of the community to recognise the sacrifice and bravery of former service personal from years gone by, particularly those of World War One and World War Two," he explained.

"We also keep in mind the young service men and women presently serving in the ADF (Australian Defence Forces) overseas and at home.

"This year is also the special recognition of the 70th anniversary of Kokoda Day, which was seen by many people as a turning point for Australia in the Second World War."



□ Granville Public School students Layla Badra and Shaymaa Mohamed attended the Remembrance Day Service at Granville RSL Club on Friday.  
Photo by GEORGE VOULGAROPOULOS.

## 'A time to pay our respects'

FORMER sailor and Korean War veteran Ken Marchant was among those marking Remembrance Day on Sunday.

The 85-year-old Wentworth Point resident followed in the footsteps of his grandfather, father and brother, joining the Royal Navy in 1945 at the age of 17-and-a-half years.

Demobilised or 'demobbed' just two years later, an ad for the Australian Navy sparked his interest and in 1948, he

travelled to the English port of Plymouth.

A week later, he was on his way to Australia - without even getting a chance to say goodbye to his family - going on to serve in the Australian Navy from 1948 to 1954, including a nine-month stint aboard the *HMAS Sydney* during the Korean War.

Two of his five sons followed him into military service, although they "broke the family tradition" to join the Australian Air Force.

Mr Marchant said that on Remembrance Day, he thought about his father who served aboard submarines in World War One and of the men who served with him.

"We lead the sort of lives we do because of the people who fought for us," he said.

"People realise now it's not a celebration of war, it's about remembrance, it always has been.

"Remembrance Day is about taking the time



□ Veteran Ken Marchant.

to pay our respects. If it wasn't for them, who knows what might have happened.

"I think a lot of the young people have to realise the people who fought in the First and Second World Wars are responsible for the sort of life we are able to lead today."