

Media Release

The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP

Minister for Tourism

Minister for Small and Family Business

Minister for Employment

Minister for Veterans



Wednesday, 17 June 2026

DISTINGUISHED VETERAN TO LEAD SHRINE TRUSTEES

One of Victoria's most experienced and distinguished veterans will lead the Trustees of the Shrine of Remembrance.

Minister Suleyman announced today that Major General (Rtd) Andrew Bottrell AO, CSC & Bar, DSM has been appointed the Chair of the Shrine of Remembrance Board of Trustees.

Major General Bottrell brings extraordinary leadership and governance experience to this significant role.

He brings more than 39 years of distinguished service in the Australian Defence Force.

He's held senior roles across Defence, including as Head of Land Systems at Victoria Barracks from 2018 to 2023.

He has also played a significant role in complex operations, with deployments to East Timor, Iraq, Afghanistan and the Antarctic.

Beyond his military service, Major General Bottrell has built an accomplished career spanning defence, tertiary education, government and finance.

He holds Master's degrees in Defence Studies, Arts and Business.

He is also a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program.

Major General Bottrell takes over from Captain (Rtd) Stephen Bowater, who is stepping down after serving as Chairperson.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the care, management and maintenance of the Shrine of Remembrance and Shrine Reserve.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Veterans Natalie Suleyman

"Major General Bottrell's extraordinary record of service makes him the ideal leader for one of our most beloved sites of commemoration and we are proud to have him onboard."

"The Shrine holds a special place in the hearts of Victorians, and Major General Bottrell understands better than most what service and sacrifice really means."

"I thank Captain Bowater for his dedication as Chairperson. He leaves the Shrine in an outstanding position."