

# Media Release

## Care Leavers of Australia Network



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### **NSW GOVERNMENT TO HOLD REMEMBRANCE DAY FOR THE “FORGOTTEN AUSTRALIANS”**

Following months of negotiations by CLAN and other groups the NSW Government is to hold a Remembrance Day for those who have survived institutionalised care in NSW. This group of people, referred to in the Commonwealth Senate report as the “Forgotten Australians” includes people brought up in orphanages/children’s Homes and foster care run by the state of NSW and Churches and Charities.

The Remembrance Day will include a healing service to be held in the Sydney Botanical Gardens on Saturday 19 September 2009 at 10:00 am, followed by the unveiling of a permanent memorial to the “Forgotten Australians” in the Gardens. The NSW Premier will deliver a formal Statement of Acknowledgement on behalf of the NSW Government. Representative of organisations that operated these orphanages/Children’s Homes in the past will read an apology statement.

Vice President of CLAN, Frank Golding said today, **“CLAN has been working hard to implement the 39 recommendations of the 2004 Senate report *The Forgotten Australians* implemented. The first recommendation in that report was that all governments and past care providers should apologise. This Remembrance Day by the NSW Government is an important milestone on that journey of healing. This is the first time churches and charities have combined with a Government in a healing service of this kind. We appreciate this initiative by the NSW Government, churches and charities.**

**Steve Quinn, NSW CLAN member said “Many adults who survived this childhood still carry the burden of unresolved issues, loss of our families, the consequent loss of identity, shame and stigma from feeling like outsiders in our own society. We hope this healing event will lead to the implementation of a redress scheme in NSW.”**

For more information, media contacts at CLAN are:  
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