



Official Magazine of the
**WODEN VALLEY
SUB-BRANCH R.S.L.**



The **SERVICEMAN**

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SPECIAL EDDISON PARK EDITION No 18 – 2016



One of the many posters encouraging women to take up the
jobs vacated by men who had gone off to fight in the war.
(From the Archives collection at the Australian War Memorial)

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Printed by:



***Message from Jim Gilchrist, President,
Woden Valley RSL Sub-Branch.***



As President, I am pleased to welcome everyone to this year's ANZAC and Peace Ceremony, especially after last year's had to be cancelled because of bad weather. I extend a special welcome to students and teachers from local schools, and to the Director General of Education, Ms Dianne Joseph, and her colleague Ms Jan Herold who has worked with our team to coordinate this occasion.

I also extend a warm welcome to the New Zealand Deputy High Commissioner to Australia, Mr Llewellyn Roberts, representing our Patron, His Excellency, Mr Chris Seed. We in the Sub-Branch appreciate our strong relationship with the New Zealand High Commission as it continues to demonstrate the links between our countries and the unique bond between our Defence Forces.

Again I have the pleasure in acknowledging Mrs Pam Yonge and the Eddison family after whom this park is named. Our members appreciate her presence at some functions through the year and her general contribution to the Sub-Branch. Finally, I welcome other guests, including members of the RSL, and other Ex-Service Organisations, as they continue to provide invaluable assistance to the Veteran Community in the ACT and Region.

This year's ceremony and essay competition relate to the effects that war has on families; it provides opportunities for children to reflect on how these effects might apply in times of conflict and afterwards. Anyone who has served in the military will acknowledge the contribution and support their families gave them while they served. Most will acknowledge the sacrifices that families make while they are part of the broad military community, albeit that there are many benefits and good times, too. While these issues will be evident in peacetime service, due to constant postings and long absences, they will be harder when the serviceman or woman is serving on operations. Though many families have been affected in the past 10-15 years, it is hard for our generation to understand what families endured during the two World Wars when the whole Nation was at war. As many military personnel suffer from their service, family members can also be affected long after the serviceman or woman has retired to civilian life. It is therefore important for the community as a whole to recognise the effects of military service on people, and for the RSL and other Ex-Service Organisations to support veterans and their families through their service and subsequently.

I look forward to hearing the outcomes of the Essay Competition to see what this younger generation has to say about these difficult issues. As with other years, I expect to hear some wonderful insights from some of our students. In congratulating the three students who won a prize today, I also congratulate everyone who entered the competition but did not win. I hope that each of you have learned something about military families who serve in the name of our country. Both veterans and their families make some extraordinary sacrifices to protect our freedom. Thank you to Ms Joseph and her staff for supporting this occasion, and to the teachers and parents who encouraged and possibly assisted our authors. I also thank members of the Woden Valley RSL Sub-Branch who organised this ceremony and the competition. Lastly, I thank all of you for making this event one that is worth remembering and from which I hope we will all grow in our personal lives.

***Message from Diane Joseph,
Director-General, ACT Education Directorate***



It is with great pleasure that I join the Woden Valley RSL Sub-Branch for the 2016 Combined Schools ANZAC and Peace Ceremony. Every year on ANZAC Day, the Australian community gathers to remember, reflect on and commemorate the courageous contribution and sacrifice service personnel have made, and continue to make, to our great nation.

It is indeed significant for our students to be able to participate in this annual commemorative event.

This year marks the Centenary of significant battles on the Western Front, particularly the Battles of Pozières and Fromelles in France. It is timely to remember the central role played by Australian soldiers in these battles.

Australia's official First World War correspondent and historian Charles Bean famously said, the Pozières ridge "*is more densely sown with Australian sacrifice than any other place on earth*". It was amidst the devastated landscape of the Pozières battlefields that Charles Bean conceived the idea to preserve the story of Australians in the First World War. His dream resulted in the building of the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. Charles Bean's account, written at the Tuggeranong Homestead, was recorded in the *Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-1918*.

The Canberra community, indeed the entire nation, is indebted to Charles Bean for his vision and commitment. The Australian War Memorial is a beautiful and significant building, a site of commemoration, and a centre for preserving and curating artefacts that teach us the history of our people and our country. The stories told and items displayed at the Memorial help us to remember and honour Australian defence personnel, both past and present, and contemplate our futures as individuals, as a society, and as global citizens.

In July of this year the ACT Government will sponsor two Canberra high school students to travel to France and Belgium to visit historic battlefields where Australians fought, and where there are Australian war cemeteries and memorials. The students will attend the Centenary Commemorations of the Battles of Fromelles and Pozières. This provides our young people the opportunity to experience firsthand the ANZAC spirit as well as enrich their understanding of our history.

I would like to extend my appreciation to the Woden Valley RSL Sub-Branch for again organising this gathering, now in its 24th year. I also congratulate each and every student who took part in the ANZAC Essay Competition.

Today is a day to honour and appreciate the men and women of our Australian defence force. I take this opportunity, together with our schools here today, to reflect on and to honour their contribution, their sacrifice and their courage.

Lest We Forget

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Band plays as spectators assemble at 11.00 am.

Schools arrive at Eddison Park from 11.15am.

Ceremony starts with flags at Half-mast.

11.30AM Welcome: Ms Diane Joseph, Director-General,
ACT Education & Training Directorate

Catafalque Party: Marches to position in front of spectators

All stand

Catafalque Party Present Arms:

National Anthem of New Zealand:

God of Nations at Thy feet,
In the bonds of love we meet,
Hear our voices, we entreat,
God defend New Zealand.
Guard Pacific's triple star,
From the shafts of strife and war,
Make her praises heard afar,
God defend New Zealand.



Catafalque Party Shoulder Arms:

Catafalque Party Present Arms:

National Anthem of Australia: As the band plays, all sing "Advance Australia Fair"

Australian all let us rejoice,
For we are young and free,
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature's gifts,
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page let every stage,
Advance Australia Fair,
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.



Catafalque Party Shoulder Arms:

Catafalque Party to position around Memorial obelisk. Rest on arms reversed.

Prayer: Reverend Roger O'Donnell leads in reciting this non-denominational Prayer.

Dear God

We are gathered here today to remember all those men and women in the Armed Forces who gave their lives for our country and for freedom. We thank you that we live in a country where we enjoy peace and harmony.

We thank you for your love and for your provision of food and all that we need. Thank you for looking after us and our families.

>>>>

Today we pray for the families of those who lost their lives due to the conflict of war. We pray that you will give them peace. We pray for those who are presently serving in our Armed Forces. We pray for their protection and ask that you will help them bring peace wherever they are called to go in peace-keeping roles.

Help us to help each other and in doing so, help us to promote peace so that everyone will know that your love lives in them. Help us to make our Nation, a nation of Peace. In your name we pray.

Amen

ALL SIT.

**Address by Guest Speaker: Mr Llewellyn Roberts,
Deputy New Zealand High Commissioner to Australia**

Presentation of ANZAC Essay Prize and reading of the winning essay by recipient.

ALL STAND

Ode: Read by a Primary School Student.

***“They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them”***

All together (repeat) “We will remember them” On completion all sit down.

Laying of Wreaths

Escorted by a veteran, two student representatives of each school will lay a wreath at the Memorial Obelisk.



Last Post

As the bugle sounds, student slowly lower school banners.



One minute silence

Rouse

Followed by the flags being raised slowly to mastheads

>>>

Everyone sings:

Waltzing Matilda

Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong
Under the shade of a coolibah tree
And he sang as he watched and waited 'til his billy boiled,
You'll come a waltzing Matilda with me.

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda,
You'll come a waltzing Matilda with me,
And he sang as he watched and waited 'til his billy boiled
You'll come a waltzing Matilda with me.

The Blessing:

Reverend Roger O'Donnell

On completion:

All sit down. The Catafalque Party marches off.

Closing Comments:

A Principal of one of the Primary Schools, to conclude the ceremony, with thanks to participants.

Students depart according to Class arrangements. On the way out, children are invited to view their wreaths, place any extra flowers, and chat with attending veterans.

CATAFALQUE PARTY

Legend has it that the first catafalque (cat-a-falk) parties guarded important and wealthy people's coffins from thieves and vandals. A catafalque, normally a raised platform on which a coffin rests, may be represented for ceremonial purposes by a shrine or remembrance stone. A Catafalque Party is a guard mounted over a catafalque at a memorial or special occasion such as ANZAC Day or Remembrance Day, or on any one of the following occasions:

- * During periods of lying in state
- * During a military funeral in a church and during a memorial service in a church for a recently deceased distinguished person.

A Catafalque Party consists of four sentries, a waiting member in reserve and a commander. The Catafalque Party is posted with the sentries slow marching into position and taking up the stance of ***Rest on Arms***. This is the position of rest and reverence.

The Guard maintains this stance throughout the service until Reveille is played, when they come to attention. When the National Anthem is played, the Guard immediately Present Arms in salute, and all other uniformed personnel who are present salute the National Flag or distinguished guest at the parade.

BUGLE CALLS

Last Post: Symbolises an accompaniment to the impressive rites of a soldier's farewell.

The bugle call *Last Post* is inextricably part of the end of day traditions, which include Beating the Retreat and Tattoo.

Retreat: The older custom dating back to the 16th Century and consisted of prolonged drum beating at sunset to warn the night guard to mount, and to give notice that the gates of the town walls were about to close. This custom was also part of the end of day battle procedure, when gun volleys were fired and a hymn played in honour of those who had fallen during the day.

At this time of day the Colour or Flag would be trooped. Today this latter activity is replaced by the lowering of the National Flag. This bugle call has been passed down through the centuries in many countries of the world as the closing bars of the tune wail out their sad valediction to the departing warrior.

Reveille: The custom of waking soldiers to a bugle call dates back to the Roman Legions when the rank and file were awakened by horns playing Diana's Hymn. To this day the French term for *Reveille* is "La Diana".

When George III officially introduced bugle calls into the British System, a special bugle call was written for the waking of the troops. This was known as *Reveille*, meaning "to wake again", from the French language.

On ANZAC Day, *Reveille* or *Rouse* breaks the silence that follows the playing of the *Last Post*. This symbolises the awakening of the dead in the next and better world.

The bugle call you will hear today is *Rouse*, which is more commonly used in conjunction with the *Last Post*. This is because of the length of the tune, *Reveille*.



EDDISON PARK

Eddison Park was named to honour the memory of three brothers who were killed during World War II. Their father Captain Walter Eddison was granted a soldier's lease in this valley in recognition for the service he gave Australia during World War I. The brothers grew up on the farm, which is now the Woden Town Centre. It is fitting that during our general remembrance of all those affected by war, we join with the Eddison family to honour the memories of Tom, Jack and Keith Eddison who gave their lives in order that we may enjoy ours.

ACT SENIOR CONCERT BAND

The ACT Senior Concert band consists of selected students from Years 9-12 in ACT Secondary Schools.

MAINTENANCE OF EDDISON PARK

Maintenance of the park is the responsibility of the ACT Government, and is proudly prepared for this commemoration by Landscape Direct.

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Each year the Woden Valley RSL Sub-Branch conducts the ANZAC and Peace Ceremony for Years 4 to 6 Primary School children in the Woden, Weston Creek and northern Tuggeranong area. The ceremony at Eddison Park, Phillip has become most popular with the district schools to the extent that each year we normally see some 1,200 school children from approximately 22 government, non-government and private schools together with about 200 teachers and adults in attendance.



LEST WE FORGET

“The price of liberty is eternal vigilance”



FOR THE FALLEN

*By Laurence Binyon**

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal
Sing sorrow up into immortal spheres.
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

**They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.**

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

**Laurence Binyon(1869-1943) is best known for this great elegy, his fourth verse being adopted by the RSL as the Ode for their closing ceremonies. He was one of the most remarkable scholar-artists in British cultural history with a richly varied career as poet, dramatist, translator, Western art historian and pioneering scholar of Asian Art and culture.*



TO THE MEMORY OF FALLEN COMRADES

“They gave their lives. For that public gift they received praise which never ages and a tomb most glorious - not so much the tomb in which they lie, but that in which their fame survives, to be remembered forever when occasion comes for word or deed...”

REMEMBRANCE DAY

The 11th November has been formally recognised as ‘Remembrance Day’ for decades. The Armistice which ended World War I took effect on that date and hostilities ceased.

However, this date was not the official end of the War.

The Great War did not end until the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on the 28th June, 1919, and many Memorials, both here in Australia and around the world, correctly list the conclusion of ‘The Great War’ as being ‘1919’.

ANNUAL POPPY DAY APPEAL

In the week leading up to Remembrance Day in the ACT, the RSL sells poppies in their annual appeal to raise funds to help needy ex-servicemen and women.



BOY SOLDIERS ON THE ROLL OF HONOUR

The Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial lists the names of 102,791 Australian war dead. 61,520 of those died in World War I. Among them are 21 boys who died between the ages of 14 years and 9 months and 16 years and 11 months having falsified their ages to enlist. It was not until after their deaths that their true ages became known. The Australian War Memorial can provide detailed information on each of these twenty-one boys.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ANZAC DAY

Near dawn on 25th April 1915, forces of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) landed with British and French Forces on the Gallipoli Peninsula. The objective of the operation was to force the Dardanelles by land, capture the Turkish capital of Constantinople (now Istanbul) and relieve German and Turkish pressure on the Russians.

None of these objectives were achieved. By Christmas 1915, not a single living allied soldier remained at Gallipoli except as a prisoner.

The evacuation from Gallipoli, like that from Dunkirk in World War II, was a brilliant success, but there can be no denying that Gallipoli and Dunkirk were major military disasters.

Why then do we commemorate ANZAC Day, if it was such a disaster? Why do the British remember their ignominious retreat from France with such pride?

It is not that we pretend that such military misadventures are victories. We all know the failure of the Gallipoli Operation, and the British do not claim that Dunkirk was a great triumph of their arms, either.



It does, however, recognise the courage and fortitude of those at Gallipoli. Throughout the campaign the ANZAC troops did everything that could reasonably be expected of them, and then much more. The failure of the operation lay with the planners, not with the troops assigned to an impossible task. Our withdrawal was in good order, in a manoeuvre still regarded as one of the most skillfully conducted withdrawals ever attempted. Gallipoli was the first major campaign in which Australian troops fought as a body under their own commanders and carried the bulk of the operation on their own shoulders.

It can be said, and often is, that Australia came of age as a nation at Gallipoli. That is arguable, because a nation surely does not need a major war to achieve a sense of identity. But there is an element of truth in it, because Gallipoli gave all Australians the opportunity to identify positively with Australian forces fighting in a distinct campaign. Our comes there became Australian successes, but the failure of the campaign as a whole was never perceived as an Australian failure because the top direction of the campaign was in British, not Australian hands.

Those who went to Gallipoli were all volunteers and went because they believed it was the right thing to do. There were many acts of heroism. The myths regarding Simpson have grown over the years.



Simpson was only one of some 550 Australian and New Zealander stretcher bearers at Gallipoli that evacuated wounded troops down to the shore-line dressing stations for initial treatment and there is strong supportive evidence that a good number of these bearers put their lives into far greater danger than Simpson. It is also doubtful that he 'saved the lives' of the wounded he moved as the seriously wounded could only be evacuated on two-man carried stretchers and not sitting up on a donkey. Also, Simpson was not the only bearer to use a donkey.

In the trenches, soldiers observed and sniped at the Turks and engaged them in bombing duels, using improvised weapons such as periscope rifles and jam-tin bombs. On the front line, soldiers carried water and escorted donkey teams carrying supplies, from the beach to fortified positions.

Bully beef and biscuits formed a monotonous diet. The summer heat was oppressive and water was always in short supply. One of the few diversions available to the soldiers was to swim off the beach which was undertaken despite the continual shrapnel fire that caused many casualties. In their crude shelters, the troops inspected their clothing for fleas and lice. They looked forward to infrequent arrivals of mail from home.

Dysentery and paratyphoid broke out in an environment where water and sanitation were inadequate and swarms of flies carried infection from refuse, latrines and decomposing corpses. By late July, hundreds of tired and poorly fed men were succumbing to sickness, though many refused to be evacuated. Disease had become as much a threat as battle. Neither side was able to obtain a decisive result. As winter set in it became clear that the Gallipoli campaign had failed. The British Government, unable to spare any more troops, decided reluctantly to evacuate.

Unlike most operations in the campaign, the evacuation was brilliantly planned and a complete success. The Turks were deceived into thinking that the ANZAC trenches were fully manned (by the ingenious invention of weights and dripping devices used to trigger unattended rifles) while men slipped away at night in secrecy and safety. Only two soldiers were wounded as some 90,000 troops were withdrawn from Suvla and ANZAC. The final ANZAC troops were withdrawn in the early hours of the morning of the 20th December.

The cost was terrible. In those eight months of fighting there were 27,329 Australian casualties - 8,709 killed, 19,441 wounded, while the New Zealanders lost 2,701 killed and 4,852 wounded, and 70 taken prisoner while some 90,000 Turkish soldiers were killed in a campaign which achieved none of its objectives. A British Royal Commission later concluded that the operation had been ill-conceived.

It was Gallipoli, far more than the bigger and more significant battles on the Western Front in which Australian forces participated, that is better remembered as particularly Australian.

Though the campaign was a failure, ANZAC has come to stand, in the words of the official historian, C.E.W. Bean, *“for reckless valour in a good cause, for enterprise, resourcefulness, fidelity, comradeship and endurance.”*

Not well known in Australia is that the Turkish people to this day honour the memories of those they fought at Gallipoli as worthy opponents who did their duty. For Australia today, with the passing of the last of the Gallipoli veterans, the details of the Gallipoli Campaign are old history.



As time passes, the memories of the appalling carnage of two World Wars will mean less and less to the average Australian.

Some people have tried to use the commemoration to suggest it glorifies war. Nothing is further from the truth. That is not the real significance of ANZAC Day. The significance lies in our understanding of the sacrifices and deprivations willingly undertaken by those who have fought and died and those who have returned, many wounded and scarred, in the two World Wars, in the Malayan Emergency, Indonesian Confrontation, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf War, Afghanistan and Iraq. The symbolic identification starts with the dawn services on ANZAC Day and culminates in the ANZAC marches, tributes to the fallen and finally, reunions.

One can be sure that there is no one more dedicated to peace than the veteran who has experienced the horrors and follies of war.



THE PEACEKEEPING ROLE.

Australia has a long and proud history of helping to keep the peace in many of the world's trouble spots and since the end of World War II. The Australian Defence Force and Australian Police have made a major contribution to these peacekeeping operations.

The professionalism of our participants has earned the respect and admiration of Governments and individuals throughout the World. Our most recent major contributions being deployments to East Timor and to Bougainville Island in Papua New Guinea. The most recent and highly successful major Australian Defence Force and Australian Federal Police action in the Solomon Islands to restore order was at the specific request of the Solomon Islands Government and not a United Nations sponsored operation.

Governments have increasingly turned to the UN to deal with ethnic and nationalist conflicts that have flared up in many regions since the end of the cold war. At its peak in 1993, the total deployment of United Nations military and civilian personnel reached more than 80,000 from 77 countries. Complex missions which involve simultaneous political, military and humanitarian activities have built upon experiences gained in "traditional" UN peacekeeping, which typically involve primarily military tasks -- such as monitoring cease fires, separating hostile forces and maintaining buffer zones.

Civilian police officers, electoral observers, human rights monitors and other civilians have joined military UN peacekeepers. Their tasks range from protecting and delivering humanitarian assistance, to helping former opponents carry out complicated peace agreements.

Australia has been a strong supporter of UN peacekeeping missions since 1948 when a four man team of military observers was sent to report on the ceasefire between the Dutch and Indonesians in the Indonesian Archipelago. The team was led by a Brigadier and comprised a Naval Commander, a Squadron Leader and a Major.

Peacekeeping operations are normally set up by the Security Council, the UN organ with primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security.

The Australian Defence Force has approximately 2,000 personnel deployed on more than 10 operations that include border protection, United Nations operations, coalition operations, third country deployments and humanitarian relief.

SPECIAL EDITION.

This special edition of '*The Serviceman*' is published for the Eddison Park Ceremony. The focus is on promoting peace and an understanding of the ANZAC tradition and aims of The Returned and Services League of Australia. It also contains some resource material for children and their families. ***This edition is solely funded by the Woden Valley Sub-Branch RSL.***

The VICTORIA CROSS

*The supreme decoration for gallantry
in battle awarded to members
of Commonwealth forces.*

The Victoria Cross was established in 1856 by Queen Victoria for valour in the face of the enemy. It is the highest award that can be made to any serving personnel of the Commonwealth Armed Forces. The award was backdated to 1854.

The Victoria Cross is indeed highly prized and has evolved into the supreme decoration for gallantry in battle awarded to members of the Commonwealth forces for the last 130 years.

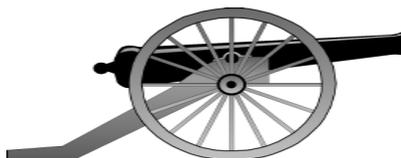
In 1991 the Victoria Cross for Australia was established as the highest Australian operational gallantry award. The Governor General obtains the Monarch's approval before the award can be made. No awards have yet been gazetted.

There is a requirement for at least three witnesses, who must make sworn written statements as to the exact circumstances of the action involved.

The only ungazetted award is the VC presented to the **American Unknown Soldier**, buried at Arlington National Cemetery (the Congressional Medal of Honour was conferred on the **British Unknown Warrior** in Westminster Abbey).

The VC can be bestowed by ballot, when an act of gallantry has been performed by a body of men (forty six have been awarded).

The ribbon was originally red for the Army and blue for the Navy but when the Air Force was formed in 1918 it was changed to red for all three services.



The Victoria Cross itself consists of a Maltese Cross of bronze, with the Royal Crest in the centre and underneath a scroll bearing the simple words "FOR VALOUR".

It is worth remembering that many who merited the Victoria Cross never received it because their actions went unnoticed, or the witnesses were killed, or whose self-sacrifice resulted in a lonely death in an unmarked grave. This is true no matter what the nationality of the person and is the reason why the tomb of a nation's unknown warrior usually has the highest gallantry decoration bestowed upon it, although the British and American tombs had each others highest award bestowed rather than their own.

Since its inception the Victoria Cross has been awarded 1354 times. The youngest recipient was 15 years old and the eldest was 69 years old. Three cases exist where both father and son have won the Victoria Cross; four pairs of brothers have also been recipients. Four Victoria Crosses have been awarded to civilians and while no woman has yet been awarded the Victoria Cross a gold representation was awarded to a nurse for her efforts in nursing cholera victims. Three men have been awarded the Victoria Cross twice.



The ribbon is an unmistakable dark red colour.

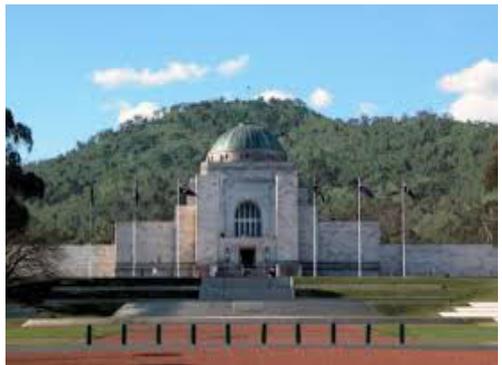
The bar is cast separately to the cross, but is made of the same gun metal material.

The cross itself is cast from gun metal taken from two Russian muzzle-loading cannons captured by the British during the Crimean War - [1853-1856]



When the ribbon alone is worn, a miniature cross is attached to the ribbon.

At the Australian War Memorial in the Hall of Valour are the records of the deeds of the 100 Australians awarded the Victoria Cross.



THE HISTORY OF THE EDDISON PARK CEREMONY

About twenty years ago, many schools in the ACT experienced a real upsurge in interest in ANZAC stories and traditions. Woden Valley RSL began to have difficulty in meeting the increased number of requests from schools for speakers to attend their ANZAC services. We found it to be much easier when schools combined their services and one speaker could reach twice the number of students. First schools to do this were Chisholm and Gilmore in the Tuggeranong Valley which formed part of the Woden Valley RSL at that time. A plaque set into Simpson's Hill where the ceremonies continue to be held midway between the schools, perpetuates our early involvement in the concept.

Tuggeranong RSL Sub-Branch was formed and took over the Simpson's Hill activities. Woden Valley RSL was then able to concentrate more on our local schools. Choosing a site for a similar combined ceremony was made easy because a recreational area was being developed in nearby Eddison Park. Woden Valley RSL approached three of the closest primary schools (Garran, Lyons, and Saints Peter and Paul) with the suggestion that they combine their next ANZAC Services at Eddison Park. They agreed and a most successful pilot event was held with about 100 students attending. The word PEACE was added to the title of the ceremony in recognition of the elusive goal of ANZAC observances.

Each year there have been improvements in the schools concept. At our request, a dedicated area in the form of a natural amphitheatre was developed by ACT Parks and Gardens to accommodate at least 2,000 students and a school band. These figures were achieved in 1995, the year of "*Australia Remembers*" when we had a memorial obelisk installed in the Park. The service in part follows the lines of the traditional ANZAC Service, but adapted to include peace and to be of interest to this age group. Carefully selected speakers and clergy are able to pass their messages direct to these students.

ROSEMARY

Rosemary, the herb of remembrance, is an evergreen shrub used for flavouring lamb and rabbit and in veal stuffing and also as a herbal tea. The sprig of rosemary that is worn by the survivors of war had origins with the Centurions of the Roman Empire and ever since has been the traditional symbol of eternal friendship and remembrance.



In the service of Peace



Rosemary

THE AUSTRALIAN HOME FRONT IN THE WORLD WARS



With the declaration in 1914 that England was at war, and with Australia's support of Great Britain as the 'Mother Country' meant that this country was also at war.

The outbreak of war seemed to unleash a huge wave of enthusiastic support for Britain, and support for Australia's part in the war. All major political parties, churches, community leaders and newspapers seemed to support Australia's entry. It was seen as a moral and necessary commitment. There was a rush to the recruiting offices, and, at this stage, only the very fittest and healthiest men were accepted. The whole country seemed to be both enthusiastic for the war, and united in support of it.

Australia had been a nation for just 14 years, and there was an uncertainty about how they would measure up as a race against the people who had founded them, the British. There was also a belief in society that war was a testing ground for individual and national character. Australians had been brought up on the glories of British military exploits. They were now part of that picture, and were able to match themselves against the best in the ultimate test. In the words of one contemporary, 'They had been tested, and not found wanting'. So Gallipoli was a great sigh of relief that the test had been passed, an affirmation of their national worth.



During the Second World War Australians at home did not suffer the miseries and privations that many civilian populations in other parts of the world had to endure, but the war did have a profound impact on the Australian home front. The nation experienced attacks on its own soil for the first time and the Australian people faced fear and uncertainty as Japan advanced in the Pacific. The Government implemented a wide range of measures in preparedness for the situation of 'total war' and national security. The urgent need was to increase available manpower for the services and munitions production. On the grounds of national danger, resources were increasingly marshalled under government control and civilians accepted the surrender of many of their individual rights.

People on the home front were expected to make economic and social sacrifices for the war effort. The Curtin Government launched a campaign of 'Austerity' in August 1942 and home-front propaganda pushed the concept of 'equality of sacrifice'. People were expected to work harder and avoid luxuries and waste. Despite the difficulties and hardships experienced on the home front, many Australians remember this time for its sense of unity, a time when people worked hard and pulled together.



Badges of the Royal Australian Navy, Australian Army, Royal Australian Air Force, and the Merchant Navy.



A Soldier's Farm

[From the plaque at the Yamba Sports Club]

After World War I, much of the Woden Valley's farmland was leased to returned soldiers under the Commonwealth Soldier Settlement Scheme. This was the site of one of the earliest farms, YAMBA, granted to English-born Walter Herbert Eddison.

Eddy Gumley built the farmhouse from timber left over from the construction of local buildings. Walter moved here in 1926 with his wife Marion and their four older children, Diana, Leslie (Tom), Jack and Edward (Keith) - and their two younger daughters Pamela and Marion - who were born in Queanbeyan. Their mother found that the lady-like skills she had learnt from her governess and Belgian finishing school were no preparation for life as an Australian farmer's wife.

Walter bought ten draught horses that he used for ploughing, harvesting and general farm work. Other stock included sheep and cows for a small dairy.

Walter could not have managed without the help of his wife, children, and neighbours, particularly at chaff-cutting and shearing time, as he had been gassed in France during the war. Before school each morning during the Depression, the boys milked cows and delivered milk from their dairy by sulky to Westridge (Yarralumla) and Canberra Church of England Girls' Grammar School. In summer they spent many lonely months guarding Yamba's grazing sheep in the high country.

When the three sons enlisted in World War II, Walter, Marion and their daughters worked on the farm. Tragically, all three of the Eddison sons were killed in the war.

In 1948, thanks to improved wool prices, Walter and Marion paid off their debts, restocked, renovated their home and visited England. The good times ended in 1952 when a bushfire devastated the Woden Valley. Thanks to their neighbours, the homestead was saved. As the oldest in their community, they became the first to leave, when Canberra's suburbs encroached on the Valley's farms.

They retired to Deakin in 1953.

The Eddison family at Yamba in 1934.

Tom, Jack, Diana, Walter, Keith,
Pam and Marion.

*[Canberra and District
Historical Society.]*



Futility

Wilfred Owen

[Poems of the Great War 1914-1918]

Move him into the sun -
Gently its touch awoke him once,
At home, whispering of fields unsown.
Always it woke him, even in France,
Until this morning and this snow.
If anything might rouse him now
The kind old sun will know.

Think how it wakes the seeds -
Woke, once, the clays of a cold star.
Are limbs so dear-achieved, are sides
Full-nerved, - still warm, - too hard to stir?
Was it for this the clay grew tall?
- O' what made fatuous sunbeams toil
To break earth's sleep at all?



FIRST IN LAST OUT AT GALLIPOLI

The history of the ANZACs is well documented, but it is not generally known, that the Royal Australian Naval personnel were first in and last out in the Gallipoli Campaign.

Just after midnight on the 25th as the ANZACs prepared for their dawn landing, the Australian submarine AE2 left Tenedos making for the Narrows which stood between the allied fleet in the Aegean Sea and their objective Constantinople, performing the dangerous feat of penetrating the Dardanelles and sinking a cruiser of the Turkish Navy. AE2 was sunk five days later in the Sea of Marmara by a Turkish torpedo boat after a gallant two hour fight. The entire crew of 3 officers and 17 men were taken prisoner. The first in.

Eight months later at 4.30AM on December 20, 1915, Sub Lieutenant Charles Hicks and a RAN bridging team detachment embarked General Maude and his staff over the wharf that Hick's men had built to a waiting lighter; then Hicks and his men embarked. The last to leave Suvla Bay.



Perfect Peace



The war is won, let conflicts cease
Let victory bring a perfect peace.
When blinded men the truth shall see,
And light the lamp of liberty.

When war lords with their awful might
No longer the day to night,
They shall not have died in vain
The brave who stayed the hand of Cain.

When nations still the hymn of hate
That leads them to their bloody fate
When bombs no more the senses numb
Then God shall see his kingdom come.

No need the conquered lands to police
Then dawns the day of Perfect Peace.

Written by Pte A.G.Hunt VX 73811 the night he heard the war was over while on picket duty on Labuan Island, Borneo. Manuscript found in the papers of the late Mick Sheehan, one time editor of "The Serviceman"

Anonymous

Adieu, the years are a broken song
And the right grows weak in the strife with wrong.
The lilies of love have a crimson stain
And the old days never will come again.

From the diary of an Australian soldier, September 1917

WAR.

"War is not a business in which one can take any pride or pleasure, or even pretend to. Its ghastly inefficiency, its unspeakable cruelty and misery has always appalled me, but there is nothing to do but set one's teeth and stick it out as long as one can."

General Sir John Monash.



THE AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

Charles Bean, historian and founder of the Australian War Memorial, had a vision to commemorate Australia's war sacrifices by creating for future generations a museum and research collection that would be accessible to all Australians. His vision became a reality in 1941 with the opening of the Australian War Memorial. It is about people and their extraordinary deeds. You can experience the memorial through interactive, multi media, and state-of-the-art display techniques in galleries from the colonial period to peacekeeping.

The Bradbury Aircraft Hall features beautifully restored and presented aircraft of the period including a Mosquito, Zero, Mustang, Wirraway, Sea Fury and MIG15.

On the 25th May 2001, the new ANZAC Hall opened showcasing a magnificent collection of technology items and best known relics including the Japanese Midget Submarine, tanks, the Lancaster Bomber 'G' for George and guns from HMAS Sydney and the German Cruiser Emden.

Australians have been involved in the conflicts, from the time of the first settlement at Sydney Cove in the 18th Century to peacekeeping roles under United Nations auspices and the First and Second Gulf Wars:

- Colonial Period, 1788-1901
- Sudan, March-June 1885
- South African Boer War, 1899-1902
- China - Boxer Rebellion, 1900-1901
- First World War, 1914-1918
- Second World War, 1939-1945
- Occupation Forces in Japan, 1946-1951
- Korean War, 1950-1953
- Malaysian Emergency, 1950-1960
- Indonesian Confrontation, 1963-1966
- Vietnam War, 1962-1975
- Iraq, The First Gulf War, 1990-1991
- Afghanistan, 2001-Present
- Iraq, The Second Gulf War, 2003-2009
- Peacekeeping, 1947-Present

THE DAWN SERVICE

Introduction. Undoubtedly, the most symbolic event on ANZAC Day every year is the Dawn Service. This simple service is moving tribute to the memory of fallen comrades. The increasingly large numbers attending the Australian War Memorial demonstrates that the commemoration of this deeply symbolic hour has gripped the feelings of so many Australians. In order to accommodate those attending the ceremony it has been extended beyond the Memorial's cloisters.



First Dawn Service. On April 25th 1923, the Reverend A.E.White, an Anglican priest and former AIF padre, conducted a small dawn service at Albany, West Australia and suggested the first-light service each ANZAC Day at that site. Albany was the last Australian port seen by many thousands of Australians who never came home. The Reverend White led the first formal Dawn Service at that site in 1929.

Other Dawn Services. The spread of the ceremony appears to have started when five ex-Servicemen returning from a meeting in Sydney, came across a solitary woman bent on her knees before the Martin Place Cenotaph, holding a bouquet of flowers in her arms. She was weeping silently. The five men went to her and gently placed her flowers on the Stone of Remembrance. Then they knelt and prayed with her. Thus was born the first formal dawn service.

First Official Ceremony. The initial official ceremony in 1928 consisted of placing a wreath on the Cenotaph in Martin Place at 4.30 am on 25th April, all present standing for two minutes silence. Very little publicity was given to the ceremony, but there was a gathering of some 130 people for the occasion. In view of the public support, an open invitation to the ceremony was issued in 1929 and, in addition to a wreath being laid, a Prayer was offered, and a bugle sounded "Reveille", to signify the belief that ANZAC Day heralded a new era in the history of Australia.

The Tradition. In 1930 representatives of the Federal and the State Government were present and over 1,000 people attended in Sydney. In 1931 the ceremony was attended by the Governor, and for the first time special trains and trams were run for those attending. Attendance continued to grow in succeeding years and in 1939 numbers had risen to over 20,000 and two hymns, "*The Recessional*" and "*Lead Kindly Light*" were added. Starting in Sydney, the essential features of the Dawn Service have been embraced in ceremonies of a similar nature throughout Australia. In 1939 New Zealand adopted these arrangements in their entirety. On ANZAC Day throughout the world, Australians now gather together and conduct their own Dawn Service to commemorate fallen fellow Australians and New Zealanders.

The Future. What has become particularly noticeable is the number of young Australians who now attend and pay homage at the Dawn Service. This suggests that the Dawn Service will continue long after the last veteran has passed away.

DOWN THE WIRE

The Internet provides one of the most useful means of researching a subject. The Australian War Memorial and Commonwealth War Graves Commission sites are a good start.



The Navy News from:

<http://www.navy.gov.au>



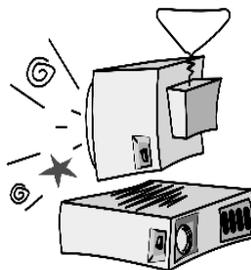
The Army Magazine from:

<http://www.army.gov.au>



The RAAF News at:

<http://www.raaf.gov.au>



The Department of Veterans Affairs:

<http://www.dva.gov.au>



The Australian War Memorial:

<http://www.awm.gov.au>

<http://www.anzacsite.gov.au>

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission:

<http://www.cwgc.org>



The ACT Branch of the RSL:

<http://act.rsl.org.au>

Woden Valley RSL:

<http://www.rslwoden.org.au>



The United Nations Organisation:

<http://www.un.org/peace>

Returned and Services League of Australia.



In 1916 Returned Soldiers Associations in Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and Queensland federated and in 1917 were joined by New South Wales and in 1918 by West Australia. The aims were to ensure fair treatment for returned men, to lend impetus to the war effort and support conscription. By 1919 it was a sufficiently consolidated body (then called the Returned Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmens' Imperial League of Australia) and influential enough to attract the Government attention which it has retained. Between the Wars internal dissension, reaction against its militaristic image and dwindling members caused some lessening of influence, but this was revived with the approach and outbreak of the 1939-45 War. Major success was achieved in repatriation problems after the 1914-18 War when Government acceptance of its responsibilities was less than it is now. Influence on national affairs has been less obviously successful. In addition to direct approach by written representation, deputation and personal interview, there is increasing indirect action through sympathetic politicians or organizations and by publicity. While the public image may be of a conservative, even reactionary and exclusive body, they overlook the welfare work and moderate views of the majority of members.

The RSL is the largest of the ex-Service associations with some 260,000 members and is the only one with direct, formalised access to a Cabinet Committee. The motto is "The price of liberty is eternal vigilance". There are over 2,000 Sub-Branches, ranging from 30 or less members meeting in fairly crude premises, to palatial clubs run by Sub-Branches with over 3,000 or more members.

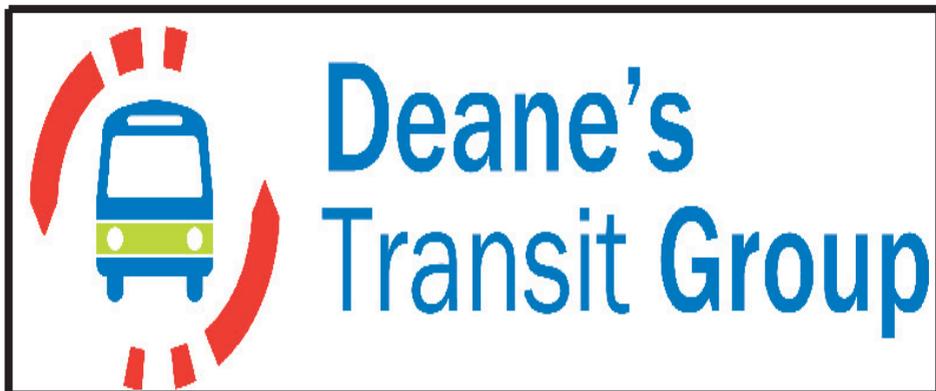
The main functions of the RSL are three-fold: welfare, social and political. Much of the funds are used to provide housing and homes for ex-Servicemen and their families, as well as medical help, clothing, funeral expenses and legal assistance. The political pressure group is primarily concerned with problems relating to repatriated Service personnel, notably pensions and the broader issues of Australian security. Our Sub-Branch does not have its own club rooms and is actively engaged in welfare, assisting the needy and hospital visiting.

Legacy



The concept of Legacy originated in Hobart with Major General Sir John Gellibrand in 1922 and was called the Remembrance Club.

Then Sir Stanley Savidge following this concept founded the Melbourne Legacy Club in 1923. The object was to care for orphans of Servicemen; there are now between 40 and 50 autonomous Legacy Clubs and their wards are the widows and families of all Australian Servicemen who died as a result of war. Apart from financial help, the great strength of Legacy lies in the closely maintained human relationships between members and the families concerned.



The Front Cover

The Cover is a wartime poster encouraging women to take up the jobs vacated by men who had gone off to fight in the war.

The Logo on the back cover. What does it mean?

The figures depict an elderly man with his granddaughter, standing at a typical country War Memorial. It is left to the viewer whether the grandfather is a veteran recalling his fallen comrades, or whether the missing generation (perhaps the girl's father is a veteran killed in action).

In either case, the natural curiosity of the girl provides an opportunity for the grandfather to tell her of the service and sacrifice of Australia's veterans.

The flag, under which so many of Australia's servicemen and women fought, provides a sense of natural identity.

The rising sun, symbol of the military for many years, represents the dawning of a new era, but equally reflects the words of the ode of remembrance.

The slogan, *Their Service-Our Heritage*, acknowledges Australia's veterans and their contribution to the shaping of our modern nation.

