

# SALUTE

Queensland Anzac Centenary 2014–2018 / ISSUE 1





**Cover: Eternal Flame, Shrine of Remembrance.**

Disclaimer and warning: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are advised this publication may contain the names and images of deceased persons.

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(*Salute*, Queensland Anzac Centenary 2014–2018/Issue 1)

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First troops leaving Townsville,  
First World War, August 1914.





# A message from the committee



Welcome to *Salute*. This publication captures major commemorative events of the past 18 months through a collection of stories showcasing highlights of Queensland's Anzac Centenary commemorative program.

A publication of this type unfortunately cannot acknowledge everyone who has contributed to the commemorations. I hope all who have participated will regard this compilation as an acknowledgement of the dedication and hard work of all those involved in making the first years of the Anzac Centenary commemorations successful, informative, inclusive and memorable.

The Anzac Centenary is a time to honour the servicemen and women who served and sacrificed, not only in the Great War, but also over the subsequent century of service. The centenary has already given Queensland communities many opportunities to recognise and commemorate the legacy of the service of Queenslanders, and communities have risen to that challenge wonderfully well.

We, as a state, have an important story to tell about the experiences on the frontline and the home front. Through legacy projects, arts and cultural activities, exhibitions and commemorative events, Queenslanders have proudly re-affirmed our heritage and shared the stories of the Anzac spirit and traditions across our state. This collection of stories shows us how we have commemorated the strength and courage of our people and also recognises the mechanisms that were developed to cope with the many, often massive, upheavals caused by the First World War.

While the centenary of the Gallipoli landing has passed, there remain many important projects and commemorations to reflect the determined and courageous service of Queenslanders on the Western Front, the Middle East, at sea, and at home.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the Queensland Advisory Committee for the Commemoration of the Anzac Centenary (QACCAC) for their ongoing commitment and dedication to Queensland's Anzac Centenary commemorations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Andrew Craig".

**Captain Andrew Craig RAN (Retired)**  
Chair, Queensland Advisory Committee for  
the Commemoration of the Anzac Centenary

# A message from the Premier



Since 2014, Queensland and the rest of Australia has been marking the centenary of the First World War and the events that changed our nation 100 years ago. Our commemorations will continue until 2018.

The Queensland Government is proud to deliver an engaging and diverse range of events and activities with \$49.3 million committed to Queensland's Anzac Centenary.

Through our Anzac Centenary Community Grants Program, many aspects of the First World War have been brought to life across the state with support already provided to more than 180 community projects.

These projects not only preserve our history but engage our communities with some remarkable stories about the service and sacrifice of Queenslanders.

A total of 57,705 Queenslanders enlisted in the First World War. In all, 416,809 Australians served with 60,284 being killed. On average, 38 members of the Australian armed forces died per day during the 1560 days of the 1914–18 conflict.

We can never make up for the pain they and their families suffered. But the one thing we can do is to never forget them, which is what the Anzac commemorations are all about.

While the focus in 2015 was on the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli campaign, the fact is that almost six times as many Australians were killed on the Western Front in France and Belgium during the following year.

Throughout 2016, 2017 and 2018, the 100th anniversary will mark key events on the Western Front as well as what was happening here in Queensland a century ago.

Our Anzac Centenary commemorations are not about glorifying war. Rather, they serve as a timely reminder of how brave young Australians, both on the frontline and the home front, lived the Anzac values of courage, integrity, resilience, mateship, teamwork, duty and sacrifice.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anastacia".

**Anastacia Palaszczuk MP**  
Premier of Queensland  
Minister for the Arts

## The declaration: how Queenslanders heard the news

It was a telegram that told Queenslanders they were at war. It would go on to be called the ‘war to end all wars’ but that title proved to be tragically optimistic.

Instead, the telegram that Premier Digby Denham received on 5 August 1914 set in motion Queensland’s response to the First World War. It also set the standard of dedication and sense of duty that would become the hallmark of the state’s servicemen and women up to the present day.

Britain’s declaration of war actually occurred the evening before, at 11 pm, Tuesday 4 August 1914, but due to distance and the telecommunications of the era, Queensland received the news the following day. When Premier Denham

received a telegram from Australia’s Prime Minister Joseph Cook, he responded immediately stating that ‘...Queensland unreservedly places all her resources at service of [the] Commonwealth and Mother Country’.

This historic declaration was commemorated exactly a century later at a memorial service on 5 August 2014 at Parliament House in Brisbane. To mark the commencement of the Queensland Anzac Centenary, the Premier of Queensland recited the ‘European War’ section of the 1914 Parliamentary Hansard in Parliament.

Following the reading, a ceremony on the Speaker’s Green at Parliament House enabled guests to learn about our history and reflect on the courage and sacrifices. The telegram, as well as other original documents and letters, were on display as part of an exhibition curated by Queensland State Archives.

The commemoration was attended by the relatives of veterans and those who had served with distinction in other conflicts. Among them was Vietnam veteran Keith Payne, a recipient of the Victoria Cross (VC), the highest decoration for gallantry

‘in the presence of the enemy’, due to his heroic actions during the Vietnam War.

The memorial event gave rise to many emotions, probably best summed up in an extract and joint message by the Premier and the Queensland Advisory Committee for the Commemoration of the Anzac Centenary (QACCAC) Chair, Captain Andrew Craig RAN (Retired), published in the Sunday Mail:

*‘The centenary of the First World War is a significant international event, but it will also have special relevance for many communities across Queensland...*

*For a century, Queenslanders have reflected on stories of courage, resilience and sacrifice that immortalised the Anzac spirit. Now is the time to ensure all is done to commemorate the commitment and sacrifice of all servicemen and women and those who served on the home front...*

*We encourage everyone during this time to reflect upon and learn more about our military history, its costs and its impacts on us, as a state and as a nation.’*



Members of the Australian Light Horse Association on the Speaker’s Green at Parliament House, Brisbane.



# Honoured to be serving their memory

No one could deny that Queenslanders are fiercely proud of their Anzacs. Up before the sun to pay their respects at the dawn service each Anzac Day and faithfully wearing poppies on Remembrance Day as a salute to the fallen and those left behind.

However, when it came to commemorating the four-year centenary of the First World War, the Queensland Government learned that many were unaware of its significance, and were even less sure of how to get involved.

The government wanted to find a fitting way to honour our servicemen and women. So together with a local Brisbane agency, Engine Group, a campaign was developed to raise awareness of the Anzac Centenary and improve people's appreciation of the role Queensland played in the First World War.

Under a common theme of 'How will we serve their memory?' this campaign featured current Australian Defence Force personnel reading century-old letters and telegrams from the war front written by Queenslanders who served in the First World War. These letters helped Queenslanders understand and empathise with those who served and encouraged people of all ages to take action and find how they could become involved during the Anzac Centenary.

The Queensland Government wishes to express its sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Australian Defence Force for their support and participation in the campaign. Thanks must also go to the John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland and Queensland State Archives for their insight, research and expertise. Without this collaboration, the campaign would not have been possible.

Visit [www.qld.gov.au/anzac100](http://www.qld.gov.au/anzac100) to watch videos and read the original letters featured in this campaign.



Leading Seaman Christie Piper, Royal Australian Navy, Bulimba Barracks (Brisbane), who read an excerpt from Queenie (Edith Florence) Avenell's letter.



Major Scott Calvert, Australian Army, Lavarack Barracks (Townsville), who read an excerpt from George Herbert Bourne's letter.



Flight Lieutenant Scott Hamill, Royal Australian Air Force, RAAF Base Amberley, who read an excerpt from Maurice Delpratt's letter.



# The eternal life: Anzac Square memorial

The Anzac Square War Memorial and Parkland is one of Queensland's most significant sites dedicated to the memory of our servicemen and women in all wars, and hosts various commemorative ceremonies. The centrally located square is a Brisbane icon and a peaceful sanctuary for reflection within the capital's busy business district.

Today, enhancements to the undercroft areas are bringing the past into the present to create a lasting heritage for all Queenslanders and future generations. The area contains the First World War gallery, the Second World War gallery, and the Post-World War II and exhibition gallery (formerly the RSL headquarters).

Opened on Armistice Day in 1930 the state memorial contains the Shrine of Remembrance and the Eternal Flame held in a bronze urn.

It was always a place for the people, with its original construction paid for by donations from ordinary Queenslanders who were themselves facing difficult times in the years between the First World War and the Great Depression.

Sadly, over the years, the treasured memorial had suffered structural erosion from water damage. While this type of damage is not uncommon for buildings of this era, if not addressed, the damage could have threatened the future

of this unique and much-loved state memorial.

Early works began in 2014 and have been timed to coincide with the Anzac Centenary. While no longer visible to the eye, repairs to the water-damaged sub-structure that supports the memorial, along with waterproofing of the interior, has added at least another 75 years to the lifespan of this significant memorial.

Careful management of the Eternal Flame was a key consideration during initial works, with the flame

being relocated within the parklands to ensure it lived up to its name. The stage two restoration included the return of the Eternal Flame back to its original location with an improved gas system.

Further construction and refurbishments have also been undertaken to the pedestrian tunnel linking Anzac Square to Central Station, and enhancements made to the Shrine of Remembrance. These works have also involved repairs to stonework and ironwork, installation of drains, new tiles

in the Shrine, stair treads, column protection and new pavers throughout the square.

The restoration elements, due for completion in 2016, involve refurbishment and enhancement of heritage spaces beneath the Shrine. It is intended the space will include a display of historical artefacts from post Second World War, and an exhibition gallery dedicated to Queensland's military history. Enhancements will also include the curation of plaques and the unveiling

of a previously concealed heritage sandstone wall uncovered during the structural investigations.

Completion of these essential works has been made possible by the Queensland Government's \$11.4 million contribution, and the Brisbane City Council's \$2.2 million contribution.

Future works will also benefit from a substantial contribution from the federal government's Anzac Centenary Public Fund.



Shrine of Remembrance, Anzac Square, Brisbane.



# The collectors

The Queensland Museum discovers, documents and celebrates the state's natural, cultural and regional diversity and provides a window on the world for all Queenslanders.

With a cherished collection and the stories they evoke, Queensland Museum connects visitors to Queensland, its people and Queensland's place in the world—past, present and future—through exhibitions, displays and public programs.

The Anzac Legacy Gallery will be the state's new permanent First World War exhibition that will explore the experience of war through relics from the frontline as well as the social impact and legacies of the era. Scheduled to open in 2018 at the Queensland Museum in South Bank, researchers are busily curating a mix of war memorabilia, artefacts and stories that tell the whole war story—from enduring themes of freedom and democracy, service and sacrifice, to daily life that continued at home during the devastating conflict of war.

At the heart of the gallery will be an evocative encounter with one of Australia's most significant and dramatic war relics—the A7V Sturmpanzerwagen armoured assault vehicle, known as Mephisto. Recovered by soldiers from the 26th Battalion (comprised mainly of Queenslanders) in July 1918 near the French town of Villers-Bretonneux, Mephisto is one of only 20 tanks built and is the last remaining First World War A7V Sturmpanzerwagen German tank in the world.

Mephisto is currently at the Australian War Memorial and will be returned to the Queensland Museum to be placed back on permanent display when the new Anzac Legacy Gallery opens. Mephisto tips the scales at just over 30 tonnes, so the process of building a new gallery and accommodating the tank presents numerous planning and logistical challenges.

To realise this key part of Queensland's history, the Queensland Government has pledged \$7.6 million towards the development of the gallery. The remaining funds will be raised through community contributions, corporate donations, industry support, and a significant contribution from the federal government's Anzac Centenary Public Fund.

The benefit of the Anzac Legacy Gallery is that it will allow everyday Queenslanders, school children and social and military history enthusiasts to explore the Anzac tradition and acknowledge the brave sacrifices made by our servicemen and women.

When opened, Queenslanders will be able to step back in time to better understand the sacrifices made by the community—from the way we educated our children and the increasing role of women in the workforce, to the mothers, children and the elderly who were left at home during wartime while loved ones put their lives at risk on the frontline in foreign lands.

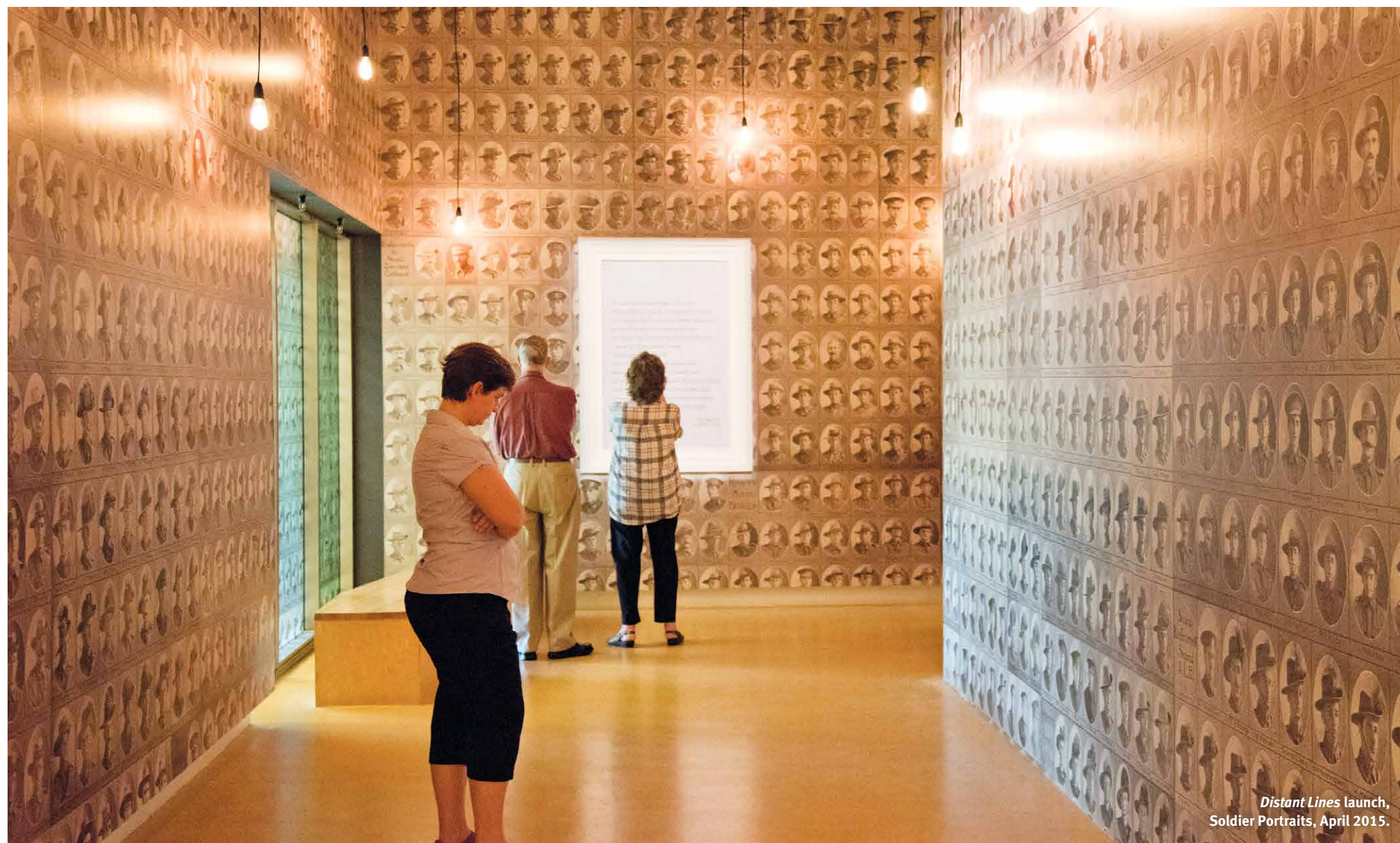
The Anzac Legacy Gallery was announced in 2014 as part of the Queensland Anzac Centenary commemorative program.



**Mephisto, the last remaining First World War A7V Sturmpanzerwagen German tank.**

The tank got its name from the painting of Mephistopheles, the red, smiling Faustian demon, featured on the armour plate. Tucked under the demon's arm is a rhomboid-shaped British tank. The tank originally featured a skull-and-crossbones, which was overpainted with a single cross pattée, or German cross.





*Distant Lines* launch,  
Soldier Portraits, April 2015.

# Bringing the past to us: a fresh look at our libraries

For generations, libraries have been trusted with keeping stories and information. In the digital age, libraries have embraced technology and it's changing the way we learn, interact with and access information. For State Library of Queensland (SLQ) in Brisbane, this is especially relevant.

As one of Queensland's largest libraries and the primary custodian of Queensland's documentary heritage, SLQ is giving life to history and preserving it for our future by digitising First World War letters, photos and paper-based records. It is also offering a range of up-close experiences.

It's all part of SLQ's five-year Q ANZAC 100: Memories for a New Generation program, which is dedicated to helping

current and future generations understand the Queensland experience of the First World War.

Recently expanded to include even more regional activities, Q ANZAC 100 is based on \$7.6 million from the Queensland Government, plus an important contribution from the federal government's Anzac Centenary Public Fund.

The Q ANZAC 100 program showcases some of the most interesting, heartbreaking and inspiring First World War stories and events delivered through a variety of initiatives. Many are accessible online for national and international audiences, free to the general public.

The busy program of exhibitions, symposia and experiences means there are too many to mention, however some event highlights from the past 18 months include:

## Distant Lines

This exhibition explored the unique war front through photographs, audio, newspaper clippings and diaries. *Distant Lines* was attended by more than 50,000 visitors over an eight-month period.

## Symposia

Over the course of the program, SLQ is hosting annual symposiums exploring themes about Queensland and the First World War and sharing untold stories. Over the past two years, these events have featured a vast array of guest speakers including historians, musicians, authors, community leaders and journalists who have presented interesting perspectives and interpretations of the war experience.

## On this day

SLQ has launched a Twitter account (@slqld) where you can search #onthistoday to experience the daily news from Queensland newspapers a century ago.

## Pin it

*Historypin* is a place for people to share their unique and diverse stories about Queensland's involvement in the First World War. The hub now includes 1137 pieces of content 'pinned', including local and personal stories of those who served and stayed behind during the First World War. It is a compelling place to lose yourself, as well as an opportunity to make a contribution and pin your own story.

## Soldier Portraits

Search through nearly 27,000 digital portraits of Queensland soldiers, and like thousands who have searched before you, you may discover a connection to someone who served in the First World War. During the Anzac Centenary, SLQ will continue to add more images of Queensland soldiers who served in the First World War. Find Soldier Portraits at <http://onsearch.slq.qld.gov.au>

## Caring for memorabilia workshops

The legacy we leave future generations is only as good as the quality and condition of its care and maintenance. Caring for memorabilia is an art form and experts from SLQ have been travelling to regional communities to provide important conservation tips to those who have collected their own pieces of history.

## White gloves experience

Put on the white gloves and take this opportunity to see, touch and learn more about the stories behind the First World War treasures. This behind the scenes viewing of SLQ collections will show you original letters, diaries and photographs from this significant period of history. Visit [www.qanzac100.slq.qld.gov.au/events](http://www.qanzac100.slq.qld.gov.au/events) to view the calendar and locations across the state.



# Defending the Pacific: honouring our first volunteers

When the First World War was declared, the most immediate military threats for Australia lay to our north, in German New Guinea and on Thursday Island in the Torres Strait.

On 9 August 1914, the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (AN&MEF) began forming in Sydney, and were joined by 1000 Queensland volunteers—half of whom came to be known as the Dirty 500. This meant Queenslanders were some of the very first to step into action at the outbreak of the First World War.

The *Defending the Pacific* exhibition was developed by the Queensland Government in conjunction with the Queensland Museum to

commemorate this significant event. The exhibition was located in Thursday Island and Townsville, and was supported by temporary exhibits to allow Queenslanders the chance to appreciate the contributions by north and far north Queenslanders.

The exhibition featured a selection of 1914 diary excerpts, images, archives and newspaper articles that tell the story of how hundreds of north and far north Queenslanders bravely stepped into action, leaving their lives and family behind.

The exhibition will continue to be on rotation across Queensland and Papua New Guinea until 2018, with locations including:

#### North Queensland

- Bowen
- Townsville
- Charters Towers
- Ingham

#### Far North Queensland

- Cairns
- Mareeba
- Irvinebank
- Seisia

#### Torres Strait

- Poruma
- Horn Island
- Thursday Island

#### Papua New Guinea

- Rabaul

## The Dirty 500

The Dirty 500 were among the first Queensland volunteers for the First World War.

Nearly 1000 rifle club members put their hands up to embark on a mission to take down German radio towers in German New Guinea. Half of these members volunteered to set sail to Thursday Island to meet up with crew from Sydney and then forge on to their final destination.

Unfortunately, when the Sydney commander arrived in Port Moresby, he declared the troops unfit for service. The men had only one set of clothes in which they had spent the three-week journey, no mess tables, no bunks or hammocks—they had been sleeping on the ship's bare deck. Despite this setback, the Dirty 500 pushed on.

Their bad luck continued when half way to New Britain their commercial fireman went on strike, no longer wanting anything to do with the war.

The despondent men were returned to Townsville and discharged, devastated to have been sent home after having waited so long to play their part.

In August 1914 crowds gathered in Townsville to farewell some of the Dirty 500.





# A musical celebration under the stars for our boys amongst men

In 1914, when a call went out for soldiers, the lure of war was particularly strong for the youngest of our men. In the beginning, enlistment posters and leaflets promised an opportunity to see England and Europe. As time went on and more casualties were reported, young recruits joined out of a sense of duty to honour fallen comrades.

While strict age limits were put in place, 21-years-old or 18-years-old with a parent's permission, there are many stories of boys giving false ages in order to join their older brothers and friends in the fight to defend our nation. Another way boys as young as 14 could sign up was by enlisting as a bugler, trumpeter or other musician.

These tuneful young men were the inspiration behind the dramatic 2015 musical production, *One Hundred & One Years*. From Wagner to Powell, Dire Straits to The Rolling Stones, music from the past 101 years (1914–2015) was interwoven with rarely seen archival footage and evocative readings from diaries, letters, and soldiers' own stories. Exploring the excitement and trepidation of going to war, music journeyed from big bold numbers brimming with patriotism and adventure, to heartbreaking hymns of longing and goodbye.

The free concerts, part of the 2015 Queensland Music Festival (QMF) program, were warmly embraced by Townsville and Brisbane communities alike. Crowds gathered under the stars to honour the spirit of reconciliation and respect, symbolically binding Australia and Germany, once adversaries, through powerful music.

To reflect on how young so many of our brave soldiers were, the open-air concerts put the spotlight on young actors and musicians, including a specially formed 30-piece community ensemble and a chorus of narrators comprising locals from Townsville, the Townsville Community Brass Band and Brisbane's Community Brass Band.

The events also featured the Australian Army Band Brisbane, the Townsville 1RAR Band performing alongside Australia's leading cabaret and music theatre performer Naomi Price, actor Ben Mingay from Network Ten's *Wonderland*, and Queensland musical theatre star Zac Parkes. In another highlight for guests, the world-renowned Saxon Wind Philharmonic from Germany played alongside local talent for the first time in Australia.

*One Hundred & One Years* was directed by QMF Artistic Director, James Morrison, who said it was a moving and powerful tribute to all those young Australians who went to war to fight on behalf of our country, and provided a moment to reflect and an opportunity for people to share their family's stories.

A collaborative effort, *One Hundred & One Years* was proudly presented by QMF, the Queensland Government through the Anzac Centenary, Brisbane City Council and Townsville City Council, with generous support from State Library of Queensland.

# A forgotten chapter of our Anzac story

Throughout history, men and women of all ages and cultures across the world have enlisted in war, but the story of the Indigenous Australians who fought in the First World War has been largely untold until recent times.

Hundreds of Indigenous servicemen took up arms as part of the First Australian Imperial Force. They were paid the same as other soldiers and were generally accepted without prejudice when together on the frontline. Unfortunately, when they came home, they weren't even able to share a beer with their comrades on Anzac Day.

To coincide with the centenary of the First World War, a unique stage depiction of this untold story of our Indigenous soldiers, *Black Diggers*, was performed as part of Queensland Theatre Company's (QTC) 2014 season.

Drawing upon new research and extensive consultation with the families of 15 Indigenous soldiers who heard the call to arms, the production reclaimed an often overlooked chapter of the story we tell ourselves about Australia's wartime legacy.

The play's power came from its exploration of how the mateship between black and white soldiers on the frontline contrasted with the discrimination felt by Indigenous soldiers on their return to civilian life.



Queensland Theatre Company's *Black Diggers* production.

Written by Australian playwright Tom Wright, *Black Diggers* opened at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) Playhouse as part of a world premiere season at the Sydney Opera House from 17–26 January 2014.

The production was the result of collaboration between QTC, Brisbane Festival and Sydney Festival in association with QPAC and The Balnaves Foundation. The play's QTC artistic director, Wesley Enoch, said the *Black Diggers* story is one of honour and sacrifice that had been almost forgotten—and one he thought was long overdue.

In a first for QTC, a live broadcast of this powerful production was made possible by the Queensland Government through the Anzac Centenary. The play was telecast to theatres reaching regional Queensland in Ayr, Bundaberg, Cairns, Mackay, Townsville, Mount Isa, Toowoomba, Rockhampton and Gladstone—taking this important production to a wider audience.



# Bringing the journey to Gallipoli to life

It became an unforgettable moment in history when the Queensland contingent of the First Australian Imperial Force (1st AIF) departed on 24 September 1914 to serve the mother country. More than 1500 men from two of Queensland's most iconic military units, the 9th Infantry Battalion and the 2nd Light Horse Regiment, travelled from various locations, including the Enoggera Barracks, to arrive at Pinkenba Wharf.



The 1st AIF, Australian Light Horse Association commemorative ride, 27 September 2014.



Transporting the troops in 1914 was a major logistical exercise, taking several days and involving trucks, trains and extensive cooperation between state and commonwealth departments. The 2nd Light Horse Regiment rode their horses from Enoggera Barracks to Queen Street, Brisbane and on to Pinkenba Wharf where they were cheered by huge crowds and officially farewelled.

Just over a century later, the Queensland community came together to witness a spectacular re-enactment of this event. Nearly 100 horses and riders of the Australian Light Horse Association travelled from across the state and gathered at Victoria Park in Brisbane, where they set up camp and underwent extensive rehearsals for the big event. The riders, some of them descendants of the original soldiers, wore replica First World War uniforms,



including the now famous emu plume in their slouch hats—a tradition started in Queensland. They impressed crowds as they rode through the streets of Brisbane and across the Story Bridge.

Australian Light Horse Association members in replica First World War uniforms.



Australian Light Horse Association pausing en route during a Royal Australian Air Force low-level flypast.



Captain Andrew Craig RAN (Retired) and Mr Lawrence Watts, Director, Australian Light Horse Association inspect the troops.

Complementing the day was an exhibition and educational display at South Bank that provided a glimpse of the daily lives of soldiers during the First World War. Included were re-enactments of training exercises as they would have been done at Enoggera Barracks a century ago.

These events, made possible by the Queensland Government and dedicated volunteers, were among the largest First World War commemorative events held in Queensland, and formed an official part of the 2014 Brisbane Festival's Riverfire celebrations.

As the fireworks exploded later that evening, the spirit of the Anzacs could be felt as the local community paid tribute to our young soldiers, reliving a moment in time that left a lasting impression on so many.



The 1st AIF commemorative ride through Brisbane city.



# The Gallipoli Symphony: the story told in music for the first time

The guns at Gallipoli have been silent for more than 100 years now, the chaos of battle long ago replaced by the quiet poignancy of headstones and commemorative plaques. Millions of words have been written and films have been made, but until 2015 the Gallipoli story had not been told in music. For the first time, a symphony was performed to pay tribute to those who fought and the many who died at Gallipoli in 1915—a place and time that is stamped into the history of Australia, New Zealand and Turkey.

On 4 August 2015 *The Gallipoli Symphony* was performed in its entirety for the first time in Istanbul's historic and beautiful Hagia Irene, a former church and now a museum in Turkey's capital. On 24 November, the symphony had its Australian premiere in Brisbane at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC).

Ten years in the making, the symphony is the culmination of a unique musical collaboration between 11 acclaimed composers from Australia, New Zealand and Turkey. Commissioned by the Department of Veterans' Affairs in 2006 as part of the Anzac Centenary national program, *The Gallipoli Symphony* tells the story of the Gallipoli campaign through music.

While attendees at Gallipoli dawn services over the past 10 years have heard individual movements from the symphony, performed as part of the pre-service reflective program, November 2015 was the first time the complete symphony was performed by the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and conducted by acclaimed maestra Jessica Cottis.

*The Gallipoli Symphony* music director Chris Latham said he hoped the symphony will become for Australia, New Zealand and Turkey the equivalent of Benjamin Britten's *War Requiem*, as a unique commemorative work telling the shared story of Australia, New Zealand and Turkey.

Though written to commemorate battles, the symphony is also a message of hope and peace and brings together the great talents of the three countries, whose histories were bound together in 1915.

When Australian troops landed at Gallipoli, the first ashore were Queensland men from the 9th Battalion, making Queensland a fitting place to host the premiere. It was made possible by the funding contribution from the Queensland Anzac Centenary and was performed by renowned international soloist musicians—many playing traditional instruments. The performance was enhanced by lighting, archival footage and photographs to make it a unique tribute to the bravery and sacrifice of those who served.

Though *The Gallipoli Symphony* was the first music composed and performed about Gallipoli, perhaps there was always heartbreaking, sombre music echoing through the years. As Laurence Binyon wrote in his 1914 poem, *For the Fallen*:

*'Solemn the drums thrill:  
Death august and royal  
Sings 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.'*



*The Gallipoli Symphony*, Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Brisbane, 24 November 2015.



# The Gallipoli Symphony: Brisbane premiere

## Soloists

- Omar Faruk Tekbilek**  
Instruments: Ney and Zurna
- William Barton**  
Instrument: Didgeridoo
- Horomona Horo**  
Instrument: Taonga Pūoro
- Michael Askill**  
Instrument: Percussion
- Julian Jackson**  
Instrument: Chromatic Harmonica
- Bahadır Şener**  
Instrument: Kanun
- Ozan Arslan**  
Instrument: Baglama

## Composers

- Omar Faruk Tekbilek** – Turkey
- Gareth Farr and Richard Nunns** – New Zealand
- Graeme Koehne** – Australia
- Peter Sculthorpe** – Australia
- Elena Kats-Chernin** – Australia
- Kamran Ince** – Turkey
- Ross Harris** – New Zealand
- Andrew Schultz** – Australia
- Ross Edwards** – Australia
- Demir Demirkan** – Turkey
- Chris Latham** – Australia



Horomona Horo performing on a traditional Taonga Pūoro instrument.

William Barton performing on the Didgeridoo.



Squadron Leader, Herbert John Louis Hinkler  
(Bert Hinkler) AFC, DSM (1892–1933).

# One of Queensland’s most famous sons honoured in Tuscany

Affectionately known as the ‘boy from Bundaberg’, Squadron Leader Bert Hinkler tragically lost his life when his plane crashed in Italy during his second solo flight from Britain to Australia in 1933.

Bert was a decorated First World War serviceman and one of the great pioneering aviators of the era, famously remembered as the first man to fly solo from London to Australia in 1928.

During the 1920s and 1930s, Hinkler was the equivalent of a film star. Thousands of people, including the leading politicians of every country he flew into, would turn out to meet him when he landed.

Now more than 80 years after his death, an 8.4 kilometre circular hiking trail for tourists, ‘The Hinkler Ring’, has been built near the site of the crash. Opened in August 2015, the memorial honours Bert Hinkler’s memory and sits at the site of his final descent on Mt Pratomagno, near Florence, Italy.

To mark the start of ‘The Hinkler Ring’, the Queensland Government contributed funding for the installation of a memorial to publicly recognise Bert’s aviation achievements and the leadership and enterprise of regional Queenslanders.

The Hinkler memorial also features a time capsule containing a letter from Australian and Italian Prime Ministers, and the Queensland Premier. The capsule will be opened in 100 years.

The internationally noted memorial is an initiative of Brisbane resident, Kevin Lindeberg, who at the service paid tribute to the efforts of Bert and other aviation pathfinders whose passion and dedication helped shape the industry in its early years.



# Reckless valour: Anzac Day 2015

The lucky country became the reflective country in 2015 as Queenslanders took the opportunity to remember, commemorate and take pride in the centenary of the Anzac's landing at Gallipoli.

Record attendance at Anzac Day services around the state and the country, as well as events across the globe, marked the beginning of four years of commemoration to reflect on sacrifice, loss and duty.

Those Australians who served not only remind us of what we have lost in war, but what we have gained: a legend and deeper understanding of the ultimate selfless act.

From the young to the old, we came together on 25 April 2015 to pay tribute and to honour the memory of all those men and women who laid down their lives for Australia.

## Anzac Day dawn services and parades

Volunteers from around Australia worked tirelessly to bring together the largest array of Anzac Day memorial services the country had ever seen.

Starting at dawn at memorial sites around the state, tens of thousands of people came together to pay respect, while parades kicked off to a rousing chorus of drum rolls, trumpets and cheers. With poppies and rosemary sprigs pinned to their clothes, young and old gathered on a beautiful Queensland morning to mark this momentous occasion. The 2015 parades commemorated not just the Gallipoli landing, but all those Australian servicemen and women who defended Australia's way of life in all conflicts and military commitments.

Cairns has a strong and storied tradition with the Australian armed forces, and a range of dawn services, mid-morning services, parades and commemoration services were held across the region.

In Townsville, dawn and morning services attracted record crowds at Anzac Park, while others watched a live broadcast of the service at Jezzine Barracks. Thousands of spectators lined The Strand for the march with veterans, local schools, community groups, service organisations and defence force personnel taking part.

In Currumbin there were many RSL staff, volunteers and local businesses involved in the preparation

of Anzac Day and all the events in the lead up. The Currumbin RSL dawn service at Elephant Rock has always captivated audiences because the beach's tides symbolise the shores of Gallipoli. However, the dawn service in 2015 was especially meaningful. Draped in 5000 handmade poppies crafted from 10,000 recycled bottles, Elephant Rock was transformed into the Rock of Remembrance, a fitting backdrop for the dawn service. Months in the planning, the poppy project became one of the biggest community endeavours undertaken on the Gold Coast, with more than 1200 people involved.

The Brisbane dawn service in Anzac Square and city parade were shown on big screens around the CBD and South Bank to ensure the service and commemorations could be appreciated by everyone. The large screens continued during the day with a live broadcast of the ABC's Gallipoli dawn service in Turkey.

## Student ceremony

Students from public and private schools across South East Queensland participated in widescale community events, as well as their own Anzac commemoration service in Anzac Square, where multiculturalism was at the forefront.



**Nurses' memorial candlelight vigil**

Our dedicated nurses, many of whom played a pivotal role in the original care of our First World War soldiers and later our veterans, held a candlelight vigil in memory of grandmothers, mothers and other war nurses.

**Local communities pay tribute**

Events were also held in local communities with exhibitions, plays, ceremonies and memorial services across Queensland, including regional and remote areas. Many were made possible by the Queensland Government's

Anzac Centenary Community Grants Program, which allowed communities to acknowledge their place in Queensland's history.

While many would have thought as our Anzacs passed away and time sought to heal old wounds that Anzac Day too would pass in relevance, the opposite has occurred.

With each year, more and more people remember the impact of war and pay tribute to those who gave the greatest sacrifice. Whether it was camaraderie, the innocence of youth or the belief that the greater good was paramount—our veterans continue to hold a place in the hearts of Queenslanders.

The Anzac spirit has come to signify ordinary Australians in extraordinary circumstances. While there is much we have learned about the Anzac history, there is still so much more to know, so we must keep searching for the truth.

*"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."*

*For the Fallen, Laurence Binyon.*

The Anzac Day dawn service and parade in Brisbane are delivered each year by two volunteer groups: the Anzac Day Commemorative Committee (ADCC) and the Anzac Day Combined Parade Committee (ADCPC) respectively. Each year the Queensland Government provides a donation to both ADCC and ADCPC in support of their activities.

In 2015, through the Anzac Centenary, the Queensland Government provided additional funding to help support and stage a comprehensive program of events. This included public relations, events management and operational support in the lead up to, and during, the 2015 Anzac Day events.

The dedication and hard work of the many volunteers, support groups, including RSL branches, is also acknowledged. It is the tireless work and commitment from event committees and volunteers that will ensure the legacy of over a century of service continues to strengthen each year.



Shrine of Remembrance, Brisbane, Anzac Day 2015.



Currumbin Anzac Day dawn service, 2015.

Where does 'reckless valour' come from?

'Reckless valour' is a term used by the official war correspondent to the Australian Imperial Force (AIF).

*"Anzac stood, and still stands, for reckless valour in a good cause, for enterprise, resourcefulness, fidelity, comradeship, and endurance that will never own defeat."* C.E.W. Bean

Charles Bean was a First World War correspondent and historian. He was the editor of the *Official History of Australia in the War of 1914–1918* and was instrumental in the establishment of the Australian War Memorial, and the creation and popularisation of the Anzac legend.





Operation Slipper, welcome home parade, Brisbane 2015.

# Century of service: the changing face of veterans

When you think of a war veteran, what comes to mind? For most people, it's the sepia-toned image of a handsome young man posing proudly for a photograph in his new uniform. Or maybe it's the old man, marching with honour in the Anzac Day parade, his chest adorned with medals earned in battle. We unfalteringly hold them in high esteem knowing they bravely volunteered to defend our nation.

What we often don't see are our new veterans: those who have served our country in the decades since the Second World War. They include men and women as young as 20 who have returned and walk among us in our everyday lives, carrying the burden of living up to the Anzac spirit while trying to transition into civilian life.

The end of our most recent mission, Operation Slipper, was marked with welcome home parades in March 2015 across the nation. These events recognised the contribution of our troops who served in Afghanistan and the Middle East, where more than 30,000 Defence Force personnel have been deployed since 2001

at a heavy human cost—40 Australian soldiers lost their lives and more than 260 personnel were wounded.

As we continue to remember the fallen, we should also think of those who returned. They each have a story, and collectively they must be confident that their country will not ask them to bear the emotional wounds of war alone.

## A heavy toll

- Since 1947, more than 30,000 Australians have served in more than 50 multi-national peacekeeping operations.
- Since the Boer War:
  - more than one million Australians have served in nine conflicts
  - more than 101,000 Australian soldiers have been killed or died of wounds, disease or in prisoner of war camps
  - more than 910,000 Australian soldiers have survived war, returning home to their families.



# Communities across Queensland rally to the spirit of the March of the Dungarees



One hundred years ago, recruiting committees were formed in country towns across the nation. Queensland's own recruiting committee was witnessing a 'show of support' and so began a march from Warwick to Brisbane.

Denim dungarees were the uniform provided by the State Recruiting Committee to those who joined the march in 1915. By day two, the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Binnie had nicknamed the group 'The Dungarees', a term quickly adopted by the young men of the march that endures to this day.

Three outstanding events, funded by the Queensland Government's Anzac Centenary program in late 2015, brought the past to life through a series of re-enactments in South East Queensland.

Call To Arms, Laidley, 29 November 2015.



Call to Arms parade, volunteers in replica First World War uniforms, 2015.

## Laidley steps back in time with re-enactment

The energy and spirit the Laidley township displayed 100 years ago was on display to young and old at the Call to Arms community event on 29 November 2015.

The people of Laidley were encouraged to respond to an article that appeared in the Laidley Plainland Leader calling for locals to volunteer and assist event organiser, The Laidley District Historical Society, with the re-enactment of the famous Laidley Call to Arms of 100 years ago.

The community responded to the call with enthusiasm that echoed the actions of the original 14 brave young First World War volunteers who answered the call of duty all those years ago.

Thanks to activities like the march through Laidley, displays by the 2nd Lockyer Light Horse, lovingly restored pre-1918 Model T Ford cars, swags and damper and a working bullock team on display at Laidley Pioneer Village, history was brought to life. The commemorative Call to Arms left no doubt that the Anzac spirit lives on in Laidley.



Dennis Misso and Ann Window dressed in period costume for the Laidley Call to Arms, 2015.





### Community spirit captured 100 years on

At 5 pm on 11 December 2015, the Warwick Town Hall rang to the sound of marching bands and the rhythm of boots of marching cadets as the town recreated the Demonstration of Support. The atmosphere stirred the memories and the blood of Golden Guitar winner, Norma O'Hara Murphy, who wrote a new song as tribute to the Dungarees titled, *The Dungaree March*.

The song was performed for the public in a program of music and poetry presented in Warwick Town Hall after the march. Ms O'Hara Murphy said she was inspired to write the song because she grew up with stories of the Light Horse. Her uncles served the country and she was moved to honour a neighbour who was a veteran.

Public support and enthusiasm for the re-enactment of the famous March of the Dungarees began to gain momentum and it became a frequent news item on local, state and even national news.

In fact, the dedication and commitment of Southern Downs Regional Council was recognised when the council was awarded the 2016 Community Event of the Year Award at the Australia Day Awards.

Ms Norma O'Hara Murphy and Mr Bob Townshend participating in the Demonstration of Support commemorations in Warwick, 11 December 2015.

### An epic journey for 140 young cadets

On the morning of 12 December 2015, 100 years after the iconic March of the Dungarees, a squadron of young Australian Defence Force cadets answered the call once more as they readied themselves for a long march ahead.

One of the most significant events in the commemoration program came to a spectacular conclusion just over a week later on 19 December as

140 cadets completed a 239-kilometre journey from Warwick to Brisbane.

Following in the century-old footsteps of the original 'Dungarees', the cadets aged 13–19 carried walking sticks engraved with the names of the original recruits. Their journey ended in Anzac Square where they presented a plaque commemorating the original 1915 march to The Honourable Grace Grace, representing the Premier of Queensland.

The march started in Warwick and was enthusiastically received by townspeople, local council, dignitaries and media, as the cadets passed through Allora, Clifton, Greenmount, Cambooya, Toowoomba, Helidon, Gatton, Laidley, Rosewood and Ipswich. Thanks to the tireless efforts of event organiser 139 Army Cadet Unit, the march began with just 28 Army and Air Force cadets, adding more in each town and finishing 125 strong to mirror the march of 1915.



139 Army Cadet Unit, March of the Dungarees re-enactment, 2015.



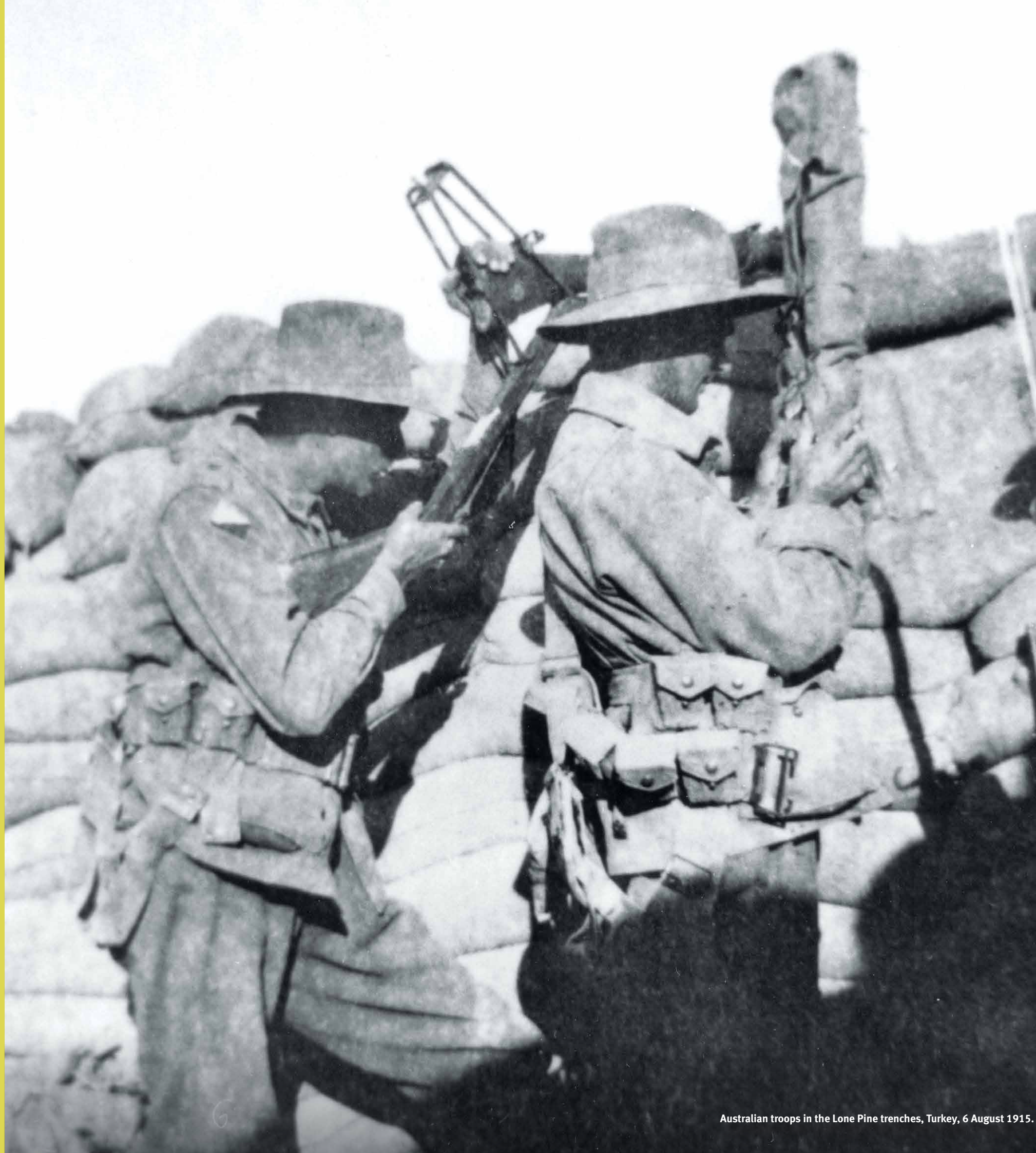
# Extra, extra, read all about it!

With so many battles fought and brave soldiers to be remembered, how could all the stories be told? Every soldier and volunteer deserves to have their story shared and kept alive in our memories.

Together with e-newsletters, the Queensland Government's Anzac Centenary website helps the community learn about the First World War with interactive timelines, commemorative event details and tales about a few of our bravest and proudest moments.

In sharing our stories, it is important to use a range of communication channels and forums to reach as many people as possible. From simply talking to each other to hosting a large scale event, it is important that we all continue to share and pass down our stories to new generations.

So, whether you like to read a newsletter with your morning coffee or visit a show or exhibition, a number of initiatives are available to help you commemorate our servicemen and women from the past and present.



Here is a snapshot of facts and short stories available on the Queensland Government's Anzac Centenary website. To read more visit [www.qld.gov.au/anzac100](http://www.qld.gov.au/anzac100)

## Volunteer recruiting begins in Australia

By the end of 1914, 52,561 Australian volunteers passed the strict physical and medical standards for overseas service. Despite two attempts to introduce conscription, enlistment remained voluntary for the duration of the war.

## The August Offensive

2015 marked 100 years since the August Offensive, which began with the historic Battle of Lone Pine and included a series of other attacks along the Anzac perimeter at the Nek, Pope's Hill and Quinn's Post. The fighting lasted four days and resulted in more than 2000 Australian casualties.

## Evacuation of Gallipoli

Australia's involvement at Gallipoli is one of the most commemorated and recognised campaigns of the First World War. It is also one of the bloodiest and tragic—many made the ultimate sacrifice in treacherous terrain and conditions. The evacuation plan showcased Australian ingenuity in warfare, ensuring troops were evacuated with minimal casualties, bringing an end to Anzac's long campaign in Gallipoli.



# Preserving Queensland's wartime heritage in our local streets and towns

Nothing can bring back to life the thousands of Queenslanders who died in the First World War, yet a great deal can be done to keep their spirits alive.

To honour our state's local wartime legends, the Queensland Anzac Centenary Community Grants Program provides the opportunity for local communities to remember, learn and commemorate in a way that is meaningful to them.

So far more than \$4 million in three state funding rounds have helped 186 local projects and initiatives honour Australia's involvement in the First World War and service history.

The following pages showcase some of these grant recipients and their projects, including:

- Cherbourg Historical Precinct Group *Boys from Barambah*
- Cobb & Co Museum, Toowoomba *Horse in War* exhibition
- Landsborough and District Historical Society, *Far From This Land*
- Townsville City Council *Memories for a New Generation: Townsville Remembers*
- North Queensland Music Association *The Toast is Anzac, Gentlemen.*

All of the grants projects aim to help students, residents and visitors understand the experiences of local servicemen and women and their families during and after the war.

To learn more about the program and the recipients visit [www.qld.gov.au/anzac100](http://www.qld.gov.au/anzac100)

## Cherbourg Anzacs: Boys from Barambah

When many people think of our Anzacs, they picture fresh-faced young boys seeking adventure and fun.

What comes as a surprise is the diversity of our young men who bravely went to war. The boys from Barambah are such men: a group of courageous Aboriginals who enlisted to fight.

Back in the old days, Cherbourg was known as Barambah, and many Aboriginal men from the area signed up to fight for the British Empire in faraway fields and deserts. Like many Indigenous soldiers around the country, they enlisted despite many barriers and personal hardship, including institutional racism and bitterness. Some however left for the call of travel and to experience something new and exciting.

Regardless of the reasons, our Cherbourg Anzacs deserve greater recognition for their service and sacrifice to Australia. One such way to honour these men was through the Cherbourg Historical Precinct Group who held an exhibition of stories.

Held at the Cherbourg's Ration Shed Museum, the exhibition told tales of bravery, sacrifice, hardship and commitment through their *Boys from Barambah*.

Adding depth to an already emotive exhibition, other stories were shared through an accompanying book, website, film and a suite of educational resources.

Exhibition committee chair Eric Law said the *Boys from Barambah* captured the stories of our young Aboriginal men leaving their homes for the first time, going abroad to foreign lands to fight a war.

"It would have been very easy for these fellows, considering the way they were treated, to say 'you go, it's not our fight'," Mr Law said.

"Yet they wanted to fight for their country. They had a belief their traditional lands were under attack and were prepared to die defending them."

*Boys from Barambah* contained stories that are both interesting and unsettling. One such story concerns a group of young men who enlisted only to find they were part of a stunt to shame white men into joining the armed forces in Brisbane. Ironically, it was corrupt organisers who should have been ashamed.

The men were subsequently sent back to Barambah after a few weeks, and then delisted on the grounds that they were not sufficiently 'associated with white people'.

Until recent research, less than 20 men from Cherbourg were recognised as having contributed to the First World War effort. Now it is known the number is at least 47. To honour these men the Memorial Park will be renamed as the 'Boys from Barambah Anzac Park', and a new honour board to acknowledge all the men who enlisted from the Barambah region will be unveiled at the Cherbourg War Memorial on Anzac Day 2016.



Arthur Murdoch, Cherbourg Anzac.



## Cobb & Co travel to bring the warhorse and soldier together again

Animals have always been a pivotal part of war. From dogs to carrier pigeons, servicemen and women have relied on the loyalty and smarts of animals to save lives and provide much needed companionship.

During the First World War, animals featured heavily, including more than 100,000 Australian horses.

The army horse became synonymous with trust, sacrifice and mateship. A trooper and his horse travelled as one, cantering through treacherous conditions and always on alert.

So important was the relationship between a horse and his soldier that in 2015, an exhibition at the Cobb & Co Museum in Toowoomba was curated and launched, titled *Horse in War*. Showing from 18 March to 6 December 2015, the exhibition provided a fascinating insight into wartime action, and the relationship between animals and humans.

Through photographs, diaries and original artefacts, *Horse in War* told stories of the thousands of skilled horsemen from Queensland and across Australia who worked, and risked death, alongside the horses of the Australian Army during the First World War.

Among the stories are those of the hardworking harness horses that moved wagons of food, munitions and equipment, and the horse-drawn ambulances that transported the sick and wounded.

The exhibition also featured a number of prominent Queensland soldiers including the well-known General Sir Harry Chauvel and Brigadier William Grant, through to ordinary Queensland troopers. Among them was amateur photographer, Esmond Lecchi, who served throughout the big Light Horse offensives of 1917–1918.

During Lecchi's time in Palestine, Syria, Jordan and Egypt, he photographed the day-to-day

Resident Cobb & Co Museum blacksmith, Terry Drennan, making rave brackets for the GS wagon.



events of life with the Light Horse, providing a rare insight into young Australian soldiers and the bond with their horses.

Also featured in the exhibition were elements of Australian war history from the Middle East and the Western Front, including the show centrepiece—an original and rare Army General Service (GS) wagon that had been sensitively preserved by Cobb & Co Museum staff and volunteers. The GS wagon is one of only a handful remaining from the many thousands that were used in the First World War.

Queensland Museum Network Director of Operations Deborah Bailey described the exhibition as encompassing the bravery, mateship

and humour of the Queensland soldier and his horse in a portrait tinged with both colour and sadness.

“It was a collaborative effort that brought together families with a First World War Light Horse connection and local veteran groups,” Ms Bailey said.

“For the first time, many of these families had an opportunity to meet and share their stories.”

The relationship between humans and horses remains as strong as ever, and while the advent of technology has meant that horses are no longer as critical in the battlefield, they are still involved in our armed forces and their legacy lives on.

## Remembering the warhorse

More than 100,000 horses were shipped from Australia overseas during the First World War. Only one returned. Brave and loyal, a horse was often more than a mate—it meant shelter, mobility and often a bed as soldiers had to sleep on the go. War was not kind to horses either. Many of these highly trained animals died from artillery wounds, disease and exhaustion in unfamiliar and harsh conditions.



# What price is a life?

At the beginning of the First World War, when the British government decided to make a gesture to the families of people who lost a loved one, they had no idea how many would fall and the magnitude of the task.

They held a competition to design a token of recognition. Sculptor and medallist Edward Carter Preston's design for a plaque was chosen from 800 entries and earned him £250. It depicted Britannia standing with a lion and holding a trident.

Around 1,150,000 plaques were issued, commemorating those who fell between 4 August 1914 and 10 January 1920. Each plaque came with a letter from King George V, which said, 'I join with my grateful people in sending you this memorial of a brave life given for others in the Great War'.

Despite these noble intentions, the plaques were not always well received. They were dubbed 'Dead Man's Penny' and many recipients sent them back, saying such a token could not replace the life lost.

According to President of the Landsborough and District Historical Society, Ms Rosey Field, the Dead Man's Penny is rare and valuable today, but three have come to be part of the Landsborough Museum's *Far From This Land* exhibition. Opened in April 2015 and currently running until the end of 2016, the medallions are among many other rare items—letters, documents, photographs, artefacts and family histories.

Landsborough Museum volunteers worked with heritage consultants, Blue Sky View, to research the First World War and the families of four local people. The result was a unique exhibition that explored the region's history and unearthed unique artefacts.

The four locals were Harry Hapgood, who recorded his time away through many photographs and letters home to his family; William Murphy, who died in 1916 in France, at the beginning of the Battle of Pozieres; Constance (Connie) Lindsay, believed to be one of 10 staff nurses who enlisted for service from the Sunshine Coast; and James Maddock, a member of one of Mooloolah's pioneering families, who died aged 35 of abdominal wounds received in action, after barely a month at the front.

Ms Field said the heroic lives and stories of Hapgood, Murphy, Lindsay and Maddock and their families were revealed, made all the more poignant by the words on the Dead Man's Pennies, 'He died for freedom and honour'.

A fifth person, Percy Edwards, is also commemorated in the exhibition. Percy's Dead Man's Penny was discovered in the area and is believed to have been left behind by a relative who worked in Landsborough. Sadly, Percy died in 1918 en route to the war zone in Europe.

Ms Field said this project was one of the biggest the museum's volunteers had ever undertaken.

"Hours were spent researching and locating objects to display. Without Blue Sky View's support and assistance we would never have produced what we believe is one of the best First World War exhibitions in Australia. We are very proud of it," she said.



'Dead Man's Penny'.

Donated to the Army Museum South Queensland by the family of Corporal A.H.A. Palmer, who died in March 1917 of wounds received in battle in France. Palmer was a farmer at Woodford when he enlisted aged 18 in Brisbane in April 1916.



'Kanowna' leaving Townsville with troops for New Guinea, August 1914.

## Family tales captured on film

In 2015, CityLibraries Townsville produced 11 short videos about local First World War soldiers that can be viewed on Townsville City Council's YouTube page.

Dr Judith Jensen, Coordinator Lifelong Learning Townsville Library Services, said the library's call out for stories through print and social media had an overwhelming response, with a large number of people coming forward with a variety of personal and family stories of soldiers from the First World War.

"In the series of films, families were asked to share their fathers', uncles' and grandfathers' memories, as well as their own stories and any memorabilia the soldiers bought back to Australia," Dr Jensen said.

"Personal First World War stories are disappearing and with no living First World War veterans, we felt time was running out.

"It is important the stories, told by veterans' families, are captured and become both part of our historical collections and are also shared widely for the new digital generation."

Dr Jensen explained that pride is evident as the people of Townsville tell stories of their family heroes.

"They are stories of soldiers, stories of battlefields, stories of what happened at and near the war and stories of when they came home. Or didn't. Stories of a different time and world, as well as hardship, loss, courage and spirit," she said.

The legacy of our First World War veterans is strong—with stories of endurance and hardship, mateship and passion reinforced and passed down through families. Any of these stories could have been lost, but now, through Memories for a New Generation: Townsville Remembers, viewers are able to connect with treasured new tales.

Many stories are yet to be told—from Indigenous diggers to migrants who survived the war and arrived in Townsville to resume their life. What is their heritage, how were they treated and what are their memories passed down to the next generation?

It is a rich educational resource for the youth of Townsville and beyond. The videos are online, available to new audiences and providing another way for old and new locals to share stories with each other. It is also attractive to younger generations who are drawn to the digital world.

Memories for a New Generation: Townsville Remembers is a valuable addition to the First World War education kit produced by CityLibraries.

To view the videos online visit [www.townsville.qld.gov.au/facilities-and-recreation/libraries/local-history](http://www.townsville.qld.gov.au/facilities-and-recreation/libraries/local-history)



# Expression through the arts: one man's First World War journey

Art has always been a wonderful way for people to express their creativity and their feelings through story telling.

In 2015, amateur actor and former soldier Matthew Head performed the lead role in the musical production *The Toast is Anzac, Gentlemen*, presented by the North Queensland Music Association's (NQMA) Voices Choral Group (Bribie Island chapter).

The production told the story of a young soldier, Jack Hawkins, who grew up in Kilcoy in Central Queensland, leaving his hometown to join the Australian Army in his early 20s.

Jenda Jacobs, President of the North Queensland Music Association's Voices Choral Group described the musical as a retrospective of Jack's life, which tells of his army life, including the post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) he suffered as the result of his call to duty.

"Matthew was already well aware of the pain caused by PTSD, having personally suffered the disorder since his own service in war," Ms Jacobs said.

The play is set in three stages—a young vibrant Jack at home, a man learning to adjust to war and an older Jack living alone in an aged care facility.

Ms Jacobs said the play looks through the eyes of each stage of Jack's life, exploring the perspective of a time when boys went to war.

"It included his enlistment, embarkation, life at Anzac Cove and his homecoming and resettlement," she said.

"The play involved close collaboration between the writers and actors, and included choral workshops where the entire team participated in detailed research into the period to bring their material to life in the theatre. This included using confronting real life First World War video scenes provided by the Australian War Memorial in Canberra."

In an emotive portrayal of one man's struggle, the local community of Bribie Island joined to commemorate the Anzac Centenary and tell the story of the Hawkins family.

Community actors came from all walks of life to be part of the production. They included veteran Navy, Army and Air Force soldiers from Vietnam, the Second World War and the Korean War, who all shared their voice and experience.

Together with support from the Queensland Anzac Centenary Community Grants Program, Jack Hawkins' legacy has been honoured and his life captured for posterity.



Discussions of home. *The Toast is Anzac, Gentlemen*.



# Premier's Anzac Prize takes new generation into history

Jack Hill, a Year 10 Brisbane student, has attended every Anzac Day service since childhood. With strong respect for the Anzac tradition, he also co-leads his school's Interact Club and has been involved in a number of projects to serve community needs.

Jack was one of 70 winners of the 2015 Premier's Anzac Prize, and proudly toured Turkey, Belgium and France for two weeks in April 2015. When reflecting on his visit, Jack talked of how grateful he was for the opportunity to commemorate

the sacrifice of fallen soldiers, including his great-great uncle who died in action during the Second World War.

The Premier's Anzac Prize encourages high school students to delve deeper into an important part of Australia's history and then make the symbolic journey themselves to the battlefields of the First World War, where many thousands of Australians gave their lives for their country. Organised and funded by the Department of Education and Training, this program has sent five students on tour in 2013 and 2014, and a record number of 70 students and 10 teachers for the 2015 tour.

Another 2015 winner, Brisbane State High School student Raphael Wixted, found himself spreading the message about the Anzac tradition since his journey overseas—sharing tales of his journey with fellow students as well as members of his local Scout group. His trip was a meaningful way to remember his great grandfather's service at Villers-Bretonneux, an experience he said would remain with him for life.

Several recipients of the 2015 Premier's Anzac Prize have since showcased their journeys through Gallipoli and the Western Front in the *Voices from Afar* installation at State Library of Queensland as part of the *Distant Lines* exhibition.

Another eight students also participated in a two-day Young Historian's Workshop at the library in September 2015. This included a 'white gloves' experience where they were shown how to work with historical artefacts, and worked with mentors from the library as they undertook their own research, exploring the library's many collections and its heritage material.

Students apply for the award by producing a five-minute multimedia presentation addressing key themes such as how the Anzac tradition has shaped Australia, why it is still important and how future generations can keep the tradition alive.

Winners are chosen by a judging panel of Anzac descendants and current members of the Australian Defence Force. These distinguished judges commented how in the process of creating some very moving and thought-provoking multimedia presentations for this competition, the students really captured the essence of the Anzac spirit and developed a passion for keeping it alive for future generations.

The eight recently announced 2016 winners are busy preparing to attend the Gallipoli dawn service, tour the Western Front and visit other historic locations.

Prize winners are encouraged to honour the Anzac tradition in their own personal and memorable way with photos, videos and personal account of the trip, shared on the Education Queensland website.

This is an opportunity of a lifetime and all students are encouraged to find out more and participate.

Students who want to learn about how to enter the 2017 Premier's Anzac Prize competition, or teachers wishing to apply to be a chaperone, can visit <http://education.qld.gov.au/anzac-prize>



The Premier's Anzac Prize students at Lone Pine, Turkey, April 2015.



Villers-Bretonneux Australian National Memorial, France, April 2015.



# Battlefield angels

When Australia went to war, medics followed. However, the death toll wasn't confined to soldiers serving on the frontline. Our Australian doctors, nurses, ancillary staff and stretcher bearers also put their lives on the line to treat thousands of allied troops.

A century later the proud story of our medical heroes' dedication is told in a documentary produced by Queensland Health. As part of the Queensland Anzac Centenary, *Bandages and Battlefields* pays tribute to the doctors, nurses and support staff who gave up their lives to serve in the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS).

The documentary explores the unsung work performed by our medical teams along with the significant medical advancement in treatments for infections, burns and wounds.

The 42-minute documentary involving 12 months of research, location filming and interviews, reveals the work, memories and legacy of local medicos, including 1300 doctors and about 2500 nurses, who worked in terrible conditions in the medical service during the First World War.

The production team were fortunate to have the assistance of Metro North Hospital and Health Service board member Dr Cliff Pollard AM whose interest in medical history proved invaluable for both research and contacts who shared their stories on camera.

Together with archival footage, the production team captured moving moments beginning with the 2014 Anzac Day commemorations, including the 2014 Nurse's Vigil, the Anzac Square dawn service and the Anzac Day service at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital.

Along the way the team also learned more about the department's strong history of past and current service with medical personnel serving as reservists, including staff whose grandparents had served in a military capacity in the First World War. Another interesting find was learning that the famous scene of the Gallipoli landing was not in fact real footage from Gallipoli, but was actually a re-enactment for the film titled *The Hero of the Dardanelles* filmed at Tamarama Bay in 1915.

Among the stories told in the documentary is that of the war nurse. Initially doubted as being able to save lives, the nurse's role was seen as one of an assistant. War was to change that. Previously unseen,

nurses had to be quick thinking and learned to improvise. They also took on new roles including anaesthetics under extreme conditions.

Fulfilling their traditional roles as caregivers, nurses worked behind the lines in field hospitals and on medical ships that anchored offshore near battlefields that were inaccessible by land. They treated, nursed and comforted 137,000 wounded Australian soldiers during the years of fighting and countless others from allied nations. Another 200,000 Australians received care for illness and disease.

The Australian Imperial Force casualty rate was 65 per cent, among the highest rates in the British and Commonwealth forces.

With up to 250 patients at a time and just one orderly to help, the nurses showed they were more than capable, and Australians soon recognised their dedication. Many a soldier would see the red cape as a comfort knowing he was being looked after by one of their own.

The stretcher bearers were the first to reach the dying and wounded. Collecting and moving casualties was dangerous and exhausting work and often had to be done after dark. Many were themselves casualties of indiscriminate bullets.



Australian Army Nurses outside the Army Nurses Club, Brisbane 1917.

There were no bathing facilities, and unburied corpses in and around the frontline areas were a breeding ground for flies. Disease swept through the Anzac forces at Gallipoli. Dysentery, which became known as the 'Gallipoli Gallop', tetanus and septic wounds plagued the soldiers. Thousands had to be evacuated from the battlefield as the only anaesthetic treatments available were chloroform and ether.

Twenty-five nurses died in the war and nearly 400 were officially honoured. One of the heroes of the documentary is Brisbane-born Gallipoli nurse Grace Wilson, a decorated nurse and a recipient of the prestigious Florence Nightingale Medal.

Matron Wilson and her nurses famously tore up their petticoats to make bandages for the men.

Her caring nature became legend among the Anzac troops with many men calling her 'Aunty Grace'. She served in France, was appointed Matron-in-Chief in 1925 and later went on to serve in the Second World War. In 1953 Matron Wilson became the first woman to be made a life member of the Returned Service League (RSL).

Undoubtedly what these workers faced was completely unexpected to what they eagerly signed up for, as documented by one medic in 1914:

*'We could not get any wounded off the beach until night, as all boats and tugs were needed to bring in supplies and troops. We began to evacuate them at 5pm and got about 600 off by 8pm. They lay, during the day, all along the beach, for several hundred yards, in what shelter we could devise, much of it inadequate, of course. They were all given surgical care and some food, tea, Bovril, biscuits, etc. Many were hit by shrapnel while lying there, and had to be re-dressed.'*

Excerpt from Corbin John in *Experiences with the AAMC at Gallipoli. Medical Journal of Australia*, JA 1916; 1, (6): 111-114.



# Government takes a greater role to remember

While people may share different views on the causes and conduct of the First World War, it is impossible to not be moved by the stories and archival images that captured the years from 1914–1918.

When we reflect on the First World War, many focus on the infantry in the trenches as well as the devastation. While incredibly important and poignant, there is so much more to consider.

While our brave soldiers put their lives on the line, the period was also a landmark time for all of those on the home front, including women who were recruited in areas of work that were formerly reserved for men.

In the public service, women worked in jobs ranging from railway guards and ticket collectors to buses and tram conductors, postal workers, police officers, firefighters and bank clerks. Women also worked the heavy or precision machinery in engineering, led cart horses on farms and worked in factories.

To remember these many aspects of history, the Anzac Centenary Queensland Government Working Group (ACQGWG) was established with representatives of Queensland Government departments and agencies. The group works together to ensure a collaborative approach in the commemoration of the centenary through research and the coordination of activities and events from 2014–2018.

Among the collaborative projects completed to date are:

- a video documentary on the history of the construction of the heritage-listed Anzac Memorial Avenue in Redcliffe
- a war memorial touring app featuring 90 war memorials, many of which are on the Queensland Heritage Register, from the south east corner out to Mt Isa and up to Cooktown
- a television documentary outlining the wartime efforts of Queensland's doctors and nurses
- the Premier's Anzac Prize, an annual competition held to select high school students for an overseas study tour of sites where Australians have served in war, centred on Lemnos, Gallipoli and the Western Front.

More projects are planned to continue telling the stories that were significant to our state, including how Queenslanders helped soldiers on the ground and kept the wheels turning at home.



Whether you know a little or a lot about the First World War, we tend to be aware of the more conventional aspects. Below is a sample of lesser-known and more unusual facts from the First World War. To read more about these and other facts visit [www.qld.gov.au/anzac100](http://www.qld.gov.au/anzac100)



Matron Robertson and Sisters McLean, Nelson, Leatherbridge and Gibbon.

## Did you know?

Queensland troops were the first ashore at Gallipoli.

The Imperial War Graves Commission charged families three pence halfpenny for each letter and each space between letters for epitaph engravings on head stones of the First World War soldiers.

The feathers on the Light Horse Regiment hats are emu feathers and are always worn on the left-hand side. The Mounted Infantry still wear emu feathers on their hats today, a tradition started in Queensland.

Some resourceful Australian soldiers smuggled a baby kangaroo from Queensland, which became the regimental mascot for the 9th and 10th Infantry Battalions in Egypt.



Khaki kangaroo. The mascot for the 9th and 10th Infantry Battalions in Egypt.

Twenty-two Queensland nurses were awarded the Royal Red Cross during the First World War.

Major General Sir Thomas William Glasgow, born and raised in Queensland, was one of Australia's highest-ranking First World War soldiers.

A Queensland soldier in the First World War smuggled a 5-year-old French orphan boy into Australia, who was later given permission by the government to stay.

Horses recruited for the Australian Light Horse in the First World War had to be a minimum of 14.5 hands high and of a solid colour.

During the First World War, German troops took photos of the last remaining trees on the Western Front, and at night replaced them with fake trees to disguise observation posts.

Dr Dolittle evolved from an English First World War soldier who wrote stories home to his children about a man who could talk to the animals.

The inspiration for Winnie-the-Pooh came from a First World War black bear named Winnipeg who gained recognition as the Fort Garry Horse regimental mascot.

During the First World War, the French planned to create a replica of Paris to the city's north, complete with electric lights and replica buildings to fool German planes at night.



Hugh Lofting's letters home became the inspiration for Dr Dolittle.



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**Page 49:** John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland, image number 164825

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**Page 51:** Australian War Memorial J01866 (*nurses*), WW1HA (*Hugh Lofting*), Australian War Memorial CO2588 (*Khaki kangaroo*)

**Page 52:** Australian War Memorial Ho2160



2nd Light Horse Regiment being farewelled outside Town Hall in Queen Street, Brisbane, as they rode to Pinkenba to board the Star of England in September 1914.

## A moment in time

During the First World War, there were many people who played a vital and often unheralded role. Today, many Queenslanders are working to honour and commemorate these people.

We're inviting organisations large and small, corporate and community, to list your planned events and activities and show others how you're commemorating the Anzac Centenary.

It is free to list your event on our website and with around 100 events already captured, there may be an event in your community that is of interest.

To find an event near you, or to list your own event, visit [www.qld.gov.au/anzac100](http://www.qld.gov.au/anzac100)



The Anzac Centenary (2014–2018) marks 100 years since our nation's involvement in the First World War, and encompasses all subsequent wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations in which Australians have been involved.

*Salute* captures some of the highlights of the first year of commemorations as Queenslanders reflected on our proud history.

Many people attended commemorative events, while others made contributions through the creation of permanent reminders of those who served and many who made the ultimate sacrifice.

These are Queensland's stories of remarkable events and activities, including photos taken during the commemorations, as well as in wartime.

The Queensland Government is proud to support the Anzac Centenary through its commemorative program to help share the stories of our servicemen and women and honour their memories.

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