



# SALUTE

Queensland Anzac Centenary 2014–2018 / ISSUE 4



Armistice Day peace procession  
in Flinders Street, Townsville 1918.

Cover: A poppy rests on the Shrine  
of Remembrance, Brisbane.

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

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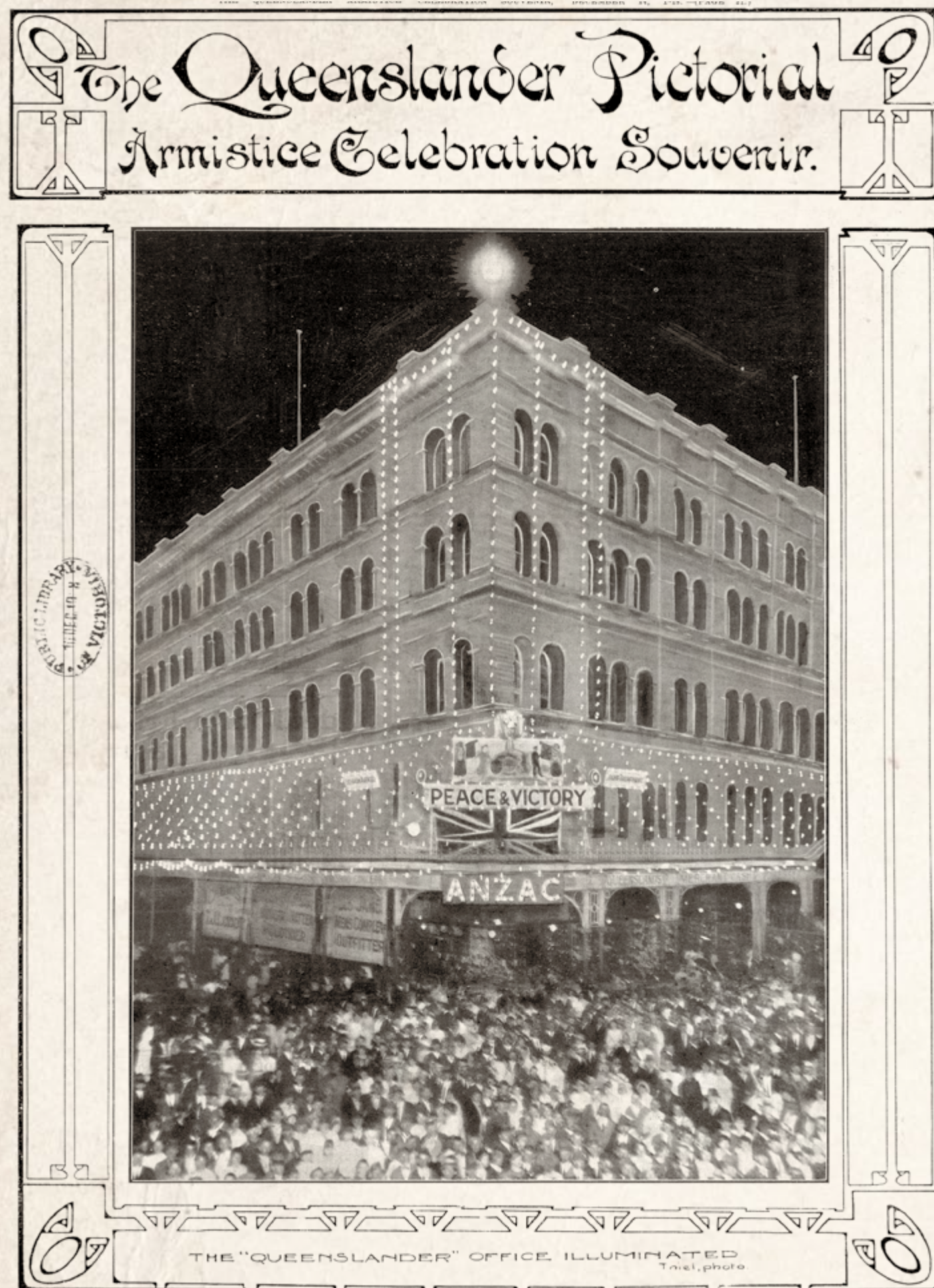
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Extract of the *Queenslander Pictorial* Armistice celebration souvenir supplement to *The Queenslander* newspaper published on 14 December 1918, showing *The Queenslander* office illuminated.

# Contents

- 4 A message from the committee
- 5 A message from the Premier
- 6 Looking back: five years of reflection and respect

## /// COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS

- 8 Remembrance Day: marking the centenary of the Armistice
- 10 100 years on: Queensland makes a promise to pause

## /// QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT COLLABORATIONS

- 11 Queensland youth lead the charge in preserving their memory

## /// COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS

- 14 Queensland voices raised in remembrance
- 16 A monumental tribute to Queensland soldiers
- 18 Thousands of Queenslanders, hundreds of commemorations

## /// LEGACY PROJECTS

- 22 Anzac Square restored and enhanced
- 26 Anzac Legacy Gallery: a new home for Queensland's wartime history
- 30 *Q ANZAC 100*: building a legacy of shared knowledge
- 32 Strikingly selfless: Queensland Police on the frontlines

- 34 From Gallipoli to the Armistice, a Fraser Coast legacy

## /// COMMUNITY GRANTS

- 36 Projects of pride and remembrance
- 38 A living memorial to Roma's heroes
- 40 Remembering Redlands' diggers
- 42 Changing places: the structures transformed by war
- 44 Troop Train rides the rails of remembrance
- 46 Coast creates a colourful tribute to the fallen
- 48 A virtual experience of life at war
- 50 Muckadilla's memories immortalised in stone
- 52 A place of remembrance for Dajarra
- 54 Clay poppies: an artistic tribute for Charters Towers' communities
- 56 Queensland's forgotten battalion memorialised

- 58 2018: a year for reflection
- 64 The official end of the war: the Treaty of Versailles
- 66 Did you know?



# A message from the committee



Welcome to the final edition of *Salute*. This volume captures Queensland's commemorations during the final year of the Anzac Centenary.

In 2018 we saw the ongoing engagement of the broad Queensland community in honouring the more than 57,000 Queenslanders who enlisted in the First World War.

From April to November we marked the centenary of key battles at Villers-Bretonneux, Le Hamel, Amiens, Mont St Quentin, Montbrehain and elsewhere on the Western Front. These victories came at great cost to the Australian forces but ultimately helped bring the Great War to an end.

As we looked toward the centenary of the Armistice, the Queensland Anzac Centenary grants program focused on supporting communities to observe this historic milestone in meaningful ways.

The year was also marked by a number of important anniversaries in the evolution of the Australian Defence Force and its service in a changing world.

In January, we acknowledged the 25th anniversary of the arrival of the 1st Battalion of the Royal Australian Regiment (1RAR) as part of the Unified Task Force in Somalia.

In May, an anniversary of special significance for Queenslanders was the 75th anniversary of the shocking sinking of *AHS Centaur* off Moreton Island by a Japanese submarine.

May also marked the 50th anniversary of the Battles at Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral—amongst the most strongly contested battles of the Vietnam War.

In October, we acknowledged the 75th anniversary of Hellfire Pass and the completion of the Thai-Burma Railway, and reflected on the terrible suffering of Australian prisoners of war at the hands of the enemy during the Second World War.

It was heartening to see the outstanding community support across the state to commemorate the centenary of the Armistice and the effective end of the First World War. The large turnout at Remembrance Day events was a sign of Queensland's respect for all the servicemen and women who have served and sacrificed over the past 100 years.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Queensland Advisory Committee for the Commemoration of the Anzac Centenary for their commitment and support. They have played an essential role in the success of Queensland's commemoration of the Anzac Centenary.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Andrew Craig RAN".

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

# A message from the Premier



The past five years have been a significant time of remembrance and reflection for us all.

Queenslanders fully embraced the Anzac spirit and took every opportunity to pay tribute to our servicemen and women—to share their stories and duly honour their sacrifice—while the world commemorated the centenary of the First World War (1914–1918).

Last year's Remembrance Day marked 100 years since the Armistice was signed and the bells rang out triumphantly declaring the end of that long and brutal conflict. This edition of *Salute* shares the highlights of that milestone observance, which took place in the last light of the Queensland Government's Anzac Centenary commemoration program (2014–2018).

I thank everyone who participated, whether you crafted one of the many thousands of red paper poppies that formed the 'Remember' public art installation, or you waved as the Troop Train rode past, or you attended a *Voices of Remembrance* performance or Remembrance Day service in your neighbourhood, or you simply paused to appreciate the bell ringing and illuminated buildings that formed part of our \$2.25 million Armistice Centenary commemorations.

I applaud the many hundreds of community and veterans' organisations in every corner of our state that thoughtfully planned and hosted commemorative events and built legacy projects with the assistance of government funding. The level of engagement across all five years of the Anzac Centenary commemorations was outstanding and reflects the special place our Anzacs hold in our history and our hearts.

While the program is now over, its legacy lives on. There is a permanent exhibition, the Anzac Legacy Gallery, at the Queensland Museum; restoration of Brisbane's Anzac Square is nearing completion; a new three-year \$1.2 million Queensland Veterans' Memorial Grants Program is providing communities with additional opportunities to construct or conserve public monuments; and another privileged group of Premier's Anzac Prize-winning students have travelled to the Western Front for Anzac Day 2019.

We will be forever indebted to the 57,705 courageous Queenslanders who helped to secure our freedoms one century ago. As Premier, I feel tremendously proud of the way the people of our state have expressed their gratitude to them, and to all who have served since then, including those who defend our country today. It has been a most heartfelt salute—thank you.

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

**Anastacia Palaszcuk MP**  
Premier of Queensland  
Minister for Trade



# Looking back: five years of reflection and respect

There have been many moments throughout the centenary where Queenslanders have united to acknowledge, honour and remember the war that changed our state forever. Here are a few of the heartfelt highlights.

## 2014

- As part of Riverfire in September 2014, nearly 100 horses and riders of the Australian Light Horse Association undertook a spectacular re-enactment of the day the Queensland contingent of the First Australian Imperial Force departed Queensland. As they rode through the streets of Brisbane and across the Story Bridge, clad in replica First World War uniforms, they captured a pivotal moment in our state's wartime history.
- Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples who served in the First World War are among the unsung heroes of Australia's war effort. From the premiere of the Queensland Theatre Company's stunning performance of *Black Diggers* in 2014, to the

extensive research which led to the publication of *The Boys from Barambah* and the documentary *The Black Diggers of Logan*, uncovering their stories and recognising their service became an important part of the Anzac Centenary commemorations in Queensland.

## 2015

- On the centenary of the landing at Gallipoli, thousands of people came together in Anzac Square to pay their respects at Brisbane's Anzac Day Dawn Service. Others watched from screens set up in Post Office Square, King George Square and the Queen Street Mall. More than 50,000 people lined the streets to watch the Brisbane Anzac Day Parade. A further 10,000 people took part, with servicemen

and women joining veterans and families marching in memory and honour of those who have served.

- In 2015, a squadron of young Australian Defence Force cadets answered the call and re-enacted the 239-kilometre March of the Dungarees from Warwick to Brisbane, passing through Allora, Clifton, Greenmount, Cambooya, Toowoomba, Helidon, Gatton, Laidley, Rosewood and Ipswich.
- Nearly 30,000 portraits of Queensland soldiers published in *The Queenslander* newspaper were digitised and are available online through the State Library of Queensland's *One Search* catalogue. They are one element of the tremendous digital legacy of knowledge, research and education preserved for the future by the State Library.



## 2016

- The state observed the 100 year anniversary of the first Anzac Day commemorations. To mark the centenary, the Canon Garland Memorial Society unveiled the *Canon Garland Memorial—ANZAC Day Origins*, a monument at the Kangaroo Point Cliffs Park.
- The Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience, the flagship travelling exhibition of the Australian Government's Anzac Centenary program, visited Toowoomba, Brisbane, Mackay, Cairns and Townsville from May to September 2016. The exhibition not only explored the First World War, but the century of service which followed and included local stories from each region.
- Several commemorative activities marked the centenary of the Western Front, including a service and wreath-laying ceremony on the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Pozzières at the Shrine of Remembrance, Brisbane, as well as a virtual candlelight vigil across social media.
- In late 2016, the Australian Outback Spectacular production company hosted *Salute to the Light Horse—High Country Special*. The 12-month production featured a re-enactment of the charge of the Australian Light Horse into Beersheba, one of the last grand cavalry charges ever seen on a battlefield.

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

Top right: March of the Dungarees through Brisbane's CBD, 2015.

## 2017

- The A7V Sturmpanzerwagen known as *Mephisto*, captured by Australian soldiers at Villers-Bretonneux, is one of Queensland's most precious artefacts of the war. *Mephisto* spent much of the Anzac Centenary on loan to the Australian War Memorial, where it underwent conservation work and, until April 2017, was on display in the Anzac Hall. The tank returned home to Queensland in June 2017.
- The state marked 100 years since the Battle of Polygon Wood in Belgium, with a mix of commemorative activities. Communities in Cairns, Rockhampton, Roma and Cloncurry worked together to honour those who fought and died in the muddy, ruined forest of Polygon Wood, through memorial tree planting, ceremonies and children's activities.
- Throughout September 2017, the Queensland Mounted Infantry Historical Troop joined other troops from across Australia and New Zealand to honour the Australian Light Horse with a series of commemorative activities throughout Central West Queensland. During the *In Pursuit of Beersheba* commemorative ride, more than 90 riders and their horses travelled a 288 kilometre route from Barcaldine to Winton, stopping at Ilfracombe and Longreach.

## 2018

- A new permanent home for *Mephisto*, Queensland Museum's Anzac Legacy Gallery opened on 10 November 2018 to delighted crowds. Featuring 500 significant objects and 200 stories, the exhibition explores the fascinating, complex and heartbreaking story of Queensland's wartime experience and its legacies.
- At the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month, Queenslanders marked Remembrance Day and the centenary of the Armistice. Large crowds gathered to acknowledge with gratitude and pride our servicemen and women, and to honour all those who have lost their lives in war and conflict over the past 100 years. In the lead up to the Armistice Centenary, communities across the state commemorated in a number of ways including public artworks, lighting displays, exhibitions and symposiums.

## 2019

- Anzac Square is Queensland's State War Memorial for servicemen and women and the place where Queenslanders gather to honour, mourn, recognise and reflect. The completion of a comprehensive, four-year program of works to restore, protect and make respectful enhancements to Anzac Square will ensure its endurance as a dignified state memorial for generations to come.



# Remembrance Day: marking the centenary of the Armistice

On 11 November 2018, Queenslanders paused to remember the 100th anniversary of the Armistice, the historic agreement that led to the end of the First World War.

As the guns fell silent on the Western Front in 1918, Australia's official First World War correspondent Charles Bean observed, 'the gates of the future silently opened'.

Queenslanders embraced the commemoration of the centenary of the Armistice on Remembrance Day 2018. Thousands attended the service at the Shrine of Remembrance in Anzac Square, with more watching the service on giant screens in King George Square.

During his address to those gathered at the Shrine of Remembrance, RSL Queensland State President Tony Ferris said,

*"This year, I urge you to remember the spirit of that first Armistice, when the streets overflowed with happiness and people hoped it really would be the beginning of a lasting peace."*

Top: The Eternal Flame at the Shrine of Remembrance, Brisbane.

One hundred years on from that historic day, people in communities around Queensland gathered together and reflected in silence at services across the state, each ceremony imbued with respect for those who served.

Remembrance Day services and ceremonies organised by Returned and Services League (RSL) Sub Branches were once again the cornerstone of commemorations.

The Queensland Government established the Queensland Remembers Funding Program to assist RSL Sub Branches and Queensland councils with Remembrance Day services and Armistice Centenary commemorations. A total of 48 organisations received funding to support their commemoration of this historic anniversary.

From all corners of Queensland, each Remembrance Day commemoration was unique, yet all were characterised by a spirit of gratitude to those who have served our country, including those who made the ultimate sacrifice.



Around 450 people attended the Forest Lake service at the Amphitheatre, including veterans, RSL members, school children, their families and community members. During the ceremony, a handmade purple wreath honouring war and service animals was also laid at the memorial.

In Cairns in the lead up to Remembrance Day, the night was flooded with memories, as a silent documentary containing videos and images of the First World War was projected on to the Cairns RSL Club, Cairns Aquarium and Riley Hotel. On 11 November, a moving ceremony at the Cairns Cenotaph was followed by a victory tea echoing the peace celebrations of 1918.

At the Remembrance Day Service in Greenbank, members of the Logan City Community Cadet Unit performed catafalque party duties. Ashley Willis, a veteran of Afghanistan and Timor-Leste, addressed the crowd and called for 'a minute of silence in memory of those who will never make a sound again'.

In far north Queensland, Mossman's Remembrance Day service included the dedication of a new statue of a First World War soldier and a plaque honouring Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples who served in the Australian Defence Force.



Top: Wreaths at the Shrine of Remembrance.

Middle: Mossman's Remembrance Day service included the dedication of a new statue of a First World War soldier.

Bottom: A purple wreath was laid at Forest Lake, to honour war and service animals.



# 100 years on: Queensland makes a promise to pause

Remembrance Day has always signalled an opportunity to pause and give thanks to those who served and sacrificed.

In commemoration of the Armistice Centenary in 2018, the Queensland Government launched the *Promise to Pause* campaign to help build a lasting legacy of observing Remembrance Day commemorative traditions.

The campaign reminded Queenslanders to stop for one minute at 11 am on Sunday 11 November to remember all those who had sacrificed and served, while inspiring others to mark Remembrance Day for the first time.

In 2018, Remembrance Day fell on a Sunday—a day that for many is filled with activities centred around family, friends and relaxation.

Recognising this, the campaign brought the First World War Armistice into the modern day by depicting everyday Queenslanders stopping to commemorate Remembrance Day during typical Sunday morning activities they love, such as going to the beach, sharing time with family and friends or playing sport.

Queenslanders were then invited to make a pledge to pause on Remembrance Day, with participants receiving electronic calendar prompts and Facebook reminders to stop for one minute on 11 November.



Left: Isabelle Jardine at the *Promise to Pause* interactive panel at Brisbane's Central Station.

Inset: Three of the advertisements produced for the *Promise to Pause* campaign.

# Queensland youth lead the charge in preserving their memory

Having walked in the footsteps of our servicemen and women on the Western Front, previous recipients of the Premier's Anzac Prize Isabelle Jardine, Isaac Mabo-Edwards, Matisse Reed and Harry Packwood led the charge in encouraging Queenslanders to promise to pause as part of the media campaign.

Isabelle Jardine takes a moment of reflection at the Cross of Sacrifice, Tyne Cot Cemetery, Belgium.







Top: Lance Corporal Wilfred Ernest Wagener (1892–1916), Auckland Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion.

Bottom: Isaac Mabo-Edwards visits the grave of Lance Corporal William Arthur Leslie Richards, 35th Australian Infantry Battalion, in France.

The Premier’s Anzac Prize recognises young Queenslanders who have helped champion the Anzac tradition, ensuring our servicemen and women are commemorated for generations to come.

All four students defined their experience as life-changing, and now see it as their duty to keep the memory of our soldiers alive, while encouraging others to do the same.

**Continuing the Anzac legacy**

History enthusiast and Premier’s Anzac Prize recipient Isabelle Jardine was inspired to enter the prize in 2018. Ever since, the Brisbane student has been passionate about sharing her experience and ensuring the Anzac legacy remains part of our national identity.

“Since visiting the Western Front and being surrounded by over 10,000 war graves, I am able to fully realise the devastation the First World War had on so many lives,” Isabelle said.

“While I don’t have a strong family connection to the Anzac tradition, I couldn’t help but feel immense gratitude for the bravery and courage shown by our soldiers for the freedom we have today.”

Through the prize, a number of students did however uncover an Anzac family connection they didn’t know they had.

Townsville’s Isaac Mabo-Edwards, who also won the prize in 2018, discovered his relative, Lance Corporal Wilfred Ernest Wagener, served in the New Zealand Army and was tragically killed in action in France on 3 July 1916. Learning about the stories of some of the younger soldiers who served also made a lasting impression.

“Visiting the Western Front was life-changing for me and hearing the story of a 15-year-old soldier who died in the arms of his Captain will stay with me forever,” Isaac said.

“The courage shown by these young men and women who put up their hand to go to war is beyond inspiring.”

After also winning the Premier’s Anzac Prize in 2018, Bundaberg’s Harry Packwood found out his great uncle had fought for Australia in the First World War.

“I’ve always felt a need to commemorate our soldiers for their courage and bravery and saw it as my duty to visit the Western Front and understand more about what they went through,” Harry said.

“Remembrance Day is a chance for citizens around the world to unite in paying our respects to all servicemen and women who laid down their lives so we could be free.”

Similarly, 2017 Premier’s Anzac Prize recipient Matisse Reed had the opportunity to commemorate her great grandmother’s cousin who

was 22 when he died in the Second World War.

“Up until I visited the Western Front, I would always think about the number of people who lost their lives but now I am more committed to why we remember them,” Matisse said.

“There’s an ancient proverb—they say you die twice: once when they lower you into the ground at your funeral and the second time when people stop saying your name and stop remembering you.

“It’s so important we remember them and sparing one minute on Remembrance Day is our commitment to making sure of that.”



Top: Harry Packwood at the 2018 Anzac Day Dawn Ceremony, Villers-Bretonneux, France.

Bottom: Matisse Reid honours Private George Henry Lucre at Fromelles.



The Premier’s Anzac Prize was created as part of Queensland’s Anzac Centenary commemorations to ensure the Anzac tradition lives on.

Open to Year 8 to 11 students in state and non-state schools across Queensland, prize recipients are involved in a six-month research program before touring memorial sites in London and the Western Front battlefields in France and Belgium.

The prize provides an opportunity for young Queenslanders to gain an in-depth understanding of the Anzac legacy so they can share their knowledge with their communities.

Organised and funded by the Queensland Government, 112 students have received the Premier’s Anzac Prize since the program’s inception in 2013.

For more information on the Premier’s Anzac Prize, visit [www.qld.gov.au/anzacprize](http://www.qld.gov.au/anzacprize)





# Queensland voices raised in remembrance

Hundreds of Queensland voices raised in song delivered a fitting tribute to the enduring legacy of the Anzac spirit across November's *Voices of Remembrance* program, a musical initiative presented by the Queensland Government in partnership with Queensland Music Festival.

The powerful sound of community choirs across Queensland resonated at special concerts to commemorate the centenary of the signing of the Armistice that led to the end of the First World War.

Two free commemorative concerts in Toowoomba and Cairns in the days before Remembrance Day welcomed more than 290 local choristers and 115 local musicians on stage to perform alongside renowned baritone Teddy Tahu Rhodes and award-winning singer Katie Noonan.

Among them was Toowoomba's Jane Hobbs who used the event to sing the praises of her grandfather John Bevan, awarded the Military Medal for his heroic efforts on the Western Front.

"I was thinking of my grandfather before, during and after the concert, and was proud to have been given the opportunity to bring his story to a broader audience," Mrs Hobbs said.

"The concert was exciting and emotional, as it brought to the fore the sacrifices made and hardships

endured by the thousands of soldiers, nurses, doctors and the like whose lives were lost or irreparably changed by the war.

"The narrative throughout the concert was important in this way, with its personal stories.

"The highlight was feeling part of something so important to my history, and the history of thousands of others."

Music director Dr Jonathon Welch AM, founder of *The Choir of Hard Knocks*, curated a mix of favourite songs from the era including *Keep the Home Fires Burning* and *It's A Long Road to Tipperary*. He also selected contemporary music such as Eric Bogle's *And The Band*

*Played Waltzing Matilda* in a nod to the men and women who fought to protect Australia in the years since the First World War.

The *Voices of Remembrance* concerts also marked the world premiere of *Eleven*, a choral work by Australian composer Gordon Hamilton specially commissioned by the Queensland Government to mark the Armistice Centenary.

"This concert provided not only a chance to reflect on the loss of so many Australian lives during the First World War and beyond, and the sacrifices that were made, but it also paid tribute to every man and woman in Queensland who had served in the armed forces," Dr Welch said.

"There is no greater sacrifice, and I was delighted to be able to give time and talents to create this beautiful musical tribute."

Complementing each *Voices of Remembrance* concert was a unique narrative, written specifically for Toowoomba and Cairns audiences by award-winning Queensland playwright and director Daniel Evans.

Queensland Music Festival Artistic Director Katie Noonan also performed at both concerts and said the highlight for her was witnessing the scale and passion of community involvement across the state.

"The *Voices of Remembrance* choral initiative helped Queenslanders reconnect with moving stories

Right: Katie Noonan performs onstage alongside Teddy Tahu Rhodes, Michael Tuahine and the *Voices of Remembrance* choir and orchestra, Toowoomba.

Left: *Voices of Remembrance* concert in Cairns.

from the First World War and pay tribute to the peace that came with the signing of the Armistice," Ms Noonan said.

"It illuminated the history and legacy of the community during the First World War and acknowledged the vital role of Indigenous soldiers and the Australian Light Horse."

In addition to the two sell-out concerts in Toowoomba and Cairns, 13 local choirs from regions including Mount Isa, Charters Towers, Cunnamulla and the Scenic Rim learnt and performed some of the same repertoire at local *Voices of Remembrance* community concerts across the state.





The 'Remember' sign on The Strand in Townsville.



Poppy making workshop.

# A monumental tribute to Queensland soldiers

In the lead up to Remembrance Day, communities across Queensland joined together to create a fitting tribute to those who served during the First World War.

The Queensland Government called on members of the community to contribute to a unique Armistice Centenary art installation by helping to create thousands of handmade paper poppies in recognition of the 57,705 Queensland soldiers who enlisted in the First World War.

Queenslanders rallied behind the project, with thousands of poppies produced from hundreds of community workshops held across the state. The project engaged with a vast range

of businesses, community groups, clubs and associations—from RSL Sub Branches, schools, kindergartens and community groups to corrective services, hospitals and convents all taking part.

Standing at over three metres tall and 16 metres in length, the completed artwork comprised acrylic letters which spelled 'Remember' and were filled with the thousands of handmade paper poppies.

The finished artwork toured to Townsville, Mackay, Longreach and Bundaberg in October 2018, before making its way to Brisbane ahead of Remembrance Day on 11 November 2018.

Thousands of people visited the completed artwork to take a moment of personal reflection in honour of our Queensland soldiers.

Reflecting on the historic association between outback Queenslanders

and the military, Longreach Mayor Ed Warren said the artwork took on a special significance in each place.

"I'm sure the artwork took on a new significance in each of the regions it toured to. We were honoured to host this impressive artwork at Beersheba Place, where we have a tribute to the Australian Light Horse," Mayor Warren said.

"It was moving—we remembered not only the soldiers, but the horses

left behind following the Armistice, many of which came from our region."

For those unable to attend the workshops, personalised poppy tributes could also be created online. Each of the beautifully animated poppies were displayed in a digital reflection pool on the Anzac Centenary Queensland website and a selection were on display alongside the final art installation in Brisbane.





Kangaroo Point Cliffs, Brisbane, awash with vibrant red poppies in commemoration of the Armistice Centenary, November 2018.



# Thousands of Queenslanders, hundreds of commemorations

Across the state, thousands of Queenslanders commemorated the Armistice Centenary through a wide range of creative and colourful tributes in honour of Queenslanders who served and sacrificed.

## Bells ring in remembrance

On 11 November 1918, many communities around the world celebrated the Armistice by ringing bells. In remembrance of this, bells across Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom rang to mark the 2018 Armistice Centenary.

The Australian and New Zealand Association of Bellringers (ANZAB) invited bell towers to ring half-muffled during morning commemorative services on Remembrance Day, followed by ‘quarter peals’ (a prolonged period of ringing lasting about 45 minutes) throughout the afternoon. In Brisbane, quarter peals were rung at St John’s Cathedral and at St Andrew’s Anglican Church.

Former ANZAB President and Brisbane resident David Smith has been bellringing for almost 15 years and is passionate about keeping the 17th century tradition alive.

“Bellringing provides us with an opportunity to link together the past, present and future and participate in an art which has so much significance,” Mr Smith said.

“During the First World War, 1400 bellringers lost their lives. Through these commemorations, we were able to remember them and all those who served one hundred years ago.”

Current ANZAB President Peter Harrison enjoyed seeing local bellringers unite in commemoration.

“It was wonderful to see how local ringers came together to make sure that the centenary of the First World War was commemorated, in association with their local communities,” Mr Harrison said.

“Members of our association in Australia and New Zealand all worked together to make sure the Armistice Centenary was marked, which reflected the bonds and friendships that were created during the war through the tradition.”

Top: Bell ringing at St John’s Cathedral, Brisbane.





RSL Queensland's Freedom Sounds concert.



Gympie Regional Council commemorated Remembrance Day with vibrant projections.

## Commemorations in the community

### Red for remembrance

In a highly visible tribute, over 70 Queensland buildings, statues, monuments and attractions across the state were flooded in red light or covered in projected digital imagery from Friday 9 to Sunday 11 November 2018.

A digital projection onto the Kangaroo Point Cliffs saw a wall of red poppies adorn the cliff face to honour the 57,705 Queensland soldiers who enlisted in the First World War.

### The sound of freedom

Thousands of people gathered at Brisbane's Riverstage on Remembrance Day for the RSL Queensland Freedom Sounds concert.

A celebration of freedom, the concert echoed the incredible scenes of jubilation that broke out in cities and towns across Australia when peace was declared at the end of the First World War.

Freedom Sounds presented an opportunity to engage a younger audience in commemorations and highlighted the importance of appreciating the lifestyle we enjoy today.

### Picnic for Peace

The State Library of Queensland's Picnic for Peace program saw a number of family-friendly activities take place on Remembrance Day. The event engaged all ages and offered a full day of food, entertainment and films for the whole family.

The community was invited to pause, reflect and pay their respects to the servicemen and women who have served and sacrificed.

### An artful telling of wartime and peacekeeping history

Created to reflect Australia's wartime and peacekeeping history, Queensland Performing Arts Centre's theatrical performance *Armistice* combined song, music, dance, spoken word and archival footage in recognition of a centenary of service, sacrifice and achievement.

As well as featuring an extraordinary collection of material from the Australian War Memorial, the performance included images, videos, letters and diary entries spanning 100 years, helping to bring the history of Australia's wartime and peacekeeping efforts to life.

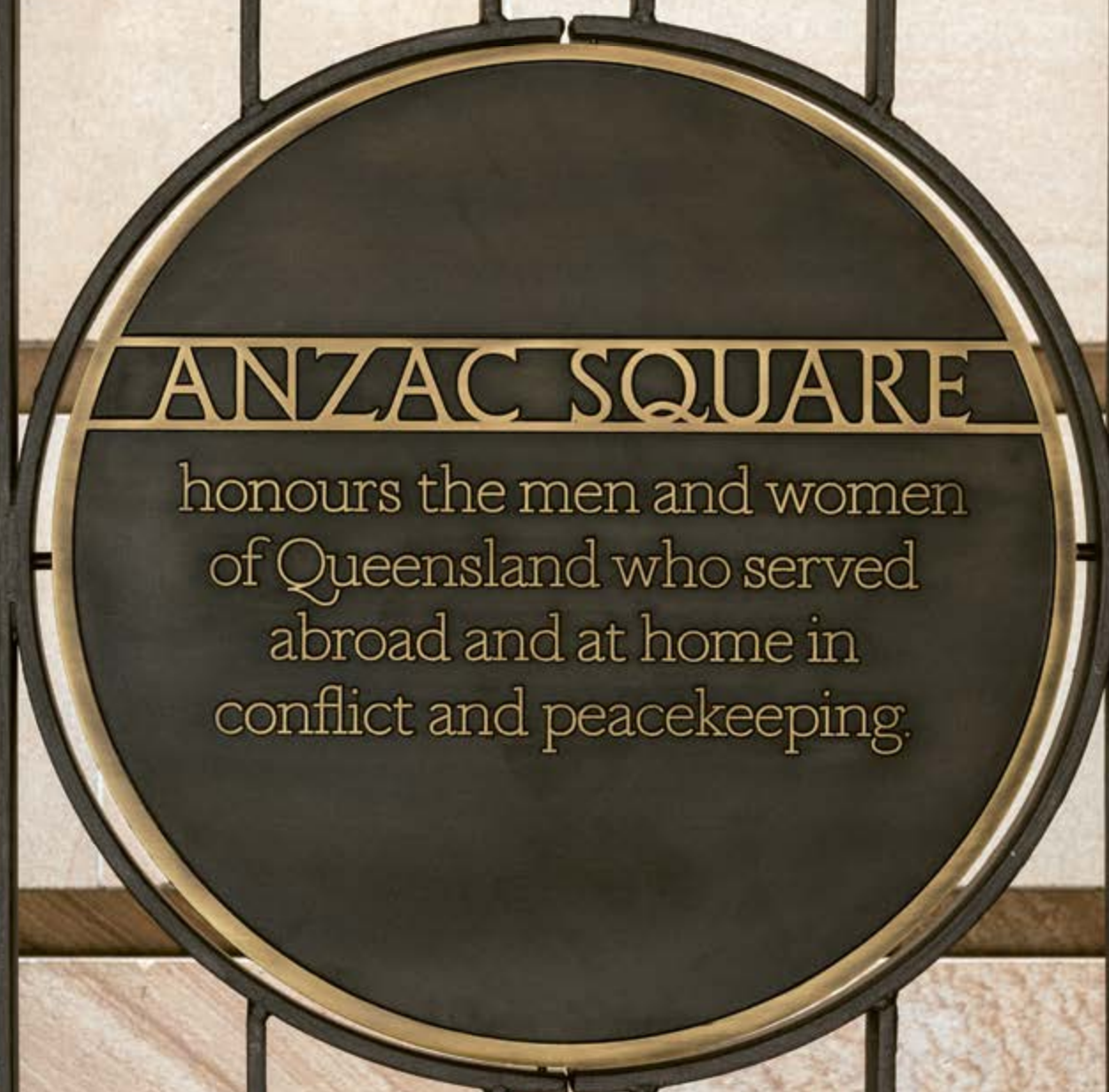


State Library of Queensland's Picnic For Peace.





Anzac Day Dawn Service  
in Anzac Square,  
Brisbane, April 2019.



The upgraded undercroft entrance way.

# Anzac Square restored and enhanced

On 11 November 1930—Armistice Day—the *Telegraph* reported on the historic dedication of Anzac Square.

*“Long before the hour for the sacred ceremony a great and reverent crowd had congregated in the Square and in Adelaide Street adjoining it.”*

It was a hot Queensland day and every point of observation was occupied. Yet at the appointed hour, the silence in honour of the fallen was absolute.

As the great crowd stood, the newspaper reported, “Railway trains, trams and motor cars were still”.

Many returned servicemen made the journey to Brisbane, according

to Major H. R. Carter of the Returned Sailors and Soldiers Imperial League of Australia, to bear witness to the unveiling of a state memorial dedicated to the memory of their fallen comrades.

Ever since, Anzac Square has been at the heart of the city and a revered place to remember all those who have served abroad and at home in conflict and peacekeeping operations.

In 2014, the state’s Anzac Centenary commemorations were seen as a timely opportunity to restore and enhance the beloved square, and engage new generations of Queenslanders in the state’s war memorial.

The Queensland Government, Anzac Centenary Public Fund and Brisbane City Council invested \$21.98 million in a five-year program of works to maintain, restore, protect and respectfully enhance Anzac Square.

This year, the final phase of the restoration and enhancement of this preeminent memorial to our servicemen and women is being completed, including works to the undercroft areas which will provide an opportunity for all visitors to Anzac Square to engage with Queensland’s military history and gain a richer understanding of the sacrifices the memorial represents.





Interactive elements within the enhanced World War II Gallery.

Featuring interactive elements designed to immerse visitors in the Queensland experience of war and remembrance, the Anzac Square undercroft has been enhanced to feature curated content within each space representing different periods of conflict: World War I Memorial Crypt, World War II Gallery and Post World War II Memorial and Exhibition Gallery.

“Anzac Square is more than a Brisbane memorial, it is a memorial for all Queenslanders,” said the Content Curator of the Anzac Square Project, Anna Thurgood from the State Library of Queensland.

To this end, a small team at the State Library of Queensland pored through their vast collection, unearthing personal stories of Queenslanders

from every corner of the state and documenting their lives from the home front to the battlefield.

“More than 10,000 newly digitised items have been incorporated into the galleries at Anzac Square, including artefacts, postcards, maps, letters and medals.

“Anzac Square has given us the opportunity to bring these items out of the vault and into the light of day,” said Ms Thurgood.

“This is such a great legacy because these items are also now available in the State Library’s online digital collection, meaning their stories can be told beyond Anzac Square, for generations to come.”

In the World War I Memorial Crypt, the careful restoration of the historic

plaques honouring Queensland battalions and corps are now complemented by digital technology illuminating the incredible deeds of Queenslanders both in battle and on the home front.

In the World War II Gallery, an interactive Second World War map plotting table provides depth and breadth to unique stories of Queensland’s service and sacrifice.

The new installations preserve the galleries’ quiet mood of peaceful contemplation.

The square’s three pathways leading from Adelaide Street to the Shrine of Remembrance steps are now inscribed with the names of the three arms of the Australian Defence Force: the Royal Australian Navy,



The Shrine of Remembrance.

the Australian Army and the Royal Australian Air Force.

Careful landscaping has restored green and shade to the square, and new seating has been installed to provide places to pause and reflect.

The statues have been repositioned so they sit in chronological order around the square, creating a journey through time, through different conflicts.

Anzac Square has always been a place for all Queenslanders to visit to pay their respects. For this reason, the final suite of works included improving accessibility to and through Anzac Square with enhanced pathways, staircases and a lift.

At the dedication of Anzac Square in 1930, His Excellency the Governor of Queensland, Sir John Goodwin, said:

*“We hope and pray that the example and lesson given to us by those who died may rest in our hearts and in the hearts of future generations of Queenslanders and that those who gave all in the War shall not have died in vain.”*

Restored and enhanced, Anzac Square will continue to serve future generations.





Anzac Legacy Gallery exhibits at the Queensland Museum.

Queensland Museum's Anzac Legacy Gallery opened on 10 November 2018 and is a new permanent exhibition that explores the First World War and its legacy in Queensland.

# Anzac Legacy Gallery: a new home for Queensland's wartime history

Featuring 500 significant objects and 200 stories, the exhibition explores two key themes—*Queensland at War* and *Queensland Remembers*—which are brought to life through a combination of significant objects, authentic replicas and the latest 3D technology. *Queensland at War* focuses on the battlefield and at home, and *Queensland Remembers* explores the long-term legacies of the First World War.

The Queensland Government, the Anzac Centenary Public Fund and the Queensland Museum funded the gallery with contributions totalling \$14.29 million.

Chief Executive Officer and Director of the Queensland Museum Network Dr Jim Thompson said there is an enduring appeal to the gallery which connects objects, stories and legacies from this time.

“Anzac Legacy Gallery gives visitors an insight into wartime experiences, stories of soldiers who fought on the battlefields and those at home during the First World War,” Dr Thompson said.

“The gallery provides an opportunity to imagine the people behind these objects and their life stories, and connect them to contemporary Queensland.”

This gallery, however, is not just one of wartime one hundred years ago. It's also about the Queensland we live in today, a Queensland where unexpected events are tied by filaments back to the First World War, where tea cosies, place names and even robots can be seen through the lens of time as having a link to the war.

Queensland Museum Senior Curator Dr Elizabeth Bissell said Anzac Legacy Gallery offers visitors a contemporary and engaging experience.

“Anzac Legacy Gallery makes a vivid connection between aspects of life in Queensland today and the events and activities of the First World War for Queenslanders,” Dr Bissell said.

“It also recognises the important contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples during the First World War, which was not always acknowledged at the time.”

“Ultimately, the gallery provides an opportunity for Queenslanders to learn more about the First World War, but also to reflect on how that conflict has shaped the Queensland we know today.”





*Mephisto* is one of the showcase exhibits.



A replica Janet Walker mourning suit on display at the gallery.

# Mephisto takes centre stage

The gallery showcases an experiential encounter with one of Australia’s favourite war relics, the A7V Sturmpanzerwagen armoured assault vehicle, *Mephisto*.

The world’s first tank battle occurred on 24 April 1918, near the French village of Villers-Bretonneux.

*Mephisto* took part in the battle but became disabled in a shell crater during the German advance. Abandoned by its crew, it was eventually salvaged by Australian troops of the 26th Battalion Australian Imperial Forces (composed mainly of Queenslanders) and shipped to Brisbane in 1919

as a war trophy. *Mephisto* is now the only surviving example of a German First World War tank.

*Mephisto* has become a Queensland icon, a long way from its beginnings on the battlefields of Europe. Located at the heart of the gallery, visitors can explore the tank’s history.

## Storytelling through innovation

The Anzac Legacy Gallery tells many personal stories of Queenslanders who went to war and did not return.

Helping to tell these stories, 10 cutting-edge multimedia experiences are located throughout

the gallery. These include large interactive screens around *Mephisto*, a video wall, a digital poppy memorial, an Anzac Day documentary and virtual reality experiences.

## In loss and honour

Featured in the gallery is the story of Patrick ‘Paddy’ Bugden’s Victoria Cross, which he was posthumously awarded after being killed in action in September 1917 near Polygon Wood in Belgium.

Devastated by the loss of her son, Paddy’s mother Annie Kelly carried his Victoria Cross around in her handbag for the next 30 years. Tragically, she was killed in a car accident in 1949, and consequently, the medal went missing.

When the family realised Paddy’s Victoria Cross had not been returned to them in the personal items from the crash site, they searched the roadside where the accident took place. Remarkably, they found the precious medal at the site and, in 1980, generously donated it to the Queensland Museum.

## Reflected in fashion

With entire communities grieving for loved ones, mourning changed forever during the First World War. The elaborately decorated dresses of Victorian mourning were replaced with more restrained designs.

The gallery features a replica of a mourning suit made during

the First World War by Janet Walker, a popular fashion designer and dressmaker who worked in Brisbane between 1886 and 1938.

The mourning suit was made for Christina Massey. It has the clean, spare lines and relatively simple trimming that became popular during the war period.

## Sacred vestments

Canon Garland served as a chaplain with the Light Horse in Palestine. He entered Jerusalem with the Light Horse in December 1917 and was invited by the Greek Orthodox Patriarch to celebrate the Christmas Eucharist in Jerusalem’s Church of the Holy Sepulchre. The Patriarch presented him with vestments, otherwise known

as ceremonial robes, that are now one of the key items on display at the Anzac Legacy Gallery.

Lieutenant-Colonel David John Garland, as secretary of the Queensland Anzac Day Commemoration Committee, drafted the first Anzac Day order of service in 1916.

As an Army Chaplain and Anglican minister, he recognised that the grief of war spread across society, so he designed an inclusive service transcending religious and political differences.

Anzac Day for Canon Garland was sacred—a time when the dead are remembered, and all are united in grief. Today, the march, wreath-laying and minute of silence of that first Anzac Day remain almost unchanged.





## Q ANZAC 100: building a legacy of shared knowledge

Over the past five years, the State Library of Queensland has uncovered countless new stories about the Queensland experience of the First World War through *Q ANZAC 100: Memories for a New Generation*.

Funded through a \$7.7 million investment from the Queensland Government and the Anzac Centenary Public Fund, *Q ANZAC 100* has a central focus on creating a renewed legacy for future generations.

A key element of achieving this ambition has been a series of free Heritage Leaders Workshops bringing together experts, volunteers and members of the public.

At each workshop, a diverse group of experts explored new ways of looking at Queensland's involvement in the war, uncovering different perspectives on personal stories and sharing that knowledge with the wider community.

The first workshop in 2014 brought together representatives from public libraries, community museums,

historical organisations, galleries, RSL Sub Branches and educational institutions to share insights as they planned their centenary commemorations.

Participants worked on connecting their stories across Queensland and finding ways to create memorable experiences for their communities, including working with schools to ensure the next generation understands their Anzac inheritance.

The second workshop, in 2016, titled *Creating a Legacy* put the spotlight on community-based projects in regional Queensland. Volunteers and experts from as far afield as Douglas Shire, Townsville, Charters Towers, Rockhampton and North Stradbroke Island shared their experiences of researching the stories of soldiers

from their region and life on the home front.

Practical sessions focused on topics such as curating First World War material, encouraging and supporting volunteer efforts and using social media to connect communities with their wartime heritage.

The State Library of Queensland hosted its final *Q ANZAC 100* Heritage Leaders Workshop in May 2019 on the theme *Pause, Reflect and Learn*. The program drew together international leaders with historical, cultural and heritage experts from around Queensland to explore the different experiences of commemorating the war and lessons for the future.

Speakers included Jenny Waldman, Director of 14-18 NOW, the United Kingdom's arts program connecting people with the First World War, John Voss, Strategic Partnerships Director for HistoryPin and Adrian Kingston from the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa.

Mary Kajewski, Research Hub Coordinator for *Q ANZAC 100*, said that the final session was designed to focus on the future.

"The centenary of the First World War was a tremendous period of reflection for people around the world. This was an opportunity to compare experiences and talk about what's been learned, to gauge the impact of what we've done and to preserve these memories for the future."

A bursary package to assist with travel and accommodation expenses helped ensure that interested Queenslanders from rural and regional areas were able to participate in the workshops.

State Librarian and Chief Executive Officer Vicki McDonald said the workshops provided an important opportunity for colleagues in the sector to learn from one another.

"The Heritage Leaders Workshops have been immensely valuable as a way of sharing of knowledge

Top: Inspecting a First World War embroidered silk postcard.

Left: Examining a First World War Light Horse photograph.

and furthering our understanding of Queensland's experiences during the First World War. In bringing together colleagues from around the state, these events ensured that participants had an opportunity to develop new skills to share with their local communities, and the resources of the State Library and other cultural institutions in Queensland continued to be widely accessible. It is important that stories from this tumultuous period in our history can be told well into the future."

Videos of the workshop presentations are available online at the State Library of Queensland's *Q ANZAC 100* website: [www.qanzac100.slq.qld.gov.au](http://www.qanzac100.slq.qld.gov.au)





Dr Anastasia Dukova.

# Strikingly selfless: Queensland Police on the frontlines

Supported by a *Q ANZAC 100: Memories for a New Generation* Fellowship, Dr Anastasia Dukova, historian and Adjunct Research Fellow at Griffith University, has uncovered the untold stories of the Queensland policemen sworn to protect their communities and their nation.

“These men did not enlist because they were tempted by the idea of war as a great adventure,” Dr Dukova said.

“They had seen tough situations on the job and they realised war would be infinitely tougher.

“They committed themselves to public service and the safety of the community at home and on the battlefield. These men were strikingly selfless.”

In researching her project, *Queensland Police and the Great War Effort*, Dr Dukova focused on the personal, war and service histories of the policemen who also served on the battlefield.

“The number of policemen killed in the First World War is overwhelming. But behind each number is a real person with a full life which was extinguished. They paid the price, and I wanted to tell their stories as fully as possible.”

Queenslanders may be surprised to learn of the number of Irish policemen who emigrated to Australia and joined our local

police force before enlisting as Australian soldiers.

One whose story Dr Dukova has brought to light is that of Patrick Devine of the Royal Irish Constabulary, who emigrated to Australia in 1913. Candidates with previous policing experience were highly sought after, and he was sworn into the Queensland Police Force the following year.

Devine worked as a policeman in the Traffic Office at Roma Street Station before enlisting and serving in the 9th Infantry Battalion in France. He was wounded at Pozières and treated for shell shock in London before being returned to the frontline.

Lieutenant Devine’s Battalion fought in some of the bloodiest battles on the Western Front. He is believed to have been killed in action at Passchendaele, Belgium, on 3 November 1917. Sadly, like so many others, he has no known grave.

Dr Dukova has found the official letter sent to Lieutenant Devine’s wife, Eva informing her of his death.

“She would have known what was in that letter as soon as it arrived,” Dr Dukova said.

A quarter of the Queensland policemen who served in the war were killed in action at Gallipoli or on the Western Front. Some resigned from the police force to join the war effort, however, 105 policemen were granted leave. The men who survived resumed their police duties upon returning home. In some cases, returning soldiers had long careers after the war with the Queensland Police Force and their children carried on their policing legacy.

Dr Dukova’s research has also uncovered Queensland families where the commitment to policing and the military spans across generations. One family tree has an ancestor serving in the Queensland Police Force and as a soldier in the First World War; a generation later, a descendent also served as a policeman and fought in the Second World War.

Dr Dukova is working on a book based on her research.



# From Gallipoli to the Armistice, a Fraser Coast legacy

When the First World War broke out, the population of the Fraser Coast region was much smaller than it is today. Yet the region made an extraordinary contribution to the war effort. The stories of the local men who enlisted and the impact of the war on the Fraser Coast and beyond have been recognised through the development of the Gallipoli to Armistice Trail, a unique memorial walk in Queens Park in Maryborough.

The Gallipoli to Armistice Trail is an engrossing collection of sculptures and educational resources set along a picturesque walking trail. It highlights local connections to the First World War, and forms part of the Fraser Coast Military Trail—a larger trail connecting 20 points of interest in the region.

Made possible through \$1 million in funding support from the Queensland Government, in partnership with the Australian Government and the Fraser Coast Regional Council, the interactive Gallipoli to Armistice Trail traces the course and impact of the

First World War using beautiful sculptures, static and interactive panels and emotive soundscapes.

A focal point is the story of Maryborough man Lieutenant Duncan Chapman, the first allied soldier to step ashore at Anzac Cove on 25 April 1915.

At the start of the trail stands a life-size bronze statue of Lieutenant Chapman, paid for by a community fundraising campaign—a signal of the Maryborough community's respect for his service and for the service of all those who volunteered to join the Australian Imperial Force.

A selection of panels focus on the story of the Gallipoli campaign from the perspective of Queenslanders from Wide Bay, with QR codes so that visitors can download an audio version of the story. Nearby is a scale model, crafted out of ironbark, of the bow of the rowboat which carried Lieutenant Chapman and 26 other men to the northern end of Anzac Cove.

Unlike more than 8700 of his fellow Australian soldiers, Lieutenant Chapman survived the eight-month Gallipoli campaign.

Promoted to the rank of Major, he was killed in action on 6 August 1916 at Pozières in France. According to Australian war correspondent Charles Bean, the soil of Pozières “... is more densely sown with Australian sacrifice than any other place on Earth”.

Australian casualties at Pozières finally totalled a staggering 23,000 men, of whom 6800 were killed.

It is this critical battle which is the second focal point of the Gallipoli to Armistice Trail. Inscribed pavers lead visitors along a walk dedicated to the war on the Western Front ending at an arbour dedicated to the Battle of Pozières. Haunting soundtracks of marching feet and soldiers' voices accompany visitors as they move from statue to statue.

As well as commemorating the service and sacrifice of the soldiers, the trail showcases the wartime experience of journalists, nurses and families. It includes a reproduction of Charles Bean's hardy Corona typewriter and a poignant statue entitled 'Mary Pozières', representing the mothers, sisters and wives waiting anxiously for news from the front. Near the end of the trail is the sculptural representation of the 'Soldier of Pozières', a symbol

of those survivors who witnessed the horror of the war.

The Gallipoli to Armistice Trail was formally unveiled on 21 July 2018 by Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk and the Prime Minister of Australia as well as representatives of the governments of New Zealand, Britain and Turkey. The ceremony was attended by councillors, embassy representatives, senior military officials and hundreds of Maryborough locals.

“Every single Australian that is able to should at some stage now make their way to Maryborough to get a sense of who we are, from where we came, who gave us what we have and made us who we are”, Director of the Australian War Memorial Dr Brendan Nelson said.

The Gallipoli to Armistice Trail is free to visit and has become a treasured element of Queens Park—for military history enthusiasts and the general public alike.



At the start of the trail stands a life-sized bronze statue of Lieutenant Duncan Chapman, behind him sits a scale model of the bow of the rowboat which carried Lieutenant Chapman and 26 other men to the northern end of Anzac Cove. Steel panels representing the cliffs of Gallipoli soar above the trail.



The statue of 'Mary Pozières'.



# Projects of pride and remembrance

The First World War had an enduring impact on Queensland. Almost everyone knew someone who enlisted and most knew families devastated by the death of a loved one in battle, their grief and sorrow a lifelong burden.

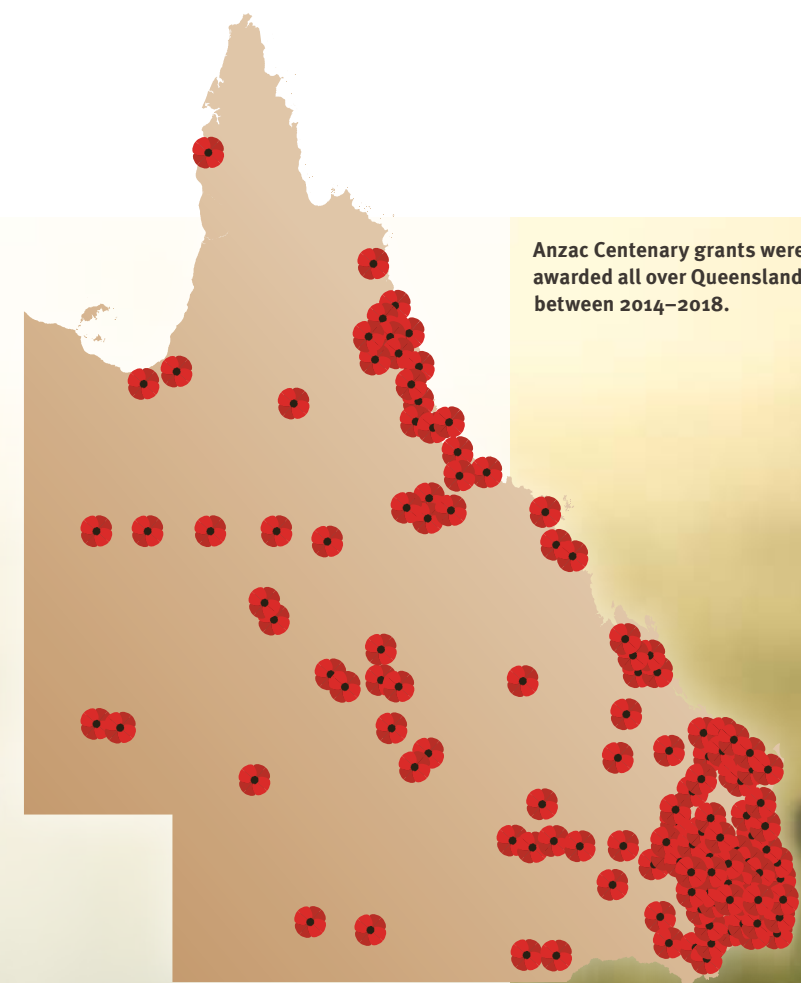
The Queensland Anzac Centenary grants program has helped communities uncover the stories of how the war changed their part of Queensland and acknowledge the courage and sacrifice of those who served. More than \$6.85 million in funding has been awarded since 2013, supporting over 330 community projects.

Community groups, local councils, historical societies, RSL Sub Branches, schools and other organisations have used the grants to explore different perspectives on Queensland's wartime history and to tell the stories of the local men who enlisted and fought so far from home.

Some projects brought to light little-known stories of bravery and valour; others have restored their local cenotaph. All have at their heart a sense of gratitude to those who served.

Each project has approached the momentous story of our state's wartime experience in a different way. They have included historical research and education, acquiring and preserving wartime memorabilia and artefacts, restoring or enhancing memorials or honour boards, erecting statues and plaques, creating memorial trails and using the creative arts to engage the broader community in remembrance and commemoration.

Many have incorporated digitisation of photographs, artefacts and narratives, ensuring that our precious Anzac heritage is available to future generations.



Anzac Centenary grants were awarded all over Queensland, between 2014–2018.

Over the past 12 months, many projects have focused on the centenary of the Armistice, and reflected on the mixed emotions of relief, jubilation and sorrow that resonated throughout Queensland in November 1918. Many groups used the funding made available in 2018 to improve and expand their Remembrance Day activities and to involve more members of the community in public events marking this historical milestone.

This funding helped ensure that the incredible number of Queenslanders who turned out on 11 November 2018 were able to pay their respects at moving and meaningful Remembrance Day events throughout Queensland.

The following pages profile a small number of the remarkable projects completed throughout the state during 2018 under the Queensland Anzac Centenary grants program.

To learn more about the program and the recipients visit <https://anzac100.initiatives.qld.gov.au>





Heroes Avenue, Roma.

# A living memorial to Roma’s heroes

On Anzac Day in 2018, the community in Roma proudly unveiled 88 newly restored and updated memorial plaques on Heroes Avenue, its iconic living tribute to those who served.

A century ago, eight weeks before the end of the First World War, Roma and Bungil Shire residents planted and dedicated 27 bottle trees to create a living memory of each of the district’s fallen soldiers. It was the start of what is now known as Roma’s Heroes Avenue.

There are now 140 stately bottle trees along Heroes Avenue, as the community has periodically identified more First World War soldiers from the district and planted trees in their honour.

Installed at the base of each tree is a remembrance cairn (symbolic stone pile) and plaque which lists the name and some details of the soldier that the tree commemorates.

The community came together for a moving service on Anzac Day, 25 April 2018, to unveil three new plaques that pay tribute to soldiers identified in 2017.

Those gathered also unveiled 85 other newly restored and updated memorial plaques which had become weathered and damaged with the passing of time.

Roma RSL Sub Branch President George Mehay said the trees are a great form of commemoration for the community and are a tribute to those who did not live to see the end of the war.

“The trees have grown in our town for 100 years and the significance is not lost on our community. Each bottle tree lining Station, Wyndham,



Memorial plaques at Heroes Avenue.



Each bottle tree features a plaque to honour one of the district’s fallen soldiers.

Bowen, Bungil, Arthur, Hawthorn and Quintin Streets was planted to honour a soldier from the Maranoa Region who fought and died at war,” Mr Mehay said.

As well as providing the community with a living tribute of their local diggers who made the ultimate sacrifice, this site has become a significant historical feature for the district and is a well-known icon of the state. In fact, in October 1992, Roma’s Heroes Avenue was listed on the Queensland Heritage Register—recognising its status as the first memorial avenue established in Queensland.

Mr Mehay said the community established an Adopt a Tree Program in recognition of the avenue’s importance to the region.

“Since 1994, local businesses, community groups and residents have taken part in the Adopt a Tree Program to honour the soldiers and ensure Roma’s war history is never forgotten,” Mr Mehay said.

Those who adopt a tree take responsibility for laying a wreath at its base each Anzac Day. With this program—and Heroes Avenue more broadly—the community admirably ensures every soldier from the Maranoa Region is honoured on important days of commemoration and throughout the year.





Librarian Andrea Morrison carefully shelves Cleveland Library's copy of the limited edition publication.

# Remembering Redlands' diggers

A new commemorative publication takes a step back in time to tell the real stories of the Redlands' servicemen and women and provides valuable insight into the community as it was 100 years ago.

More than 90 Redlands' men and women answered the call of their nation and enlisted to serve in the First World War.

A new book, *Remembering them: Honouring the First World War servicemen and women of the Redlands*, tells the story of these men and women, and many others who had a connection to the region.

The book explores the lives of all fallen soldiers listed on the local cenotaphs and documents their bravery, awards, mateship and valour on the battlefield. The names of other servicemen featured in the publication were sourced from recently released repatriation records.

Some of the fascinating accounts are of the region's Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples who—despite the significant hurdle of being denied the right to enlist—found ways to join the fight.

The book also portrays what life was like on the home front. Through personal accounts and newspaper clippings, it details the devastating impact the First World War had on the Redlands community and local families.

This commemorative book was produced by Redland City Council with contributions from several community members and organisations. Many photographs, letters, family records, diaries and personal accounts are detailed within its pages.

Redland City Mayor Karen Williams said the goal of the publication was to bring together photographs and biographical information to ensure local servicemen and women of the Redlands are remembered as real people and not merely anonymous names on lists. This is a particularly meaningful endeavour, considering many of these individuals gave their lives in service of our country.

"The launch of the book was a culmination of years of work and research and it is wonderful to be able to share this with our community—it is important to us that the people of the Redlands have access to this important history," Councillor Williams said.

"Despite our best efforts, there are a few names listed on our cenotaphs for whom we cannot find a clear link to the Redlands, although we have been able to discover a lot of Redlands' servicemen and women's stories.

"The Anzac Centenary is one of the most significant commemorations in our nation's history, as we reflect on the service and sacrifice of thousands of Australians.

"This book is a wonderful partnership project, made possible through Queensland Government funding and collaboration between libraries across the Redlands and many community members.

"This book documents the stories of our local community members and their experiences of the war and will ensure that the contributions of these brave Redlands citizens are honoured, valued and remembered for generations to come.

"I hope many in our community will have the opportunity to read through the pages of this book, and hold these brave individuals close to their hearts."

Deputy Mayor Lance Hewlett, who officially launched the book, said it brings local history to life and provides the opportunity to look into the faces of local servicemen and women, whilst remembering that they were real people with real hopes and dreams.

"Through photographs, letters, postcards and archival documents, it also allows us to reflect on the devastating impact of the war on the lives of the families at home," Councillor Hewlett said.

"It also tells some less well-known stories of the time, such as the sacrifices of our Aboriginal Redlanders, many of whom had to lie about their heritage in order to fight for this country."

*Remembering them: Honouring the First World War servicemen and women of the Redlands* is a limited-edition book with copies available for borrowing through Redlands libraries. An e-book copy of the book is also available via the Redland City Council libraries website [redland.qld.gov.au/library](http://redland.qld.gov.au/library) and through the State Library of Queensland.





## Changing places: the structures transformed by war

During the war, stately homes like Shafston House were converted into Anzac Hostels, Army camps at Enoggera and Chermide were established or expanded and Anzac Cottages were built to house returning veterans and their families.

Supported by a Queensland Anzac Centenary grant, QUT documented this story of transformation in the exhibition *The Invincible Spirit of Queenslanders – portrayed through their built environment*.

Shafston House, the graceful heritage home at Kangaroo Point, is now a popular wedding venue. It is the latest chapter in the home's fascinating history—which goes back to colonial times and includes service as an Anzac Hostel for the treatment of veterans during the First World War.

The story of Shafston House is just one of many stories of wartime transformation. Many types of infrastructure around Queensland were constructed or repurposed to meet the needs of recruitment, fighting the war and repatriation.

Using world class visualisation and simulation technology at QUT's venue The Cube, the interactive exhibition united the personal stories of Queenslanders who served with the history of key local landmarks, showing visitors a remarkable diversity of construction and adaptation.

Lesser-known aspects of these stories were also brought to light in the exhibition, including Chermide's role as a Light Horse remount centre during the First World War (which was re-activated during the Second World War) and the fundraising campaign that was undertaken to build a series of Anzac Cottages.

The exhibition also depicted the war efforts on the frontline and the conditions under which

Queenslanders lived, built and fought. It showcased the ingenuity and initiative of Australia's engineers and their ability to build and maintain structures and machinery in the harsh environments of war.

Dr Miljenka Perovic, who curated the exhibition with colleagues Dr Vaughan Coffey, civil engineer and military historian Rolfe Hartley and multimedia artist Georgie Pinn, said the team wanted to tell the stories of those who served in the First World War in a unique and impactful way.

"Images from the Australian War Memorial were brought to life through animation and the latest technologies. Using 190 square metres of high definition screens, including 48 multi-touch screens, visitors were able to interact with

historical images and follow the journeys of Queenslanders who served in the First World War, from enlistment to repatriation, as the exhibition allows visitors to step into the shoes of those men and women," Dr Perovic said.

"This exhibit provided an unforgettable experience of the First World War from the built environment perspective to all who visited The Cube in the lead up to and on the days of Anzac Day and Remembrance Day 2018.

"The exhibit will be kept by QUT and will be made available for viewing at commemorative anniversaries into the future," she said.

Another Queensland building with a changing history of use over time is Old Government House on the QUT campus at Gardens

Point. Visitors were given the opportunity to reflect on the wartime experience of students in the past with a display curated by Dr Katie McConnel that commemorated the young Queenslanders who lived and studied in the house during the war.

Top left: Queensland's stories were brought to life with the assistance of civil engineer and military historian, Rolfe Hartley, while the sound and animated visual content for the exhibition was created and directed by Georgie Pinn with assistance from QUT PhD student Khedher Almathami.

Top right: QUT honoured Queenslanders who served in the First World War with a digital exhibition at The Cube and curated display at Old Government House on Gardens Point campus, Brisbane, to commemorate the Anzac Centenary.





Far left: Beth Clark representing the Queensland Mounted Infantry Historical Troop inspects the controls of steam locomotive PB15-448.

Left: Representatives of the Queensland Mounted Infantry Historical Troop with PB15-448, one of the last remaining operational steam locomotives from the First World War era.

# Troop Train rides the rails of remembrance

At the end of the First World War, in Compiègne France 1918, allied nations and Germany entered a now historically significant rail carriage to sign the Armistice agreement.

The Armistice called for Germany's surrender and a cease fire at 11 am on the 11th day of the 11th month 1918, ultimately resulting in the end to the First World War.

Within Queensland, steam railways and locomotives were crucial in hauling recruiting and troop movement trains as part of the war efforts. Over a century on, Queensland still holds a significant piece of rail and military history which is owned and maintained

by Queensland Pioneer Steam Railway Cooperative Limited (QPSR).

Located in Ipswich—long regarded as the home of steam rail in Queensland—QPSR is fortunate enough to have a PB15-448 steam locomotive which was built in 1908 in Maryborough. The PB15-448 is one of the few remaining steam locomotives from the First World War era and is the last remaining operational steam locomotive used to haul Queensland troop trains.

From funding provided through a Queensland Anzac Centenary grant, QPSR commemorated the final year of the centenary and the role rail played during the First World War with the *100th Anniversary Remembrance Day Troop Train* project.

The project included a community event held at Swanbank Station over the Remembrance Day weekend, Saturday 10 November and Sunday 11 November 2018. Visitors were able to board the heritage troop train at Racecourse Station to be transported to and from the event at Swanbank Station precincts.

Riding along with passengers were period re-enactors who created an engaging historical experience for those onboard, providing First World War facts and insights.

Upon arrival at Swanbank Railway Station visitors were taken back to a wartime scene with a display of heritage vehicles and military equipment, and First World War era entertainment provided by the

Royal Australian Air Force Amberley Brass Band, period dancers and singers from Ipswich Musical Theatre Company.

Visitors were also able to view the unloading of the Light Horse from the train's cattle wagon, which had been restored for the event as part of QPSR's Anzac Centenary project and was pulled by the PB15-448 locomotive.

QPSR member Chris Tankey says the event was developed as an immersive experience for visitors that allowed them to reflect on the role that rail played in supporting our Anzacs.

“By having the heritage vehicles on display, the band playing, the dancers performing and the Light Horse, it brought the community event to life and really allowed visitors to step back in time.”

“The main focus of the event was to commemorate, remember and honour all our servicemen

and women who served during the First World War.”

“Steam railways and locomotives were developed and widely used during the war era to transport everything from troops and horses to ammunition and vehicles. Even entire hospitals were moved by rail, right to the frontline,” Mr Tankey said.

“While steam railways and locomotives played a significant role in war efforts, the war in turn also had a significant impact on the development of railways, railway stations and steam trains around the world,” he said.

QPSR also conducted a touching memorial service on the Remembrance Day weekend, honouring and paying respect to all who served in conflicts.

Approximately 700 passengers were transported by the heritage train during the event.





Left: North Gold Coast RSL Sub Branch President Ken Golden OAM and artist June Hintz hold two of the historical portraits used in the creation of the mural.

# Coast creates a colourful tribute to the fallen

The Gold Coast is home to many murals and street artworks that reflect the culture and history of the region. *Centenary of Remembrance Day* is a remarkable new addition which portrays a solemn piece of the Gold Coast's history and highlights some of the region's lesser known soldiers.

The vibrant and colourful commemorative mural has been painted in the Helensvale area to honour 30 soldiers from the Gold Coast who served in the First World War and died in action.

The artwork covers two panels on the Gold Coast Highway/Brisbane Road bridge walls between Discovery Drive and Country Club Drive in Helensvale.

The project was led by the North Gold Coast RSL Sub Branch and, in addition to local sponsors, was supported by a Queensland Anzac Centenary grant.

The Gold Coast community rallied behind the project, showing strong interest in its development. Several descendants of the soldiers honoured in the mural still live in

the area and contributed photos and stories to help bring the project to life.

One of these descendants is Stephen Haase of the Ormeau-Pimpama Anzac Committee who is related to five of the soldiers featured in the mural. These five soldiers were his great-great uncles, three of whom were brothers.

Two of the brothers enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force and one served as a private with the First Australian General Hospital. Robert, William and George Stewart all served on the Western Front in France and Belgium and were killed in action.

Mr Haase said the death of the three Stewart brothers was a particularly sad story.

"When the Stewart brothers died it had a huge impact on our family, as it did for every family whose loved ones did not come home," Mr Haase said.

"Sadly the loss of the three Stewart brothers was not a unique story during the First World War."

Mr Hasse and other descendants were pleased to see their family members honoured in the mural, which serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made by those in the Helensvale area.

In addition to the exhaustive research and work undertaken during the development of the project, painting of the mural in itself has also been

a big undertaking. Artist June Hintz and a team of volunteers worked together to paint the artwork which stretches an impressive 40 metres across the bridge walls.

The mural is highly visible to motorists and pedestrians and has become a prominent and striking feature in the Helensvale area.

Gold Coast truck driver Bruce Jackson drives past the mural each morning and said the mural is a daily reminder of the sacrifices made by our servicemen and women.

"The mural is a great representation of those who have gone before us and of the sacrifices they made so we can lead lives that are free and peaceful," Mr Jackson said.

North Gold Coast RSL Sub Branch President Ken Golden OAM said the mural was an important project for the Gold Coast.

"The project showcases our local military history and is a touching tribute to these 30 soldiers who fought and died during the First World War," Mr Golden said.

"The mural not only honours the legacy of local servicemen but stands as an important reminder of Queensland's contributions to the First World War and the state's enduring Anzac spirit."



# A virtual experience of life at war

New technologies are not only shaping our future but are changing the way we are able to interact with our past.

Virtual reality technologies have been used to help people in the North Burnett region to immerse themselves in their local Anzac history.

The virtual reality project *Bringing Remembrance into Reality* was developed by North Burnett Regional Council (NBRC) in partnership with local RSL Sub Branches, schools, historical societies, and youth groups, and with thanks to a Queensland Anzac Centenary grant.

The North Burnett community's collaborative approach and interest in this project allowed NBRC to conduct extensive research of local letters, interviews, diary entries and government records to inform the development of three unique virtual reality experiences.

Through a simulated environment, First World War history and stories

of the North Burnett region and its people have been brought to life.

The project aims to raise community awareness of the personal accounts of local soldiers and their families during the First World War and focuses on the themes of *Camp Life*, *Family Life Back Home*, and *Coming Home*.

### Camp Life

Over 500 men and women from the North Burnett region volunteered for service during the First World War, of whom 130 did not come home.

The virtual reality experience *Camp Life* focuses on the experiences of these soldiers and nurses during the war and at the time of enlistment. Through the immersive experience, viewers walk into a virtual war camp scene where they can interact and engage with a soldier and listen to their account of camp life and enlistment. The viewer also has the opportunity to examine artefacts such as diary entries and letters sent home.

### Family Life Back Home

During the war, the absence of our young servicemen and women was severely felt by the families and communities they left behind. As more and more families and communities grieved the loss of loved ones, women increasingly assumed the physical and financial burden of caring for families and took on new, non-traditional roles. During the war, any news received from the frontline was shared by the whole community and every loss was felt by all.

Through interviews with local historians and families of soldiers, the virtual reality experience *Family Life Back Home* tells the story of the sacrifice made by people at home who fulfilled the duties and responsibilities of those who went away to war.

### Coming Home

When the war ended, thousands of ex-servicemen and women, many disabled with physical or emotional wounds, had to be reintegrated into

society and were keen to resume normal life.

A soldier settlement scheme was introduced in each Australian state to help rehabilitate and resettle those who had fought overseas. Through the scheme, soldiers were given small parcels of land potentially suited to farming.

For many of these first-time farmers, this new life was challenging. This was particularly so for those who had lost limbs or suffered other major injuries during the war that made farming near impossible. To some, however, it was an opportunity to carve out their destiny and provide for their families.

The virtual reality experience *Coming Home* incorporates diary entries, local government records and stories told by returned servicemen and women to convey what it was like for those returning home from war.

North Burnett Mayor Rachel Chambers says the use of new virtual reality technologies enables a highly immersive learning experience and provides an impactful way to share local Anzac stories.

"This project will not only commemorate our local servicemen and women and honour their legacy for years to come but will foster relationships and a deeper understanding between generations

in our community," Councillor Chambers said.

Cr Chambers said those involved in the project are very pleased to be able to present these local stories to the community from which they originally came.

"We take great pride in our local history and we are very honoured to be delivering what we expect will be a highly significant project," Cr Chambers said.

Lucas Bell experiences a virtual war camp through the *Bringing Remembrance to Reality* project.





# Muckadilla's memories immortalised in stone

West of Roma—about 30 minutes down the Warrego Highway—you will find the town of Muckadilla. While they may be a small community, with a population of nearly 15 in the town centre and roughly 150 living within a 50 km radius, their pride in their Anzac history is immense.

Those passing through Muckadilla on 11 November 2018 would have been hard pressed to miss the crowds of people gathered from across the Maranoa region to attend Muckadilla's Armistice 100th Anniversary Remembrance Day ceremony.

An estimated 300 people were in attendance and witnessed the unveiling of a new addition to the town's war memorial site—a marble dedication wall, funded by a Queensland Anzac Centenary grant, which honours and commemorates the town's proud military history.

Engraved on one side of the wall are the names and military titles of 120 servicemen and women from the Muckadilla region, including those involved in various conflicts,

those who served during peacetime, and those who are currently serving within the Australian Defence Force.

On the other side is a dedication to all servicemen and women involved in the First World War and a special tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Henry William (Harry) Murray VC, CMG, DSO & Bar, DCM, C de G, MID; the most distinguished Australian soldier in the First World War.

The Muckadilla Harry Murray VC dedication wall was added to the memorial site in mid-October 2018 ahead of Remembrance Day commemorations. During the event, a number of descendants and currently serving personnel from the region were in attendance including Lieutenant Colonel Murray's daughter Clem Sutherland, his granddaughter

Sally Kenman and his cousin Isobel McIntyre.

The local community widely appreciated the Muckadilla Remembrance Day commemorative service, which was nominated and won the Community Event of the Year in the 2019 Roma Australia Day Awards.

Equally as interesting as the unveiling of the dedication wall is the research that was undertaken to create it. In 2013, Muckadilla Community Association (MCA), historian David Bowden assisted by Secretary Donna Sutton and two members of the Roma Family and District History Society, commenced research into the town's military history and discovered a magnitude of information relating to the entire region.

Through their research, the MCA discovered that there were 125 servicemen and women connected to the region either through birth or through work association. These 125 servicemen and women collectively have contributed to all Australian war efforts from the Boer War to Afghanistan.

MCA's research—later published as the book *Remember Muckadilla Service Men and Women*—also uncovered that, for five years between the First World War and the Second World War, the Muckadilla sheep property *Blairmack* was home to Harry Murray.

The dedication wall stands proudly as part of the Muckadilla War Memorial site in the heart of the town and ensures that the gallant efforts of the region's servicemen and women are never forgotten.



Historian David Brown, with the book *Remember Muckadilla Service Men and Women*, by the dedication wall.

Lieutenant Colonel Henry William (Harry) Murray.





# A place of remembrance for Dajarra

A new memorial site has been built in Dajarra, giving the community a place to gather and commemorate service dates of significance for the first time in history.

On 17 April 2018, a new memorial site was unveiled in the Dajarra township, providing a place for locals and surrounding communities to pay tribute to servicemen and women who served in all wars and conflicts.

Previously, people in Dajarra and surrounding communities had no significant place to gather to commemorate key historical service dates such as Anzac Day or Remembrance Day, with the closest memorial being over 160 kilometres away in Cloncurry.

The Dajarra Anzac Memorial was built to assist the community in preserving the local Anzac legacy for years to come.

On Anzac Day, 25 April 2018, the Dajarra community held their first ever Anzac Day commemoration ceremony at the new memorial.

The permanent memorial site, located at the Dajarra Caravan Park on Letham Street, includes a plaque acknowledging the significant contribution of all servicemen and women, and a special tribute to local Indigenous First World War veteran, Driver Peter Craigie.

In 1915, Peter Craigie rode his horse from Birdsville to Adelaide where he answered the call of the nation and enlisted to serve in the First World War. Driver Craigie served on the Western Front from 1916 until 1918 when he was injured in battle. He returned home to Birdsville in 1919, where he and his wife had 10 children.

Descendants of Driver Craigie were in attendance at the unveiling and were joined by students from Dajarra State School, Mount Isa Police and representatives from Cloncurry Shire Council.

Left: Dajarra Anzac memorial site.

Top and bottom: Plaques commemorating local First World War veteran Peter Craigie.



Dajarra State School Principal Miebaka Dede and Mount Isa Police Sergeant Andrew Lloyd-Jones organised the event with assistance from local school students.

Cloncurry Mayor Greg Campbell welcomed the new memorial and said that having a local place of remembrance is something the Dajarra and wider community will greatly value.

“Our Dajarra Anzac Memorial will be an important physical reminder connecting residents and visitors to our rich Anzac history. We are extremely proud of the contribution of all those men and women who have served or are currently serving. It is also very important to celebrate how rural and outback Australia is interwoven with the legend of the Anzacs,” Councillor Campbell said.

“Telling the stories of individuals gives relevance to historic events that happened on the other side of the world. The hundred-year-old story of Peter Craigie will no doubt add to the pride the Dajarra community already has and provides a point of difference which will encourage visitors to the shire.”

Cr Campbell says the project had the full support of the Dajarra State School, recognising that this organisation will ensure the local Anzac legacy is passed onto Dajarra’s next generation.

“The memorial helps bring our history to life and will be an excellent educational tool. Dajarra students can celebrate the contribution of one of their own and appreciate the sacrifices that all Anzacs made.”





Clay poppies.

# Clay poppies: an artistic tribute for Charters Towers' communities

Poppies are a symbol of war remembrance recognised the world over. During the First World War, red poppies grew on the devastated battlefields of northern France and Belgium.

Today, poppies are worn as a mark of respect for our servicemen and women and their presence at commemorative events is a time-honoured tradition.

In an artistic adaptation of the symbolic poppy, residents in the Charters Towers region created 100 handmade clay poppies during community workshops, for inclusion in local commemorative events.

Through a Queensland Anzac Centenary grant, Charters Towers Regional Council engaged local artist Shelley Burt to lead the community-based clay poppy making workshops between September and October 2018, which were hosted in Greenvale, Homestead, Ravenswood and Charters Towers.

Charters Towers Mayor Liz Schmidt said the making of clay poppies was a creative way to involve

communities in the Charters Towers region in commemorative activities.

“We take great pride in our local Anzac history. Every clay poppy made has contributed to a lasting Anzac legacy in our region,” Councillor Schmidt said.

Local residents who attended the workshops found the activity to be of great value, as they not only learnt a new skill, but also felt a sense of pride in their contribution to the worthwhile project.

Charters Towers resident Debbie Bray attended one of the workshops and said the activity allowed her to reflect on the sacrifice of the region's servicemen and women.

“There was great camaraderie in the group and it was great to be a part of something for future generations to appreciate,” Mrs Bray said.

Resident Tania Ault also attended the Charters Towers workshop and said it helped to bring the community together in a valuable and rewarding commemorative experience.

“The workshop was all about coming together as a community and I think the poppies turned out spectacularly,” Ms Ault said.

“I went to the workshop to try something different as I am an Aboriginal artist and don't usually work with clay.”

Other workshop participants included students of Homestead State School who, through the activity, were able to gain a deeper understanding of the significance of the poppies they were making.

Project Coordinator and Executive Assistant to the Charters Towers Regional Council Mayor, Jennifer Brown, said the students were proud of their involvement in the project.

“As each of the students had placed their initials on the base of the poppies, they knew which one they made. They stood with pride beside their poppies at their Remembrance Day service held at the Homestead school,” Ms Brown said.

“At all workshops, it was wonderful to see our residents, including children and adults, gathering together to make the poppies.

“Council is also thankful for the assistance provided by the members of the Charters Towers Pottery Club in respect to the firing of the clay poppies and placement of the rod stems.”

The clay poppies have been kept in each township and will be showcased as part of commemorative events and memorials into the future.

Top: Finished poppies on display near the cenotaph, Remembrance Day 2018.

Bottom: Clay poppy workshop volunteers Anita, Makayla and Ava Godier.





# Queensland's forgotten battalion memorialised

Conversations on social media led to the rediscovery of an important chapter in Queensland's military history and, with the unveiling of a new plaque, this fascinating First World War story is well preserved for future generations.



The new plaque installed in the World War I Memorial Crypt at Brisbane's Anzac Square.

In the early hours of 24 April 1918, German forces seized the small town of Villers-Bretonneux in France from British and Australian Forces. By occupying Villers-Bretonneux, German troops gained a vital stronghold on the Western Front which threatened the major town of Amiens.

British Headquarters gave the orders to recapture Villers-Bretonneux and force back the German troops. The counter-attack was assigned to a British Division, which was joined by the 13th and 15th Australian Imperial Forces Brigades comprising approximately 3900 soldiers.

They attacked in a pincer formation, with the 13th Brigade approaching on the right and the 15th Brigade on the left.

By dawn on 25 April, the 51st and 52nd Battalions of the 13th Brigade had pushed the Germans back and by evening Villers-Bretonneux was back in allied hands.

The tremendous victory is widely recognised as one of the most pivotal battles of the First World War.

What is largely unknown is that nearly 500 soldiers who fought as part of the 52nd Battalion on the right flank were Queenslanders. Until recently, the role of these men was unrecognised in Queensland Anzac history—perhaps as the battalion was disbanded less than one month after the battle due to the heavy casualties sustained.

Surprisingly, it took the formation of a Facebook group to rediscover this incredible Queensland story.

Historian and administrator of the 52nd Battalion Facebook group Dale Chatwin says family and friends of the soldiers in the 52nd

Battalion started connecting and sharing stories about their forebears. They soon learned of the incredible role Queenslanders played at Villers-Bretonneux and felt these men deserved recognition for their bravery.

“We knew that the 52nd Battalion started out as a South Australian, Tasmanian and Western Australian Battalion, but we didn’t realise the extent to which Queensland soldiers were involved in 1917 and especially April 1918 at Dernancourt and Villers-Bretonneux,” Mr Chatwin said.

“It wasn’t until people started posting their family stories to the Facebook group that we became curious. With a bit of research, we discovered that the 52nd Battalion had been exclusively reinforced by Queensland soldiers to replace the large number of casualties in 1916.

“By 1918, ahead of the Battle of Villers-Bretonneux, the Battalion consisted of 700 men, of which nearly 500 were Queenslanders. During the battle, more than 245 men from the 52nd Battalion were either wounded or killed, of which 70 per cent were Queensland soldiers. All this, and they were still forgotten in Queensland’s Anzac history, until recently.”

On the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Villers-Bretonneux—on 24 April 2018, the eve of Anzac Day—Queensland soldiers of the 52nd Battalion were immortalised in the World War I Memorial Crypt at Brisbane’s Anzac Square.

Reflecting the high esteem in which these servicemen are held, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland unveiled a new commemorative plaque—the first plaque to be added to the World War I Memorial Crypt in 88 years.

Supported by the Redlands RSL Sub Branch and the Queensland Anzac Centenary grants program, the unveiling marked the formal and public recognition of the brave service of the 52nd Battalion. The unveiling was attended by relatives of the members of the Battalion, many of whom became emotional as their forebears were finally honoured a century after their service.

Iris French, the daughter-in-law of Lance Sergeant Eric Aubrey Steven French who served in the 52nd Battalion, says the plaque is the first Australian memorial for the 52nd Battalion which was the only battalion with Queenslanders to fight in the Battle of Villers-Bretonneux.

“Having the plaque unveiled in Anzac Square, one century on from the battle where so many Queenslanders lost their lives, is a timely commemoration and means a great deal to the loved ones of the 52nd Battalion soldiers,” Mrs French said.

“It feels like we are honouring their memory in the most respectful and meaningful way possible, and we are so grateful to be able to do this to remember and immortalise them as part of Queensland’s Anzac history.”

The historic efforts of the Australian forces are not forgotten in the town of Villers-Bretonneux either. The local school still showcases in its playground a large sign which says ‘Do Not Forget Australia’ in memory of the many Australians who gave their lives on Anzac eve and Anzac Day in 1918.



# 2018: a year for reflection

With the Anzac Centenary drawing to a close, 2018 was a year of reflection and remembrance for Queenslanders.

## 10 January 1993

### **25th Anniversary of arrival of 1RAR task group in Somalia**

2018 marked the 25th anniversary of Australia's involvement in Unified Task Force (Unitaf) peacekeeping operations in Somalia.

The deployment of Australian forces was in response to a call from the United Nations for assistance with its humanitarian operation in Somalia, where a catastrophic humanitarian disaster was being compounded by a complete breakdown in civil order.

In the first offshore deployment of an Australian battalion group since Vietnam, 1RAR served as part of the United Nations mission to Baidoa in an attempt to restore hope and order to the province.

Of the Australians who served in Somalia, four were wounded or injured and one Australian soldier, Lance Corporal Shannon McAliney, was accidentally killed during patrol on 2 April 1993.

## 28 March 1918

### **100th Anniversary of the Battles of Dernancourt**

Dernancourt, a village on the River Ancre in France, was the scene of critical battles during the German offensive of March and April 1918. The fate of the strategic rail junction city of Amiens was at stake.

On the morning of 5 April 1918, the Germans launched an attack in the vicinity of the village of Dernancourt. This second engagement at Dernancourt was the strongest attack met by Australian troops during the war.

The fighting was unrelenting, with men recounting that the roar of battle was so loud they could not hear the discharge of their own weapons. The 47th Australian Infantry Battalion was made up of Queenslanders and Tasmanians; the men of the 49th were predominantly Queenslanders. Both played critical roles in the Battles of Dernancourt.

The two Australian brigades faced two and a half German divisions. They inflicted up to 1600 casualties but suffered almost as grievously with 1230 casualties. Though costly in terms of lives lost, the Australians denied the Germans any further advance toward Amiens.

## 25 April 1918

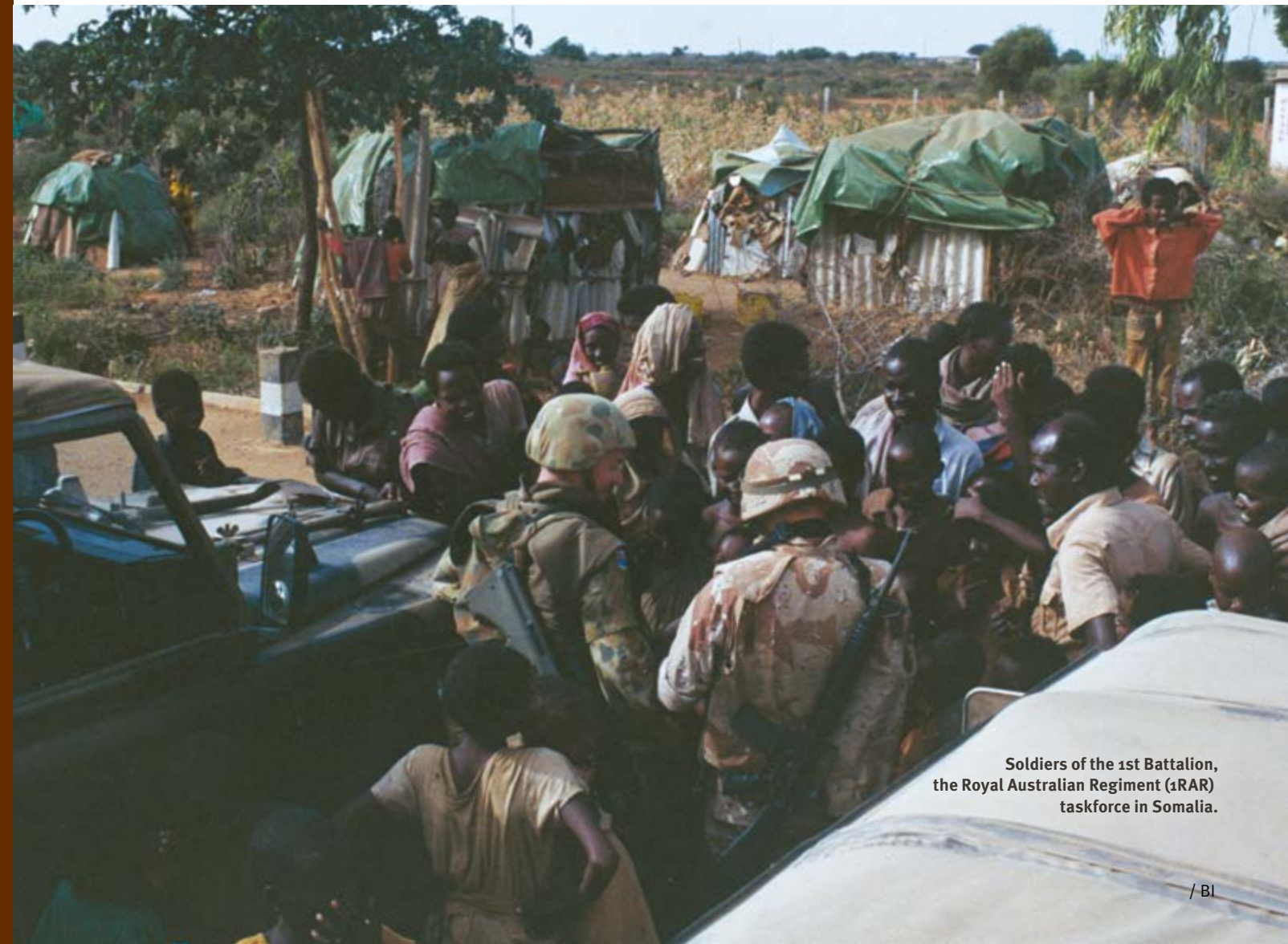
### **100th Anniversary of the Second Battle of Villers-Bretonneux**

On 24 April 1918 the Germans had taken the strategically-significant French town of Villers-Bretonneux and were pushing west in the direction of Amiens.

The Australian plan to retake the town was a surprise night attack, with no preliminary artillery bombardment. One brigade approached from the north and one from the south, meeting at the village's eastern edge,

thereby surrounding the Germans and driving them from Villers-Bretonneux and the adjacent woods.

Well aware it was Anzac Day, the men attacked ferociously. By the morning of 25 April 1918 the Australian Imperial Force with some assistance by British units, had virtually surrounded Villers-Bretonneux. It took the rest of that day and into 26 April to completely secure the town and to establish a new frontline to its east.



Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment (1RAR) taskforce in Somalia.



## May 1943

### 75th Anniversary of the Battle of the Atlantic

‘Everything turns on the Battle of the Atlantic,’ observed British Prime Minister Winston Churchill in 1941.

The Allied and Axis powers fought for control of the seas for the entirety of the Second World War. With troops deployed all across the globe, whoever controlled the shipping routes was in the best position to keep their troops equipped with food, fuel and other important cargo.

Royal Australian Navy vessels were involved in convoy escort duties and Australian personnel served aboard various Navy vessels as well as merchant ships. The awarding of some 5000 Atlantic Stars to Australian service personnel and merchant mariners gives a sense of how many men from our shores risked their lives in this campaign.

## 13 May 1968

### 50th Anniversary of the Battles at Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral

In May and June 1968, while located astride North Vietnamese Army and Viet Cong infiltration routes to Saigon, Australian units fought a series of pitched battles over a prolonged period around Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral.

They were the largest, most sustained and arguably most hazardous battles of the Vietnam War.

During the actions on and around Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral, 26 Australian soldiers lost their lives, 100 were wounded and it was estimated at least 300 North Vietnamese were killed.

Director of the Australian War Memorial, Dr Brendan Nelson said “It is vitally important that we tell Australians what the men who were involved in the battles of Coral and Balmoral endured. It was a month of bitter, often close quarters fighting against a committed foe. Through it all the spirit of mateship bound them to one another, care for their wounded and respect for a professional enemy.”

## 14 May 1943

### 75th Anniversary of the sinking of Australian Hospital Ship (AHS) Centaur

Just before dawn on 14 May 1943, the unarmed *AHS Centaur* was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine south of Moreton Island, off the Queensland coast, despite being lit up and clearly marked with large red crosses as a hospital ship.

Many of the passengers were sound asleep in their bunks. The ship sank in minutes and of the 332 people on board only 64 survived. Prime Minister John Curtin referred to the sinking as ‘an entirely inexcusable act’.

The survivors were at sea for a day and half before they were rescued. The ship’s crew and medical staff suffered heavily, as did the 2/12th Field Ambulance—178 men, from a total of 193, died. Of the 12 nurses onboard only one, Sister Nell Savage, survived. Sister Savage was subsequently presented with the George Medal for her heroism in saving others.

The sinking of the *AHS Centaur* profoundly shocked Australia, and for many Australians she became a symbol of the determination to win the war.

*AHS Centaur.*





Lieutenant Edgar Thomas Towner. This photo appeared on page 28 of *The Queenslander Pictorial*, supplement to *The Queenslander*, on 1 February 1919.



## 27 July 1953

### 65th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice

The Armistice ending three years of fighting on the Korean peninsula was signed on 27 July 1953. The present-day border between North and South Korea approximates the border as it was in June 1950 when North Korea invaded the south, beginning a war that pitted the Cold War powers of communist China and the Soviet Union against the United States and their allies, fighting under United Nations' auspices, in a massive military confrontation.

All three of Australia's armed services took part in the Korean War. The Royal Australian Navy committed ships four days after the war began, the Royal Australian Air Force's (RAAF) 77 Squadron was deployed to Korea within a week of the invasion, and the first Australian ground troops arrived in September 1950.

Approximately 17,000 Australian personnel served in Korea, including the Australian Army and RAAF nurses. Some 340 lost their lives, more than 1200 were wounded and 30 were taken prisoner.

After the war ended, the presence of Australians in Korea continued with a peacekeeping force until 1957.

## 31 August 1918

### 100th Anniversary of Mont St Quentin and Péronne

The end of August 1918 found German troops at their last stronghold at Mont St Quentin, a summit providing a valuable battle observation point overlooking the Somme River and the town of Péronne.

The battle was won after three days of heavy and exhausting fighting. Without tanks or protective barrage, the Australians, at a cost of 3000 casualties, dealt a stunning blow to five German divisions and caused a general German withdrawal eastwards to the Hindenburg Line.

The fight had included battalions from every Australian state. British Commander General Lord Rawlinson said that this feat by the Australian troops under the then Lieutenant General Sir John Monash's command was the greatest of the war.

Lieutenant (later Major) Edgar Thomas Towner of the 2nd Machine Gun Battalion, from Blackall in Queensland, was awarded the Victoria Cross for the attack on Mont St Quentin. Constantly under fire, he undertook dangerous reconnaissance and courageously led his machine-gunners in the battle.

## 16 October 1943

### 75th Anniversary of Hellfire Pass and completion of the Thai-Burma Railway

The Thai-Burma Railway (also known as the Burma-Thailand or Burma-Siam Railway) was built in 1942–43. Its purpose was to supply the Japanese forces in Burma.

Aiming to finish the railway as quickly as possible, the Japanese decided to use the forced labour of more than 60,000 Allied prisoners, including 13,000 Australians who had fallen into their hands in early 1942. More than 2800 Australians are believed to have died working on the railway, some 700 of them at one of its most notorious sites, Hellfire Pass.

Hellfire Pass was named for both the brutal conditions under which prisoners worked and the fact that at night the scene was lit by carbide lights, bamboo fires and hessian wicks in containers full of diesel oil. One former prisoner said that it 'looked like a scene out of Dante's Inferno'.

Australians worked at Hellfire Pass from late April 1943. Starved of food and medicine, and forced to work impossibly long hours in remote unhealthy locations, over 13,000 prisoners of war died. Work on the railway continued until 16 October 1943 when the two ends of the track were joined.



Burma-Thailand Railway circa 1943. Prisoners of War carrying sleepers in Burma.

## 2018: 100th Anniversary

### 100th Anniversary of the battles that won the First World War: Hamel, Amiens and Montbrehain

2018 marked the centenary of the battles that won the First World War. One hundred years ago, Australian troops fought with courage, daring and fortitude at Hamel, Amiens and Montbrehain in Northern France. The extraordinary achievements of the Australian Imperial Force in these battles were critical to the success of the 'Hundred Days' Offensive, a succession of allied victories that led to the signing of the Armistice on 11 November 1918.

Australians were rightly proud of the courage and valour displayed by the Australian Imperial Force during the offensive. Private Henry (Harry) Dalziel of the 15th Infantry Battalion had been a fireman on the Cairns-Atherton Railway before enlisting. He showed incredible bravery and fortitude while capturing a nest

of German machine gunners—an act that earned him the Victoria Cross.

Private Dalziel recovered from injuries received in the battle, including a gunshot wound to the head and hand, and was given a hero's welcome at every train station from Townsville to Atherton as he made his way home. He was one of the many Australian soldiers who delivered victory to the allies and ultimately brought an end to the war.

To mark the centenary of the Battles of Hamel, Amiens and Montbrehain, the Queensland Government produced a summary of the events and significance of the battles which was published as an insert in *The Sunday Mail*. This publication can be viewed online at: <https://anzac100.initiatives.qld.gov.au/hundred-days-offensive>



Top: Private Henry (Harry) Dalziel VC of the 15th Battalion.



# The official end of the war: the Treaty of Versailles

On the morning of 11 November 1918, allied and German officials signed the Armistice, a formal agreement to cease the hostilities of the First World War. When the agreement came into effect at 11 am, the guns of the Western Front fell silent for the first time in more than four years.

From the summer of 1918, the five divisions of the Australian Corps had been at the forefront of the allied advance to victory. But it had come at a heavy cost with almost 48,000 casualties suffered during 1918, including more than 12,000 dead.

In the four years of the war more than 330,000 Australians served overseas, and more than 60,000 of them died. One in five of those who served abroad died on active service.

When the news of the Armistice arrived at the front, Australian troops accepted the news quietly.

As Sir William Glasgow, a Queenslander who rose to become Commander of the 1st Australian Division, wrote to his wife Belle:

*“Peace was accepted here very calmly and we did not have any celebrations. I too would like to think that it would mean our reunion, but as to how soon it will be until that takes place depends on Germany—how will she comply with the conditions. I don’t expect any trouble, but we must wait until the peace conference...”*

On the home front, people greeted the news of the Armistice with mixed emotions. There was relief and rejoicing that the war was at an end intermingled with grief and sorrow for the fallen.

The war did not formally end until 1919, with the signing of five treaties, including the Treaty of Versailles, at the Paris Peace Conference.

For this reason, a number of war memorials across Queensland, including Southport’s Digger, are inscribed with the year 1919 as marking the end of the Great War.

The major sanctions imposed by the Treaty of Versailles included the disarmament of Germany, payment of very large reparations to the allies, and demilitarisation of the Rhineland. The treaty also involved the surrender of territory which had been part of Germany prior to the First World War, including Alsace-Lorraine to France and substantial areas to Poland.

Germany reluctantly signed the Treaty of Versailles on 28 June 1919.

The Treaty of Versailles was the first political treaty signed by Australian officials. It was also the first negotiated with direct participation by Australian government delegates.

This was a major step in the recognition of Australia as an independent entity in international law. Australia was among the 32 signatories of the Treaty of Versailles, and a founding member of the League of Nations it established.

The repatriation of the almost 200,000 Australians overseas at the time of the Armistice was a major

Left: Painted by Joseph Finnemore, *The signing of the treaty of peace at Versailles, 28 June 1919*, captures a moment of the signing ceremony which took place in the Hall of Mirrors in the Palace of Versailles.

Bottom: The digger statue in Anzac Park, Southport, is one of the many memorials across Queensland that reflect the end of the First World War as 1919.



logistical effort. Despite the shortage of shipping, troops began departing for Australia within a month. Most Australians would return home before the end of 1919.

National pride and communal sorrow led communities in nearly every city and town to erect memorials to honour their fallen. These remain a focus of our current Anzac Day and Remembrance Day services. They are the places where Queenslanders gather to honour those who have served our country in war and those who made the ultimate sacrifice.





# Did you know?

The Anzac Centenary has inspired many to better understand the First World War and Queensland's military history, leading to the rediscovery of exciting, interesting and unusual details.

## Research and development

The Australian Government first supported the idea of a national network of research laboratories during the First World War. Inspired by a similar move in Great Britain and in response to the need for technological progress to advance the war effort, Prime Minister William 'Billy' Hughes announced the Advisory Council of Science and Industry, which is now known as CSIRO.

## Anzac endorsements

Instead of looking to film and sports stars during the First World War, many brands sought defence force personnel to promote their products. Troops gave testimonials and endorsements to help sell a wide range of products, from chewing gum to cold remedies. Perhaps the most publicised spokesperson was Lieutenant Colonel Leslie Cecil Maygar, a Victoria Cross recipient who appeared in many Rexona promotions, advising that he used their healing ointment "...on active service in Gallipoli and Egypt, and have found it excellent for the skin, especially in the trenches".

Top: Fabric fundraising badge 'Remember our wounded boys'.

## Fundraising flowers

Selling imitation flowers to raise money for past and present servicemen and women is not new. The Australian War Memorial has a collection of more than 50 fundraising badges Lance Corporal Frederick John Knapman collected while on leave in England in 1918—including imitation pansies, daisies and lilies.

## Meals on wheels

While many frontline troops had to survive on hard tack biscuits and bully beef, some men in the Australian Imperial Force were fortunate to be served hot meals prepared on the Wiles Travelling Army Field Kitchen. Designed by an Australian Boer War veteran, this horse drawn kitchen included a steam boiler, oven, hot and cold tanks and two steamers. The kitchen was built to handle rough terrain and withstand enemy fire, allowing regimental cooks to get closer to the frontlines.

## Blood on ice

With countless men suffering terrible wounds each day, it's unsurprising that the First World War drove many medical practitioners to explore new and improved treatments. During his service, Lawrence Bruce Robertson of the Canadian Expeditionary Force developed an improved method for blood transfusion (in which blood was transferred via syringes, instead of directly from the donor to the patient). Oswald Hope Robertson, an American volunteer stationed with the British 3rd Army Casualty Clearing Station in France, discovered how to store blood on ice until required—establishing the world's first blood bank.

## Returning fire

With resources running low, allied troops were encouraged to collect spent ammunition from the battlefield. Salvage areas were set up where experts prepared the bullets and shells so they could be 'returned' to the enemy.

## A woolly surge

Wool was in high demand during the First World War, as great quantities were required to manufacture soldiers' uniforms and blankets. In 1916, the British government agreed to purchase Australia's entire supply of wool each year until the end of the war. The agreed price was 55 per cent above pre-war prices.

## Andorra's long war

Andorra, a microstate situated between France and Spain, was one of the first to declare war on Germany—although at the time its military was limited to just 10 part-time soldiers. This tiny nation was also overlooked in the development of the Treaty of Versailles and technically remained at war until 1958.



Wiles Travelling Army Field Kitchen at Rollingstone Army Camp, Queensland 1943. The mobile kitchen cooked meals for 100 to 500 men, and featured steamers, ovens and a 40-gallon hot water tank.



Sheep and wool bales, Queensland 1916.



A sign urging soldiers to take ammunition lying on the battlefields to a salvage dump circa 1917.



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**Page 22:** Colin Hockey

**Page 23:** Brisbane City Council

**Page 24:** Colin Hockey

**Page 25:** Colin Hockey

**Page 26:** Queensland Museum

**Page 27:** Queensland Museum

**Page 28:** Queensland Museum

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**Page 40:** Colin Hockey

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**Page 43:** QUT Science and Engineering Faculty

**Page 44:** Queensland Pioneer Steam Railway

**Page 45:** Queensland Pioneer Steam Railway

**Page 46–47:** Colin Hockey

**Page 49:** Colin Hockey

**Page 50:** Colin Hockey

**Page 51:** Colin Hockey

**Page 52:** Luke Chaplain

**Page 53 (top):** Luke Chaplain

**Page 53 (bottom):** Luke Chaplain

**Page 54:** Charters Towers Regional Council

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Armistice parade passing along East Street, Rockhampton 1918.



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 our 2018 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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