



ANZAC Edition

The Birth of ANZAC Day

ANZAC Day was officially recognised in 1916, only one year after the Gallipoli landing. These first ANZAC Day marches and ceremonies gave the country a chance to collectively mourn the loss of their young men.

Marches were also held in London where a newspaper headline referred to the ANZACs as 'the knights of Gallipoli'. In true Australian fashion, the Australian camp in Egypt had a commemorative sports day to remember their fallen mates.

But the man credited as the Architect of ANZAC Day – laying out the order of service that is still observed today – was an Anglican priest from Brisbane. Canon David Garland created the framework for a non-denominational commemoration to honour the fallen, which incorporated many aspects we'd recognise: the march, the wreath-laying, and one minute's silence to allow attendees to say a silent prayer in line with their own beliefs. RSL Queensland.

Australian War Memorial - ANZAC Day 2020

In light of the COVID19 pandemic, this year the Memorial will hold a private, nationally televised Anzac Day commemorative service. This service will be held in the Commemorative Area and Hall of Memory at 5.30am (AEST) on ANZAC Day. The traditional Dawn Service, National Ceremony and veterans' march will not take place.

The event will not be open to the public but will be broadcast live across Australia by the ABC and streamed online.

All other ANZAC Day ceremonies throughout Australia have been cancelled. AWM Canberra.

ANZAC Day traditions and rituals



The Last Post

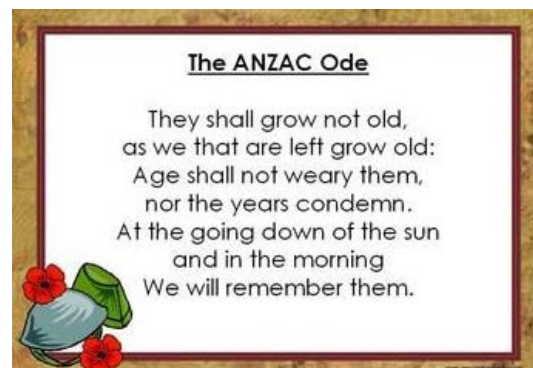
In military tradition, the Last Post is the bugle call that signifies the end of the day's activities. .

It is also sounded at military funerals to indicate that the soldier has gone to his final rest and at commemorative services such as Anzac Day and Remembrance Day.

The Last Post is one of a number of bugle calls in military tradition that mark the phases of the day. While Reveille signals the start of a soldier's day, the Last Post signals its end. Army Australia.

Ode (of Remembrance)

The traditional recitation on ANZAC Day is the Ode, the fourth stanza of the poem [For the Fallen by Laurence Binyon \(1869-1943\)](#). Binyon was the assistant keeper of prints and drawings at the British Museum, and the author of several volumes of verse.



For the Fallen was first published in the London Times in 1914 and later in many anthologies of war verse. It was selected to accompany the unveiling of the London Cenotaph in 1920 and, like so many memorial

traditions, passed into common use across the Commonwealth. Its use on Anzac Day might have originated with the Queensland ANZAC Day Commemoration Committee, which printed the poem on the cover of a collection of sermons and addresses for ANZAC Day, published in 1921. RSL Queensland.



Rosemary

Since ancient times this aromatic herb has been believed to have properties to improve the memory. Perhaps because of this, rosemary became an emblem of both fidelity and remembrance in literature and folklore.

Rosemary has particular significance for Australians. Traditionally, sprigs of rosemary are worn on ANZAC Day and sometimes on Remembrance Day.

Colours, Standards, Guidons and Banners



The term 'Colours' broadly encompasses the four distinctive forms of Honourable Insignia that are the symbol of the spirit of a regiment, for on them are borne the battle honours and badges granted to the unit in commemoration of gallant deeds performed by members of the unit from the time their unit was raised.

There are four distinctive forms of Honourable Insignia currently in use by the Australian Army, they are in order of seniority:

- Standards,
- Guidons,
- Colours, and
- Banners.

Originally the Colour was the rally point, when during the noise and confusion of battle, it was the focal point of the regiment, even if the commander was killed, hope was always present whilst the Colours

remained intact. On the verge of ultimate defeat the troops would concentrate around the Colours, which would become the scene of its last defence. From such times, records of epic gallantry and acts of heroic self-sacrifice have been associated with the Colours whose safety engendered these acts. Army Australia.



Light horse plumes

Some light horsemen adorned their slouch hats with emu plumes. This practice was first adopted by the Queensland Mounted Infantry during the Great Shearers' Strike in the 1890's.

They chased emus on horseback to break the monotony of long patrols and decorated their hats with the birds' feathers. When fellow Commonwealth soldiers asked about the feathers during the First World War, light horsemen replied that they were, in fact, "kangaroo feathers." AWM Canberra.

Catafalque Party

Legend has it that the first catafalque (cat-a-falk) parties guarded important and wealthy people's coffins from thieves and vandals.



A catafalque is a raised structure supporting a stand that usually holds a coffin to allow mourners to file past and pay their last respects. A watch or catafalque party was traditionally mounted around the coffin to ensure the safety of the body while it lay in state.

Today, catafalque parties are mounted around coffins as a sign of respect and around memorials on occasions of remembrance such as ANZAC Day. The catafalque party consists of four members of an armed guard who stand, their heads bowed and their rifles reversed, facing outward approximately one metre from the coffin or catafalque as a symbolic form of respect for those who have fallen. Anzac Day Commemoration Committee.

Sandy, the only war horse to come home: lest we forget

Major General Sir William Throsby Bridges



holding the bridle of his favourite charger, Sandy.

Australia sent 136,000 horses overseas during World War I, according to the Australian War Memorial. Precisely one came home. His name was Sandy. A bay, he stood 16 hands (163cm) at the withers. He had the great good fortune to have been chosen for his gentle nature by Major General Sir William Bridges, Commander of the 1st Australian Division, as his favourite charger.

There is a symmetry here. Bridges, who was fatally shot at Gallipoli, was the only one of 60,000 Australians who died on overseas battlefields in the First World War to be returned home. His grave is on the slope of a hill above Duntroon, the Canberra military academy he founded. SMH 6 November 2015.

Two Queensland Nurses of the First World War

Author: Robert Thistlethwaite

I have written before on aspects of the First World War, such as the Le Hamel offensive and the superb leadership of Sir John Monash. If those rambles gave the impression that the war involved mere males, it was not intended. That war involved many countries and races worldwide, both males and females. However, for me, I have always greatly admired the contribution of millions of women to the war effort, a role often not feted. Women mainly contributed to the war effort not by direct combat, but through their support of the combatants—industrially, agriculturally, scientifically, commercially, and medically. In the medical sphere, the contribution made by Australian nurses was exceptional and should in my opinion receive greater attention and recognition in ANZAC ceremonies.

Read the full story of two of those exceptional nurses [here](#)

Military Research websites

Do you have family members who served and you have been unable to find information on them? The National Archives is a good place to start and was

mentioned in *Special Snippets 2*. Note: All earlier *Special Snippets* are available to revise [here](#).

Perhaps some of the following suggestions, provided by members Alan Bourne, Maurice Friend, Geoff Morgan, Marg Doherty, Charlotte Sale, Bob Thistlethwaite and Richard Cosgrove may be of assistance in extending your search.

We thank them most sincerely for their contributions.

Have you been looking for details of what a particular unit did in a war in which Australia has been involved as a nation? Perhaps a relative served in the 9th Battalion in WWI from February 1916 to July 1916 and you want to know what the 9th Battalion did over that time frame. Check out the following link to the [Australian War Memorial](#):

The link provides further links to: Official Histories, Unit and Commander Diaries, Navy Records and Records of Charles Bean. Be aware that some diaries were written in pencil and the scan of the diary may be a bit hard to read, also parts of a diary e.g. one particular month's report may be missing.

Another source of military information for WWI is the [AIF Project](#) being undertaken by the University of New South Wales, Canberra Campus. The AIF database is drawn from a range of official sources, including personal files on the National Archives website, and Embarkation and Nominal Rolls on the Australian War Memorial website.

[The Commonwealth War Graves Commission](#) is an excellent site to find the graves of military personnel who have died in WWI and WWII where Commonwealth forces were involved. It also provides information of particular cemeteries Commonwealth War Graves Cemeteries. The link [here](#).

Commemorative plaques can also be printed from the site.

A local military historian, Peter Dunn OAM, has created a web site that details a number of aspects of Australia in WWII. It provides links to a range of topic and books Peter has written. Links include: military units

in Australia, location of military camps in Australia, military airfields, Prisoner of War and Internment Camps, civilian war efforts, and many more. Peter also provides links to other web sites e.g. 460 Squadron RAAF and "G" George. The web site can be searched [here](#).

[Discovering ANZACS](#) provides information on servicemen and servicewomen that have served in the Boer War and WWI. It gets some of its information from the National Archives of Australia (NAA). If you register on the site you can update information for individuals where the details, say from the NAA, have not yet been transcribed across and you can add personal information as well.

The previous Department of Veteran Affairs WWII, Korean War and Vietnam web site link has been updated to <http://nominal-rolls.dva.gov.au/> This site provides details of Army and RAAF servicewomen and servicemen that served in the three wars, what rank they had and what arm of the military they served in.

For information on servicewomen and servicemen that served in WWI and the Boer War can be found on the [Australian War Memorial](#) web site. Before doing the search tick the people box just below the search line. Select relevant person and you will be provided with their details. Scroll down and under Timeline you will see date of embarkation.

[Colonial Forces](#). Are you researching a relative who served in the military between the mid-1860s until Australia became a Federation or are you interested in the topic? This site provides details of the structure, uniforms, training, events, land and naval forces and photographs of the military in that period of Queensland's history. Did you know 150 officers and 2,800 troops from Queensland served in the Boer War?

[Official History of the Australian Army Medical Services, 1914-1918](#)

A useful source for family history is '[Nurses and Masseurs Registration Board, Queensland, 31 Dec 1929](#) list of nurses registered under The Nurses and Masseurs Registration Act of 1928'.

This open data file lists the names of nurses as kept by the [Nurses Registration Board of Queensland between 1915 and 1925](#). Information also includes the date of application, registration number, type of nurse (general, mental, midwifery), location, age and Queensland State Archives' catalogue details.

[WW1 Australian Women service units](#)

A Summary of Units in which Australian Women Served in during WWI

Camaraderie has always underpinned Survey Corps operations in both war and peace. Towards the end of World WarII the strength of the Corps had peaked at 1700.

In the years immediately following the war, to maintain that camaraderie and close personal war-time friendships, a number of survey veterans association formed. Some were specifically unit associations such as the 2/1st Topographical Survey Coy (AIF) Association, the 3rd Aust Field Survey Coy (AIF) Association and the New Guinea Survey Section Association and others were State based Survey Ex-servicemen's Associations. The Royal Australian Survey Corps (recently transferred into another Corps) has a nominal roll with Name, Rank, Number etc of some 5000 personnel from 1910-1996. Check out the website [here](#)

Seeking information on Australia's involvement in a range of wars. Check out the [Department of Veterans Affairs](#) web site. It provides a wide range of information.

[DVA's Nominal Rolls](#)

One of DVA's key roles is acknowledging and commemorating the service and sacrifice of all those who served Australia and its allies in wars, conflicts and peace operations through commemorations, memorials, war graves and research. As one part of this commemoration, DVA has published four nominal rolls. These nominal rolls list members of Australia's defence forces who served during World War Two, Korean War, Vietnam War and First Gulf War.

[Australians at War Film Archive](#). On the “Australians at War Film Archive” there are about 11,000 hours of interviews with 2,000 veterans from WWI to Afghanistan.

[England Military Records](#) This site goes back to the Napoleonic War 1793 – 1815 and British who served in Victoria, Australia 1836 – 1870.

[Unit war diaries](#)

The unit war diaries (record series WO 95) represent one of the most popular collections held by The National Archives UK. War diaries were kept for two main reasons:

- to provide an accurate record of operations for preparing the official history of the war
- to collect information that would help make improvements in preparing the army for war

[What's available online](#)

The unit war diaries for the cavalry divisions and a number of infantry divisions online (catalogue references WO 95/1096 to WO 95/1226, and WO 95/1227 to WO 95/3154 inclusive). They cover the entire period of the units' involvement in the war, from their arrival on the front to their departure at the end of the war.

[UK, WWI Service Medal and Award Rolls, 1914–1920](#)

This collection contains records of people who served in WWI and were entitled to medals and awards. Records include details such as name, rank, unit, and possibly other service details. The National Archives (England) describes them as follows:

The volumes in this series record the entitlement to medals and awards of men and women serving in some capacity during the First World War. Most pieces concern those serving in the Army. Some, however, refer to the Royal Flying Corps/Royal Air Force (RFC/RAF); to civilians in military establishments, e.g. doctors and nurses in hospitals; to people mobilized for other war service, e.g. in colonial labour corps; and to allied personnel who assisted British soldiers behind enemy lines.

On ANZAC Day, Ancestry will be releasing an update to a very popular military record collection: *Australia WWII AIF Service Records, 1939-1947*. Over 10,000 additional service records will be added—will your ancestor be among them?

With Ancestry Library Edition now available to members at home you will be able to search the index at your leisure.

[Everyone Remembered UK](#)

More than one million Service men and women gave their lives in the First World War so that future generations could live theirs.

The Royal British Legion is committed to ensuring their sacrifice is never forgotten: search those remembered and continue to commemorate their lives by leaving a short message of remembrance.

[Naval and Military Archive \(UK. \\$\)](#)

8.8 Million Servicemen's Records and 4,500 Official WWI War Diaries.

[Roll of Honour \(UK - Boer War\).](#)

Over 69,000 names on this list including those who survived.

[104 Signal Squadron.](#)

Honour Roll, Key Appointments and soldiers who served in South Vietnam

[Australian Artillery Association](#)

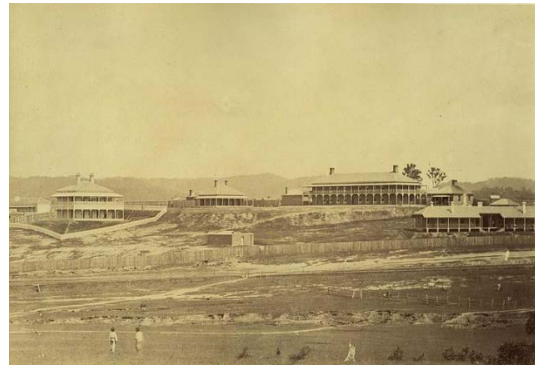
This site is dedicated to every "gunner" that ever served in the Royal Australian Artillery, Regular, Reserve, Citizens Military Force, Australian Imperial Forces or Militia. The site is extensive and contains a wide variety of information relating to the life of a serviceman in the Corps of Artillery.

[Vietnam Veterans Memorial Roll](#) is included.

Victoria Barracks, Brisbane.

Early picture of Victoria Barracks
in 1868, taken from Roma Street.

Image Courtesy Wikipedia.



For those Brisbane residents who have often wondered about the history of Brisbane's Victoria Barracks, Alan Bourne has provided that history for you. Alan is a volunteer at the Victoria Barracks and, when life returns to normal, you might like to take a tour and have a chat with Alan. Click [here](#)

Great stories

Victoria Cross For Animals

Did you know that there was an equivalent of the Victoria Cross given to animals for conspicuous gallantry or devotion to duty?

The Dickin medal was instituted in 1943 by Mrs Maria Dickin, founder of the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals (PDSA) in England. The medal was awarded by the PSDA to any animal that was associated with, or under the control, of the armed forces or civil defence during WW2 and after. The medal has awarded to a range of animals over the years up until today including: pigeons, dogs, equine and even cats. Pigeons were awarded a high proportion of the medals in World War 2, now days it is mainly dogs.



The Dickin medal has been awarded to animals outside the United Kingdom. Australian and United States of America animal have been awarded the medal. A quick search of the internet will bring up a number of examples of awards and the country in which it was awarded. There is even a few of books written on the subject, two of which are: [The Animals' VC: For Gallantry or Devotion](#) and The Animal Victoria Cross – The Dickin Medal.

The image of the Dickin medal is from the Daily Echo, Bournemouth

website. The medal consists of a bronze medallion, bearing the words "For Gallantry" and "We Also Serve" within a laurel wreath, carried on a ribbon of striped green, dark brown, and pale blue.

Anecdotes involving animals in war:

- During WWII a Major was based in Victoria Barracks, Brisbane who was responsible for pigeons.
- At the end of WWII a special train was used to return carrier pigeons from Queensland to their owners in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. The State Library of Queensland has a photograph of that train on their website.
- Every bomber and reconnaissance aircraft that left the United Kingdom in WWII carried two carrier pigeons on board in case the aircraft was shot down or crashed for whatever reason, a pigeon could be sent back with their crash location.

General items of interest



Anzac biscuits have long been associated with the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) established in World War I.

It has been claimed that biscuits were sent by wives and women's groups to soldiers abroad because the ingredients do not spoil easily and the biscuits kept well during naval transportation.

If you plan to make Anzac Biscuits this year you may need to start sourcing ingredients early to ensure success. If you don't have Grandma's recipe handy you can find a basic one [here](#). Good activity for any age or gender.

You might like to make a few batches and have a member of your family with the ability to be out and about deliver them to the local emergency services workplace.



We are delighted to be able to advise

that volunteers have been working very hard to offer you online sessions for Members' Meetings, SIG Meetings and Education sessions. Technology will be via Zoom. It is very simple to operate and instructions will be provided to all registrants.

Perhaps a new concept to you? You could make it a new skill to master while confined to home and the library is closed. Register free with Zoom and familiarise yourself with the technology.

Some Fridays@QFHS are now available for registration. Do check out the topics and the website [here](#)

Members of SIGs will be contacted by your coordinator and Members' Meeting information will be forthcoming at a later date.

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