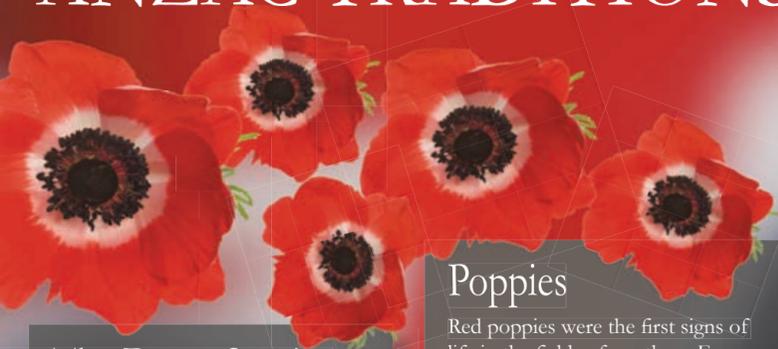


ANZAC TRADITIONS



Poppies

Red poppies were the first signs of life in the fields of northern France and Belgium after World War I. Arising from the blood drenched ground, bright red poppies grew where four years of war led to the deaths of hundreds of thousands of soldiers, including 45,000 Australians.

The poppy has enabled Australians to show they have not forgotten the 102,729 Australian servicemen and women who have given their lives in wars and conflicts during the past 100 years.



Rosemary

The Ancient Greeks believed that rosemary made their memories stronger.

This idea continues today as people wear sprigs of rosemary symbolising remembrance for those who have died in war.

ANZAC Day Services

For information on ANZAC Day services in your area ring your local council.



The ANZAC Biscuit

Previously known as an ANZAC wafer or ANZAC tile, the ANZAC biscuit we know and love today is a far cry from what the ANZACs ate ninety years ago. The ANZAC biscuit was originally intended as a bread substitute for soldiers fighting in hostile conditions. The biscuit was made to have long shelf life, meaning it was notoriously hard; in fact, they often adopted the affectionate nickname of 'bullet-proof' biscuits!

Ingredients:

- 1 cup of traditional rolled oats
- 1 cup of sifted plain flour
- 1 cup of caster sugar
- ¾ cup of desiccated coconut
- 125 grams of butter
- 1 tablespoon of golden syrup
- 2 tablespoons of boiling water
- 1 teaspoon of bicarbonate soda

Directions:

Combine 1 cup of traditional rolled oats, 1 cup of sifted plain flour, 1 cup of caster sugar and ¾ cup of desiccated coconut in a bowl.

Heat 125 grams of butter and 1 tablespoon of golden syrup over a low heat until butter is melted.

Mix 2 tablespoons of boiling water with 1 teaspoon of bicarbonate soda and add to the butter mixture.

Stir into the dry ingredients.

Form the mixture into balls on a greased oven tray.

Press the balls flat and bake in a slow oven (150°) for twenty minutes or until golden brown.

Loosen the biscuits while still warm.

Allow to cool on tray.

ANZAC DAY Traditions and Symbols

The Ode

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

The Last Post

The Last Post historically has been used to signify the end of the day.

It is played during commemorative ceremonies to serve as a tribute to the dead.

Minutes Silence

One (or two) minutes silence is held to reflect on the significance of the day and as a sign of respect.

Reveille and Rouse

In major ceremonies, the Last Post is normally followed by Rouse except at the Dawn Service when Reveille is played. Historically Reveille woke the soldiers at Dawn.

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Photo Right: Tel El Fara, Palestine. C. 1917. Five members of 2nd Field Squadron, Australian Engineers, with four donkey remounts. Australian War Memorial Negative Number H02643.

Photo Front Cover: HMS, "Formidable", Sydney. 1945-10-13. Members of 1st Coy Australian Army Service Corps from PW Camp 17 Japan, and Camp Fukioka NX38683. Australian War Memorial Negative Number 122108.

Helpful Links: The Australian War Memorial - www.awm.gov.au
The Department of Veteran's Affairs - www.dva.gov.au

For The Fallen

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

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

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

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

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

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

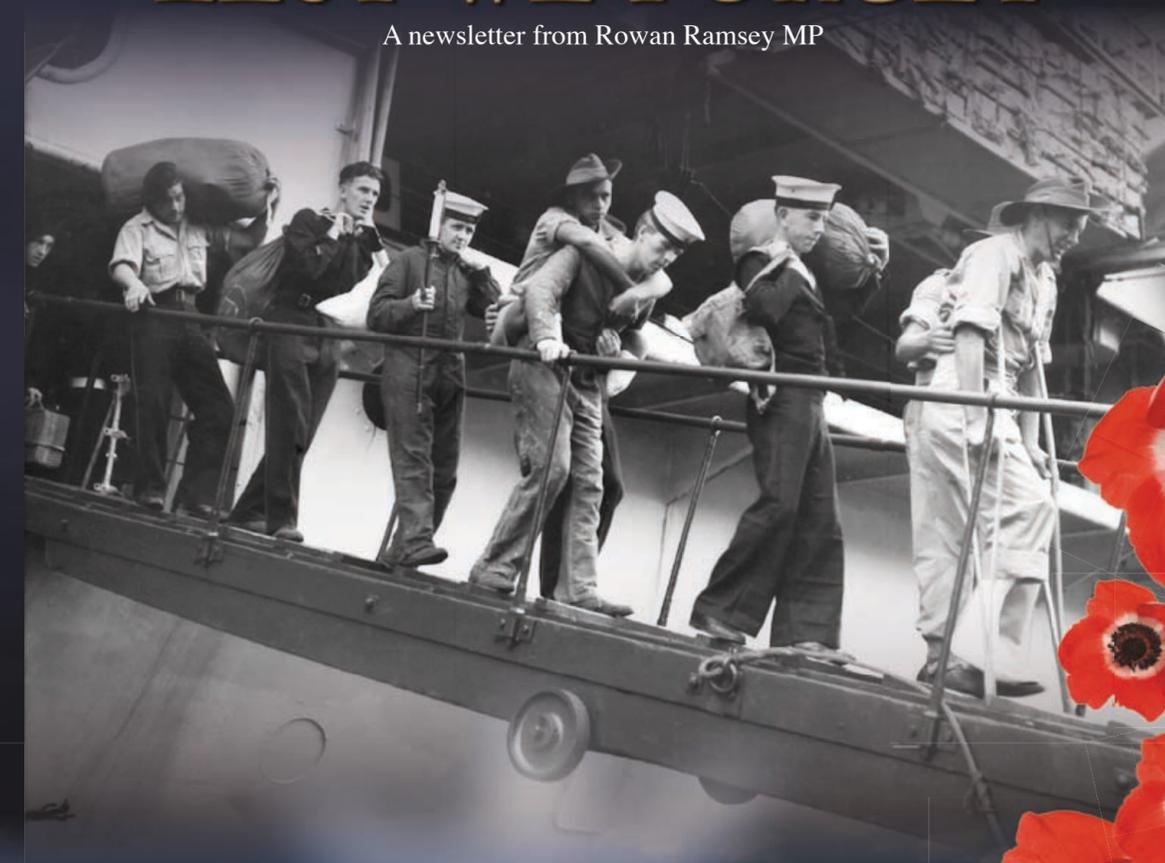
As the stars are known to the night,
As the stars shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are stary in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

In 1914 Laurence Binyon wrote For the Fallen in honour of the many British troops who had already lost their lives on the Western Front of World War I. The fourth verse of the poem has long been used as a tribute to all casualties of war regardless of nation. It is known as the "Ode of Remembrance".



ANZAC DAY 2013 LEST WE FORGET

A newsletter from Rowan Ramsey MP



A MESSAGE from Rowan Ramsey MP



We cannot steer a proper path for our future if we disregard our past.

It is the responsibility of all of us to encourage young Australians to seek a greater understanding that the freedom we enjoy in this

country, relies on the bravery of our forces past and present.

This newsletter each year contains short stories on major and minor conflicts and highlights a few particular battles, it is by no means a comprehensive list.

To understand the legend of ANZAC Day, forged on the rock-strewn slopes and ragged gullies of Gallipoli, is to gain an insight into the Australian psyche. A gallant and honourable defeat against almost insurmountable odds, a fledgling nation's defence forces pitted against an honourable but desperate enemy, the original ANZACs are best remembered for their courage, determination, resourcefulness and mateship, traits that even today we believe Australians have as a natural right.

To families who have made the greatest sacrifice of all we must guarantee that Australia never forgets, we must also affirm that we are willing to defend the rights and principals of free functioning democracies, the very things their loved ones died for.

That is why, even to this day, we still need to ask the brave young men and women of our modern defence force to put their lives on the line for us in distant countries like Afghanistan. Let us make sure that their efforts are always honoured.

Afghanistan (2001-)



On September 11 2001 Osama Bin Laden launched an attack on New York's Twin Towers under the protection of the Taliban regime ruling Afghanistan. Having already suffered severe civilian casualties

in Bali at the hand of Bin Laden trained terrorists, Australia joined the UN sponsored invasion of Afghanistan a month later on October 7th.

Australia currently has 1,550 personnel deployed. Australia is working toward a strategic withdrawal.

More than 40 nations support the action and their primary aim is to leave a functioning state able to prevent the country from again becoming a safe haven for terrorists. Much of Australia's effort has been in mentoring, reconstruction and training the Afghan defence forces. Australia has lost 39 soldiers.

Photo Top: Port Pirie RSL president Haydn Madigan with Rowan and Port Pirie Vietnam veteran and RSL museum volunteer Richie Brine at the Wall of Memory in the museum.

Photo Above: Soldier on guard, Uruzgan Province 2011.

The ANZAC Tradition

The ANZAC tradition of courage, determination and mateship, was established during World War I on 25 April 1915 when the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) landed on Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey. It was the start of a campaign that lasted eight months and saw some 25,000 Australian casualties.

This Gallipoli Campaign created a legend - the notion of the ANZAC spirit.

In 1916, the first anniversary of the landing was observed in Australia, New Zealand, England, and by troops in Egypt. That year, 25 April was officially named "ANZAC Day" by the acting Australian Prime Minister, George Pearce.

ANZAC Day ceremonies began in Australia during the 1920s and continued throughout the 1930s and 1940s, with World War II veterans joining parades around the country. In the ensuing decades, returned servicemen and women from conflicts in Malaya, Indonesia, Korea and Vietnam, veterans from allied countries and peacekeepers joined the parades.

The Boer War (1899-1902)



Deteriorating relations between the Dutch-Afrikaner Boer settlers and the British in South Africa saw an outbreak of war in 1899. As part of the British Empire, Australia sent five waves of soldiers to fight for Britain mostly in mounted units. Australian troops were valued for their ability to "shoot and ride". About 16,000 Australians fought in the Boer War. 282 died in action, but appalling conditions meant even more (286) died from disease. Six Australians received the Victoria Cross and it was the first conflict where Australians fought side by side with New Zealanders. The Boer War monument in Adelaide situated outside the gates to Government House on North Terrace is one of the state's most prominent public artworks.

Photo Above: Men from the 2nd South Australian (Mounted Rifles) Contingent, who fought in the Boer War. Third from left is Trooper Harry "The Breaker" Morant, South Africa, c. 1900. Australian War Memorial Negative Number P00220.001.

AUSTRALIA'S ROLE in Various Conflicts

World War I (1914-1918)



World War I, 1914-1918, was the 'Great War', the 'war to end all wars'. While the ANZAC legend was first honoured in reference to Gallipoli the biggest and most costly battles were on the 'Western Front' in France and Belgium. The battle saw the establishment of trench warfare with a costly stalemate resulting in years of gridlock. Advances in artillery, air warfare and poison gas inflicted huge damage on ground troops.

The Battle of the Somme alone saw more than a million casualties.

Australia's role in these battles was significant. A world way from the action Australian's read about in newspapers of the conflicts at Fromelles, the Somme, Bullecourt, Messines, Passchendaele, Dernancourt and Villers-Bretonneux. They learned by telegram that their loved ones had made the ultimate sacrifice.

Of the more than 290,000 Australians who served on the Western Front, 46,000 were either killed in action or died of their wounds. Dotted across the landscape of France and Belgium are hundreds of war cemeteries and memorials where these soldiers lie buried or where their names are listed among those thousands who have 'no known grave, the 'missing'.

Each year thousands of Australians visit the Western Front and the Australian monument at Villers-Bretonneux where the Australian battalions are still revered for their part of the liberation of the town. After the battle an unnamed German officer said of the Australians "They were magnificent. Nothing seemed to stop them. When our fire was heaviest, they just disappeared in shell holes and came up as soon as it slackened. When we used Verey lights they stood still and were hard to see".

Fix Bayonets Neville Browning: The Unit History of the 51st Battalion, Perth, 2000, p.157

Photo Above: Unidentified gunners of the Australian Heavy Artillery loading an 8in Howitzer gun. Australian War Memorial Negative Number E04736.

Photo Below: RAAF Spitfire WWII over ocean.



World War II (1939-1945)



In 1939 Germany invaded Poland. In response, the British Commonwealth and France declared war on Germany. Over the course of the war almost one million Australians enlisted. Over 30,000 were taken prisoner and over 39,000 died.

Between July and November of 1942, a series of battles took place between Japanese and Allied (mostly Australian) forces on the Kokoda Track in the Australian territory of Papua (today's Papua New Guinea). Conditions in this rugged and isolated terrain were harsh. Humid days, torrential rain, and intensely cold nights were endured. Many suffered from tropical diseases such as malaria.

Photo Above: Sydney, NSW 1945-12-11. Sergeant McGinty (writing) and Corporal Smith (reading), both members of the Women's Auxiliary Australian Airforce (WAAAF). Australian War Memorial Negative Number 124842.

The Korean War (1950-1953)



Following the end of World War II, Korea was divided at the 38th parallel between the United States and the Soviet Union. Tensions rose between the communist regime in the north and the government supported by the United States in the south. 21 nations responded to counter the attack. 17,164 Australians served in the Korean War. Australian casualties number more than 1,500, of whom 340 died.

In April 1951, Chinese forces attacked the Kapyong Valley forcing South Korea and New Zealand forces into retreat. Australians were amongst the forces ordered to halt the attack. After a night of fierce fighting, during which their positions were overrun, the Australians recaptured their positions and stalled the Chinese advance. 32 Australian lives were lost and 53 were wounded.

Photo Above: Korea, 1951. A Korean labourer gives Lt F.P. Scott a haircut. Australian War Memorial Negative Number 044483.

Kokoda



1941 saw the war spread to the Pacific marked by the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. By February 1942 Singapore had fallen and the Japanese

continued their sweep southwards through Indonesia and the Pacific Islands to New Guinea.

The Japanese had landed at Gona on the north coast of Papua on 21 July 1942 planning to take Port Moresby, (the main Australian base in New Guinea), by crossing the Owen Stanley Range using 96kms of single file foot trail called the Kokoda Track. The respective armies fought in appalling jungle conditions for the next four months. The legend of the Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels was born when local tribes supported the Australian effort as porters and carried hundreds of injured soldiers out to safety by stretcher.

The tide turned in September and the Japanese were pushed back to their north coast strongholds at Buna, Gona and Sanananda. By November 18th the battle for the Kokoda Track was over.

Kokoda was not the first defeat of Japanese land forces, but it did mark the southern-most point of the invasion. Its symbolism to Australia and the Allies was enormous.

More than 600 Australians were killed and some 1680 wounded during one of the most significant battles fought by Australians in World War II.

The Vietnam War (1962-1975)



As a part of a wider strategy of containment, the United States entered Vietnam to prevent a communist takeover of South Vietnam. More than 500,000 Australians served in Vietnam. Over 3,000 were wounded & 521 died.

In August 1966, Australian forces faced the Viet Cong, in a battle known as Long Tan. Three hours of fighting saw the Australians hold off the enemy's much greater numbers. 245 Viet Cong died and many more were wounded.

Australian casualties numbered 42, of whom 18 died. The battle eliminated communist dominance over the province.

Photo Above: Weapons bristle as soldiers of A Company, 2nd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (2RAR), cover their forward scout as he moves across an opening in the jungle. Australian War Memorial Negative Number WAR/70/0655/VN.

Eric Sambell



Peterborough veteran Eric Sambell 92 was honoured to return to Papua New Guinea late last year with seven other Australian veterans to mark the 70th anniversary of the iconic Second World War campaigns of Kokoda and Beachhead and honour the many who died during the battles.

"I felt great pride to read the Ode at the service at Popondetta," he said.

"But it was also a time of sadness".

"Three thousand three hundred young Australians are buried there including many mates from my battalion, the 2/27th Infantry Battalion".

The lifetime Peterborough resident was just 20 when he enlisted and three weeks later was on a ship to the Middle East and then to Papua New Guinea. "The battles of Kokoda and Beachhead were a battle for Australia," the former Lance Corporal said.

"If the Japs had taken Moresby they would have been in a position to take Australia."

Photo Above: Eric Sambell, taken at the Kokoda service marking the 70th anniversary of the battles of Kokoda and Beachhead. Photo Courtesy Department of Defence.

Photo Top Left: Kokoda Trail, Papua, 1942-11. Australian War Memorial Negative Number P02424.099.

Iraq (2003-2009)



Australia's involvement in the Iraq War stretched from March 19th 2003 until July 31st 2009, with more than 14,000 Australian service personnel taking part.

The invasion by a US led coalition of almost 40 countries was launched primarily because of intelligence that Saddam Hussein was building and stock-piling weapons of mass destruction.

Amongst its roles Australia gave significant RAN contribution to the naval blockade, direct combat roles filled by the SAS and a squadron of FA/18-Hornets.

Two Australian soldiers died in non combat situations and three died while serving in the British forces.

Photo Above: An Australian Light Armoured Vehicle (ASLAV) from the 2nd Cavalry Regiment, on patrol in front of the former Australian Embassy residence. Australian War Memorial Negative Number P04103.728.