

Australian War Memorial

Year in Review 2022-23





Cover Image: Reflection of the dome of the Hall of Memory in the Pool of Reflection.

The Last Post Ceremony is presented in the Commemorative Area of the Memorial. Each day we hear the story behind of one of the names on the Roll of Honour, and visitors are invited to lay flowers or wreaths at the Pool of Reflection. This ceremony commemorated the anniversary of Fall of Singapore on 15 February 1942.

Unless otherwise stated, images in this publication have been photographed by the Memorial's photographers: Marcus Fillinger, Ian Roach, David Whittaker and Nick Beresford-Williams.

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Year in Review 2022-23



Memorial Director Mr Matt Anderson PSM at the Last Post Ceremony.

Director's Foreword

This year the Development moved from the early and enabling works to the construction of the three major works packages: the Southern Entrance and Parade Ground, the Bean Building and Research Centre, and Anzac Hall and the Glazed Link/Atrium.

The form and foundations are now taking the shape of the buildings that will house the new galleries, and work is well advanced on the design and content of the Peacekeeping, Afghanistan and Iraq galleries.

We are surrounded on three sides by construction sites and now have three cranes in operation. School students participated in a competition to "name the cranes" with two of the three cranes now affectionately known as "Duffy" and "Teddy". Teddy was selected to honour the 101st Victoria Cross recipient, Ordinary Seaman Teddy Sheean, and Duffy was one of Simpson's donkeys. The student who named the crane noted that Duffy was "used to doing the heavy lifting". This competition is a reminder the Memorial is both a proud partner of the local community as well as an iconic national institution.

Throughout the Development we have continued to welcome visitors and honoured guests. The annual survey of Memorial visitors revealed that well over 90 per cent of visitors said their visit met or exceeded expectations. That is a great credit to the professionalism of all who work at the Australian War Memorial.

Many of the visits are captured in this Review, including that by the United States Ambassador to Australia, Her Excellency Caroline Kennedy, who met two of the remaining Coastwatchers and their descendants. Ambassador Kennedy was accompanied by General Mark Milley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Anzac Day saw a return to pre-COVID visitor numbers at the Dawn Service. We were also at capacity during the summer school holidays, and we opened for extended evening hours during Floriade and September school holidays to accommodate the

increased number of visitors. We commemorated significant anniversaries, including the 55th anniversaries of the attacks on Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral during the Vietnam War, and the 80th anniversaries of the Dam Busters Raid, the sinking of *Montevideo Maru*, and the tragic loss of AHS *Centaur* during the Second World War. It was with both heavy and thankful hearts that we heard the news that the final resting place of *Montevideo Maru* had been located. It has been a long journey for the families of those who were lost, and we hope there was some comfort in the fact that, as a nation, we never gave up searching for them and remembering them.

The Honourable Kim Beazley AC returned to the Memorial Council in December 2022 and was elected as chairman. Mr Beazley previously served as Minister for Defence, among other portfolios, and retains a keen interest in international affairs, particularly the Asia-Pacific region. We welcome his expertise and the enthusiasm with which he has greeted his appointment. We also farewelled our former chairman, Council member and director, Dr Brendan Nelson AO, who has taken a position overseas. Before his departure, Dr Nelson was inducted as a Fellow of the Australian War Memorial for his leadership and vision.

As an organisation, we launched the Australian War Memorial Strategic Plan 2023-2028. This plan, along with our Corporate Plan, will be our guide through the Development and into the next and most exciting phase of *Our Continuing Story*.

"The Memorial is our commitment to remembering and honouring the legacy of those Australians who have put service before self. At our daily Last Post Ceremony we not only acknowledge where and how these men and women died, but we also tell the stories of who they were when they lived, and of the families who loved and - in so many cases - still mourn for them."

Mr Matt Anderson PSM
Director

**We all had a wonderful visit.
 My husband had never been before
 and was amazed by the exhibits,
 information and displays.
 The dioramas were as incredible as
 I remember them from my Year 6
 Canberra trip many, many years ago.**

Visitor comment, August 2022.



979,719



Visitors

95,971



Student
visitors

5,334



School
Wreathlaying
visitors

70,709



Last Post
Ceremonies
visitors

40%



First time visits
as a percentage

380,657



Visitors to touring
exhibitions

9,783



Research
enquiries

160,735

followers



Facebook

37,453

followers



Instagram

32,578

followers



Twitter

13,853

followers



LinkedIn

4.79m



Visitors to
the website

74.9k



Total hours
Youtube watch time

15.21m



Website page
views

Development



Hayley Delmenico, Philippa Seldon and Rebecca Conway at the Southern Entrance site.

Development

Southern Entrance

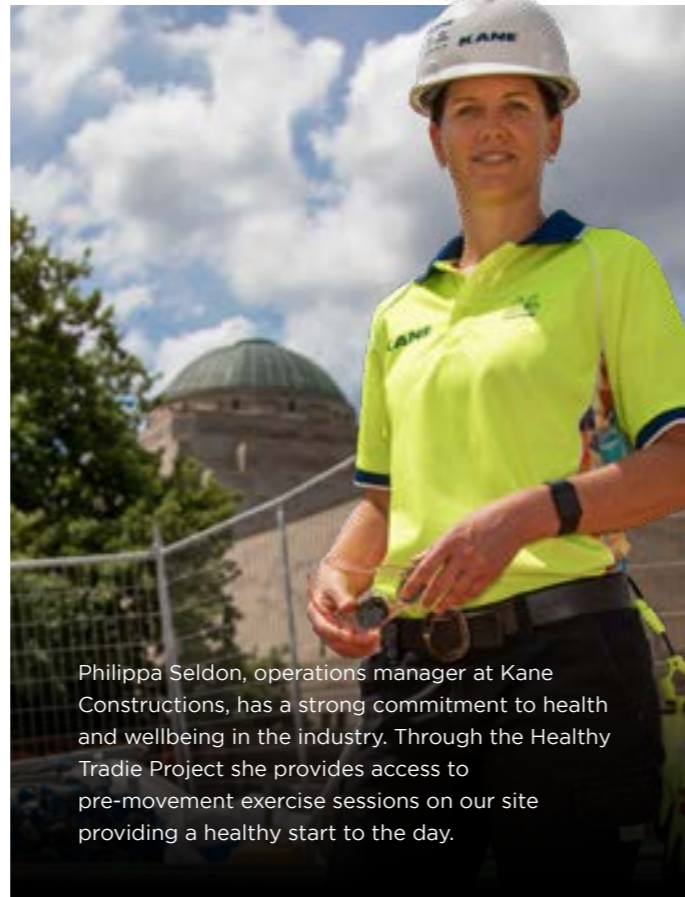
The Development Project employs many people across three sites on Memorial grounds. These sites are managed by companies that promote diversity and equal opportunity. Four of the five project managers are women, and on International Women's Day this year the Memorial highlighted some of our female leaders working on the Southern Entrance site.

"It's important to see the range of opportunities you can get out of a career in construction. I love my job. It's a job that was made for me. Knowing that you're part of the story of the next generation of this building is pretty exciting."

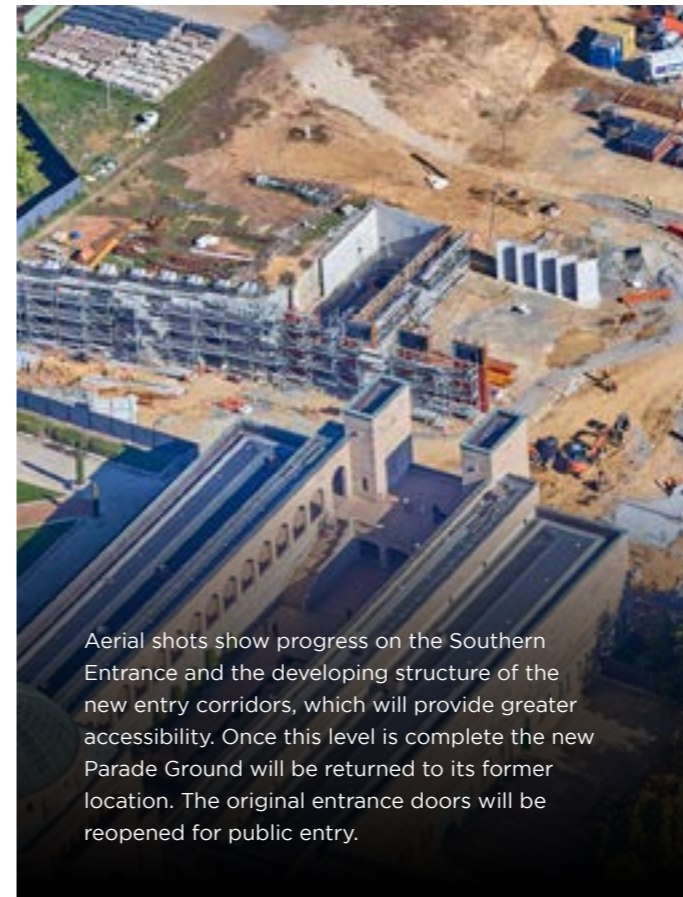
Rebecca Conway, project manager



Rebecca Conway is senior project manager with TSA Management, looking after the Southern Entrance site.



Philippa Seldon, operations manager at Kane Constructions, has a strong commitment to health and wellbeing in the industry. Through the Healthy Tradie Project she provides access to pre-movement exercise sessions on our site providing a healthy start to the day.



Aerial shots show progress on the Southern Entrance and the developing structure of the new entry corridors, which will provide greater accessibility. Once this level is complete the new Parade Ground will be returned to its former location. The original entrance doors will be reopened for public entry.



The Development Project provides a training ground for apprentice electrician Hayley Delmenico.

"I thought it would be really exciting to be able to work with my hands. This is a very significant place for a lot of people and just being able to say that you worked on it and being proud of it, is fantastic."

Hayley Delmenico, apprentice electrician

Anzac Hall

Progress continues on construction at the rear of the Memorial grounds. The new Anzac Hall and the main heritage building will be connected by a structure with a translucent roof. Anzac Hall will provide more than 7,000m² of exhibition space.



Lara (left) and Dakota won a behind-the-scenes tour of Treloar Technology Centre with Memorial Director Mr Matt Anderson PSM. Their entries were displayed in Poppy's Café.

Our Tower Cranes

This year the Memorial ran a competition – through the ACT Defence School Mentor Program – to name the two tower cranes on site. The crane operated by Lendlease on the new Anzac Hall site was named “Duffy” after Simpson’s donkey (because “Duffy is used to doing the heavy lifting”) by Dakota of Neville Bonner Primary School. The crane operated by Hindmarsh on the C.E.W. Bean Building site, was named “Teddy” by Lara from St Gregory’s Primary School, after Teddy Sheean VC, Australia’s most recent Victoria Cross recipient.

Eastern Precinct

The Memorial will be delivering the largest closed loop underground geothermal technology heating and cooling system in Australia as part of the Development Project. This system will be one of the largest geothermal installations of its type in

the southern hemisphere, using the earth’s energy to heat and cool the Memorial, saving more than \$1 million and eliminating production of up to a thousand tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions each year.



Looking forward to returning and visiting again once renovations are completed.

Visitor comment, October 2022.



The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group visited the Memorial and attended the Last Post Ceremony with members Wing Commander Cheryl Neal (left) and Marianne Atkinson laying a wreath.

Community Engagement

The Gallery Development team has been managing a community engagement program, with a focus on collecting contemporary stories of service to be told in the Memorial's new galleries. Since commencing the program in 2020 they have engaged with over 6,000 people. This program will continue until the end of 2023, when new gallery designs will be finalised.

Five community advisory groups have been established to provide advice and feedback on story and gallery designs: Accessibility; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders; Culturally and Linguistically Diverse; Veterans; and Youth. Each group meets at least twice a year with our team, helping to ensure appropriate representation within the new galleries.



NO WAR Objects

David Burgess and Will Saunders climbed the Sydney Opera House and set about painting "NO WAR" in giant red capital letters on the side of the Opera House sail on 18 March 2003. Using red paint and a roller, this famous protest occurred as US President George W. Bush announced attacks against Saddam Hussein.

In March this year, the Memorial received the paint tin, roller and sneakers David used into the National Collection. Also donated was one of the snowglobes that helped raise funds to pay fines he incurred.

These items will be displayed alongside an F/A-18 Hornet, which took part in Operation Falconer during the 2003 invasion of Iraq, in the new Anzac Hall.



CH-47D Chinook

The Memorial confirmed the inclusion of CH-47D Chinook A15-202 in the new Anzac Hall in early February. One of the first two Australian Chinooks deployed to Afghanistan in 2006 from 5 Aviation Regiment, after completing four rotations to Afghanistan, it was damaged during a Special Forces operation in 2009. Memorial staff have interviewed more than 100 Chinook veterans about their experiences.

Spotlight Story

Jennie Norberry

Jennie Norberry was looking through a unit diary in the Research Centre when she stumbled across a picture of her grandfather.

As the manager of information services, Jennie has helped thousands of people learn about their military history, but she never expected to find a photograph of her grandfather, Ellis Norberry, hidden in the pages of the war diaries.

“My grandfather served in the Second World War, but he never really spoke about it,” Jennie said. “So I started looking at his war service and I found a photo of him in the war diaries. It was very unusual. You don’t expect to find photos in war diaries – that doesn’t usually happen – but in this case they’d taken group photos of the unit and included copies of them.

“I was flicking through the pages and there was my granddad. There were no names, but genetics are strong in the family, and I was like, there he is. He looked just like my brother and my father.”

Today, Jennie is also helping to tell the stories of a new generation. As well as working in the Research Centre, Jennie is a curator on the Development Project.

She grew up at Bonny Hills, south of Port Macquarie, on the mid-north coast of New South Wales, and moved to Canberra to study library and information studies at the University of Canberra. She had planned to be a chef, but decided to become a librarian when she realised a career in hospitality wouldn’t suit her.

“When I realised plan A wasn’t going to work, I went to plan B, and as it turned out, it’s a very good fit for my personality,” Jennie said. “My casual job through high school was at the local library, and I thought, ‘I like reading, how about I become a librarian?’ ... without realising that librarians don’t necessarily have a lot to do with books.”

She started working at the Memorial in November 2001 shortly after graduating, “and never left”.

“All through my degree, I planned to go into more archival work ... and then I got the job here at the Memorial in reference work, and despite being a massive introvert, I found I really enjoyed it,” she said.

“As a reference service, we’re dealing directly with the public, and we get all the interesting stories.

“We’re bringing information to people, and helping people to discover information, which is what I like to do. And that’s my bag: helping people find stories.

“Even after 20 plus years, there are still some surprises, and every so often, there is a quirky one, or something that’s a bit unusual.

“There’s often a bit of a mystery to it, so you’re digging into the story, just trying to get to the bottom of it, and trying to work out why and how.

“There’s a real sense of satisfaction in that research process and in finding the story, but also in helping people to find their own family stories and make those connections.

“I know things now about military history that I never thought I would know.”

Jennie has worked in a number of different roles over the years and has co-curated various exhibitions, including the temporary exhibition, *Anzac voices*, ahead of the centenary of the First World War.

She is currently working as curator with the Development Project on the new Glazed Link being built between the Memorial building and the new Anzac Hall.

“It was a bit of a push to go and to do something that puts you out of your comfort zone, so when the opportunity arose, I put my hand up,” Jennie said.

“I now know a lot about guided missile destroyers, the DDGs, and the F-111 and the ASLAV ...



“The intention is to tell the story of the objects through the eyes of the people who served in, on and around them, not just focusing on the captain of the ship, or the pilot of the aircraft.

“In the case of the DDGs and HMAS *Brisbane*, there were 300-plus people serving on board. They lived on the object, and so we are doing research into oral histories and getting them to tell their story of working and living on the vessel ...

“At the end of the day, I love the collections and I love the stories, so why would I leave?

“People don’t always get the opportunity to see the things that I do ...

“It’s always a privilege ... providing people with access to these collections, showing them the hidden gems, and helping them to make connections with history and the collection ... allowing them to see things they never would have seen.

“It’s pretty special.”

Commemoration



Visitors place a poppy on the Roll of Honour at the Last Post Ceremony for Flying Officer Douglas Anderson Cumming, 31 March 2023.

Commemoration

Remembrance Day

The 2022 National Ceremony was held in the Captain Reg Saunders Courtyard with more than 1,500 people in attendance. The Commemorative Address was provided by Mr Kerry Stokes AC, Former Chairman and Fellow of the Australian War Memorial.

The ceremony was attended by the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), and Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley, and was broadcast live across Australia and streamed online.



It was a humbling and emotional experience.

Visitor comment, September 2022.



Dunghutti and Bundjalung man, Sub-Lieutenant Jordon Bradshaw of the Royal Australian Navy introduced the Dawn Service with a yidaki (digeridoo) performance.

Anzac Day Dawn Service

This year's Anzac Day commemorations marked the 108th anniversary of the landings on Gallipoli. In the darkness of early morning, readings from the letters and diaries of Australian servicemen were heard as a crowd starting gathering in the Captain Reg Saunders Courtyard and Sculpture Garden. The Dawn Service was attended by more than 30,000 people, and was televised nationally. The Honourable Anthony Albanese MP, Prime Minister of Australia, delivered the Commemorative Address.

Anzac Day Veterans' March

National commemorations this year included the RSL (ACT) Branch Veterans' March and a flyover by a C-130 Hercules. The Veterans' March, led and reviewed by Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), comprised more than 1800 veterans.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Veterans and Services Association Ceremony

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Veterans and Services Association (ATSIVSA) Commemorative Ceremony, honouring First Nations Peoples who have served in defence of Country, was held at the *For Our Country* memorial in the Sculpture Garden.



The march was led by Australian veterans of United Nations peacekeeping operations in Somalia. The Governor-General marched with 1RAR Battalion Group, which he commanded in Somalia 30 years ago.



Right: Warrant Officer Class 2 Edwin James Mimi (Wakka Wakka) (Ret'd) left, and Warrant Officer Class 1 Ken Nelliman Somalia Veterans of Operation Solace attended the ceremony.

Last Post Ceremony

Held at the end of each day, visitors to the Last Post Ceremony hear the story behind one of the names on the Roll of Honour. The story is read by a serving member of the Australian Defence Force and is followed by the Ode, and the playing of the Last Post, a bugle call that symbolises the end of the days activities and final rest.

Visitors are invited to lay flowers or wreaths of remembrance at the Pool of Reflection.

The ceremony is live streamed on our website and via YouTube for those unable to attend.

For the ceremony calendar, and to view previous ceremonies, see www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/last-post-ceremony



Assistant Director Mrs Anne Bennie, right, accompanied Mr. Andrew McKenzie and his father Second World War veteran, 98-year-old Leading Aircraftman John McKenzie at the Last Post Ceremony in September commemorating the service of Private Charles Roland Bird.



On 17 April 2023 we marked the tenth anniversary of the Last Post Ceremony. The Memorial reunited our original piper – Mr Stephen Ladd of the Canberra Pipes and Drums – and Mr Dan Hiscock OAM, who sounded the bugle at the first Last Post Ceremony and is now the Memorial's assistant manager, visitor services.



I would like to thank the staff and volunteers at the Last Post Ceremony for everything they did for us before and after, to make the laying of the wreath a wonderful and special memory.

Visitor comment, November 2022.

Right: The Last Post Ceremony is held each day regardless of weather and all ages are invited to lay wreaths. On 7 October 2022 we commemorated the service of Lieutenant Michael Kenneth Housdan Fussell.

Wreathlaying Ceremonies

The Memorial conducts many ceremonies each year, marking significant events and anniversaries. These included Bomber Command, The Fall of Singapore, and the Sandakan Death March. The Memorial also conducts tours for special interest groups, providing a greater understanding and appreciation of Australia's involvement in conflict.

National Servicemen of Australia Commemorative Ceremony

The National Servicemen's Association held their annual wreathlaying ceremony at the National Service memorial on the Eastern side of the Memorial Grounds in September.

National Student Leadership Forum

The National Student Leadership Forum visited the Memorial in September to hear Major General Natasha Fox AM CSS, Deputy Chief of Army provide her reflections on leadership. Students then placed poppies in the Hall of Memory.



Spotlight Story

Mathew Rose

Mat Rose has a yellow post-it note stuck to his desk. On it is the time 10.57 and 20 seconds. It's the time the ode needs to start on Remembrance Day so that the minute's silence will begin at exactly 11 am.

"Remembrance Day for me all comes down to hitting the minute's silence at 11 am," Mat said. "And so that timing is always at the back of my mind ... We have to get it right, and so that's pretty much my focus on Remembrance Day – how do we schedule everything that's happening on that morning to make sure we're cueing the ode to be read at 10.57 and 20 seconds?"

Mat is responsible for cueing the timings for the Australian War Memorial's Anzac Day and Remembrance Day ceremonies so that everything runs smoothly and on time.

A born and bred Canberran, Mat began working at the Memorial in May 2012.

"I had been working in hospitality for a long time, working in cafes and then bars and nightclubs, and I saw that there were positions going for front of house at the Memorial, so I went for it," he said. "I'd been to the Memorial when I was at school, like everyone does, but it wasn't till I started working here that I explored the building properly and really understood the value and importance of this place ..."

"In my spare time outside of work, I was organising a lot of live music gigs around Canberra, and putting on live shows. I'd never really thought about that as a job ... it was just a hobby, something I really enjoyed doing, and then I saw what the events and ceremonies team did here and I wanted to be a part of it."

He joined the events and ceremonies team two weeks before Remembrance Day 2012.

"I was thrown into the deep end, supporting the ticketing," Mat said. "And it was a sharp learning curve, but I really enjoyed it, so I stayed in the team, applied for new positions as they came up,

and ended up in the assistant manager's role 10 years later.

"My role is about identifying what resources we need for major commemorations, and then working with the team to make sure everyone is on the same page and has the same goals, so that we can deliver the commemorations, in the best possible way, all within a set timeframe.

"Because everything we do here at the Memorial is anniversary-based and tradition-based, we can never miss a deadline. That puts a lot of good healthy pressure on us, and it can be challenging at times, but I enjoy the challenge, and being creative in how we respond to some of those pressures."

The team begins planning for major ceremonies like Anzac Day and Remembrance Day up to 18 months in advance.

"In the end, what we do has a real meaningful impact for the people who attend, whether that's Anzac Day, when there's thousands of people on site, and you have complete strangers thanking you for your efforts, or a small ceremony for 20 people at 8.30 am on a Wednesday morning," he said.

"At the end of the ceremony, you can see that those 20 people are emotionally moved and they are very appreciative of the efforts we've gone to in remembering their small group or their small part."

This year, Mat helped deliver his 11th Dawn Service at the Memorial.

"There are so many special moments working at the Memorial," he said.

"You can't help get caught up in the emotion of Anzac Day, and so it always feels significant.

"Being part of that gathering in the early hours and experiencing thousands of people in collective silence is a truly moving experience.



"I still get this indescribable feeling of pride and amazement, surrounded by that crowd of people, all gathered and united for one common reason, to pay their respects.

"Hearing the bugle sounding the Last Post, echoing off Mount Ainslie, followed by the rising sun and the cackling of cockatoos as the day breaks is just a magical experience ..."

"As soon as the MC finishes, or the ABC cuts the broadcast off, or that last wreath is placed, and we know that everything has come together and it's

run smoothly, there's a real sense of relief and a sense of accomplishment and achievement ..."

"Just seeing the appreciation from the veterans and from the community ... is pretty special. We're very lucky that we get to see the impact we have on the community and that's always really nice ... I can't help but appreciate how fortunate I am to have the role that I have and to work on the events and ceremonies that I do ..."

"As a kid, I don't think I would have ever seen myself working here, but I'm glad that I do."

Exhibitions



The *Action! Film and War* exhibition includes the costume worn by Brendan Cowell from *Beneath Hill 60* (courtesy of Sparke films), and the dress worn by Deborah Mailman in *The Sapphires* (courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archives of Australia). Photography courtesy of Museum of Tropical Queensland.

Exhibitions

Action! Film and War

The exhibition *Action! Film and War* includes material from Australians armed with cameras who have shared their experiences as they record history and bear witness to conflict – either as a professional duty or for their personal record.

This exhibition is also the story of movies themselves – the comfort they can provide to those serving far from home and the way they can take our war stories, re-frame them and share them with new audiences.

The exhibition is touring nationally, appearing in Museum of Tropical Queensland, Townsville (QLD), State Library of New South Wales, Sydney (NSW) and Queen Victoria Museum and Gallery, Launceston (TAS).



The Academy Award won by director Mr Ken G. Hall for *Kokoda Front Line*, one of four films that shared the 1943 award for Best Documentary. Showcasing the work of war cinematographer Damien Parer and some of the most recognisable footage of the Second World War, this was the first Oscar won by an Australian. (Courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archives of Australia). Photography courtesy of Museum of Tropical Queensland.



This restored Bell & Howell cine-camera was modified so it could be operated from within a Lancaster Bomber and was used by Flight Sergeant Robert Buckland on multiple raids over Europe. Photography courtesy of Museum of Tropical Queensland.



Bali Bombings 20th Anniversary

The Memorial commemorated the 20th anniversary of the Bali bombings with a photographic display co-curated with the Australian Federal Police Museum.

The display detailed the Australian response to the terrorist attack that took place in the popular tourist area of Kuta on the Indonesian island of Bali on 12 October 2002.

Two blasts killed 204 people, including two perpetrators and 88 Australians.

This display was dedicated to the victims of the bombings and the government agencies, the Australian Defence Force, consular officers and the Australian Federal Police who responded.



Australian Federal Police Officers Paul Roland (left) and Clifford Cooke, part of the 23rd contingent to the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), talk to an unidentified Cypriot man. P03505.005

In the Service of Peace, 75 years of Australian peacekeeping

Opening on 6 September 2022, the photographic exhibition *In the Service of Peace* commemorates Australians who served their country in international peacekeeping and security operations over the last 75 years.

***“Gentle in manner, resolute in deed”:
Australian peacekeeping operations in Somalia***

To honour the 30th Anniversary of Australian Defence Force Operations in Somalia, the Memorial held a photographic exhibition *“Gentle in manner, resolute in deed”:
Australian peacekeeping operations in Somalia*.

Attending the opening of the exhibition was Corporal Terry “Burger” Conner and Lieutenant Bob Worswick, pictured in front of an image of them taken by George Gittoes in Baidoa, Somalia in 1993.



Incredible displays honouring past heroes, servicemen and servicewomen.

Visitor comment, September 2022.

Ink in the Lines

Showcasing the tattoos of Australian servicemen and servicewomen, *Ink in the Lines* examines how tattoos express their identities as veterans, the commemoration of loss, experiences of trauma and overcoming adversity, the bonds of family and friends, and acknowledging the experiences that make us who we are.

Launched at the Memorial in September 2020, this year the exhibition has toured Bundaberg Regional Gallery (QLD), Museum of Tropical Queensland (QLD), Wanneroo Gallery (WA), Geraldton Regional Art Gallery (WA), Newcastle Museum (NSW), and is appearing at Manly Art Gallery and Museum (NSW).

Art in Conflict

Art in Conflict is a touring exhibition of contemporary art featuring recent official war art commissions by Susan Norrie (Iraq, 2016) and Megan Cope (Middle East, 2017), and a landmark commemorative work by Angelica Mesiti.

Launched at the Shepparton Art Museum in March 2022, the exhibition includes more than 70 paintings, drawings, films, prints, photography and sculptures from leading Australian artists including Khadim Ali, Rushdi Anwar, eX de Medici, Denise Green, Richard Lewer, Mike Parr, Ben Quilty, Tony Albert, Paddy Bedford, Robert Campbell Jr,

Michael Cook, Shirley Macnamara, and Betty Muffler. The exhibition has toured Ipswich Regional Gallery (QLD) and Perc Tucker Regional Gallery (QLD) and will be on display at SH Ervin Gallery (NSW) from July to September 2023. It will continue to tour nationally until it goes on display in the Memorial's new galleries.

“

The exhibits were **EXCEPTIONAL!**

So informative and well done.

Visitor comment, July 2022.



Photo courtesy of Geraldton Regional Art Gallery



Photo courtesy of Perc Tucker Regional Gallery

Spotlight Story

Daniel Eisenberg

Daniel Eisenberg is surrounded by film, the medium he loves.

"I've always loved movies," he said. "There is something about the moving image and how it transports you. A still image captures a moment, but what a moving image does is different. It can transport you to the far side of the world, be it in a magical fantasy film, or in the archives.

"You can see what the tracks of a tank look like as they move across the Western Front, or the way soldiers hang their shoulders while carrying someone on a stretcher, or the recoil of artillery firing.

"Film footage makes it real and emotive, and places people into another world – a place that hopefully most of us never have to be."

Daniel is a senior curator of photographs, film and sound at the Australian War Memorial as well as a trained film archivist, historian and projectionist.

Arts and academia are in his blood. His mother is a professor of oral history, and his father was a gallery director for 40 years. His grandfather was a Rat of Tobruk. His paternal grandparents moved from the Polish city of Przemyśl, to Palestine in the late 1930s due to the rise of the Nazis. Daniel's grandmother lost her entire family in the Holocaust; his grandfather had only a few surviving relatives.

Daniel grew up in country New South Wales, and studied film theory at the University of Sydney, before completing an honours degree in film.

"I started studying creative writing and journalism, and found my way into film studies, while discovering my desire to understand and tell stories through the moving image," he said.

"An assistant curator of film position came up at the Memorial, and it was that funny combination of someone with a research background and hands-on experience, and I'm like, 'I think this might be a job for me,' so I threw my hat in the

ring, and here we are 10 years later.

"I had never walked into the Australian War Memorial until the day before my job interview. So my initial understanding of what the Memorial does – the stories it holds, the experiences it shares, and more broadly, the Australian experience of war – is not framed by the building, or the Commemorative Area, or by the exhibitions, but by the collection itself, and the medium that I love."

The Memorial holds more than 10,000 individual items in its film collection and more than 1.2 million items in its broader photo, film and sound collection.

"Our film collection goes back to the Boer War ... and we're still actively collecting to this day," Daniel said.

"The variety in our collection is quite remarkable, from 35mm film that's 100 years old, to hard drives with thousands of digital files on them, and everything in between.

"We live in the age of the moving image ... It is how we tell our stories today, but it is also how we told our stories 100 years ago. When they were collecting objects on the Western Front, Bean himself said, 'We have to have a moving image record.' He knows it has to be there, but he also knows the moving image can sell a story in a way that almost any other medium can't."

The feature film *We of the AIF* was produced using footage from the Memorial's collection taken by Sir Hubert Wilkins, Captain Frank Hurley and others during the First World War.

"George Mitchell puts it together," Daniel said. "He's a Gallipoli and Western Front veteran, and they tour it around the country, raising money. It premieres in Sydney during the Second World War. They've literally got a projector in the back of a truck, and Mitchell is narrating it live, but the funds raised go directly into the fund for building the Roll of Honour at the Memorial, so film is



Daniel in the Memorial's film conservation area.

literally in the foundations of the building." Today, the film features in *Action! Film and War*, a new travelling exhibition that explores how film has framed our understanding of the Australian experience of war. Daniel is the lead curator of the exhibition which features more than 250 items.

"It is very easily the crowning achievement of my professional career," Daniel said.

"A lot of my understanding of military history has come from the moving image, from those grainy images on Anzac Day.

"We wanted to explain where they come from,

and what happens behind the camera – who is the man or woman holding a camera instead of a gun? "And it's that personal experience that has always appealed to me.

"Through photographs, film and sound, you record and witness history. The people out in the field, be they the appointed official photographer/cinematographer, or the singular soldier, sailor or air force personnel, they record their moment, and document it, and there's something to be said for that ...

"There is a truth that gets recorded there, even when that truth is ugly."

Projects and Programs



Dance card and pencil from the 26th Battalion Ball 22 January 1919.

Projects and Programs

Research Centre Souvenir Collection

From July to September 2022, Research Centre Family History volunteers worked to accession souvenir collections - material such as dance cards, ball invitations and pamphlets relating to First and Second World War commemorative or fundraising events - into the National Collection.



Program from the Rathmines 4th WAAF Birthday celebrations.

Summer Vacation Scholarship Scheme

Each year the Memorial provides summer vacation scholarships for history students who are in the third or fourth year of an undergraduate course, or are undertaking early-stage postgraduate studies.

certificates by Memorial Director Mr Matt Anderson PSM. Their papers, "Australian sailors' experiences during the First World War" and "Grumble, Gossip and Glee: Australians in Canada in the Empire Air Training scheme", will be available on the Memorial's website.

In February this year our scholars Mx Hannah Max Billington (left) and Ms Anna Wilkinson were presented their



Distance and Rural Technologies Education Program on Peacekeeping

As part of the NSW Education Department's Distance and Rural Technologies initiative, Memorial staff participated in the Virtual Week in Canberra program in September.

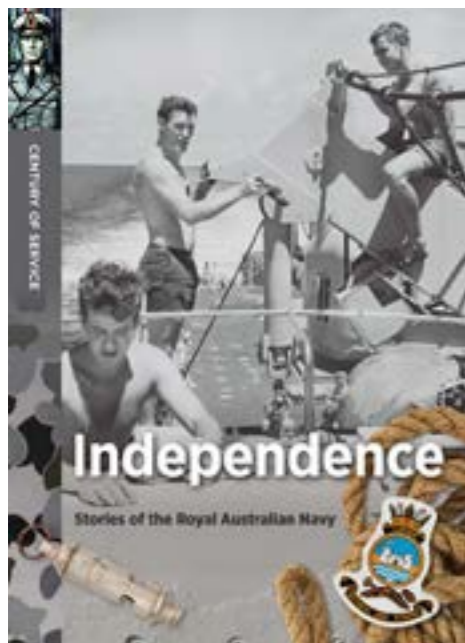
Marking the 75th anniversary of Australian involvement in United Nations peacekeeping operations, the program included personal stories of Australians who have served, and explored how and why we remember at this national place of commemoration. More than 3,000 students participated in activities including an interview with veteran peacekeeper Captain Ben Farinazzo, who represented Australia at the 2018 Invictus Games in Sydney winning gold medals for indoor rowing and powerlifting. Farinazzo is pictured with the Memorial's Johanna Butler (left) and Joanna Taplin.



Les Carlyon Literary Prize

This year's Les Carlyon Literary Prize was awarded to Professor Christine Helliwell for *Semut: The untold story of a secret Australian operation in WWII Borneo*, a comprehensive account of special operations in Borneo during the Second World War involving serving Australians and Dayak allies. The Les Carlyon Literary Prize is awarded for

single-authored works of fiction and non-fiction relating to Australian military history, Australian social military history, or Australian war history. Professor Helliwell received her award from Dr Karl James, Head Military History and Mr Matthew Anderson PSM, Director of the Memorial.



Century of Service Publication Series

The Memorial has collaborated with Department of Veterans' Affairs in the creation of the twelfth title in the Century of Service educational series, *Independence: Stories of the Royal Australian Navy*.

Each title takes its name from one of the stained glass windows in the Hall of Memory. This collaborative series began in 2013, with existing titles including *Devotion, Audacity, Ancestry, Comradeship, Candour, Control, Patriotism, and Endurance*.

Restoration of Messerschmitt Me 163B-1a Komet Rocket Fighter

This year the Memorial commenced the restoration of the Messerschmitt Me 163B-1a Komet aircraft. This rocket-powered fighter aircraft was manufactured in 1945 and has been in the Memorial's collection since it was donated by the Royal Australian Air Force in 1986. Restoration at the Treloar Technology Centre will culminate

in the aircraft being displayed in the new Anzac Hall upper level alongside "G for George", our Lancaster bomber. This restoration project is made possible through the generous support of multinational aerospace and defense technology company Northrop Grumman Australia Pty Ltd.



Oral History Program

Oral histories are an important part of the Memorial's collection, offering rich insight into first-hand experiences of conflict.

This year the Memorial were pleased to add to over 40 interviews with RAN, RAAF and Australian Army veterans. In October, a Memorial team travelled to Townsville to meet and interview soldiers of 1RAR involved in the non-combatant evacuation of Kabul in August 2021.

For many of these soldiers, their first experience overseas involved confronting distraught and desperate people hoping to escape Afghanistan as the Taliban retook power.

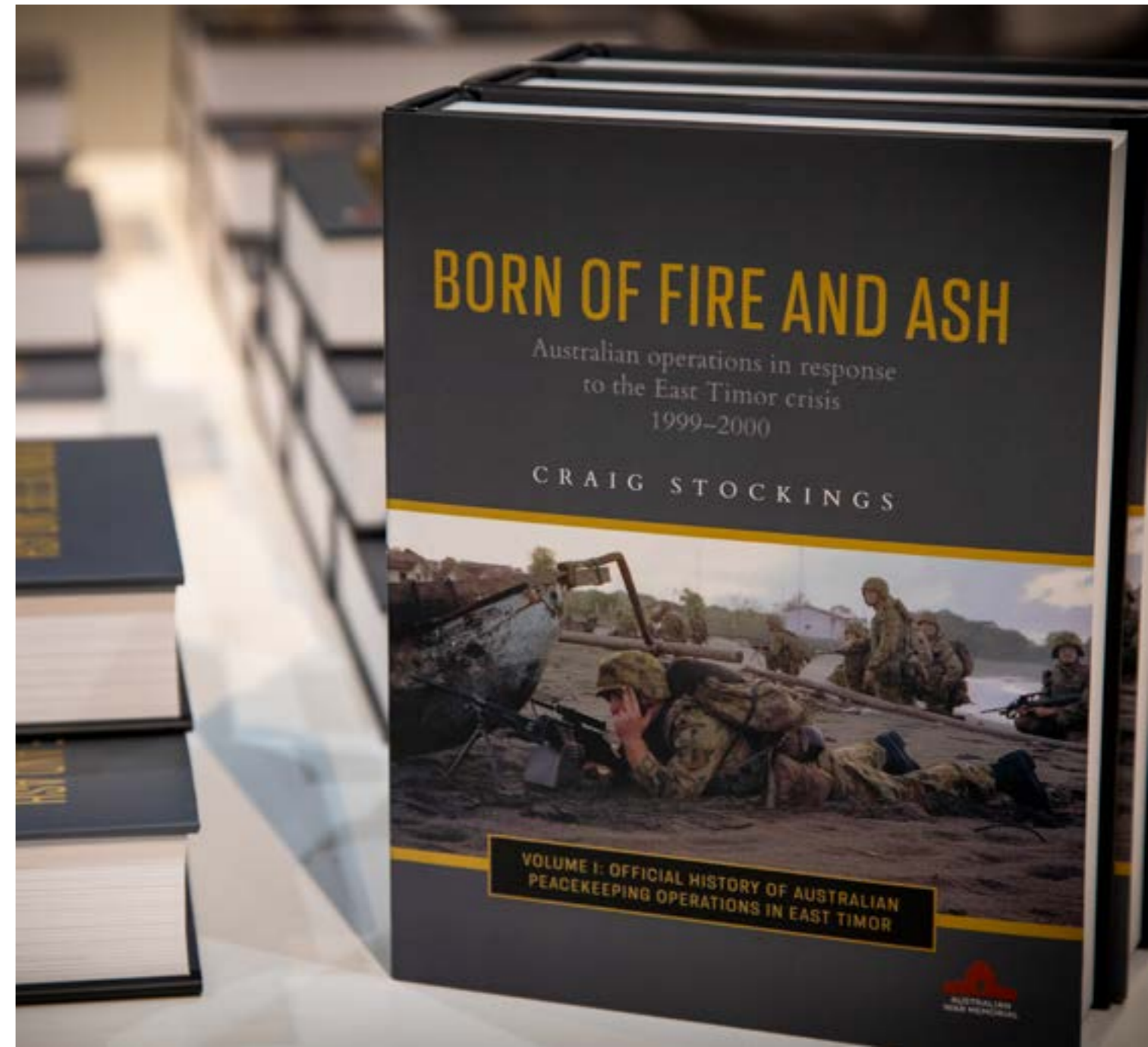


Jasmin, a medic with 1RAR, shared her experience of assisting Afghans with Australian documentation at the Kabul Airport gates.

Official History Program

Born of Fire and Ash: Australian Operations in Response to the East Timor Crisis 1999–2000, the first volume in the Official History of Australian Operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and East Timor, was released this year.

The Memorial has sponsored the production of Australia's official war histories since its inception. In 2016, the team led by Official Historian Professor Craig Stockings began writing the official history of Australia's combat operations in Iraq (2003–11) and Afghanistan (2001–14), and its role in peacekeeping operations in East Timor (1999–2012).



Spotlight Story

Craig Stockings

Professor Craig Stockings was a young Australian Army infantry officer when he deployed to East Timor in September 1999.

“There was an early phone call one morning, and then I was rushing into work,” he said. “I suddenly got promoted on the spot, was attached to a company, and we were away that afternoon.”

Two decades later, Craig is the official historian of Australian operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and East Timor.

His book, *Born of Fire and Ash: Australian operations in response to the East Timor crisis 1999–2000*, is the first of a six-volume Official History of Australian Operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and East Timor, and the first of two volumes to be published on Timor-Leste.

It’s a time Craig knows well.

He had joined the army straight out of school before deploying to East Timor in September 1999 as part of INTERFET, the Australian-led International Force East Timor.

“I finished my schooling in Grafton, but I was pretty determined to get out of home and to do something,” he said. “I decided the army was the way to go. There was no family history with defence at all, and I didn’t know what I was getting myself into, but I was infatuated with military stuff as a kid, and I always did well at school, so I was fortunate enough to get the grades to get a scholarship to go to the Australian Defence Force Academy.

“It’s been 30 years now since I walked in to the front gate of ADFA, an ironing board under my arm, and started my undergraduate degree and my cadet training. I was a STEM, science, maths guy at school, so when I got to ADFA, I naturally started doing a Bachelor of Science ...

“I didn’t study history in high school at all. I had no real interest in it. But the rules at the time were that you had to do an arts subject, so I picked

history, just randomly. I failed the first couple of essays, but I really enjoyed it in a way I didn’t enjoy STEM, so I changed degrees, and ended up doing an honours thesis in history.”

Craig went on to serve as an infantry officer with the 3rd Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment, in East Timor and as aide-de-camp to the Governor-General. Today, he is a professor of military history and the head of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of NSW, Canberra.

“Initially, I thought I’d like to be a doctor, but then I thought, ‘What am I doing this for?’ I didn’t actually want to be a doctor, so I stopped and thought, if the mortgage wasn’t an issue, what would I like to do?

“The answer was, I really enjoyed my honours year, I’ll do a PhD in history and then I’ll get a real job.

“I did it in two years, and at the end of that, I took a job with corrective services. We were literally on baked beans and we couldn’t pay the bills. That same week, a tutoring job came up at the university ... and then it all went from there.

“I was lucky enough to find myself as an historian specialising in military history at UNSW at ADFA, when the opportunity to take the official history job came up a decade later.

“I was working as an associate professor, teaching cadets and post grads, so I threw my hat into the ring.

“We started work in 2016, and we had six years to do six volumes, which is light speed for a project of this sort ... I put on five other authors, six other research assistants, and administrative staff, and then we settled down in the dungeon [a secure area in the administration building], got used to the routine of working in a top secret environment, and got to work.”



Craig pictured with the Long Range Patrol vehicle known as “One Fifty” used in Afghanistan during the early stages of the war.

The team has examined hundreds of thousands of classified government documents and interviewed more than 2,500 veterans and stakeholders as part of the project.

“There’s a 100-year tradition of official histories in Australia, and that’s meant we can’t get this wrong,” Craig said.

“There were 40,000 veterans in East Timor, 60,000 in Afghanistan, and they know what happened ...

“I’m immensely proud of what the team has put together and is still putting together. No team could have done more. The hours, the commitment – it’s above and beyond ...

“People pay us to do what we like to do, and not everyone can say that, so it’s a pretty privileged position to be in.

“It is a once in a lifetime opportunity.”

Acquisitions and Donations



Acquisitions and Donations

Stephen Dupont and Andrew Quilty Photographic Collections

The Memorial has acquired two photographic collections from Australian photographers Stephen Dupont and Andrew Quilty. Stephen Dupont's collection chronicles the civil war taking place in Afghanistan in the late 1990s that lead to the rise of the Taliban. Dupont was one of a handful of foreign journalist in the country during this tumultuous period.

Andrew Quilty's collection, which captures the everyday lives of ordinary Afghans, spans his time as a resident of Kabul, from 2015 until August 2021 when the Taliban returned to power.



Andrew Quilty, Afghan civilians waiting to leave Hamid Karzai International Airport one week after the fall of Kabul in August 2022. AWM2022.289.2.31



Air to Air Refuelling (AAR) Hose-and-Drogue, and Pod

This hose-and-drogue assembly was fitted to the wing of an RAAF KC-30A tanker aircraft from No. 33 Squadron, RAAF. The aircraft deployed to the Middle East Area of Operations as part of Operation Okra.

On one air to air refueling mission in September 2016, a malfunction prevented the hose-and-drogue from retracting after an aircraft unplugged, resulting in an emergency landing in Abu Dhabi with the hose-and-drogue still extended. Damage caused during this incident rendered the drogue unserviceable and it was removed and replaced.

This AAR pod is an early variant, the only intact example of this type remaining in Australia, and will be displayed in the new galleries.



Silkworm Missile

This Chinese-manufactured Iraqi missile was captured by Royal Australian Navy Clearance Diving Team 3 during the First Gulf War in 1991. It was recovered by Lieutenant Ian "Nosey" Parker and Leading Seaman Clearance Diver Scott McCallum after a dangerous journey to and from Umm Qasr in Iraq using a borrowed semi-trailer.

Once the missile was rendered safe it was returned to Australia in HMAS *Westralia*. The 7.48 metre-long HY-2 Silkworm Anti-Ship Missile was acquired in 2020 and will be displayed in the lower level of the new Anzac Hall galleries. Restoration of the missile was completed this year.



Cameron Baird's parents, Doug and Kaye Baird with the portrait of their son by Archibald-winning artist, Marcus Wills. Corporal Cameron Stewart Baird VC MG. AWM2022.4.162.18

Corporal Cameron Stewart Baird Portrait

Corporal Cameron Stewart Baird VC MG was killed in action in Afghanistan on 22 June 2013. In 2014, he was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for Australia, the nation's highest honour. Baird was Australia's last battlefield casualty in Afghanistan, and the 100th Australian to receive the Victoria Cross.

A portrait of the late Baird VC by Archibald-winning artist Marcus Wills was unveiled at the Memorial in late November 2022.

I couldn't travel to Afghanistan, nor could I meet Cameron, but I hoped to absorb something from afar ... I thought that perhaps through research and talking with people who knew Cameron, I might be able to glean something which feels authentic ... From what I could learn about Cameron, he was respected for leading from the front.

Marcus Wills, Artist.



Ludwig Hirschfeld-Mack Artwork

The image painted in ink and gouache vividly depicts the contradictory forces of humanity: creation and destruction. At the centre of the image is a figure split down the middle, on the left we see music, literature, architecture and modernity; on the right the dogs of war are let loose. Bombs rain down, explosions burst, buildings and people fall.

Ludwig Hirschfeld-Mack was a German citizen who served in the German army in the First World War. After the Armistice, he studied at the progressive art and design school, the Bauhaus. His maternal grandmother was Jewish and in 1936 he emigrated to Britain.

At the outbreak of the Second World War he was declared an enemy alien and sent to Australia on *Dunera*. After being interned in camps at Hay, Orange and Tatura, he was released in 1942 to take up an appointment as the art master at the Geelong Grammar School in Corio, Victoria, where this drawing was made.

LEFT: Ludwig Hirschfeld-Mack (1893-1965), *Two worlds*, AWM2022.1799.1



ABOVE: Karla Dickens (Wiradjuri), *No return*, AWM2023.40.1

Karla Dickens Artwork

This collage by Wiradjuri artist Karla Dickens is a bright composition of found fabrics and acrylic paint that considers the ongoing legacy of the Australian Frontier Wars, specifically the Bathurst War of 1824 and Wiradjuri leader and resistance warrior Windradyne.

Primarily a floral pattern, the artist has placed details within the work that invite the viewer to examine more closely. Featured within the work are weapons, red waratahs (the state flower of New South Wales), an Aboriginal warrior, and human skulls against a backdrop of a shield.

Following the founding of Bathurst in 1815, by 1824 the resistance of local Wiradjuri people saw Governor Macquarie declare martial law. What followed was a bloody and cruel war of extermination. Windradyne never surrendered, and his resistance continued until his death in 1829. Windradyne remains a nationally significant figure.



Sikorsky S-70-9 Black Hawk

The Sikorsky S-70A-9 Black Hawk "Saracen" A25-112 was used by the Australian Army's 5th Aviation Regiment, and later by 6th Aviation Regiment. The Black Hawk supported Australian-led INTERFET operations in Timor-Leste in 1999, and continued to support Australian operations in 2004, 2008 and 2011. It was used in Bougainville in 1994 and in Fiji in 2006, and provided humanitarian aid to Operations Pakistan Assist in 2006 and PNG Assist in 2007. Its last operational flight was in 2019. It arrived at the Memorial in July 2022.

Spotlight Story

Work Health and Safety Committee

The Work Health and Safety Committee is a staff-led group that aims to ensure Memorial workers, volunteers and visitors have a safe and healthy work environment where every individual feels safe and valued.

The committee was established to enable effective consultation on health and safety matters across the Memorial and help build a positive safety culture where any safety concerns are addressed quickly and fully.

It aims to promote an environment where staff work cooperatively to achieve positive health and safety outcomes and includes representatives from across the Memorial as well as nominated management representatives.

David Fitzgerald, the Head of Buildings and Services, is one of the management representatives on the committee. He says consultation is an essential part of managing health and safety risks in the workplace.

“A safe workplace can only be achieved through effective consultation and cooperation between management and staff,” he says. “It’s about identifying hazards and assessing risks and finding ways to eliminate or minimise those risks. Staff are encouraged to ask questions, raise concerns and be a part of the problem solving process.”

Deputy Project Director Chris Widenbar is also on the committee. He says it “promotes and sustains a culture of safety within the organisation” and is “a place where we can make sure that staff well-being and health are a focus for management”.

He points to several important mental health initiatives launched during the year. These include resilience training provided by the Resilience Shield, an Australian veteran-owned business working to improve outcomes related to leadership and resilience, and Deepening Awareness of Respect and Engagement (DARE) training, which examines the underlying theory of civility and incivility in the workplace and its impact on workplace culture.

He says new initiatives, such as Take 5 and regular staff familiarisation site walks of development construction areas will foster a proactive safety mindset, prevent accidents, reduce injuries, and ensure the well-being of those at the Memorial.

One of the largest safety efforts of the year took place at Mitchell, where staff have been working on the Collection Hazard Management Plan.

Conservator Taylor Moore says worker safety is a major part of her role. “I joined the committee because I wanted to be involved with discussions around the future of health and safety in the workplace and to help shape WHS for staff and ensure that people’s concerns are being heard,” she said.

“In my role, we are regularly working on hazards within the collection ... We’re very fortunate to be aided by the Hazards Working Group, a group of materials specialists who are working tirelessly to create a new way of dealing with our hazardous collection items.

“Much of the work they have been doing will be implemented in our new collection management system, Museum Plus.

“We are also able to use our analytical equipment to provide hazard identification, mitigate the risks safely, and ensure workers have the correct PPE to protect themselves when working with hazardous collection.”

The Buildings and Services team has also been involved in delivering a number of innovative safety initiatives during the year.

Facilities and services officer Leland Neville says: “We are always on the lookout for any hazards that could potentially cause injury or stress and trying to resolve these using the hierarchy of controls ... mitigating many potential risks.”



Members of the Work Health and Safety Team. Back row from left, Chris Game and David Fitzgerald. Front from left, Taylor Moore and Leland Neville.

IT infrastructure manager Chris Game agrees.

“WHS is a serious matter,” he says. “And having enough health and safety representatives available to assist staff to be able to identify hazards and risks, and communicate together in finding solutions, can help make the Memorial a safer place for everyone.”

Events



Lieutenant Colonel Vivian Bullwinkel Sculpture

In 2019 the Australian College of Nursing began development of a sculpture to commemorate Lieutenant Colonel Vivian Bullwinkel AO MBE ARRC ED FNM FRCNA (1915-2000). In December the Memorial was pleased to reveal the maquette for the sculpture to be installed in the Memorial grounds.

Vivian Bullwinkel joined the Australian Army Nursing Service in 1941. Assigned to the 2/13th Australian General Hospital, Bullwinkel and 65 nurses escaped Singapore before it fell to Japanese forces in February 1942.

After their ship was sunk by Japanese aircraft, the nurses and a group of men, women, and children made it ashore at Banka Island. When Japanese soldiers massacred the group, Bullwinkel was struck by a bullet and pretended to be dead. After hiding with a wounded soldier for 12 days, she surrendered and spent three and half years in captivity.

The sculpture, the first woman and nurse to feature on Memorial grounds, will be installed in 2023.

US Ambassador Visit

On the morning of 2 August 1943, patrol torpedo boat PT-109 was patrolling enemy shipping in Solomon Islands when it was rammed by a Japanese destroyer. At the helm was young Lieutenant John Fitzgerald Kennedy, who would go on to become President of the United States.

The collision was witnessed by Australian Coastwatcher Lieutenant Arthur "Reg" Evans who dispatched a scout team to search for survivors. Lieutenant Kennedy and the surviving crew were located several days later and Evans co-ordinated their rescue.

In July, the Memorial was honoured to have President Kennedy's daughter, United States Ambassador to Australia, Her Excellency Caroline Kennedy, visit the Memorial to hear details of her father's experience. She viewed the papers of Lieutenant Evans documenting the search and recovery effort and met with two Coastwatchers. Ms Kennedy also attended the Last Post Ceremony and laid a wreath of remembrance.



Charles Robb, Lieutenant Colonel Vivian Bullwinkel (maquette), 2021. (detail) AWM2019.463.1.5



Jennie Norberry (left) explains the collection items relating to Australian Coastwatcher Lieutenant Reg Evans.



Calling Ceremony

In gathering content for the exhibition *Action! Film and War*, the Memorial was fortunate to be able to include power symbols on loan from the film *High Ground*. Made from the feathers of lorikeets collected in north-east Arnhem Land, these power symbols are worn by Yolngu clan members in manhood rituals, peacemaking treaties, funerals and cleansing ceremonies.

Representing the local Ngunnawal Elders Council, Bradley Bell conducted a calling ceremony welcoming the spirits associated with these objects to this Country. The ceremony was attended by members of the curatorial team and the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group.



Friends of the Memorial

To close each year, Friends of the Memorial members gather to meet the Director and hear about our recent activities and the Memorial's plan for the coming year. It is a great time for us to meet and hear about the special interests of our Friends.

If you have a special interest in military history or wish to support the work of the Memorial, please join the Friends of the Memorial program for access to behind the scenes tours and special visits.



International Visit

Each year the Memorial hosts visiting dignitaries and heads of state who lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Australian Soldier, participate in a Last Post Ceremony, or tour the gallery spaces.

Visiting with us this year was The Honourable Shinjiro Koizumi MP, Deputy Chair, General Council, Liberal Democratic Party (right), and the Honourable Daisuke Nishino, Member of the House of Representatives, pictured here in Aircraft Hall with our Mitsubishi A6M2 Model 21 Zero Fighter.



30 Year Anniversary of Operation Solace

The Memorial welcomed veterans from HMAS *Tobruk* to commemorate the 30th anniversary of Operation Solace, a UN sanctioned operation to deliver humanitarian assistance and restore peace in Somalia. Veterans and family gathered to share their experiences and view a model of HMAS *Tobruk*.

Farewell to Mr Kerry Stokes AC

At the Remembrance Day Council dinner the Memorial recognised the contribution of Mr Kerry Stokes AC, who has been associated with the Memorial for over 16 years, six as Council Chair.

Through his generous support, the Memorial is now in possession of priceless items such as Victoria Cross medals and the Thuillier Collection of First World War photographs featured in the exhibition *Remember me: the lost diggers of Vignacourt*.



Mrs Christine Simpson Stokes AM and Mr Kerry Stokes AC in Aircraft Hall.

Fellowship of the Australian War Memorial

Acknowledging the support of outgoing Chair of the Council of the Memorial, the Honourable Dr Brendan Nelson AO, the Memorial awarded a Fellowship of the Australian War Memorial for his support of the interests and welfare of the Memorial and his exemplary contribution to the Memorial's commemorative and educative roles.



Mr Matt Anderson PSM welcomes the Honourable Dr Brendan Nelson AO as a Fellow of the Australian War Memorial.



Montevideo Maru Last Post Ceremony

When Rabaul fell to the Japanese in January 1942 more than 1,400 members of Australia's Lark Force were captured. Some 160 were killed shortly after surrender. Later that year, on 22 June, about 850 prisoners of war and 200 civilian internees were ordered by their Japanese captors to board *Montevideo Maru*, a Japanese merchant vessel that sailed for Hainan Island, keeping to the east of the Philippines to avoid Allied submarines.

Eight days into the voyage, *Montevideo Maru* was spotted by the American submarine USS *Sturgeon*. Unaware of the ship's cargo, *Sturgeon* manoeuvred into position and fired its torpedoes. According to *Sturgeon's* log and accounts of Japanese survivors, *Montevideo Maru* sank by the stern in roughly 11 minutes.

Although the crew was ordered to abandon ship, they apparently made no attempt to release the prisoners.

The sinking of *Montevideo Maru* remains Australia's worst maritime disaster. The ship was carrying more than 1,050 Australian prisoners, none of whom survived.

On 22 April 2023 it was announced that the wreck of *Montevideo Maru* had been found 4,000 metres below the surface of the South China Sea.

On July 1 2023, the Memorial marked the 81st anniversary of the sinking of *Montevideo Maru* at the Last Post Ceremony. Attended by family, friends and members of the association, we told the story of three brothers, Private Dudley James Turner, Private Daryl George Turner and Acting Lance Corporal Sidney Stewart Turner, who died on *Montevideo Maru*.

Australian War Memorial

The Council of the Australian War Memorial is responsible for the conduct and control of the affairs of the Memorial and operates within the *Australian War Memorial Act 1980*.

The Corporate Management Group manages the day-to-day affairs through the Memorial's Strategic and Corporate Plans and programs. The Memorial consists of three sub-programs: National Collection, Public Programs, and Corporate Services.

Council of the Australian War Memorial



Back row: Chief of Air Force Air Marshal Robert Chipman AM CSC, the Hon Tony Abbott AC, Mr Glenn Keys AO, Dr Susan Neuhaus AM CSC, Mrs Josephine Stone AM, Mr James McMahon DSC AM DSM, Mr Dan Keighran VC, Rear Admiral Jonathan Earley CSC (representing Chief of Navy).
Front row: Director Mr Matt Anderson PSM, Major General Natasha Fox AO CSC (representing Chief of Army), Major General Greg Melick AO RFD FANZCN SC (Ret'd), the Hon Kim Beazley AC, Ms Rhondda Vanzella OAM, Wing Commander Sharon Bown AM (Ret'd).

Corporate Management Group

Members of the Corporate Management Group in the cloisters of the Commemorative Area. From left: Assistant Director Corporate Services Ms Leanne Patterson, Executive Project Director Mr Wayne Hitches, Director of the Memorial Mr Matt Anderson PSM, Assistant Director National Collection Major General Brian Dawson AM CSC (Ret'd), and Assistant Director Public Programs Mrs Anne Bennie.



All staff were amazing.

Very helpful, genuinely friendly, happy and seeking to assist and were very personable.

Visitor comment, November 2022.

Our Staff

The Memorial has more than 320 staff and 150 volunteers across sites at Campbell, Dickson and Mitchell. They possess a diverse set of skills across a wide range of areas and work towards the Memorial purpose.



Partners and Supporters

The Memorial would like to thank and acknowledge the support provided by its partners over 2022-23:

- Australian War Memorial Anzac Foundation
- Anzac Foundation
- Audi Centre Canberra
- Australian College of Nursing
- Belanna Trust
- Castle Hill RSL
- Department of Defence
- Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Hordern Family
- International Art Services (IAS) Fine Art Logistics
- Mr Steve and Mrs Ruth Lambert
- Legacy Australia Incorporated
- Leidos Australia
- Metal Manufactures Limited
- Ngunnawal Aboriginal Corporation
- Northrop Grumman Australia Pty Ltd
- The Boeing Company
- RSL Australia
- RSL and Services Clubs Association Australia





