



Respect, Gratitude, Admiration

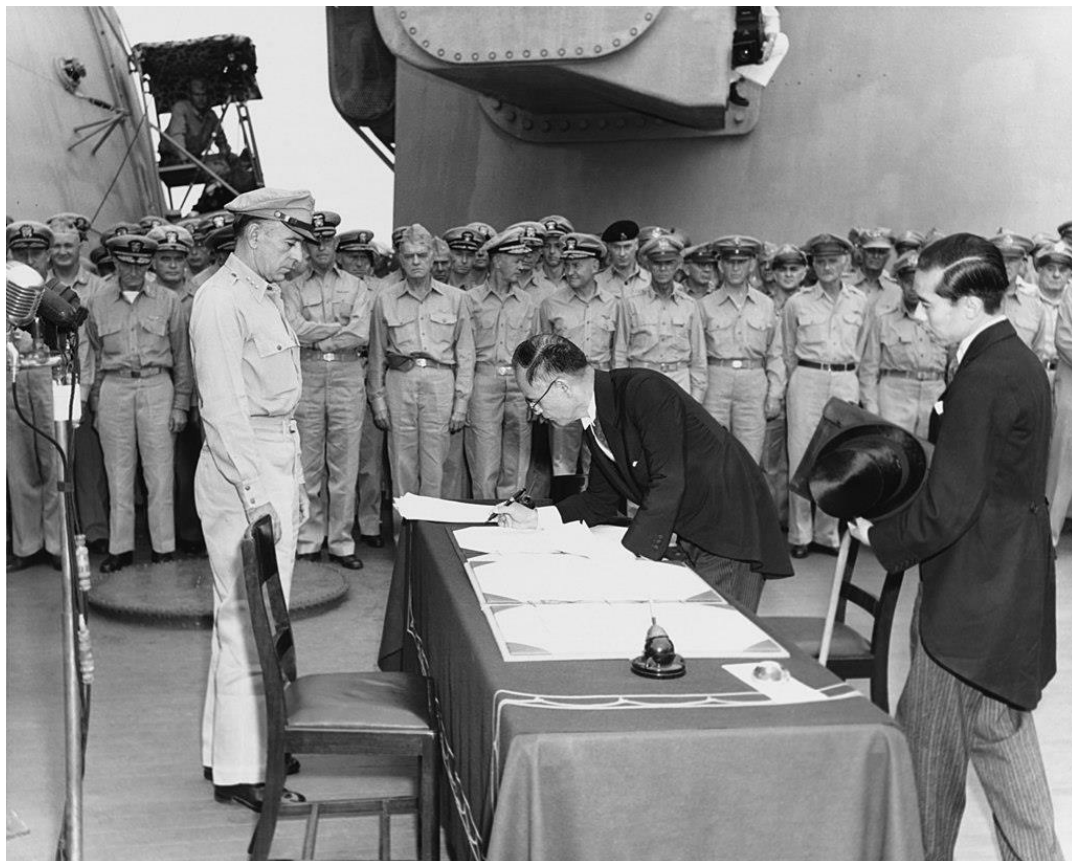
TRIBUTE

The Newsletter of the Military
Historical Society Australia,
Queensland Division

President: Russell Paten
Website: www.mhsa.org.au

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Significant September signing



Japanese foreign affairs minister Mamoru Shigemitsu signs the Japanese Instrument of Surrender aboard the USS *Missouri* as American General Richard K. Sutherland watches, September 2, 1945. The surrender of the Empire of Japan in World War II was announced by Emperor Hirohito on August 15.

President's Report

It's been a busy couple of months for our committee as we plan the upcoming meetings as well as several other activities.

The new leadership team has been kicking goals with our Treasurer, Cindy Munro, completing a full bank account reconciliation, the results – everything balances. Many thanks Cindy.

Wuzzy has been immersing himself in activities – polo shirts, quilts of valour, transporting members to meetings, arranging a venue for the committee meeting and organising our speakers presentation gifts.

Jim has been busy preparing meeting agendas and minutes and compiling an up-to-date membership list to ensure we have an accurate distribution list and are accurate with our dues for the Federal body. I can inform you that the promptness and accuracy of Jim's work makes us the envy of the other States.

Bob Jackson has also come out of the starting gates running and has offered to organise an MHSA visit to the Ipswich Rail Museum scheduled for 11 October. The museum will provide us with a guide who will highlight the importance of Qld Rail activities during World War 2. More details of this to follow.

Thanks also to John Steel who has offered to facilitate communications with our Brisbane and Gold Coast based members to ensure they have an opportunity to let us know of their needs and wishes. Overall, we are so fortunate to have a full management team comprised of people who are willing to step forward and take a share of the load. I am a very grateful President.

During the month, I participated in a two-day symposium that highlighted the World War 2 activities of Brisbane as well as a bus tour (more details in the following article) and had an enjoyable day with Drew Wall raising money for Legacy at Kawana Shopping Centre.



And now, read on to enjoy another amazing edition of Tribute compiled by Alan Quinney. Top rate publication as normal.

From the Editor

The following article brought back some memories from childhood as I remember visiting the old museum at Bowen Hills and being very fascinated by the giant metal monster out front.

Many decades on and a visit to the current Queensland Museum at Southbank lead me straight to the Boche behemoth and the fascination continued.

It is well displayed and described, so if you haven't seen it ...

As ever, thanks to the contributors and please keep them rolling in.

Feature Article



Mephisto, more than just a museum piece

Contributed by Allan Fuary from an anonymous Facebook post

"The Story of the Mephisto, the last surviving German Tank from World War One!"

Only 20 Sturmpanzerwagen A7V were manufactured by Röchling, & the Mephisto is the only surviving one in the world today. It's now magnificently

displayed at the Queensland Museum on Southbank; but that was not always the case!

So why is it called the Mephisto & what does it mean? It's named after Mephistopheles, the evil spirit who's the servant to the devil in German folklore. The A7V was Germany's answer to the sudden appearance of the British "Tank" on the battlefields of the Western Front. Unfortunately for the crews of the A7V & the Mephisto in particular its sheer weight became its downfall while moving through the Villers-Bretonneux, Monument Farm area.

The battlefield resembled a moon scape littered with large shell craters & impregnable mud. The Mephisto passed too close to a large crater & the earth collapsed beneath its tracks! The crew soon found themselves sliding into a bog, stranding them & their brand-new tank in no man's land!

Unsuccessful attempts were made by the Germans to retrieve the Mephisto but its sheer bulk made this next to impossible! It was eventually abandoned by its crew after they had dismantled its machine guns, the breechblock & other essential items. There it sat on the battlefield in no man's land for the next three months, the war ebbed & flowed around it & miraculously it wasn't completely destroyed although it did receive some battle damage including one artillery shell piercing the overhead armour.

Its position & what secrets it might reveal about the German war machine a daring plan was devised to recover the tank from under the German noses. Over two nights on the 17th & 18th of July 1918 the area surrounding the tank was captured & occupied by the 26th Australian Infantry Battalion commanded by Major, later Lieutenant-Colonel, James Robinson.

Over two nights of the 22nd & the 23rd of July, while Villers-Bretonneux was under heavy gas attack, the recovery mission began with the assistance of three tanks from the British 1st Gun Carrier Company. Showing the hardness & determination of the Australian & British troops involved in the recovery, the majority of them becoming casualties from the effects of the gas attack, they completed the mission. The Mephisto was now in Allied hands & was towed to the nearby Bois l'Abbé. It was then transported to the British 5th Tank Brigade's Training Ground in Vaux-en-Amienois North West of Amiens.

While it was at Vaux-en-Amienois unfortunately it fell victim to trophy hunters with many small parts being removed. It became a canvas for soldiers' art, one side of the tank was painted with the British Lion, crowned with its triumphant curling tail holding an uplifted paw with the Iron Cross. The opposite side sported the A.I.F Rising Sun below which was painted;

“Captured by the 26th Battalion A.I.F & Salvaged by the 5th British Brigade of Tanks!”

As well as the six ‘TANK BOYS’ who left their names hammered into the rear armour!

Before any more "bits" went missing or more names appeared on the armour the Mephisto was moved to London via Dunkirk before being loading onto the SS 'Armagh' destination Brisbane Qld, leaving on the 2nd of April 1919 & arriving at Norman Wharf Brisbane on June the 2nd. It remained on the wharf until the 22nd of August, when it started its journey to its new home in Fortitude Valley being towed by two Brisbane City Council steamrollers! This eleven-hour operation wasn't without dramas due to its monstrous size & weight. It was noted that the roadway had been damaged in a number of locations on route to the Queensland Museum at Fortitude Valley.

Though at this time it was not clear whether it would remain in Queensland as it was intended to be housed at the National War Memorial, which at this time was temporarily housed at the Exhibition Buildings in Melbourne. A meeting of the Australian War Memorial Committee was held on the 18th of October 1920 in Melbourne. After much deliberation it was decided to allow Mephisto to remain in Queensland where it stood in front of the Queensland Museum for many, many years before it was fully restored & finally taking up its current position, beautifully displayed, (under glass I might add!) In front of the New Queensland Museum on Southbank!

While it was on display in the early days an interesting situation came about. There were many names of Australian soldiers carved into the steel bulwarks of the tank & a grieving mother was noticed photographing a section of the tank that bore the name of her son, who had paid the ultimate sacrifice. That photograph 'froze' a moment in time for her capturing for her the last act of her son before he was killed.....

"Sadly, these paintings are no longer on this amazing tank today, which is a shame in some respects as they really did tell the story of the time."

Camp Columbia Symposium

By Russell Paten

I recently took up the opportunity to attend a two-day symposium at UQ St Lucia on Brisbane at War. The symposium was arranged by the Camp Columbia association which is a Dutch sponsored association with an aim to highlight the

Dutch participation and contribution in Australia during World War 2. The Dutch Ambassador flew up from Canberra to attend and was present for the full two days. The topics included:

- Brisbane as a naval base during the Second World War
- Airfields in Queensland
- Australia's version of Bletchley Park
- Submarine base and Nave 134 facilities
- Hangar 7 – Eagle Farm
- Personal stories relating to the Japanese occupation of NEI
- and many others

The symposium centred on the use of the huge American Army camp at Camp Columbia in an area known locally as Pooh Corner – a name that conjured up memories from long ago, when I was a young Corporal in the 49th Battalion. It was at this site that the Dutch Netherland East Indies government, after being forced from Indonesia due to the Japanese invasion, set up a Government in Exile, the only Government in Exile ever established in Australia.

The two days of presentations were followed by a full day bus tour which visited the site of the Battle of Brisbane (Americans vs Australians), McArthur's headquarters, Brisbane's Bletchley Park, Hangar 7 and, of course, Pooh Corner.

The symposium was fascinating with so much information that I wasn't aware of being presented and the bus tour was more than just interesting. To me, the tour was nostalgic as Pooh Corner is located just across Ipswich Road from the Wacol Army camp, the site where I did much of my training. I have many memories of moving our recruits across Ipswich Road (a leadership exercise in itself) and into Pooh Corner where we would conduct the Initial Employment Training (tactics and bushwork) component of their training. I remember one day, as a Corporal, patrolling through the bush and coming across the ruins of a sewerage treatment plant and I believed I had found the reason why the area was called Pooh Corner. I thought the treatment plant was merely a disused Brisbane City Council plant. Little did I know that it was actually the original plant installed by the US during the war. The tour visited the site and I again saw the plant that I believed I would never again see after that patrol. I thought that we were the only ones who knew the area as Pooh Corner. Little did I know that it has been known as that since World War 2.



The original WW2 US Camp Columbia sewerage treatment plant located in Pooh Corner – as it is today.



Brisbane's answer to Bletchley Park – the house in Ascot that housed Central Bureau, a code breaking group whose successes resulted in the shooting down of Admiral Yamamoto over Bougainville among many other successes.



Hangar 7, the only remaining World War 2 US hangars at Eagle Farm. This hangar was used to rebuild shot-down Japanese fighters that were then flown to discover their strengths and weaknesses.

Overall, the symposium and bus tour were brilliant experiences. I have volunteered my services on an ongoing basis to represent the Qld division of MHSA for future research activities and studies to the committee of the Camp Columbia Association.

Last Post reading a personal one for signaller

Words and photograph By Warrant Officer Class 2 Max Bree and appearing in Defence News

Blaring bugle sounds and reading stories of Australia's fallen is nothing new for Signaller Ashlee Chivers.

Having participated in nine Last Post ceremonies at the Australian War Memorial, she feels the weight of the moment each time.

"It's a meaningful way to connect with our history and reflect on the cost of our freedoms," Signaller Chivers, at right, said.



"It's incredible how unique every story is."

With more than 103,000 individuals on the Roll of Honour, Signaller Chivers has been told it will take almost 300 years to tell every story on the list.

But late last year, things turned personal.

While helping her grandfather with a family history book, one name caught her eye: Sergeant Henry James Chivers.

He was on the Roll of Honour.

"I hadn't known we had anyone in the family that had served," Signaller Chivers said.

Named Henry but known as 'Harry', he was Signaller Chivers' great-grandfather's cousin.

A historian from the memorial pieced his story together from the National Archives before Signaller Chivers read it during a Last Post ceremony on July 12.

Harry was born in Chiverton, near Cowra. He worked on his family property and joined the militia's 9th Light Horse Regiment (NSW Mounted Rifles).

When WW1 started, he went to Sydney and joined the 1st Australian Light Horse Regiment, then sailed with the first convoy of Anzac troops bound for Egypt in October 1914.

At first the Light Horse weren't deemed suitable for Gallipoli, but in mid-May 1915, they landed on the peninsula as reinforcements without their mounts.

Within a week, Harry sustained a slight wound to his face but stayed in action.

'It was really meaningful to see them all doing that; it did hit home.'

After the Gallipoli evacuation, he was promoted first to lance corporal, then corporal.

Throughout 1916, his regiment defended the Suez Canal, turning back a major Ottoman advance in August.

By the end of the year, he was a sergeant taking part in the captures of Magdhaba and Rafa. In 1917 Harry alternated between frontline service and instructional courses in Cairo.

He qualified as an instructor and was soon running machine gun training for his unit.

He took part in the legendary Beersheba campaign in October, but by December, was evacuated to Egypt, with arthritis in his right knee.

He returned to his unit in March 1918, but a month later, during a skirmish on April 26, he was wounded by grenade fragments in his right leg.

After four months of recovery in Egypt, he rejoined his regiment, just as the war was entering its final phase.

Just before the Ottoman surrender in October, Sergeant Chivers was evacuated with acute endocarditis – an infection of the heart lining.

He died on December 11, 1918, aged 26, and was buried in the Port Said War Memorial Cemetery in Egypt.

Under the soft lights of the Australian War Memorial's courtyard, Signaller Chivers read the story of her lost relative.

Watching from the crowd were her grandfather and his brother, along with about 23 other family and friends.

As they laid wreaths beside the Pool of Reflection, the century-long gap between generations of the Chivers family seemed to disappear.

“It was really meaningful to see them all doing that; it did hit home,” Signaller Chivers said.

For one evening, Sergeant Harry Chivers wasn’t just a name on the Roll of Honour.

He was a son, a cousin and a soldier, whose story was finally told by his family.

Navy

Farwell to last living link to tragedy of HMAS *Canberra I*

By Lieutenant Commander Ben Robson

On a still and cloudy afternoon, Leading Stoker Des Jones was laid to rest, carried to his gravesite on the shoulders of sailors from HMAS *Canberra III*.

At 102, he was the last surviving member of the first HMAS *Canberra I*, sunk at the Battle of Savo Island during World War 2.

The peace during the funeral on August 15 at the Mulwala Lawn Cemetery was a far cry from that fateful day in which *Canberra* was struck more than 20 times by torpedoes and shellfire in less than two minutes.

Overseen by Navy Chaplain David Hastie from HMAS *Penguin*, with the *Last Post* played by Able Seaman Musician Andrew Bryce from HMAS *Cerberus*, the solemn ceremony was a fitting farewell to the last living link to the 1945 tragedy.

“It was a beautiful way to say goodbye to Grandpa Des. He would have loved it,” Mr Jones’ daughter-in-law Barbara Jones said after the funeral.

“The Navy was a big part of his life, he loved all the ceremony and would get to all the Anzac Days and *Canberra* memorials as he could.”

President of the HMAS *Canberra*/HMAS *Shropshire* Association Chris Johnston said Mr Jones would be remembered as “one of our most active members”.

“He was our rock star who met with television, radio and former governors-general,” Mr Johnston said.



The funeral also coincided with the 80th anniversary of the Victory in the Pacific.

“We are remembering a sailor who fought for that victory,” Mr Johnston said.

“Amid the confusion, the noise, the explosions, *Canberra* could not fight back as there was no steam to work the guns.

“That living link to that tragedy has gone, but the spirit remains – fair winds and following seas, Des.”

His sacrifices, stories and service history will have a lasting impact on all members of the Funeral Guard, and members of HMAS *Canberra* III.’

As the crew laid poppies and a wreath on Mr Jones’ coffin, Commanding Officer *Canberra* III Captain David McPherson, on behalf of the Royal Australian Navy (RAN), presented the family with an Australian White Ensign.

He said that his ship not only carried the name *Canberra* and her Battle Honours, but the legacy of those who had fought and given the ultimate sacrifice.

“There are members of my crew not much older than Mr Jones was when he volunteered to serve his country,” Captain McPherson said.

“He answered the call in Australia’s hour of need; he survived disaster in which many of his comrades did not; and he continued to serve his Navy and his nation until peace was won.

“Every day I see the spirit and the legacy of people like Des, through the dedication and commitment of the men and women who serve on-board *Canberra* and in the Royal Australian Navy today.”

Among the Funeral Guard was Leading Seaman Bella Cummins, who said it was an honour to volunteer.

“The team volunteered as a gesture of deep respect to the last remaining member of *Canberra* I, and to ensure his family and friends recognise the ongoing link between Mr Jones and the RAN,” Leading Seaman Cummins said.

“His sacrifices, stories and service history will have a lasting impact on all members of the Funeral Guard, and members of HMAS *Canberra* III.”

To his family he was Grandpa Des; to the Navy he embodied the spirit of courage and sacrifice of all those who serve.

Mr Jones passed away in Yarrawonga, Victoria, on August 6, three days shy of the anniversary of the sinking of *Canberra I*.

He is survived by three children, five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Air Force

Havoc return an emotional event



Picture from RAAF History and Heritage Facebook page

ABC story By [Baz Ruddick](#) and [Lucy Cooper](#)

Eight decades after it was last in the sky, an American bomber known as the Hell'n Pelican II is making its way back to Papua New Guinea, where it crash-landed during World War II.

On Thursday, the Douglas A-20 Havoc bomber was loaded by crane onto the Navy's ADV Reliant ship at Townsville, after being transported by truck from the Royal Australian Air Force base at Amberley near Ipswich, Queensland.

It will take three days of sailing to get the plane to Port Moresby, where it will take pride of place at the PNG National Museum and Art Gallery.

Colonel Boniface Aruma, from the PNG Defence Force, said it was a significant moment.

"It's emotional, but it's also a moment of happiness," Colonel Aruma, who is posted to the Australian Army's 3rd Brigade as Deputy Commander, said.

"I'd like to say that the aircraft is going back to its final resting place."

Crew trekked for 15 days

In April 1944, the Hell'n Pelican II and crew — Captain Charles Davidson and Sergeant John McKenna — crash-landed when a weather event hampered their return from a mission.

"They were struck by a weather event, and that caused the aircraft essentially to run out of fuel and they were forced to land in the Madang province," Warrant Officer Craig Smith, from the RAAF's History and Heritage division, said.

The bomber was found in 1976 by war historian and author Michael Claringbould. In 1984, it was removed by Mr Claringbould and a team from the Australian Defence Force, which used a Chinook helicopter to lift it from the bush.

It was brought by sea to Brisbane, and over 10 years was painstakingly restored and eventually displayed at a museum at the Amberley air base.

Variations of the Douglas bombers were used widely across all fronts of World War II, with an estimated 7,500 Douglas A-20 Havocs manufactured.

"It was a light bomber aircraft, and that was its main purpose in life," Warrant Officer Smith said.

"The Australian and UK also operated an aircraft very similar to this, and we called it the Boston bomber, but it was essentially the same A-20 aircraft."

The aircraft was also used by the United Kingdom's Royal Air Force and the Soviet Air Forces.

"I know that approximately six were retrieved out of New Guinea to reassemble this one, and there's a second aircraft that's been reassembled and restored and is now on display in Point Cook [near Melbourne]," Warrant Officer Smith said.

Humour



Book Review

Daniel Reynaud – The man the Anzacs revered: William “Fightin’ Mac” McKenzie
Signs Publishing Company Publishing, 2021(fourth printing)

Anyone who has served in the ADF, especially the Army, will immediately attest to the prominent and unique role of the military chaplain.

In the ADF, as some other forces, the role of religion was given so much weight as a feature of morale and team cohesiveness, especially during wartime. As such, the three main religious groups were the source – in World War I – of at least one each per brigade, with the chaplains posted to a unit for administrative efficiency and the capacity to ply their profession across the brigade.

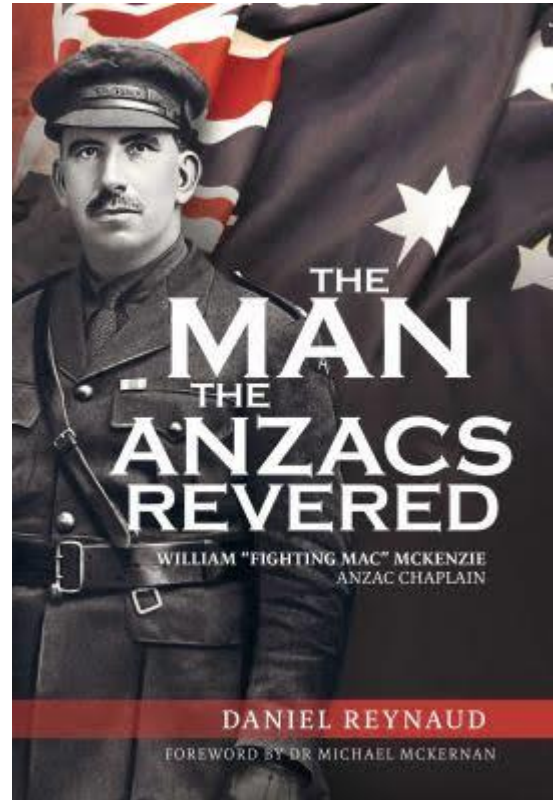
One such chaplain was William McKenzie, of the Salvation Army cloth. A fervently passionate man with an even bigger capacity for work and endurance, McKenzie earned his nickname among the troops, initially in Gallipoli where he was awarded a Military Cross for bravery under fire.

That in itself was quite unusual as chaplains were theoretically non-combatants, a moot point when everywhere on the battlefield was subject to direct fire.

This book chronicles the career of McKenzie, characterised by his passion for and depth of practice at a member of the Salvation Army. Quite a man, and quite old at the time of enlistment as a chaplain.

To me, the book presents two main benefits. A big man, a big heart, a big legacy to Chaplaincy.

One might only conjecture on the practical impact on operations during the war itself. Read this book and decide. Undoubtedly very well researched from a range of primary and secondary sources, the detail on religious matters is remarkable.



If one didn't know much about the Salvation Army – and of a Protestant religion myself I did not - one will, after reading the author's coverage of how that church worked and how its clergy went about their business at the time.

In both peace and war, they function somewhat like a military organisation. With a rank structure not dissimilar, it is only to be expected that Salvation Army chaplains found the transition from their culture to another quite like it, straightforward.

Life, it seems is one big fight for a better existence, and only the environment in one which exists really seems to be the key factor in helping individuals make it through.

During war, one's religion matters little to the Salvation Army chaplains, not always the case with some from the other main religions. Souls needed to be saved, and it mattered little where that occurred.

McKenzie excelled wherever he preached and worked.

The second feature of this book is the effect that McKenzie had on the members of the AIF whom he influenced. Being assigned officially to support the casualty handling, as chaplains were at the time during actual battle, it is a moot point of whether one is a combatant or not when the enemy can hit you at any time, intentionally or not.

Hence the 'Fighting Mac' reputation McKenzie developed. He was not a man to stay in a bunker. And that style of engaging with his flock did not change before and after the war itself. The book is replete with examples of this impressive clergyman-soldier.

The man the Anzacs revered is currently very topical given the announcement made in August 2025. Funding for the Everymans' service to the Australian Army is to be ceased after over a century of unbroken morale and practical support provided by the Salvation Army.

Affectionately known as the "Salvos", that service has been provided by Salvation Army personnel similar to McKenzie. The adverse morale and practical support effect of such a move might not be under-estimated, and "Fighting Mac" might well roll over in his grave over such a short-sighted decision.

A foreword by Dr Michael McKernan, an authority in this field is in itself a testimony to this book, and I encourage the reader to note that section carefully. I endorse McKernan's view that this book should serve as a centrepiece of any published collection on Fighting Mac.

The Endnotes to each chapter enable researchers to follow up on the human angle with many diaries and letters among the sources cited. An excellent Bibliography rounds off a class publication.

Reviewer: Lieutenant Colonel Russell Linwood, ASM (Retd)

Important dates

September 1, 1900 – Victoria Crosses for Trooper J.H. Bidsee and Lt G.G. Wylly both from Tasmania at Warm Bad, South Africa.

September 1, 1918 – Posthumous VC for Temporary Corporal A.H. Buckly at Peronne. VC also for Pte W.M. Curry of NSW at Peronne.

September 1, 1918 – VCs for Sgt A.D. Lowerson from Victoria, Pte R. Mactier from Victoria and Lt E.T. Towner of Queensland at Mont Quentin.

September 1-2, 1939 – Germany invades Poland, beginning WW2.

September 1-2, 1918 – VCs for Cpl A.C. Hall from NSW and Temporary Corporal L.C. Weathers originally from New Zealand at Peronne.

September 3, 1915 – Posthumous VC for Temporary Lt W. T. Dartnell of Victoria at Maktau, British East Africa.

September 3, 1939 - Britain, France, Australia, and New Zealand declare war on Germany.

September 4, 1942 - Japanese evacuation of Milne Bay, New Guinea begins.

September 4, 1942 – Posthumous VC for Cpl J.A. French from Queensland at Milne Bay.

September 4, 1943 – 9th Division lands at Lae, New Guinea.

September 6, 1951 - HMAS *Anzac* bombs targets near Haeju, Korea. The *Anzac* was one of 11 Australian ships to serve in Korea.

September 7, 1943 - A Liberator crashed on take-off at Port Moresby hitting five trucks carrying men of the 2/33rd Battalion; 15 were killed instantly, 44 died of their injuries, and 92 were injured but survived.

September 8, 1943 - Italy announces unconditional surrender to the Allies. Italy signed an armistice on September 10.

September 8, 1951 - Peace treaty (Second World War) signed with Japan although fighting had ended six years before.

September 9, 1950 - Wing Commander L Spence, 77 Squadron, killed during a ground attack mission over Angang-ni, Korea.

September 11, 1914 - The Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force landed at Rabaul and went into action at Bitapaka. This was the only major New Guinea action of the First World War.

September 12, 1955 - 2nd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, advance party arrive in Penang, Malaya during the Malayan Emergency.

September 13, 1943 – VC for Cpl R. Kelliher, originally from Ireland, at Nadzab, New Guinea.

September 14, 1914 - HMA Submarine *AE1* lost off New Guinea.

September 15, 1939 – Australian Government announces mobilisation of the militia and the establishment of the second AIF for service abroad.

September 16, 1942 - Japanese advance in Owen Stanley Ranges stopped at Ioribaiwa.

September 16, 1943 - Japanese abandon Lae after heavy fighting.

September 17, 1944 - Academy award-winning, Australian cameraman Damien Parer killed while filming American troops on Peleliu in the Pacific. Parer's documentary, *Front line Kokoda*, won an Oscar for best documentary in 1943. Having filmed Australians in action during the early years of the war, Parer accepted a job with the American film company, Paramount, to film Americans in action in the Pacific.

September 18, 1918 - Australian attack on Hindenburg Line. The 1st and 4th Australian divisions were successful in breaching the forward edge of the main German defensive line across the Picardy region of France.

September 18, 1918 – VCs for Sgt M V Buckley, 13th Battalion, from Victoria, and Pte J.P. Woods at Le Verguier.

September 19, 1918 - 5th Light Horse Brigade capture Nablus during the final period of the war against Turkey.

September 19, 1943 - 2/6th Independent Company capture Kaiapit, New Guinea. Kaiapit became a base for the 7th Division's advance up the Markham Valley.

September 20, 1912 - Official approval given for the establishment of a military Central Flying School. Official formation of the Australian Flying Corps, forerunner of the RAAF.

September 20, 1917 – Posthumous VC for 2nd Lt F. Birks, originally from the UK at Glencorse Woods, near Ypres.

September 20-21, 1914 – VC for Private RR Inwood, from South Australia, at Polygon Wood, near Ypres.

September 21, 1914 – German New Guinea surrenders. It was placed under a military government until 1921, when Australia received a mandate from the League of Nations to govern the country.

September 21, 1918 - Australian and British airmen of the Australian Flying Corps and Royal Flying Corps attack retreating Turkish troops in the Wadi Fara, Palestine.

September 21, 1971 - Battle of Nui Le, South Vietnam, the last battle fought by Australians in South Vietnam.

September 22, 1952 - ANZUS meeting at Pearl Harbor.

September 23, 1940 - HMAS *Australia* begins action against Vichy French at Dakar, West Africa.

September 23, 1942 – General Blamey appointed Commander in Chief of Allied land forces in New Guinea.

September 25, 1918 – Anzac Mounted Division capture Amman during the final days of the fighting in Palestine and the routing of the Turkish armies.

September 25, 1942 - HMAS *Voyager* grounded and destroyed at Betano Bay, Timor.

September 26, 1917 – VC for Sgt J.J. Dwyer, from Tasmania, at Zonnebeke, Belgium.

September 26-27, 1943 – Operation Jaywick, an Australian Special Operations Australia Unit operating from the former fishing vessel, *Krait*, mines Japanese ships in Singapore Harbour. Seven ships were sunk or badly damaged.

September 26-28, 1917 – Posthumous VC for Pte P.J. Bugden, from NSW, at Polygon Wood, near Ypres.

September 28, 1950 - 3rd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment arrives in Korea.

September 29, 1918 - Cpt G. H. Wilkins, official AIF photographer, rallies United States troops at the battle of the Hindenburg Line, while taking photographs. For this action he was awarded a bar to his Military Cross,

becoming the only Australian official photographer to be decorated for bravery in the field.

September 29-October 1, 1918 – VC for Major B. A. Wark, 32nd Battalion, from NSW, for action from Bellicourt to Joncourt, France.

September 29, 1918 - Battle of St Quentin canal.

September 30, 1918 - Lance-Corporal E. A. Corey, a stretcher bearer with the 55th Battalion, wins a third bar to his Military Medal, first won on May 5, 1917. The winning of four Military Medals is a unique feat.

September 30, 1918 – VC for Pte E. J. Ryan, from NSW, at Bellicourt, France.

Military Historical Society of Australia, Qld Division Committee 2023 – 24

President	Russell Paten
Vice President	Greg (Wuzzy) Alford
Honorary Secretary	Jim Nuttall
Honorary Treasurer	Cynthia (Cindy) Munro
Committee Members	David Geck, John Steel, Bob Jackson

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>IMPORTANT EVENTS AND DATE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 13, meeting at Maroochydore • November 6 meeting in Brisbane venue to be announced • 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>FELLOWS of MHSA</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Meyers (Deceased) • Anthony Staunton • Donald Wright • <p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEW MEMBERS</u></p> <p><u>Simon Flamia, Annerley, Brisbane, Trent and Anthony Nixon.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>VALE</u></p>
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Australian Business Number (ABN) 97 764 781 363

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INTERESTS:.....

PREFERRED MEANS OF CONTACT: E-MAIL: (.....).....TEXT: (.....)....POST: (.....) .(X) IN ONE ONLY

I understand the above details will only be used by the Qld Division and the Federal Secretary of the Military Historical Society of Australia to maintain correct records of my membership and for general branch or administrative business, and by the Journal editor to assist with editorial planning. I understand that the

Society's Constitution requires the Federal Secretary to maintain a membership register (including the Journal mailing list).

In addition to information kept for these purposes:

OPT IN I agree to my email details being included on the Federal Secretary's contact list which will be used solely to distribute Society business and convey items

of interest to members (including members' notices) YES /NO (circle whichever applies)

OPT IN I wish to be included on the members' interests register and give permission for my military interests and my phone/email/address contact details to be

included on it (cross out whichever does not apply). YES/NO (circle whichever applies)

I understand that I can revoke permission for inclusion on register and contact lists at any time.

Please send this form and your membership fee to: Cheque/Money Order: Military Historical Society of Australia, Qld Division

Treasurer, Qld Division

Military Historical Society of Australia

27/11 Innovation Parkway

Birtinya, Qld 4575

Email: patens@bigpond.com

Or,

Direct deposit to the Qld Division MHSA Westpac Account at Maryborough, Qld.

BSB No. 034-128 Account No. 23-3618

If paying by Direct deposit, reference your name and forward the application form as well.