



COMMEMORATING ANZAC

Lest We Forget



We will remember them

The Leader
The Barossa's Favourite Newspaper



ANZAC Day services

ANGASTON

Dawn Service will be held at the Angaston War Memorial, corner of Murray Street and Penrice Road at 6.15am.
Light refreshments available at conclusion of service. Gold coin donations are welcome.

EUDUNDA

All welcome to attend the ANZAC Dawn Service at the Eudunda War Memorial, Gunn Street, Eudunda. Attendees should arrive at 6.15am for a 6.30 service.



Catafalque Party by the 1st Armoured Regiment, RAAF Edinburgh, Freeling 2023.

A Catafalque party will be in attendance. After the service all medal wearers and service personnel will join the traditional parade down to the Eudunda RSL Clubrooms. All welcome to join in light refreshments and a chat at the clubrooms.

FREELING

Formal march 6.30am from Freeling Post Office (Hanson Street) to the Cenotaph. Gunfire breakfast to follow at Freeling Football Clubrooms at 7.15am (on completion of Dawn Service).

GAWLER

Dawn Service at 6.00am at Pioneer Park, corner of Murray and Union Streets. Commemorative March, Sunday, April 21. Depart Walker Place from 10.00am, along Murray Street to Pioneer Park.

KAPUNDA

Public service at 6.30am at the Kapunda Memorial, Corner Mildred Street and Clare Road. The service will be followed by gunfire breakfast and clubrooms will be open for socialising and refreshments.

MOUNT PLEASANT

Public service at 6.15am at the Soldiers Memorial Hall, Melrose Street. Breakfast to follow.

NURIOOTPA

March Assembly at 6.00am corner of Murray and Gawler Street. Dawn Service to follow at the RSL Clubrooms, Memorial Avenue. Gunfire Breakfast to follow at RSL Clubrooms.

ROBERTSTOWN

Public service at 9.00am at the Robertstown Community Centre, 7 Commercial Street, followed by free barbecue. BYO chairs.

SANDERSTON

Public Service at 6:30am at the War Memorial on Angas Valley Road.

SEDAN

Barbecue breakfast at 8.00am followed by a 9.00am service. Sedan War Memorial, in front of the Lutheran Church on the corner of Bank Road and Stott Highway. All proceeds go to Legacy.

SWAN REACH

Dawn Service 6.30am, 30 Anzac Avenue, Swan Reach.

TANUNDA

Dawn Service 6.15am conducted by Father Mark Sexton at the Tanunda Memorial Gardens, followed by a gunfire breakfast at The RSL Hut, Bilyara Road, Tanunda Recreational Park (\$10 donation for ticketed breakfast). Muster 10.15am at Tanunda Post Office. March 10.40am Step off to the Soldiers Memorial Hall (Barossa Gallery) 3 Basedow Road, Tanunda. Commemoration Service 11.00am at the above hall conducted by Father Mark Sexton. Luncheon 12.15pm at The RSL Hut, Bilyara Road, Tanunda Recreational Park (\$10 donation for lunch).

TARLEE

Public Service at 10.00am at the Tarlee War Memorial.

TRURO

Members of the public are invited to attend the Truro War Memorial, Pioneer Park, Moorundie Street, 6.00am to 7.00am to listen to the Dawn Service broadcast from the Shrine of Remembrance in Adelaide.

WILLIAMSTOWN

A public service will be held at 6.30am at the RSL Hall, Memorial Drive.

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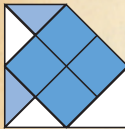
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Adrian's cornet heralds ANZAC

By Tony Hersey

Have you ever paid any attention to the cornet or trumpet player at the ANZAC or Remembrance services you attend?

From under a familiar Akubra hat, Kapunda is fortunate to have Adrian Laubsch who has been playing in bands and solo services for 53 years, since he was 10 years old.

His contribution, along with many others like him, puts the atmosphere and feeling into ANZAC Day.

The Laubsch family has been farming at Allendale North since 1892 and Adrian's father Gordon and Uncle Laurie were also band players.

In the early 1970s, Adrian was in the Light United Band, which had members from Kapunda, Eudunda, Riverton and Bethel. ANZAC Services were held on the nearest Sunday to ANZAC Day.

A memorial service was rotated with three towns in one day at either Eudunda, Saddleworth, Riverton or Kapunda, and the services were followed by a march down the main street.

Adrian started playing solo at Kapunda services in 1975 when he was 14. He reflects that in the mid-1970s, there was a distinct anti war and anti RSL sentiment. At this time, Dawn Services were a low-key affair with small crowds. Local diggers were more interested in attending the Adelaide March.

Adrian's instrument of choice is the cornet, which he said is the standard used in brass bands. Originally, he started just playing the Last Post, the Reveille and at that time two national anthems, "God Save the Queen" and "Advance Australia Fair".

Adrian noticed that without a tune people found it difficult to sing on the right note, so

after a few years he plucked up the courage to suggest he actually play the hymns too.

Officials were surprised that was possible and it set the scene for today.

For many years, Jennette Mickan accompanied as the vocalist and in the last two years Greenock youngster Catie White.

Adrian also made fascinating comments about needing to keep his lip in form by attending band practice.

On further questioning he said it was like a runner needing to harden and build endurance.

He said the lip is a muscle and it controls the note and is key to producing a good tone - just like an endurance runner, one aims to be strong yet fresh at the event.

Currently Adrian is a member of the Nuriootpa Town Band, which in its recent history has had many Laubsch players.

He has also played with other bands when needed, is a founding member of the KGB Big Band. He has also played for church services, at weddings, in musicals and at Kapunda's Remembrance Day services.

When asked if brass bands are appreciated at events, Adrian commented that they are taken for granted, but members play for their own enjoyment. However, he has noticed at functions that people disburse when the band packs up...maybe an unconscious note of appreciation.

Some highlights of playing for ANZAC services at Kapunda have been: playing a bugle used during the Gallipoli campaign at the Armistice Centenary dawn service and the covert operation with Jennette Mickan to perform the ceremonial essentials during COVID lockdown in 2020. "The bugle rang out across the town to remind us not to forget what the sacrifice was for."

To end, we will go right back to the beginning because even with all that



Adrian Laubsch Photo supplied.

experience, it seems Adrian's most vivid memory is at his first parade at age 10. A special uniform was made to fit him by Val Weichert, and in his excitement, he tripped over while running and tore the knee of his pants before the march had even begun. A scratchy start to what has turned out to be a long commitment.



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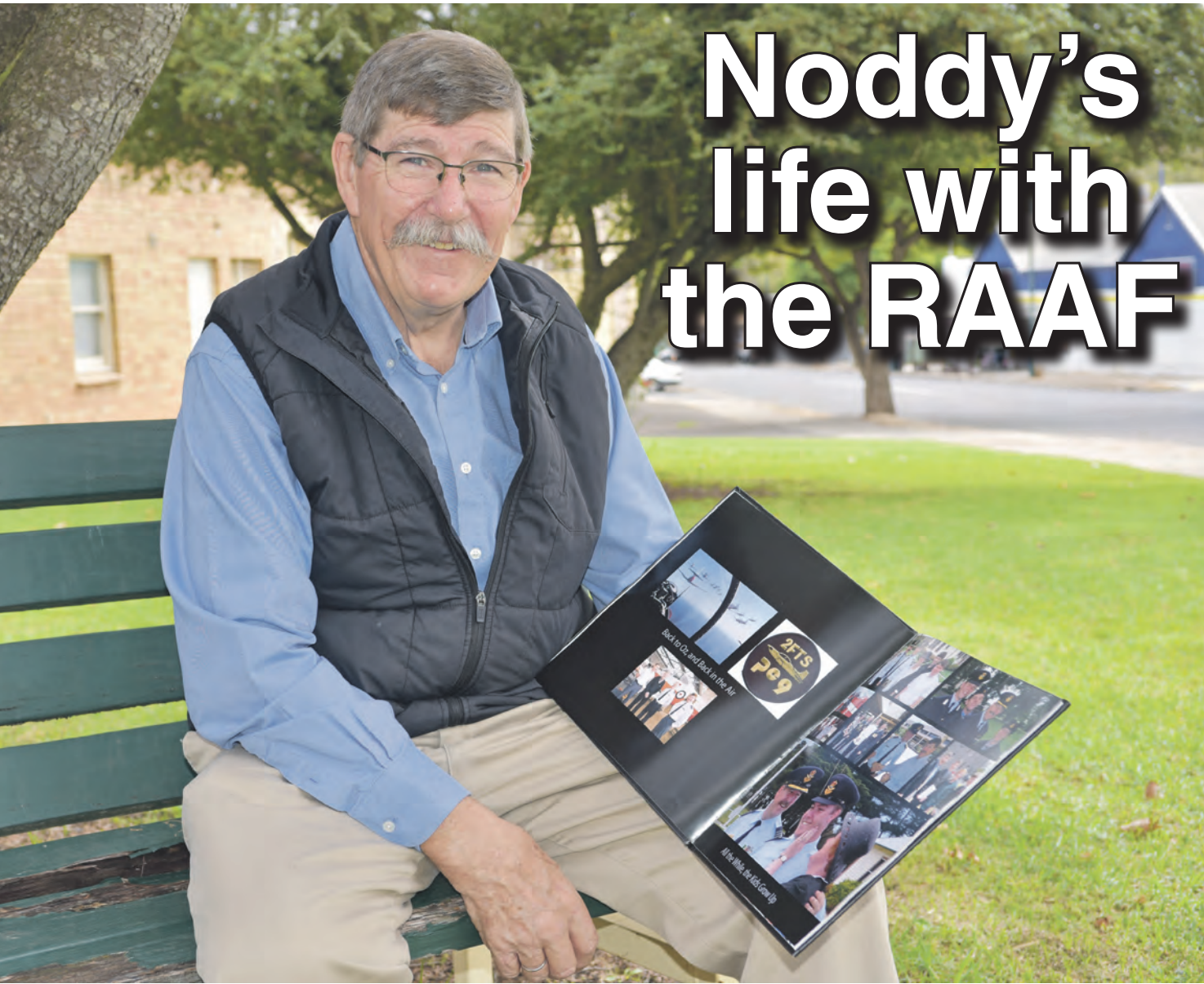


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Noddy's life with the RAAF

By Clem Stanley

At the end of this year, Christopher “Noddy” Sawade will officially fully retire from the Royal Australian Air Force, after what will be 50 years of both active service and with the reserves.

Reflecting on his long career, Noddy will deliver this year’s key-note address at the Tanunda RSL Dawn Service on ANZAC Day.

Noddy first joined the Air Force at just 17-years of age, in 1974, and retired from full-time active service in 2013, taking on a reserve role organising air shows at airbases across the country.

“It certainly was exciting, it was a big adventure, I’d never really lived away from home, I grew up in McLaren Vale, and it was...you know...heading off on your life’s adventure I guess,” Noddy said.

With nearly 40 years of full-time, active service with the Air Force under his belt, Noddy says he is blessed to have been able to make a full career out of it.

“A lot of people don’t necessarily make a full career out of it these days, but I was able to, and I was fortunate I have a lovely wife who didn’t mind moving every couple of years, and we moved considerably,” Noddy said.

As with many defence-force families, Noddy’s family shifted frequently during his active service, their current home at Flaxman Valley is the 22nd home the couple has made together.

The roles he took on have also been varied, from positions in the air, on the ground and in senior management.

“I really enjoyed my flying career, and that was probably about half of what I did in the Air Force, was flying, and I flew a lot...,” Noddy said.

“And very varied roles, as a flying instructor, as a helicopter pilot, as a transport pilot, (I’ve) been to a lot of places that not many people could go to all over the world, the Middle East especially, but right through South-East Asia and the Pacific as well.”

His last posting with the permanent Air

Christopher “Noddy” Sawade.



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Force was as a Deputy Commander in the Middle East.

“That was full-on, we saw a lot of things, and people doing what they’ve been trained to do.”

At the end of his time in active service, Noddy’s daughter put together a book full of photos taken throughout his career, which he describes as one of his most treasured possessions.

A changing profession

With 50 years a long time to spend in any profession, Noddy says he certainly saw some big changes within the Air Force during his time of service, both technologically and culturally.

Noddy notes that much like many organisations, the Air Force saw an increase of diversity during his career.

“When I joined there was not one female air traffic controller in the Air Force, they

were all males, there was not one female pilot in the Air Force, they were all males,” Noddy said.

“In fact, females were basically relegated... they had their own Air Force, for the first several years, they were only joined into the Air Force in the mid 70s, and we became one Air Force.

“So, to then have the same career paths for females compared to males was a huge cultural shift, and that goes through our industry everywhere else you know.”

Noddy believes this has had a positive impact on the Air Force.

“I think that’s been a really good thing over the years, now we’ve got chiefs and deputy chiefs, (it) doesn’t matter what sex you are or what orientation you are, you’re all accepted and that’s the way it should be,” Noddy said.

In addition to this, Noddy also shares that in the mid 1990s, the culture and attitudes around safety also saw a shift, which he believes has led to less lives being lost during

their activities.

Air shows and the next generation

The past 10 years of Noddy’s career was with the Reserves, which mainly involved organising Air Shows across the country, which he describes as an event management role.

“Whilst it was just a team of Reservists, maybe about 10 guys that would get together and put on a show, it’s event management is really what it is,” Noddy said.

“The flying display is the easiest part of the whole show because that’s just getting professionals in to do what they normally do.”

Essentially, the team had to take an airfield and turn it into a functioning show site.

Now, Noddy is about to enter full retirement, but the legacy will continue, as four of his five children also have a connection to the Air Force.



Family photo taken at Noddy’s son Tom’s graduation from pilot’s course at RAAF Pearce in December 2010. FLGOFF Sam Sawade, FLGOFF John Sawade, Cadet Tom Sawade, Noddy Sawade, Aldona Sawade FLTLT Daina Sawade, Isaac Sawade. Photo supplied.

TOP: Noddy receiving his ‘Wings’ from the Governor of WA, Air Chief Marshal Sir Wallace Hart Kyle, GCB KCVO CBE, DSO, DFC, KStJ at RAAF Base Pearce WA Jul 1975. BOTTOM: Noddy flying a Huey helicopter in the Sinai Desert in December 1977.

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Bringing them home



By Mel Jaunay

He may be softly spoken and of humble demeanour, but Anthony McLean is a man of passion and conviction when it comes to honouring those who served in the World Wars, whether they indeed made the ‘ultimate sacrifice’, or came home, ever to carry the burden of all they had lived through.

So when he moved to Greenock two and a half years ago, and observed that only the names of those who died were honoured on the town’s war memorial, he knew there was more of the story to be told.

“I started to talk to people and I found little bits of information and a book written by a local historian. It had a bit about World War I and some names, but the memorial just wasn’t adding up,” Anthony explained. “That’s where the obsession started.”

Having served in the Australian Army for 25 years himself, 67-year-old Anthony developed an interest in military history after he retired, becoming a volunteer researcher for the Virtual War Memorial in 2014.

With the support of Meredith, his wife of 43 years, he’s researched and published online the service records several hundred soldiers, and been involved in other research projects in Blanchetown and the Yorke Peninsula, so it was only natural for him to want to remediate what he saw at Greenock as an injustice to the memory of those who served.

“I call it ‘bringing them home’,” he said of the work he does to capture the information of the service men and women: their photos, birth and burial information, and service records, and ensure they feature on a memorial somewhere, be it virtual or in stone.

“That’s what saddened me, how can we bring people to any war memorial if it’s just a stone object?... The people who did go to

war will be lost forever if they’re not on a memorial, on the true memorial where they came from, and that is a tragedy,” Anthony said.

“It’s sad, because it’s not just the people who tragically lost their lives, it’s the people who came home traumatised and had to live the rest of their lives with what they saw.

“They deserve to be remembered every year, and that’s why I’m striving to put them on there.”

The Greenock Village Community Association backed Anthony’s vision, and through the committee, he applied for a grant from Light Regional Council to add new plaques to the memorial, which will hopefully include the names of every service person who was involved in the World Wars who had a strong connection to Greenock, whether it be their town of birth, death, enlistment, schooling or somewhere they lived for a period of time.

“You have to liaise with others to set your own local criteria, and be consistent, and it is okay to have a person on two memorials or more,” said Anthony of the method he has used to devise the list of names.

“It’s not okay to have someone on no memorials.”

To that end, Anthony is keen to hear from anyone in the community who may know of someone who they think should appear on the Greenock Memorial.

So far, he has compiled a list of over 30 names for World War I, and 112 additional names for World War II, but as he nears the end of his research for the project, and with the new plaques hopefully to be made by mid this year, Anthony hopes this will act as a final call out for any late editions.

“If we miss someone, when we pass, they’ll be forgotten. They’ll never be spoken about on

Anthony McLean at the Greenock War Memorial, where he has spearheaded a project to ensure all those who served in the World Wars and have a strong connection to Greenock secure a place on the memorial plaques.



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ANZAC Day, there won't be a conversation. Their stories will never be told and that would be a tragic thing," he emphasised. Eventually, Anthony's vision for each one of those names is to have a correlating photo and information displayed in the Greenock Institute, so they truly are seen and remembered for generations to come. "People can walk through and look at all

of our soldiers in here, and use the hall to display our veterans in the future," he said. As well as the update to the memorial, which was, according to Anthony, first unveiled in 1956 by Perce Crook in front of a crowd of some 300 people, Anthony has also been successful in securing a grant, again through Light Regional Council, to have the town's former dilapidated flagpole

decommissioned and three new six metre flag poles installed, which will fly the Australian flag, the State flag and the Indigenous flag proudly for Greenock every day. **Anyone who would like to reach out to Anthony can contact *The Leader* for his details.**



A historical photo of the opening of the Greenock Memorial. Photo supplied.



SFX32993
Corporal Audrey May Williams

An example idea of how portraits and information of those appearing on the memorial could eventually be displayed at the Greenock Institute.





Our cover image: SX6178 Private Mervyn Horace Cundy - 2nd A.I.F. WW2, who died as a prisoner of the Japanese in 1942. He appears on the Greenock War Memorial.



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Veteran Support Centre plans

By Gretel Mead

Ahead of ANZAC Day next Thursday, Nuriootpa RSL President, Graeme Gibney and Vice President David Rowe, sat down with *The Leader* to discuss the need for improved veteran support and ideally to open a Veteran Support Centre in the Barossa Valley.

With hopes to expand the facilities at Nuriootpa RSL to provide additional support services for veterans and their families, the pair emphasised the importance of such improvements moving forward and the funding required to make the project a reality.

“We’re focused on improving this RSL’s membership and the support services we’re able to provide here,” David said, discussing their vision for the organisation.

“Our long-term goal is to set up an advocacy service here because there is nothing in the Barossa at the moment, there are advocates close by but they’re in Elizabeth or Salisbury...”

With 82 years of active service between them, Graeme and David possess a broad understanding of life as veterans, in the Navy and Army respectively, and already provide support to all service members in the community with the resources and facilities available to them.

“A lot of what we provide at the moment is peer support,” Graeme said.

“With a lot of the veterans out there, especially the older ones, they may not get online much and know what sort of support is available to them, so we help them navigate those processes.”

Nuriootpa RSL President, Graeme Gibney with Vice President David Rowe and Ledy Rowe.



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“Even on a smaller scale, we helped a veteran move house a few weeks ago, so the kind of support we can provide is really varied.”

At present, David is currently undertaking a training course with the DVA and RSL SA which allows him to take on an advocacy role within the Nuriootpa RSL.

Acting as the intermediary between the Department of Veterans’ Affairs and individual veterans, he can now assist veterans navigate complex systems and understand their rights while serving and retired.

“That level of support as a DVA advocate involves interviewing ex-service members or current veterans and assisting them to identify and process claims for DVA,” David said.

“Over the past few months, I have been processing claims on behalf of people, looking at their records and discussing injuries that may have occurred which were service related.

“From there, I help them fill out the necessary paperwork for the submission of those claims.

“As Graeme mentioned, a lot of the older veterans can be electronically disenfranchised or find the process overwhelming.

“So, having someone who can electronically submit forms on their behalf, or even just guide them through that process is really important.”

To allow for the expansion of support services at Nuriootpa RSL, the committee is currently working on plans for a ‘Veteran Support Centre.’

“We’d like to extend the building to create a ‘Veteran Support Centre,’” Graeme said.

“It would be (a) building managed by the RSL that our advocates can work out of and we’d also be able to have other professionals such as occupational therapists able to utilise the facilities.

“The services and facilities would be for all veterans, even the people living further out in the regions where there are limited

support services.”

Not solely focused on senior veterans, David emphasised the importance of having a space and creating a support network for veterans who are younger and/or currently serving.

“When you get to Graeme and (my) phase of life and career, you are very focused on the younger defence personnel because we’ve been there and experienced that,” David said.

“You’re very much focussed on them, especially those who served in places such

as Afghanistan where there were people killed in action.

“It’s important to remember that whilst 41 ADF were killed in Afghanistan, over 500 Afghanistan veterans have taken their own lives since returning to Australia, so ongoing veteran support is crucial.

“That’s a very big shift for Australia and the Defence Force because it’s something we haven’t had to deal with for decades, post-Vietnam.

“It’s putting a new dimension into veteran

support now and we would love a space where we can provide the necessary support for them.”

In order to bring their vision to life, Graeme and David have commenced conversations about the proposed facility with both State and Federal members, as well as The Barossa Council.

If approved, various fundraising efforts in conjunction with grant funding would be required to facilitate the project.



The recently installed Nuriootpa RSL Memorial Rose Garden.





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Freeling RSL reflects on ANZAC Day



Freeling RSL members, Bill Hollas, Tony Zilm, Graeme Seymon, Jenna Farrelly, Garry Shearing.

By Clem Stanley

For the members at Freeling Returned Services League (RSL), ANZAC Day is about remembering the lives of those lost, not just in active service, but those who have lost their lives since returning home too.

In the lead-up to ANZAC Day, *The Leader* met with some of the members to learn more about what the day means to them.

Collectively, the group shared that the day offers a time to remember the mates they lost during their time of service.

One member, Bill Hollas, spent 20 years in the Royal Australian Navy, on destroyers and in submarines.

On ANZAC Day Bill says he will remember some of the mates he lost in the line of duty, in particular one mate he lost in an accident on a submarine.

Another member, Jenna Farrelly, served in the army from 2008 to 2013, and shares how a lot of those remembered on ANZAC Day lost their lives once they were out of the army.

“I’ve lost a few mates, so I’m quite strong on the mental health side of things,” Jenna

said.

Jenna also shared that the day means having people know about, and not forgetting, the sacrifice of service men and women, and reminding those who have returned that they are not alone.

Graeme Seymon, who served from 1970 to 1971, shared a similar sentiment to Jenna.

“None of my platoon died in Vietnam, but a lot of them have died since then, a lot of them through mental (health) problems and drinking, they’re still having a lot of problems,” Graeme said.

The group also acknowledged the crowds who attend the service have grown larger over the years, despite the fact that more returned services are becoming unable to attend due to illness and frailty.

Jenna also offered assurance that the group doesn’t mind if children want to come along to any ANZAC Day services, citing that some parents express concern about their children being disruptive.

“We don’t mind little kids coming, we quite like the younger generation...,” Jenna said.



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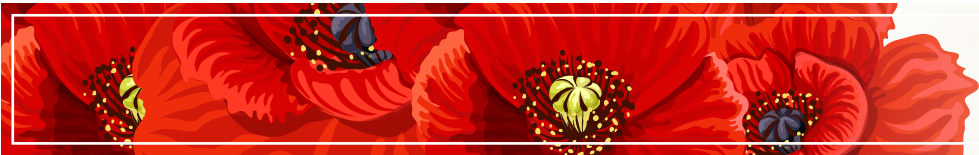


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For the love of living history

By Mel Jaunay

Tucked alongside the general store at Springton, a true gem of a military collection has been thoughtfully curated, born of a passion for history, but more importantly, a desire to keep the stories of those who served alive.

Over many years of collecting, Springton's Tim Sutcliffe and Mike Williams of Cromer have amassed a remarkable collection of thousands of military items from all over the world, including uniforms, equipment, parts of weaponry, models and memorabilia from every conflict Australia has been involved with.

The display, which was first conceived of in 2014, is open to the public in the lead up to ANZAC Day, and will also be open for the month of May, to coincide with South Australia's History Festival.

For Tim and Mike, putting the collection on display is their way of ensuring the sacrifices of the past are not forgotten.

"We just want to keep history alive, and make it real, so it's tangible and not just a memory. It's actually living it," explained Mike.

"School kids come through and they absolutely love it, because they can see in a three dimensional history."

Tim and Mike are also involved with organising Springton's ANZAC Day service, where each year, they pick one name from the town's cenotaph, research them and tell that person's story.

This year, the focus is on Don Graetz, a member of the AIF, who was a prisoner of war captured in the Battle of Tobruk during World War II.

It's about protecting those names from disappearing into obscurity.



Mike Williams and Tim Sutcliffe with some of the items on display at Springton, including a rare bugle that went to Gallipoli with the 3rd Light Horse Regiment.

"It's the only way we're going to keep ourselves alive in memory of service," explained Tim, who served in the Defence Force for 15 years.

"Everybody comes and says thank you for your service, but they don't turn up for ANZAC Day. Well, I've got them turning up for ANZAC Day, so it's working."

Local connections are important to Tim

and Mike, and a tour of their collection will reveal many a story of how they came to acquire certain items, including the uniform of Stephen Hughes, a Leading Seaman, who after serving 43 years in the Navy, retired to Mount Pleasant.

Stephen died two years ago, and it is stories like his Tim and Mike wish to preserve. It's the reason they do what they do, which is all

not for profit, with proceeds of the display going towards Springton Primary School and the CFS.

"All the servicemen are getting older, so unless we put something together to remember them... we don't want them dead and buried," said Mike.

"We want to keep the stories going, and the truth."



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COMING
TOGETHER IN
REMEMBRANCE
THIS

ANZAC DAY

Anzac Day is a day where all Australians come together in remembrance of the sacrifices made by our soldiers in times past and present.

When local store owner Harold Sheard received the devastating news of the death of his son, Lauri, in New Guinea in 1942, he decided to sell up and leave the region to heal. Coincidentally, a group of local leaders had been seeking a way to rekindle community spirit amid the wartime difficulties.

They formed a Co-operative to purchase Sheard's Store with an initial issue of 7500 onepound shares. A Co-operative is a different kind of business, one which is owned by its members – our community, to support its growth and development.

The Nuriootpa Co-operative Store, now known as Barossa Co-op, became more than just a place to get flour and sugar. Symbolically, it healed the wounds of war by stimulating other initiatives in the community such as the regions first community hotel, an aged care centre, a kindergarten and community sporting facilities.

The grocery store was the first



One story as a
result of war
tragedy and very
close to our hearts,
is the beginning of
our Co-op.

store opened by The Nuriootpa Co-operative store and while it has changed over the years it still remains to this day, now as Barossa Fresh. We are very proud of our long and enduring history and to have played a role in rebuilding our community after the hardship of war. The rekindling of our community meant veterans like Harold Hoffmann had something to return to after the war. Prior to World War II, Harold commenced duties in the grocery section, working at the Sheard's Store, where he delivered groceries on a bicycle. In 1941 and during WW II, he was drafted into the army, and he also served in New Guinea alongside Lauri but was thankfully discharged in 1946. After the war he returned to work at the newly formed Co-operative. He carried on in the grocery section until 1949 and remained an employee of The Nuriootpa Co-operative store until the day he retired.

This Anzac Day we remember and commemorate all of those in our community lost to war and to those who returned to us after fighting for our country. We share our story today to keep these traditions and memories alive.

LEST WE FORGET



1 Murray Street, Nuriootpa SA 5355 | T (08) 8568 6000 | barossa.coop