



Act now to join with us in honouring Australia's first war heroes.

To keep pace with work on the completion of Australia's long overdue National Boer War Memorial in Canberra, we are asking our Supporters to help us raise \$2.2 million between July 2015 and June 2016. It's a big task, but with your aid we'll make it. Here are three ways you can help.

1. Know any prospective donors?

Email their name and address to us now at secretary@bwm.org.au so we can send a Progress Report and Donation Form.

2. Introduce our Appeal to public-spirited organizations supporting community affairs.

How many copies of our progress report can we send for you to distribute?

3. Do you or your friends or family write for newspapers, magazines or newsletters?

Suggest an article on our Appeal – there is plenty of background information to read at www.bwm.org.au

Whoops! Another press report overlooks heroes of Australia's first war.

We are indebted to John Neenan of Coogee NSW for drawing our attention to a revealing error in an Anzac Centenary report in The Sun-Herald newspaper, Sydney, on Sunday 12 April.

The report stated that Albert Jacka was "Australia's first recipient of a Victoria Cross" in 1915.

As John Neenan points out, the truth is that six VCs were won by Australians much earlier than that, during the Boer War – three in 1900 and three after Australia was federated in 1901. Slips like that provide a constant reminder of why we must complete a National Boer War Memorial. Lest we forget!





Our Fund Chairman, Michael Crouch with the first mounted trooper bronze.

FIRST TROOPER BRONZE UNVEILED IN MELBOURNE.

Our Fund Chairman, Michael Crouch, poses with the first of four mounted trooper bronzes to be featured in the National Boer War Memorial on Anzac Parade, Canberra, at an unveiling function held at the Fundere Fine Art Foundry at Sunshine, Victoria, on 30 April. Our objective now is to secure funds required in order to complete three more bronzes in time for the Memorial to be dedicated on Boer War Day, 31 May 2017. The unveiling was attended by Michael Crouch, Fund Chairman, and Colonel John Haynes representing the National Boer War Memorial Association Inc.



The Hon Tony Abbott MP, Prime Minister

Support from Prime Minister but no Centenary funds.

Most of our supporters are aware that our Fund was given no financial support from either the Anzac Centenary Fund or the Anzac Centenary Public Fund, despite the fact that the official Government website for the Centenary stated that during the Centenary (2014-2018) "we will remember not only the Anzacs who served at Gallipoli and the Western Front, but all Australian servicemen and women...".

Nonetheless, in a letter to our Fund Chairman, Michael Crouch, in April, Prime Minister Tony Abbott signaled his support for the National Boer War Memorial, as follows:

"Thank you for the important work your Association does. The completion of the Boer War Memorial will ensure Australia's first conflict is appropriately commemorated in the national capital. I wish you all the best."

BOER WAR DAY MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR-GENERAL FOR REGIONAL REMEMBRANCE SERVICES HELD 31 MAY.



His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd) Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

"The Boer War is significant in our military history and to our nation's development.

"With the formation of the Australian Commonwealth on 1 January 1901, the soldiers and nurses from the Australian colonies became a unified force representing a new nation.

"These men and women were the first to serve Australia in battle, and they did us proud. Their knowledge of the bush, their riding ability, exceptional shooting skills and the medical attention they provided earned them universal respect, and their loyalty to each other forged the

sense of solidarity that lives with our soldiers to this day.

"In a difficult war far from home, our Boer War veterans showed what it was to be an Australian. In this ANZAC centenary year, their deeds are as important and relevant as ever and they are widely regarded as the fathers of the ANZACS with many from the Boer War going on to serve in World War I.

"As our nation was born, these servicemen and women were at war. We remember them for the sacrifices they made and for their contribution to our emerging nation."

Boer War Day 2015 message from National Patron.

"Today we mark the 113th anniversary of the official end of the Boer War, which concluded with the signing of the Treaty of Vereeniging on 31 May 1902. The Boer War represents a significant period in Australian history. It was the first time all of the Australian colonies deployed troops in a foreign conflict and, with the advent of Federation in 1901, it was our first military contribution as the Commonwealth of Australia.

"In this year, 2015, our focus is drawn to commemorating the centenary of the Anzac landing at Gallipoli and remembering the many thousands of Australians who died in the First World War. It is timely

to remember that many of the first Australians to enlist in 1914 had previously served their country in the Boer War, or were the sons of veterans of that war, demonstrating their strong sense of duty.

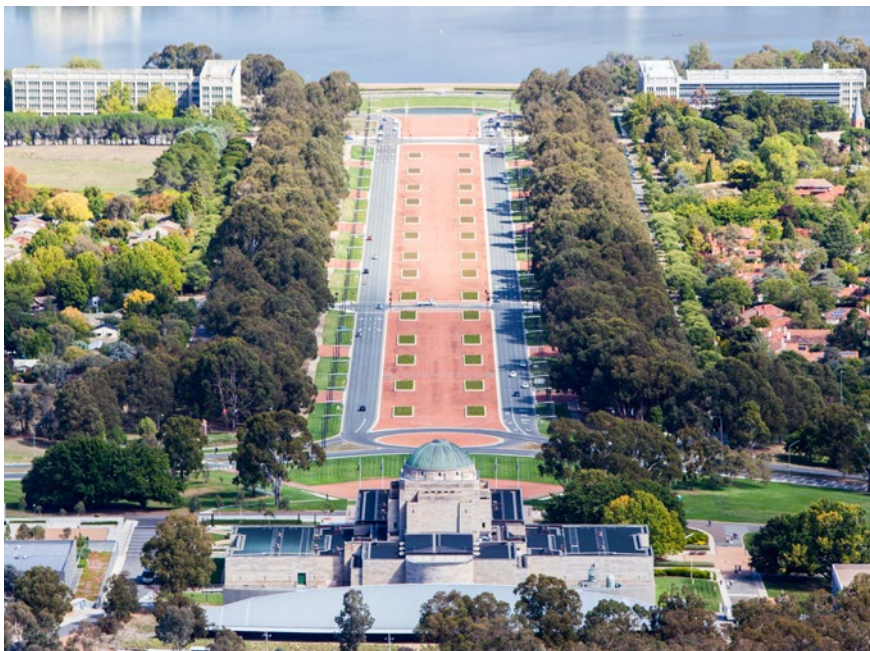
"Further, it was in the Boer War that the Australian military forces were to first gain their reputation for dash, skill, mateship and courage in adversity – qualities that were to become synonymous with the Anzacs in the First World War and that we seek to instil in our military personnel today.

"I wish you well for the 2015 commemorations as we recognize



Air Chief Marshal Mark Binskin AC, Chief of the Defence Force and National Patron - National Boer War Memorial Fund

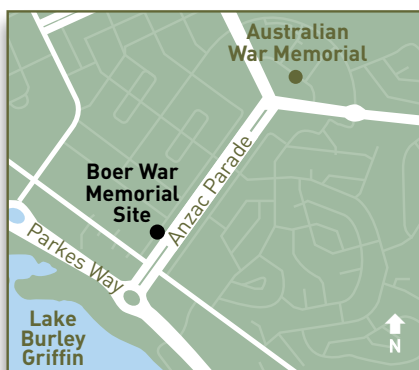
the contribution of those who served in the Boer War. I commend you for your commitment to honouring the sacrifice of Australians during the Boer War and look forward to the time when the National Boer War Memorial will take its rightful place alongside the monuments to other conflicts which also shaped our nation's character and history."



Memorial site in Canberra to be landscaped like veldt.

Detailed plans for landscaping the site for Australia's first National Boer War Memorial are now with the National Capital Authority awaiting final approval, and support is being sought from appropriate organisations for contributions to the landscaping work involved.

The setting for the four mounted trooper bronzes due to be completed and installed on the site in time for Boer War Day 31 May 2017 is to be styled to resemble the distinctive terrain and vegetation of the



South African veldt – an authentic replication of the environment in which thousands of Australians lived and fought for years during the course of the Boer War.



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