

National Boer War Memorial Association Inc Victoria

Vol. 1 Issue 3
September 2011



Boer War Day – Melbourne Sunday 29 May 2011

The 2011 Boer War Day Commemoration Service at the Melbourne Shrine of Remembrance was a most memorable occasion and resoundingly justified the many months of planning, effort and expenditure which went into it. An estimated 700 attended (200 more than last year) and this time the weather was kind to us.

At 12 noon the white riderless horse, with boots reversed in the saddle, was led up from the 5th Victorian Mounted Rifles Memorial in the parkland to the north of the Shrine forecourt and took its place at the head of the march in front of a dozen light horsemen from the Creswick Light Horse.



The Victoria Police Pipe Band formed up behind the mounted troopers creating an impressive lead party for the marchers who followed behind the Boer War banners including distinguished guests, descendants of Boer War Veterans, a solid representation of Scouts and Guides and members of the public.

On arrival at the Eternal Flame the various elements



moved to their positions for the Service.

Colonel Mike Annett CSC, CEO of the RSL in Victoria, delivered a most interesting commemorative address. The theme was the Wilmansrust disaster which befell the 5th Victorian Mounted Rifles on the night of 12 June 1901 and Colonel Annett linked it with Australian soldiers serving our country in various theatres overseas today.

The Honour Roll of the 18 Australians killed at Wilmansrust was solemnly read out by Tony Charlton to a background of 'Highland Cathedral' played by the pipe band. The reading of the Honour Roll included the age and the hometown of all these casualties and reminded us of the sometimes forgotten fact that these young soldiers were very much part of our local community and were mostly cut down in their 20's. They paid a huge price serving our country.

Many wreaths were laid at the Eternal Flame and



National Boer War Memorial Association Inc

(ABN: 29 293 433 202)

Victoria

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Patron-in-Chief: Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

National Patron: General D. J. Hurley AC DSC

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Wanted

Photographs of any Victorian or Commonwealth Boer War soldiers and nurses particularly where badges and insignia are identifiable.

Do you have a good Boer War story to tell?
please contact
Geoff Dare

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included those by the Victorian Government’s Veterans Council, the Federal Department of Veteran’s Affairs, the City of Melbourne with Councillor Shanahan representing the Lord Mayor, the Royal United Services Institute, Scouting and Guiding leaders and others. Amongst the distinguished guests were many senior Army officers including three Major Generals and two Brigadiers. Senior Scout and Guide officials and Civic leaders were also well represented.

Mrs Mary Sadler, 103-year-old daughter of a Boer War veteran made it to the service but, due to a recent fall, was unable to march as she did last year. We won’t be in the least surprised to see her marching next year.

At the completion of the service the Victorian Committee of the National Boer War Memorial Association put on coffee and biscuits for everyone who attended.

The great success of this event was due in no small part to the financial help received from the Victorian Veteran’s Council and the Department of Veterans Affairs which does demonstrate the sacrifices of the soldiers of our first big war as a Nation and their descendants are not forgotten. We must now ensure that the promised National Boer War Memorial in Anzac Parade, Canberra, is not forgotten.



The Boer War (South African) Memorial in Bairnsdale

This memorial commemorates twenty-two ‘Gippslanders’ Killed in Action.

A few years ago the RSL, DVA and East Gippsland Shire jointly refurbished the memorial. However, an old photograph subsequently appeared showing an ORB still missing from the top of the memorial. The Bairnsdale RSL is currently in the process of having this refurbishment completed.

While accepting the 31st May as ‘Boer War Day’ the Bairnsdale RSL commemorates the war during their ANZAC Day commemoration. A small table, with the National flag and a slouch hat, is placed at the Boer War memorial. The march halts at the memorial and a wreath placed by one of the older veterans in honour of those whose names appear on the memorial and all those who served.

The Boer War Memorial and the Bairnsdale Cenotaph are only 50 metres apart and the gathered crowds embrace both, where the reason for halting at the memorial is explained.

Names on the Memorial

L/Cpl W. D. Mays	Bairnsdale	Pte F. H. Cauchy	Iguana Ck	Cpl J. McCowan	Warragul
Pte A. T. Woodman	Bairnsdale	Pte E. Greenwood	Sale	Pte J. W. Chrichton	Warragul
Pte R. McGregor	Lindenow	Sgt D. H. Pruden	Newry	Pte T. J. Rose	Morwell
Pte H. O. Walford	Bulumwaal	Sgt M. T. McDonald	Yinnar	Pte C. W. Bolding	Morwell
Pte A. H. Wilson	Sale	Pte J. M. McClure	Won Wron	Pte A. B. Davidson	Moe
Pte W. M. Atkinson	Sale	Pte J. Jonson	Hospital Ck	Pte R. A. Watson	Bindi
Pte H. Lamb	Sale	Pte E. A. Valpied	Toora		
Pte J. Rankin	Sale	Pte C. E. W. Wilmot	Metung		

Editorial

The time is getting late and I am at the computer compiling The Victorian Contingent, determining what is relevant, what is important, what messages need to be conveyed and where to get the information. Not the least of which is how are we to meet our

seemingly impossible target of \$600,000 (recently increased from \$500,000) in the next 21 months! The computer pinged as a new email arrived so I took the opportunity to have a break with a hot Chai Latte and check the mail in anticipation that it may relate to research which I have been undertaking. The email came from a friend and simply referred me to

a Youtube¹ video clip. I followed the link to a most incredibly inspirational, motivation talk presented to a large group high school students.

I have heard many such talks over the years but this was different. The speaker was Nick Vujcic, born in Melbourne in 1982, and the victim of a vary rare disorder causing him to be born with no arms or legs; he does however, have one foot with two toes. His philosophy in life - "No arms, no legs no worries". He swims, dives (from a board), plays golf, plays computer games and types at 34 words per minute. At seventeen he established his own business 'Life Without Limbs' and presents motivational talks world-wide. He talks while standing on a table, and moves about like any other speaker. As he talks about life's issues and the difficulties we all face from time to time, he fell onto his stomach and explained the need, and often difficulties, to pick oneself up. At the same time, he picks himself up – just think about it, no arms or legs to assist....!

But what has this to do with the National Boer War Memorial? As in all wars, our soldiers had overcome insurmountable odds. What, for many, started out as an adventure, soon turned to unrelenting sea sickness on a month long voyage. Once landed in a foreign country with friends and family far behind they had to contend not only with being shot at but also illness on large scales, and shortages of food and medical supplies. The free spirit of the Australians contrasted heavily with the strict regimentation of the British troops under whose leadership they generally served. Life was harsh and no doubt many had second thoughts about their reasons for enlisting. Many did not return home and we must never forget their contribution to helping make the world a safer place.

Likewise, our present efforts to achieve a National Memorial in Canberra is not without its difficulties.

On the positive side –

1. The Commonwealth Government has allocated a site on ANZAC Parade and this has been dedicated for the Boer War memorial.
2. A design competition has been held and we are patiently(?) waiting on the announcement of the winning design.

On the other side of the ledger we, the community, are required to

1. raise \$3,800,000 Nationally (\$600,000 in Victoria); and

¹ log on to Youtube and search for Attitude is Altitude

2. provide evidence that there is sufficient community interest in the memorial.
3. achieve all this by July 2013.

In Victoria a team of speakers has been addressing clubs and meetings around the State to generate interest, seek donations and otherwise raise funds by selling a small range of merchandise. The level of donations received, is unfortunately, well below our expectations. In fact, the speakers are frequently incurring petrol and accommodation costs (where necessary) in excess of the donations received. These costs are being born solely by the individuals concerned and not from funds raised.

What can you do to help?

In a word - "Support".

1. Included with our March newsletter was a Registration of Interest form that we asked all recipients (approx. 500) to copy and arrange for three friends to complete. Only fourteen completed forms were returned (arranged by 3 initial recipients). A further 230 recipients were requested to complete forms either because they had not done so previously or we did not hold correct/complete information – only twelve of these were returned. We need your help with collecting names of more supporters.
2. If -
 - you belong to a club – RSL, Rotary, Lions, Masonic, Probus, etc and would like a guest speaker; or that club would just like to make a donation; or
 - you know a business that would be prepared to make a donation; or
 - you have suggestion for, or can help with, other fund raising activities please contact our Secretary Bill Woolmore or myself (see page 2).
3. If you receive this magazine by email, how many of your friends have you forwarded it on to?
4. Last year the Scouting fraternity in Sale raised and donated \$500 and threw out a challenge for other Scout/Guide troops to better that amount. **Is there any troop prepared to take on the Challenge?**

We are certainly facing a huge task but with your help we will achieve our objective. **It's time to pick ourselves up and get moving again.**

Geoff Dare
Editor

Walter Colville Fincher A Juvenile Volunteer for South Africa

In October 1899, at eleven years of age, Walter Colville Fincher presented himself at Victoria Barracks (Melbourne) to enlist in the First Victorian Contingent for the Boer War.

The eldest son of Walter Fincher, a Fitzroy butcher, he was no doubt inspired by stories of both his grandfathers who had seen active service with the colours (British Army). He was a bugler in the 7th Junior Cadet Battalion when volunteers were being called up for service in South Africa, and saw no reason why he should not be allowed to fight with the rest. He went off to school and answered the roll call, returned home, put on his khaki uniform, and went to the Barracks to volunteer as a bugler. He was reported to have been kindly received by the officers at the Barracks, entertained by them at dinner, and was shown all there was to be seen in the building. He was considered too young for the post and was greatly disappointed that his services were refused. He expressed to his friends the hope "that the war will not soon be over, and that a second contingent would be sent from Victoria, so that he may still have a chance."

Following the relief of Mafeking on 17th May 1900 there was widespread rejoicing throughout the colonies and young Walter wrote a letter of congratulations to Colonel Baden-Powell who replied –

"Pretoria, 6th October, 1900.

My Dear Bugler Fincher—Thank you for your letter and good wishes, and for your portrait. We had a very good Cadet Corps of boys of your age in Mafeking during the siege, and they did excellent work, and behaved well under the heaviest fire, and all had a strong sense of doing their duty, and of obeying every order conscientiously, whether anybody was looking after them or not. And thus they made good soldiers. I hope that you and your comrades consider that to do whatever is your duty should be your first endeavour. If you keep this in mind, you, too, will make good soldiers when the time comes. I shall remember your name, and expect to hear of your doing well when you grow up.
Yours truly, R. S. S. Baden-Powell."

1911 saw the introduction of compulsory military training and Walter enlisted in the 38th Battery, Australian Field Artillery.

On the 14th August 1914, the day that Britain declared war on Germany, Walter volunteered for active service in the 8th Battery, 3rd Field Artillery Brigade, AIF, Regimental

number 21.

This unit was hastily equipped with quick firing 18 pounders and readied for overseas embarkation, departing from Perth on the 3rd November for Alexandria. The Battery was amongst the first to see action at Gallipoli. Four of its guns landed on the second day of the landings only to have them returned to the ships later in the day due to the unsuitability of the terrain and the lack of available gun positions. On the night of 1 May 1915, 160 men hauled two of the Battery's guns into position from which they could provide some support for the infantry. After two days and twenty-two casualties the Divisional Commander, General Bridges, ordered the guns forward into the infantry firing line. From there they successfully fired directly into Turkish trenches at a range of 400m before being withdrawn.

On 11th May, Walter suffered a gunshot wound to the leg and was evacuated to Cairo to convalesce.

Whilst in Cairo, he was promoted to Sergeant on 15th August 1915. Following a number of bouts of ill health, Walter embarked for the Western Front, arriving in Marseilles on the 23rd March 1916. Three months later, an incident saw him demoted to Corporal and in May 1917, at his own request, reduced back to Private.

In June 1918, Walter was gassed, however he remained on duty. During the attack on Herleville Wood, near Peronne, on 23rd August he again suffered the effects of mustard gas and again remained on duty to help save and treat many wounded. This latter action earned him the Distinguished Conduct Medal and his citation reads –

'For conspicuous gallantry at Herleville Wood, 23 August, 1918. As stretcher bearer, he did fine work dressing and carrying the wounded. Later, in spite of suffering from the effects of gas, he attended to many casualties. His endurance was only equalled by his courage.'

This time the effects of being gassed caused Walter to be hospitalised and evacuated to England where he remained until departing for Australia in December 1918.

Back in Melbourne, Walter returned to his trade as a butcher and in 1920 married Kathleen Falvey. However, in 1927 Walter had moved to Mareeba in Far North Queensland and gained employment as a miner. Within months he became ill and was admitted to hospital where he died on 12th March 1928, aged 40. Walter Fincher is buried in an unmarked grave at Mareeba Pioneer Cemetery. He deserves better.



Walter C Fincher 1899

South African Contingent Three Bugler Boys A Call-Sounding Competition

“Two buglers are wanted for the contingent, sir,” reported the adjutant, “and three have qualified.”
“Parade them,” said the Colonel.

Whereupon three stripling lads in uniform stepped into line, saluted, and stood to attention. Colonel Hoad, the A.A.G., was the umpire, and with him was Colonel Fetherston, the P.M.O. A few yards away stood the garrison Sergt-Major, the father of one of the boys, the smallest of the three, and from behind the curtain of a barrack window looked a mother, agitated by those contradictory feelings peculiar to the sex apprehensive of failure, yet equally apprehensive of success. It was a matter of tears whichever way it went.

The umpire called for “The Last Post,” one of the most difficult of calls and one of the prettiest. The Sergt-Major’s son, who was first in the line, began the contest. The lad was visibly agitated, and his opening notes were bubbly, though the finishing flourishes were perfect. His taller competitors surpassed him in the opening round.

“The Reveille,” ordered the Colonel.

The little fellow was calmer now and more confident, and the notes of the early morning call, to the accompaniment of which the British soldier on service opens his eyes every day, were sounded with exceptional clearness and sweetness.

*Turn out, and stow hammocks;
Take bedding for airing-
or, is you like, as Kipling has it :
My name is O’Kelly,
I’ve heard the revelly.*

The others were not quite up to No. 1, yet the honours were fairly even.

The doctor advanced, and, opening the mouth of each candidate in turn, looked in critically. Not satisfied, he adjusted his glasses and entered upon a tour of inspection of the teeth.

“There ain’t been no bush fires through their mouths,” whispered a non-com. in attendance, and, to do the lads justice, they were all singularly free from those black stumps which had proved fatal to the chance of so many of the elder men the previous day.

“Sound the assemble,” called the Colonel, and the little fellow began the third round. This time he blew as he had never blown before. The clear notes

of the call echoed through the empty barrack square, and seemed to cling about the roof tops, rising superior to the “clang, clang” of the tram car bells as they passed to and fro outside. No. 2 was thrown on his mettle by this performance, but there was a nervous tremor in his opening that marred the effect, and his eyes strained visibly as he reached the higher register. No.



Buglers Albert Bottle (1st Battalion Militia) and William Brenchley (Army Service Corps) at Victoria Barracks competing for service with the 1st Vic Contingent. Both were accepted.

3, also a smart soldierly lad, was more self possessed, and once more the shrill notes awakened the echoes:-

*Assemble now, my men,
And gather In, and gather In;
Assemble now, my men.*

And the chosen men of the contingent must have fitted their own words to the music as they lolled about the square, thinking of the days not far distant when they will bear these notes in real earnest.

The umpire was still unsatisfied, for the honours were pretty evenly divided so far, and a choice was difficult to make. The three lads stood motionless and expressionless, excepting that each kept an eye concentrated on the face of the colonel, eager to anticipate his decision.

“The Dinner Call,” demanded the umpire. This was to be the last round - the deciding blow - and the boys braced themselves for a final effort in tone and volume. The issue was a big one - Africa, service, glory, a soldier’s grave, perhaps.

The final call was worth going a long way to hear. Each of the boys put his very soul into it, and every note came clear and strong. If Gabriel can surpass it when the time comes for the grand summons to all earth’s soldiers, the dull of hearing will find it difficult to make excuse. There were no split notes, no water gurgles in the long “G’s,” no failure of wind in the upward sweeps, no stuttering hesitation, as this, the liveliest of all military calls, proceeded:

*Our wives have puddens and pies, soldier’s wives
have skillee*

The choice was no longer in doubt Nos. 1 and 3 were picked, and No. 2 stood out. There was a weeping face at the window, but the Sergeant-Major was delighted, and turned away briskly to conduct a parade elsewhere. "May I go in the ranks, sir?" pleaded the vanquished No. 2 as he stood forward, with a lump in his throat, and saluted. He was determined to be in it somehow. "Has the doctor passed you?" "Yes, sir" "All right in musketry?" "Yes, sir" "Report yourself to Major Eddy." "Yes, sir."

(Argus, October 14 1899)

Rudyard Kipling

Rudyard Kipling, was a very highly regarded writer, and particularly influential when, in 1899 he penned *The Absent-Minded Beggar* with the specific aim of raising funds to support the soldiers – particularly reservists (and their families) who had answered the call to colours to fight the Boers in South Africa.

First published in the London "Daily Mail" on the 31st October 1899 the poem was set to music by Sir Arthur Sullivan (Gilbert and Sullivan fame) and on the 14th November it was claimed that some 15,000 people in London had heard the poem recited or sung on the previous night

The project was spectacularly successful. Recitals were performed in theatres, music halls, Masonic lodges, clubs, at concerts, friendly society meetings, annual dinners, parish meetings, private "at homes", in barracks and schools and even in churches and chapels – all hearing the poem's refrain "..... pay, pay, pay!"

A network of Absent Minded Beggar Relief Corps (AMB RC) depots were set up at embarkation points in England and South Africa and on 21st June 1900 it was claimed that 16,000 sick and wounded soldiers, 600 wives and over 1,000 children had been clothed, fed and assisted at these depots.

The AMB reached Sydney on the 8th December 1899, Perth on the 9th December and Christchurch on the 14th December. The Brisbane "Courier" published it on the 21st December and it was recited in the Albert Hall in Launceston to an audience of 1500 to support the Tasmanian Patriotic Fund which was set up to assist members of the Queensland Contingent.

Estimates of the amounts raised from publication rights, public performances, donations, and sales of vary from £250,000 to £340,000 and it is reported that donations were received from across the globe including Gibraltar, Australia, British Guinea, Trinidad, Canada and British America.

It is quite an amazing story and gives us some idea of the very poor, virtually non-existent, rehabilitation conditions that existed in England for Boer War soldiers and particularly their families.

The Absent - Minded Beggar

*When you've shouted "Rule Britannia"—when you've sung "God save the Queen"—
When you've finished killing Kruger with your mouth—
Will you kindly drop a shilling in my little tambourine
For a gentleman in khaki ordered South?
He's an absent minded beggar, and his weaknesses are great—
But we and Paul must take him as we find him—
He is out on active service, wiping something off a slate—
And he's left a lot o' little things behind him!*

*Duke's son – cook's son – son of a hundred kings—
(Fifty thousand horse and foot going to Table Bay!)
Each of 'em doing his country's work (and who's to look after their things?)
Pass the hat for your credit's sake, and pay-pay-pay!*

*There are girls he married secret, asking no permission to,
For he knew he wouldn't get it if he did.
There is gas and coal and vittles, and the house-rent falling due,
And it's more than rather likely there's a kid.
There are girls he walked with casual, they'll be sorry now he's gone,
For an absent-minded beggar they will find him,
But it ain't the time for sermons with the winter coming on—
We must help the girl that Tommy's left behind him!*

*Cook's son-Duke's son-son of a belted Earl—
Son of a Lambeth publican- it's all the same today!
Each of 'em doing his country's work (and who's to look after the girl?)
Pass the hat for your credit's sake, and pay-pay-pay!*

*There are families by the thousands, far too proud to beg or speak—
And they'll put their sticks and bedding up the spout,
And they'll live on half o' nothing, paid 'em punctual once a week,*

*'Cause the man earned that wage is ordered out.
He's an absent minded beggar, but he heard his country call,
And his reg'ment didn't need to send to find him:
He chucked his job and joined it-so the job before us all
Is to help the home that Tommy left behind him!*

*Duke's job-cook's job-gardener, baronet, groom-
(Mews or palace or paper shop, there's some one gone away!
Each of 'em doing his country's work (and who's to look after the room?)
Pass the hat for your credit's sake, and – pay! pay! pay!*

*Let us manage so as later we can look him in the face,
And tell him-what he'd very much prefer-
That, while he saved the Empire, his employer saved his place,
And his mates (that's you and me) looked out for her.
He's an absent minded beggar, and he may forget it all,
But we do not want his kiddies to remind him,
That we sent 'em to the workhouse while their daddy hammered Paul,
So we'll help the homes our Tommy left behind him!*

*Cook's home,-Duke's home-home of a millionaire,
(Fifty thousand horse and foot going to Table Bay!)
Each of 'em doing his country's work (and what have you got to spare?)
Pass the hat for your credit's sake, and – pay! pay! pay!*

Rudyard Kipling
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Lieutenant Leslie Cecil Maygar VC DSO VD

Edgar Leslie Cecil Willis Walker Maygar was born near Kilmore, Victoria in May 1868, the youngest in the family of seven children. In the late 1880's the family moved to Ruffy near Euroa and settled on a large property which is still known as Strathearn.

On the outbreak of the Boer War, Maygar was amongst the first to volunteer however he was rejected due to dental problems. In February 1901 he successfully enlisted in the 5th Victorian Mounted Rifles and departed for South Africa later that month.



On the night of the 22nd November 1901, the Right Wing of the V.M.R. were ordered out for night operations. On the morning of the 23rd inst., soon after daylight, after B, C and D Coys had captured a large herd of cattle from the enemy at GEELHOUTBOOM and were bringing it back to the Reserve. "D" Coy was being closely pressed by a large force of the enemy and a detached post, which had orders to destroy one of the enemy's wagons, was being out-flanked. The only means of saving these men, without great loss to the Company, was to communicate with them immediately.

Lt. Maygar saw the position, and promptly volunteered to bring the men back. He galloped out under a very heavy fire but succeeded in reaching the men. He ordered them to retire, and as they were doing so, the horse of No. 740, Pte. A. J. Short, who was one of the detached post, was shot under him. Lt. Maygar called to Pte. Short to come to him and not to bother about his saddle, as the enemy were then within two hundred yards. He told him to jump up behind, but this he was unable to do, being so exhausted and shaken by the fall from his horse.

Lt. Maygar then dismounted and lifted him on, getting up behind. Pte. Short was so completely exhausted that he was unable to guide the horse, which bolted into boggy ground, causing both riders to dismount. Lt. Maygar, finding on extricating the horse that it could not carry both, put Pte. Short on, and told him to gallop for cover at once, Lt. Maygar proceeding on foot to a ridge on my left, which we were holding. All this was done under a very heavy fire. This was not

the first time that Lt. Maygar has proved himself a gallant officer under fire. (Report by Lt T.S.L. O'Reilly. Commanding "C" Company, (Right Wing). 5VMR).

Lt Maygar was awarded the Victoria Cross for his bravery.

Following the war Maygar returned home to become a grazier at Euroa and continued to serve in the Victorian Mounted Rifles.

In 1914, the then Captain Maygar had helped establish Broadmeadows as an Army Base to train soldiers for the First World War. The base is named Maygar Barracks in his honour.

When the 1st World War broke out, Maygar lowered his age and enlisted in the 4th Light Horse Regiment. Promoted to Temporary Lt Colonel at Gallipoli, he was left in command of the last men to leave during the epic withdrawal.

In June 1917 Lt-Col Maygar was made a Companion of the Distinguished Services Order in recognition of his services in the Field.

He went on to lead the 8th Light Horse during the Sinai and Palestine campaigns. On the 31st October 1917, the day of the famous Light Horse charge at Beersheba, acting Brigadier-General Maygar, was bombed and machine-gunned by an enemy aircraft. Not found until after nightfall, he was weakened by loss of blood and died the next day. He is buried in the Beersheba War Cemetery, Israel. His Victoria Cross is displayed at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia.



Maygar's name also appears on the Longwood Boer War Memorial and south bound traffic on the nearby Hume Freeway passes over Maygar's Hill.

Honouring Our Heroes, Euroa & District

The Community of Euroa is proud of the extraordinary contribution made by its military personnel in the service of our country and is the only district in the Commonwealth with three citizens being granted a Victoria Cross.

- Lieutenant Leslie Cecil Maygar – 23 November 1901, Geelhoutboom, Natal - Boer War
- Lieutenant (later Major) Frederick Harold Tubb – 9 August 1915, Lone Pine Trenches, Gallipoli
- Corporal Alexander Stewart Burton Tubb – 9 August 1915, Lone Pine Trenches, Gallipoli

They are remembered in Euroa by three gum trees planted in their honour some years ago outside the Euroa RSL. However, that is about to change as a group of passionate community members have come together with the proposal to honour all their heroes

with more fitting memorials. The committee is made up of members from the RSL, Euroa Gazette, Euroa Community Action Group, Euroa Historical Society and other interested citizens.

Part of the project is to honour the three VC winners with life size bronze statues, creating a hero's walk along the Seven Creeks at the rear of the Euroa RSL building.

A further part of the project is to restore and complete the Memorial Avenue of Honour (established in the 1920's) by correcting details, planting new trees and installing the remaining plaques of Euroa's returned servicemen.

The overall cost of the project is expected to be in the vicinity of \$390,000 with support being sought from local citizens, grants, donations and fund raising activities. If you would like further information or wish to make a donation to the fund

please contact Paul Rieusset, P O Box 103, Euroa, Vic, 3666 or ring him on 03 5795 3041 during business hours.

Maygars Hill Vineyard and Cottage

A short distance south of Euroa is Maygars Hill Vineyard and Cottage.

Rated as 5-star and "outstanding and regularly producing exemplary wines", Maygars Hill Vineyard consistently wins gold medals and trophies. Maygars Hill Vineyard is situated on the Hume Highway between Avenel and Euroa in the Strathbogie foothills, just one and a half hours from Melbourne.

Fly into their airstrip or take the leisurely drive from Melbourne. Stay at their cottage nestled in the vines with pleasant views of the Strathbogies from the front veranda.

Enjoy their 100 per cent estate produced, hand-tended (and talked to) wine, made from very low cropping small berries with luscious flavour from soils of light sandy loam sitting at 160 metres.

Maygars Hill Vineyard: 53 Longwood-Mansfield Road, Longwood East, Victoria
www.maygarshill.com.au

Boer War Memorial To Be Moved

The Box Hill Boer War Memorial's final resting place will be in the Box Hill Gardens after approval for the relocation was given by Whitehorse City Council. The Box Hill RSL pushed for the memorial to be moved out of respect for the relatives of soldiers who fought during the Boer War.

Whitehorse Councillors approved the relocation of the Memorial from the median strip on Whitehorse Rd to the Box Hill gardens where it will be placed alongside other war monuments. "When history students visit the Box Hill Gardens, they will now have a chance to learn all about the Boer War. The RSL wants to commemorate their comrades in arms and there is no place more appropriate to pay respect than the gardens."



RSL president Tony Bowden welcomed the move, saying the present location was no place for reflection. "Having one memorial away from all the other ones just didn't make sense."

Boer War Memorials in Victoria Where Are They?

Extensive research is being conducted into locating and recording Boer War memorials and plaques throughout Victoria.

Whilst many are located in prominent positions, many more are being found in schools, churches, community halls, museums and cemeteries and as such are not so readily identifiable. Some old country churches and halls, now closed, still have memorial plaques therein.

A number of WW1 Memorials also have Boer War plaques attached.

If you know the location of ANY Boer War memorial or plaque would you please contact Geoff Dare -

Phone: 0417 593 001; or

Email: gadare@tpg.com.au; or

write to: P O Box 113, Mulgrave, 3170

Please do not assume that a particular memorial has been recorded or that someone else will forward the information.

Can You Help?

Was Your Relative in the Boer War?

Historian Robin Droogleever is writing the regimental history of the 2nd Victorian Contingent that went to fight in the war in South Africa in 1900, and he is hoping that relatives might have useful diaries, letters and photographs which they would be prepared to share with him.

Under the command of Colonel Tom Price, the 2nd Victorian Contingent sailed in the steamship Euryalus in January 1900 and reached Cape Town on 5th February. Within ten days they were at the front; and within 20 days they were having their first taste of action against the redoubtable Boers. They were in the van of Lord Roberts' invasion into the Transvaal in May 1900 and continued to be front-line troops until the end of September 1900. Thereafter they took part in a very different kind of war, something like the war in Afghanistan today where you rode in among your enemy unaware whether he was friend or foe and vulnerable to ambush or attack at any moment. This was the period of the guerilla war and not only were the Victorians effective fighters at this type of warfare, they were highly valued by British commanders. After an exhausting campaign they returned to Australia in April 1901.

If you were descended from any of these valiant troopers or believe that you are related to any man who served in the Victorian forces in the Boer War, please contact Rob Droogleever -

Phone: 03-9891-6032; or

Email: jerwfd@optusnet.com.au; or

write to P.O.Box 42, Bulleen, 3105.

If you have any doubts please ring or write.

For Sale

Two second hand B&W laser printers
too good to dump

Best offer received by 15 October 2011



HP Laserjet 4050TN
Network Printer

HP LaserJet 5000GN
A4 /A3 printer



Proceeds will be donated to the Memorial fund.

Contact Editor

Promotional Merchandise

Order Form

When ordering, remember to complete details on page 12



Car Sticker
(10cm x 10cm)
\$2.00



Lapel Pin
25 x 25 mm
\$10.00



Lapel Pin
30 x 30 mm
\$8.00



Pens - Maroon and Gold or
Black and Gold
\$10 each

* **Queen Victoria Chocolate Tin** \$25
A re-creation of the original Queen Victoria Chocolate Tin from 1900. The tin (204mm x 60mm x 26mm) contains 8 slouch hat chocolates and a brief history of the slouch hat in the Boer War.





*** Clear Crystal Glass Memorial - Laser Etched**

130mm x 155mm x 30mm, Wt 880gm
in lined presentation case

\$120 + PP&I \$22 (in Victoria, may be slightly higher in other states)



* Image shown with dark background to highlight engraving.

Badge Options - Select One		
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
No Badge	 Pattern 1 (issued Feb 1902) 1 ACH, 2 ACH 3 ACH, 4 ACH	 Pattern 2 (issued April 1902) 5 ACH, 6 ACH 7 ACH, 8 ACH
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Veteran Information: Please PRINT

Given Names Surname:.....

Rank:..... Regimental number:

Unit:

Second tour if applicable

Rank:..... Regimental number:

Unit:

Post and packaging extra (see over). All prices include GST

* Allow 3 - 4 weeks for delivery

Merchandise Order

..... Lapel Pins (square) @\$10 each \$

..... Lapel Pins (2010) @ \$8 each \$

..... Pen - Black and Gold @ \$10 \$

..... Pen - Maroon and Gold @ \$10 \$

..... Car Stickers @ \$2 each \$

..... Chocolate Tins @\$25 each \$

..... Crystal Glass Memorial \$130 each \$

(complete details on page 11)

Postage

Badges (up to 4) \$2.50

Pens (up to 2) \$2.50

Stickers only \$1.00

Chocolate Tins \$6.00

Crystal Glass Memorial \$22.00

(if purchasing multiple items contact
Bill Woolmore for possible
P&P savings) \$

Sub-total \$.....

(Circle one) Mr Mrs Dr Ms Miss

Other

Given Names:

Surname:

Address:

Suburb:State :.....

Postcode:

Phone: Home: Mobile:

Business:

Email:

I enclose a cheque for \$.....

Payable to:

**National Boer War Memorial Association - Vic,
P O Box 2006, Blackburn South, Victoria, 3130.**

Please do NOT send cash in the mail

Office Use Only

Receipt No:

Date:

Donations To The Memorial Fund

I would like to donate -

\$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250

,\$1000 \$2,000 \$5,000 \$10,000

Other

(Circle one) Mr Mrs Dr Ms Miss Other

Given Names:

Surname:

Organisation / Business (if applicable):

.....

Address:

Suburb:State :.....

Postcode:

Phone: Home: Mobile:

Business:

Email:

I enclose a cheque for \$.....

Payable to:

**National Boer War Memorial Association -
Australia**

P O Box 2006, Blackburn South, Vic, 3130.

Please do NOT send cash in the mail

Office Use Only

Receipt No:

Date Received:

Public Recognition of Donors

To recognise larger donations certificates will be awarded as follows -

Bronze \$1,000 to \$9,999

Silver \$10,000 to \$49,999

Gold \$50,000 to \$99,999

Platinum \$100,000 and above

Recipients will be permitted to use that level of donor logo on their stationery. Gold and Platinum donors will also have their logo placed on future BWM promotional materials and the National website.



BoerWarServicePlaques

These are engraved wood plaques that are 225mm x 175mm and can be displayed on the mantelpiece or wall. They are a beautiful reminder of your ancestor's service to the nation.

A, B & C are optional centrepieces. Photograph required for option C



Option A



Option B



Option C



ORDER FORM

PLEASE SEND ME PLAQUE: A B C (circle your choice(s), use separate form for each plaque)

NAME..... ADDRESS.....

PHONE NO..... EMAIL.....

VETERAN'S DETAILS: FULL NAME.....
(if known)

RANK & SERVICE NO..... UNIT..... DATES OF SERVICE..... TO.....

MEDAL/S AWARDED:..... CLASPS

COSTS: SEND ORDER FORM AND CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER TO "NBWMA VIC" PO BOX 2006
BLACKBURN SOUTH VIC 3130 - \$60 EACH for PLAQUE A or B, \$75 EACH for PLAQUE C,
Include \$10 POSTAGE for first plaque \$5 for each additional one if mailed together.
Allow 3 weeks for delivery. Proceeds go towards the National Boer War Memorial Appeal.



National Boer War Memorial Association - Victoria

Registration of interest in -
supporting the erection of a National Boer War Memorial in Canberra
and establishing a Boer War Veteran database

Title: (please circle or specify) Mr Mrs Dr Ms Miss Other

Surname: Given Names: Post Noms:

Postal Address:

Suburb: P/Code:

Phone: Mobile: Email:

Are you related to a Boer War Veteran? Yes No

Veteran: Surname Given Names: Rank:

Service No: Unit: Relationship (e.g. Grandson):

Do you have any memorabilia in respect of the Veteran's service i.e. -

Photographs Diary History Other

I am able to assist the Memorial Project with promotional and fund raising activities Yes No

Other Comments:

Signed: Date: Place:

Return to: National Boer War Memorial Association - Vic., P O Box 2006, Blackburn South, Vic. 3130.