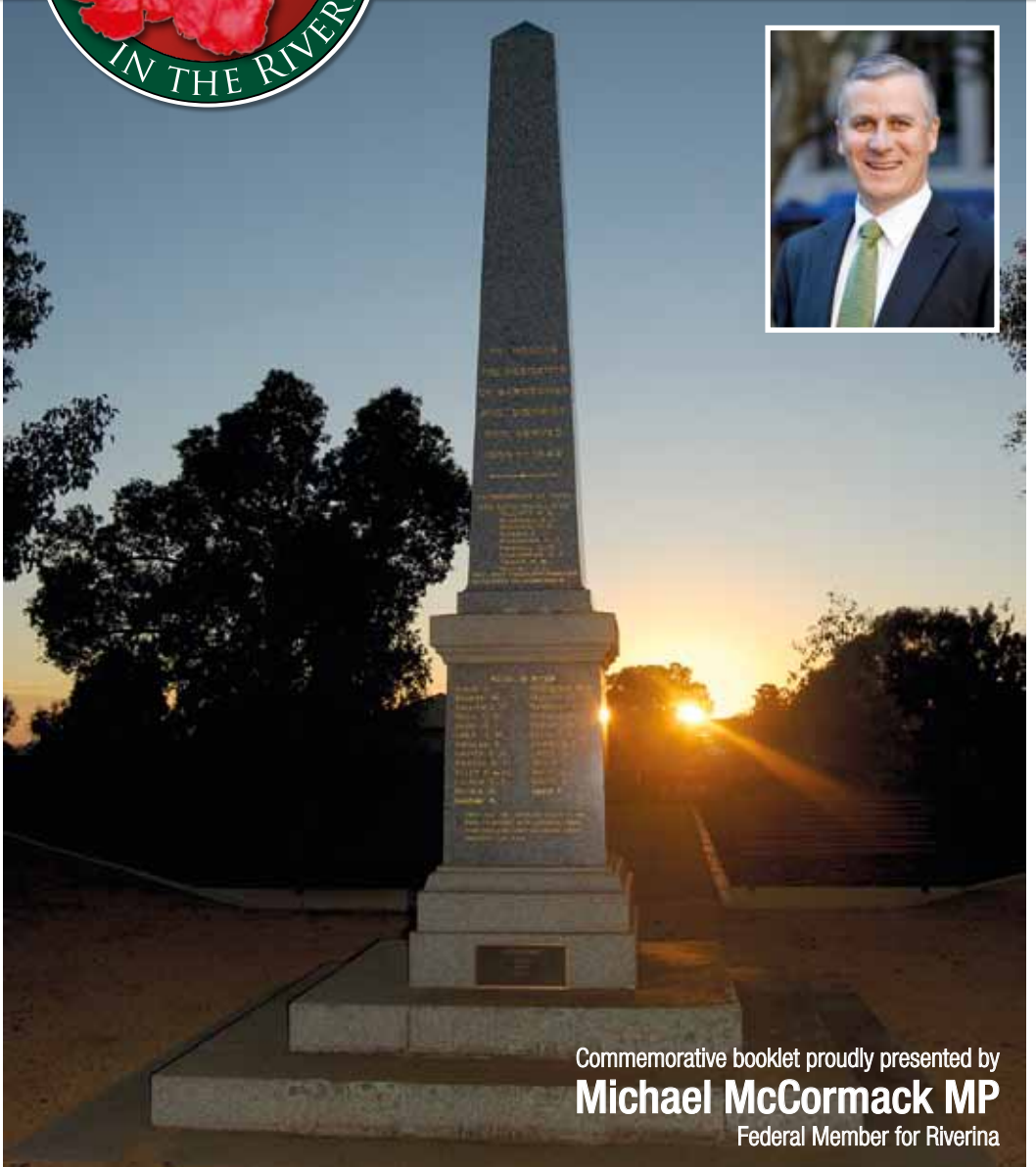




25TH APRIL 2011



Commemorative booklet proudly presented by
Michael McCormack MP
Federal Member for Riverina



A TRADITION TO LAST

ANZAC Day is more than just a cross-Tasman commemoration of the start of a famous military campaign of yesteryear.

It is more than merely a day on which we pause to reflect about sacrifices made in the past as well as the present for previous generations of peace-loving people and certainly for the sake of all of us today.

... more than a moment in time when we consider our place in the world, what freedom means and what we are doing to preserve and protect it globally.

ANZAC Day is our most important national day. It has long been so and its legacy will last the ages.

The events of 25 April 1915 identified the national character of the era and how we would lead our lives thereafter with determination, hope, mateship and trust as everyday Australian attributes.

The valour of these original ANZACs and the blind, yet justified faith they had in each other lives on in all who have courageously and proudly worn the Australian military uniform since those epic landings at Gallipoli.

Riverina's contribution and that of the South West Slopes to Australia's war efforts over the decades has been mighty and is ongoing.

SIGNIFICANCE OF RED POPPIES

THE Flanders poppy has long been a part of Armistice or Remembrance Day on 11 November each year and is increasingly being symbolically used in ANZAC Day observances.

During World War I, red poppies were among the first plants which sprouted from the obliterated landscape of the Western Front battlefields of Belgium and northern France.

Soldiers' folklore had it that the poppies were so coloured having been nurtured in ground soaked with the blood of their comrades.

Today, the Returned and Services League of Australia sells poppies for

OFFICES OF MICHAEL McCORMACK:

CANBERRA: PO Box 6022, Parliament House, ACT 2600 P: 6277 4725 F: 6277 8563

GRIFFITH: 100 Yambil Street P: 6964 1212 F: 6962 7722

WAGGA WAGGA: Suite 2 11-15 Fitzmaurice Street P: 6921 4600 F: 6921 5900

E: michael.mccormack.mp@aph.gov.au www.michaelmccormack.com.au

In terms of individual input, brave men and women from this region have fought and many have died defending the democratic and upstanding principles upon which our society is based.



Each year, attendances at ANZAC ceremonies in the Riverina and across the country increase.

Encouragingly, so many young ones are eager to support marches by turning up, clapping respectfully and enthusiastically waving flags. It is a wonderful show of colour, patriotism and pride.

These young people are our future. Possibly future defenders of the ideals of peace – future airmen or women, sailors or soldiers. Tomorrow's leaders who will ensure the ANZAC legend endures.

This ANZAC Day, share in the spirit by attending, if you are able, one of the many dawn services, marches or ceremonies around the region.

Michael McCormack

MICHAEL McCORMACK MP
Federal Member for Riverina



Remembrance Day, a custom started in 1921, to raise funds for its valuable welfare work.

Silk poppies appropriately adorn the panels of the Australian War Memorial's Roll of Honour, placed beside names as a tribute the thousands of individuals commemorated there.

TEMORA REMEMBERS

SITUATED in a serene park, Temora's War Memorials honour the hundreds of district heroes whose names, as the main granite column is inscribed, "shall liveeth for evermore".

Temora had 334 locals serve in The Great War, of whom 63 made the supreme sacrifice.

A public subscription funded an imposing tapering granite column which was located in the centre of the intersection of DeBoos and Loftus Streets and unveiled on ANZAC Day 1922.

The Memorial (pictured) was moved to its present position, Callaghan Park in Loftus Street opposite Aurora Street, in March 1971.

Two smaller columns flank the WWI monument and mark the service by those who fought in World War II, Korea, Malaya, Vietnam and with United Nations' Peacekeeping Forces.





BEFORE BATTLE: Chaplains conduct a church service for World War I soldiers.

A MAN OF CLOTH AND COURAGE

THE first rays of sunshine heralding a new day warm the tall granite plinth dedicated to Barmedman's best and bravest.

Our cover shows streaks of light as they dance across the monument and make the many names in gold lettering glow in all their glory. There is glory here too. Plenty of it.

It says so on the memorial: *"To the honour and glory of Barmedman and district who served and to perpetuate the memory of those who made the supreme sacrifice in The Great World War 1914-1919"*.

Sadly, 25 locals were killed in action in World War I and nine in WWII.

"Your lot the glorious price to pay. Ours, to record with grateful pride that freedom lives on Earth today because you died," is inscribed on the obelisk.

Barmedman's Roman Catholic Parish Priest Thomas Mullins, remembered on the plinth, went to WWI as an Army Chaplain and returned a hero having earned a Military Cross.

Irish-born Father Mullins sailed out of Sydney on HMAT *Suevic* on 29 May 1915.

Aged 38, he was at Gallipoli for the last two months of that campaign, being mentioned in Despatches as Padre of the 5th Light Horse 2nd Brigade for

exhibiting *"splendid courage and devotion to duty. For weeks he never left the trenches and lived and slept in the dressing station."*

Fr Mullins served until war's end by which time he had earned a Military Cross for *"conspicuous gallantry"* at Gaza on 26 March 1917.

"In the severe fighting at the back of Gaza, he was all the time up with the men in front, attending to the wounded and the burial of the dead," according to his citation. *"He displayed great fearlessness and was right up in the firing line. His conduct has been the same on all occasions."*

Returning home in 1920, Fr Mullins brought with him cuttings from Gethsemane, the olive trees of which are said to be descended from those in the garden at the time when Jesus prayed there the night before being crucified.

Fr Mullins lovingly planted and tended them at Ardlethan's Church of Our Lady Help of Christians and they have grown into a row of tall, fruit-bearing trees providing shade to the stately old presbytery, now classified by the National Trust.

He died in the middle of a heat wave on 14 January 1939, aged 62, after a period of illness attributed to his war years.

Laid to rest in the Ardlethan Cemetery, his passing was sincerely mourned by the entire community.

His olive trees continue to thrive – a constant reminder to parishioners not only of their parish's first priest but, quite literally, the roots of Christianity.

(Far left) WAR MEDAL: Fr Thomas Mullins's bravery medal is embedded in the centre at the top of the church altar.

(Left) PLUCKY: Fr Thomas Mullins



BARMEDMAN BRAVERY

FARMER David Caldwell Weir (pictured below) of "Boree Park", Barmedman, was one of the lucky ones.

Just 21 when he enlisted at Cootamundra on 28 March 1916, he sailed to war on HMAT *Boorara* in August that year.

He joined the 54th Battalion in France and fought with dedication and determination until being gassed in July 1918.

While he was unfortunate to suffer this condition necessitating his withdrawal, Pte Weir escaped the deadliest conflict the world had ever known with his life.

Invalided to England, Private Weir recuperated at the famous No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield, before returning to his unit just two days before Armistice was signed.

He returned to Australia on 20 July 1919 aboard *Valencia* and lived a full life, passing away in Newtown in 1969.



ONCE WERE WYALONG WARRIORS

“THERE were giants in the Earth in those days.”

This line from the Bible (Genesis 6:4) is chiselled into a tablet beneath the names of the 73 returned servicemen from Wyalong after The Great War.

They certainly did stand tall – every one of them.

On a nearby marble panel there are the names of 22 of Wyalong’s finest who died doing their duty.

“*Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori*” reads the Latin inscription below.

It is a line from Roman lyrical poet Horace’s *Odes* which, roughly translated into English, means: “*It is sweet and fitting to die for one’s country.*”



(Above) **LANDMARK:** The Soldiers’ Memorial Hall at Wyalong, the foundation stone for which was laid by local Mayor Dr F C S Shaw on 21 September 1920.

(Right) **HONOURED:** The Wyalong Honour Roll, remembering those from the district who made the supreme sacrifice in The Great War.



Among those remembered on the impressive brick Soldiers’ Memorial Hall on the Mid-Western Highway are two sets of brothers, emphasising the enormous sense of grief and loss those families must have felt.

Stephen and William Lonergan and Jack and Randal Watterson died in the service of their God, King and Country.

They were sons of James and Elizabeth Lonergan and Stephen and Martha Watterson.

Their local communities, relatives and friends were left to mourn dedicated Diggers who courageously and willingly went to war but never made it back to the land they loved.

Private William Lonergan, a 24-year-old labourer and member of the 4th Battalion, died of pneumonia and empyema in Cotterna Hospital, Malta, on 15 December 1915.

His brother Stephen, also a labourer but with the 3rd Battalion, was just 19 when he was killed in action during the Second Battle of Bullecourt, France, on 4 May 1917.

This offensive cost the Australian Imperial Force 7000 casualties.

He is remembered, not only at Wyalong, but also on the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial where so many AIF heroes are buried and so many more, 11,000 in fact, are recorded by name only as they have no known grave, such was the devastation of the Belgian and French battlefields of the Western Front.

Another brother, James Francis, left Sydney aged 28 aboard HMAT *Suevic* on 11 November 1916 with the 18th Battalion but made it home despite being twice wounded in 1918.

Randal Watterson was killed in action in his first engagement and died leading his section after his officers had fallen at Fleurbaix.



NOW AT PEACE: aerial photograph of Villers-Bretonneux just east of Amiens, France, where Wyalong's Stephen Lonergan, having fallen in The Great War, is memorialised.

He died on 20 July 1916, just one day short of his first anniversary in the Army.

Later, a Court of Inquiry heard testimony from Driver James O'Connor of the 30th Battalion, a patient at the time in No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital in England, having sustained a shrapnel wound to his right arm.

Dvr O'Connor was nearby Sergeant Watterson when his mate was hit and killed instantly by machine-gun fire.

Sgt Watterson, 23 when he died, had enlisted at Liverpool after working in a bank and also as a Wyalong storekeeper.

His brother Jack was also 23 at the time of his death.

An assistant station overseer, Jack was one of the very first to enlist in the AIF as shown by his low service number – 24.

He signed on at Kensington on 28 August 1914, a month to the day after war was declared and just 18 days after recruiting for the AIF opened.

A crack horse handler, he went to Gallipoli but returned to Egypt to be in charge of horses, which would play such a key part in the AIF's Middle East campaign.

Promoted to a Lance-Corporal, he was wounded in action, shot in the neck, during the Battle of Pozzières, France, on 28 July 1916, but like others from Wyalong he was as tough as nails ... bush-bred, hardened and strong.



Jack Watterson recovered and rejoined his unit, the 3rd Battalion, but his days of boldness and bravery ended when he was admitted to a Casualty Clearing Station with multiple gunshot wounds during the same Bullecourt battle but a day after Stephen Lonergan fell.

He succumbed that day and Wyalong and the nation lost another of the finest to have worn the khaki.

The Wyalong honour roll also includes Military Medallist John James Stuart who was decorated for valour on the night of 16-17 September 1917 at the famous battle site Zillebeke in Belgium.

This was where one of the most remarkable and innovative assaults of The Great War took place, as depicted in the 2010 Australian war film *Beneath Hill 60*.

The film tells the story of the 1st Australian Tunnelling Company's effort to mine beneath a German bunker and detonate, on 7 June 1917, one of the largest explosions in history, reportedly felt in far off London and Dublin.

In his recommendation for the award, Major-General Herbert Gordon Carter, commanding the 5th Australian Pioneer Battalion, said: *"Private Stuart was one of a party detailed to remove 9.2 inch shells from alongside a burning building. The place was being heavily shelled at the time and, in addition, ammunition and bombs of all descriptions were exploding inside the building. Although the whole of the party displayed the greatest courage, Private Stuart stood out conspicuously above his comrades, supporting his senior officers in a splendid manner."*

His pluck could not save Pte Stuart, however, and he died, aged 23, in Rouen, France, on 13 July 1918 from pneumonia and haemoptysis, another Wyalong hero lost.

Henry Harold Clift was just 18 years and two months old when he signed up at Cootamundra on 19 October 1915.

Less than a year later he was killed in the field fighting for the 4th Battalion in Belgium and laid to rest in the Railway Dug-outs Burial Ground, 2 ½ kilometres (1½ miles) south south-east of Ypres, France.

Gone too soon ... just like all of those on the honour roll at Wyalong ... their mortality cruelly exposed by war, but their legend as "giants" will live on always.

(Left) FAMOUS SITE: The Memorial for the Australian Tunnelling Company at Zillebeke Hill 60. The hill disappeared, but the legend never will.

(Right) HE WAS ONLY 19: Henry Harold Clift





DEDICATED SPRINGDALE

THE tiny village of Springdale contributed magnificently to The Great War.

For such a small community, Springdale's service to the nation was considerable as was its loss.

Among the district men who fell and who are remembered on the tapered stone obelisk (above) is Lance-Corporal Peter Gustav Kahlefeldt (above), a 28-year-old farmer and son of Charles and Adeline.

LCpl Kahlefeldt, of the 2nd Battalion, died on 14 April 1918.

Later the same year his brother Walter, just 19, enlisted at Wagga Wagga but never left the country as the Armistice was signed just four days later.



JUNEE'S FEARLESS FIVE

VALIANT men from Junee were key figures when two enduring military mysteries were solved in recent years.

Four sailors born in the town were aboard the ill-fated HMAS *Sydney* which sank after being torpedoed during World War II and which was finally discovered in 2008 after decades of searching.

Just last year the fate of a long lost Junee boy became a little clearer when the remains of nearly half of the 250 lost Diggers of Fromelles recovered from recently discovered mass graves were identified and reburied at a new military cemetery near the site of an epic Great War battle.

The teenage railway porter from the railway town was not one of those who now have a grave bearing their name ... but there is hope he may be among those yet to be formally identified and that one day he too will be given the dignity such a brave and selfless soldier deserves.

Junee's Broadway Memorial was established in 1926, to the "honor of the living and the everlasting glory of the dead".

"These died the noblest death a man may die fighting for God and right and liberty and such a death is immortality" reads the inscription below the names of the 77 from the district who died in WWI.

In all, 637 names are featured on the cenotaph – proof positive of Junee's commitment to the nation.

On 19 November 1941, the Royal Australian Navy's Le-ander class light cruiser *Sydney* was involved in a mutually destructive engagement with the German raider *Kormoran*

and sent to the bottom of the Indian Ocean with all 645 lost.

On board were Junee natives:

Leading Stoker Aubrey Cecil Haslam, 21; Ordinary Seaman Edward Austin John Matheson, 18; Able Seaman Kenneth James Turner, 20; and Yeoman of Signals Edward John Walker, 31.

A team led by American shipwreck hunter David Mearns located the wreck of *Sydney* on 17 March 2008, just five days after pinpointing *Kormoran's* whereabouts. *Sydney* lies 2468 metres below the waves, about 800 kilometres north of Perth and 240km off Shark Bay ... well out of sight but never forgotten.



PRIVATE William Alexander Jamieson was just 19 when he lost his life at Fleurbaix during the Battle of Fromelles on 21 July 1916.

Fromelles was a combined operation between British troops and the Australian Imperial Force, the first time our Diggers saw action on the Western Front.

After a night and a day of fighting, 1500 British and 5533 Australian soldiers were killed, wounded or taken prisoner. The Australian War Memorial describes the battle as "the worst 24 hours in Australia's entire history."

Pte Jamieson was reported as missing but his sad fate was confirmed when a letter was received from the German Red Cross stating he had "died of wounds".

His distraught mother, Agnes, living in Simpson Street, Tumut, wrote to the AIF requesting: "Please send me ... his kit if you have it."

In 1921 she was sent a copy of *Where the Australians Rest*, a publication produced by the Defence Department containing "a description of many of the Cemeteries overseas in which Australians – including those whose names never now be known – are buried".

Her courageous son is still yet to be positively identified ... he could well be among the as yet unidentified remains retrieved from Pheasant Wood.



(Above) HISTORIC: The VC Corner Australian Cemetery and Memorial near Fromelles. (Top) CENOTAPH: Junee's Memorial Clock Tower. (Right) FOUND: HMAS Sydney.

2011 ANZAC DAY SERVICE TIMES AND VENUES

ARDLETHAN (Includes Beckom)

11am Service at Ardlethan Memorial Hall, Ariaht St.

ARIAH PARK (Includes Quandy)

11am March along Coolamon St from Ariaht Park Bowling Club to Cenotaph for the Main Service.

BARELLAN

(Includes Binya, Moombooldool)

3pm Service at Cenotaph on corner of Boree and Mulga St's.

BARMEDMAN

10.45am March commences along Queen St to Memorial Park.

11am Service at Memorial Park.

JUNEE (Includes Bethunga, Illabo, Wantabadgery)

5.45am Dawn Service in Broadway.

9.45am March to Railway Square – two-minute ceremony at plaque – along Broadway.

10.45am Ceremony in Broadway, Cenotaph.

JUNEE REEFS

3pm Wreath Laying conducted by Junee RSL sub-branch at Junee Reefs Hall, Junee Reefs Rd.

MIRROOL

9am Service at Cenotaph in Ariaht St.

11am **Wreath Laying, Victory Memorial Gardens Cenotaph. Salute taken by Senior Naval Officer, Lt. Commander Linton Lee.**

SPRINGDALE

9am Service starts with introduction by presiding officer Colonel Pat Thorne AM RL at Cenotaph on Burley Griffin Way.

9.10am Guest speakers Father Michael Faragher of Canberra and Squadron Leader Peter Allen of RAAF Base Wagga Wagga.

9.15am Tiger Moth fly past.

9.20am Lance Corporal Peter Kahlefeldt Scholarship Speech by Temora High School student Adam Reid followed by musical interlude.

9.30am Morning tea.

TEMORA (Includes Reefton)

6am Dawn service at Cenotaph in Callaghan Park.

10.30am March from front of Courthouse.

11am Service, Cenotaph, Callaghan Park.

UNGARIE

6am Dawn Service, RSL Park, Ungarie St.

9am Service at Cemetery at graves of Ex-Servicemen and Women.

10.30am Assemble "Pink Shop" Wollongong St, walk to RSL Park, Ungarie St.

11am Service. Occasional Address by Leading Aircraftsman Mark Langham. Flag raising, Last Post to be played.

WAGGA WAGGA

5.45am Dawn Service arranged by Legacy at the Cenotaph, Victory Memorial Gardens, Baylis St.

6.30am Pilgrimage to Wagga Wagga War Cemetery in Koorlingal Rd.

10.30am Baylis St March begins.

11am **Wreath Laying, Victory Memorial Gardens Cenotaph. Salute taken by Senior Naval Officer, Lt. Commander Linton Lee.**

WEST WYALONG

(Includes North Yalgogrin, Wamboyne, Weethalle, Wyalong)

6am Dawn Service at Services and Citizens Club's Cenotaph.

9am Wreath Laying ceremony at Wyalong Cenotaph.

10:30am March, main street, West Wyalong.

11am Wreath Laying at S&C Club.

11.30am Service in S&C Auditorium.

CAPITAL CITY SERVICES: CANBERRA

5.30am Dawn Service, Australian War Memorial (suggested arrival from 4.30am onwards).

6.30am Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commemorative Ceremony, Aboriginal Memorial Plaque, side of Mount Ainslie.

10.15am National Ceremony, Australian War Memorial (suggested arrival 9.45am).

SYDNEY

4.15am Dawn Service at the Cenotaph in Martin Place.

8.30am Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the Cenotaph in Martin Place.

9am ANZAC Day March starting at Martin Place/George Street/Bathurst Street/Hyde Park.

12.30pm Commemorative Service, ANZAC Memorial in Hyde Park South.

1pm Aboriginal ANZAC Day March in Redfern.

5pm Sunset Service at the Cenotaph in Martin Place.



BISCUITS TO KEEP 'EM SOLDIERING ON

THE famous ANZAC Biscuit came about, so legend goes, because mothers, wives and girlfriends feared their men overseas were not getting sufficient nutritional value.

Food supplies had to be shipped to Great War battlefronts and naval transportation was slow, so a recipe was formulated for a biscuit which would last the distance and pass the taste test.

Ingredients

- 1 cup each of plain flour, sugar, rolled oats and coconut.
- 115 grams (4 oz) butter.
- 1 tablespoon treacle (golden syrup).
- 2 tablespoons boiling water (add a little more water if mixture is too dry).
- 1 teaspoon bi-carbonate soda.

Method

1. Grease biscuit tray and pre-heat oven to 180°C.
2. Combine dry ingredients.
3. Melt together butter and golden syrup. Combine water and bi-carbonate soda – add to butter mix.
4. Mix butter mixture and dry ingredients.
5. Drop teaspoons of mixture onto tray allowing room for spreading.

Bake for 10-15 minutes or until golden. Allow to cool on tray for a few minutes before transferring to cooling racks.

*Makes about 35 biscuits.

Recipe provided by Bob Lawson, an ANZAC at Gallipoli. Source: Australian War Memorial www.awm.gov.au



SCHOOLCHILDREN'S THOUGHTS

RIVERINA primary and secondary school students were invited to enter a writing competition "What ANZAC Day in the Riverina means to me."

Hundreds of entries were received with the ones judged most outstanding reprinted on this page and their authors receiving ANZAC-related book prizes.

All who submitted an entry will receive a commemorative certificate.

AN EXTREME HONOUR

ANZAC Day is a time to remember the amazing soldiers who fought for our freedom.

In Ungarie I march each year with the other students and armed service personnel in the ANZAC parade.

I feel extremely honoured to be able to march to show my respect.

In the city I wouldn't be allowed to march in the ANZAC Day parade ... that's why it is so great living in the country.

My great grandfather was in World War I and my great uncle was in Vietnam.

They are just two of the people who fought when you think thousands of people died for us and for our freedom.

Everyone has different feelings about ANZAC Day. Mine is that we need to celebrate not that people died and the sadness of the war but that so many people sacrificed their lives and their braveness for my freedom.



MONUMENT: The monument in Ungarie's RSL Park to honour all who served.

PLEASE NOTE: All ANZAC Day Service times and venues on previous page have been supplied in good faith by various RSL Sub-Branch officials and were correct at the time of publication. Every care has been taken to ensure as many services as possible have been included. For verification of other services please contact your local RSL Sub-Branch.

LITTLE POPPY'S PROMISE

WE stood staring into each other's eyes. Waiting to see who would break the silence. As he pinned the rosemary to my shirt he bent down on his old shaky legs and kissed my cheek gently.

"I love you my little Poppy."

His voice became shaky like his legs.

"I love you too Granddad."

We take the grasp of each other's hands and begin our walk down to the main street.

I often start the march at Thom, Dick & Harry's. But Granddad starts up further than I do because he took part in World War II.

As we walked along the tall green grass I started wondering about all the soldiers who went to war and what it must be like to look down and see a celebration of their courage.

Then I think whether it confuses them because it is a celebration but it is also a time when we bow our heads for those who were lost.

There are so many names on the wall and it's hard to think they are only from our little Riverina.

"Poppy?"

"Yes Granddad."

"Would you do me the honour of marching with my medals when this old man turns to dust?"

My heart raced. He had never asked me such a special question. Wearing the medals is the best way of honouring the soldiers that I could ever dream of and let's be honest, the soldiers deserve all the respect they get.

"Of course I would Granddad."



PRESENTATION: Riverina MP Michael McCormack hands Ungarie girl Josie Daniher, 12, of Saint Mary's War Memorial School Year 6 at West Wyalong a copy of Simpson and his Donkey for "An Extreme Honour".



WINNER: Natalie Clarke, 15, Year 9, of West Wyalong High School, wins a copy of ANZACs at War for "Little Poppy's Promise".