



Discover Murray River War Trail; war memorials, museums, and soldier settlements, RSL's and war heritage - the River of Honour.

The Murray River region across New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia contains a vast range of war and other memorials to honour the fallen and those that sacrificed themselves for Australia as well as highlight various wartime activities. This **Discover Murray River War Trail** aims to assist and educate those travelling our great river region to connect with the stories of the those communities who acknowledge their fallen and showcase some of the unique experiences, museums and monuments that preserve and protect the legacy of our diggers for the future.

Since 1915, the tradition of Anzac has remained one of the most prominent facets of Australian national identity.

During World War I and II, many men left the Murray Valley region to join the armed forces. Much of their previous work was taken over by women while they were gone. The legacy of the Anzac from WWI was in the commitment by men from regional Australia who went to war. However the Murray River region wasn't yet a full fledged food production region for Australia as irrigation was still in its infancy along with the communities and towns.

The region became an important resource for food production and processing during WWII. Training facilities such as airfields were set up in Mildura, Tocumwal and Lake Boga and internment camps were established at various locations such as Loveday in the Riverland, South Australia.

With water being secured to irrigate and create Australia's food bowl, both the State and Federal governments introduced policies and incentives to populate the river regions and extend the irrigation areas. The post-WWI and WWII soldier settlement policies were introduced as incentives to settlers. The States provided blocks of land and the Commonwealth government sponsored the loans. Blood, sweat and tears was the order of the day for many of these new settlers to the river regions. Most had little or limited farming expertise; they lacked equipment and were unfamiliar with rural life. These settlers or 'blockies' as they came to be known, carved out a new life with ingenuity and adapted to the harsh reality of farming in the river region.

The **Discover Murray River War Trail - River of Honour** maps a journey of monuments, shrines, statues, museums, halls, internment camps and much more along the Murray Valley. These special places and people highlight to visitors and remind us of the commitment the Murray River region and their people gave to serve Australia and the commitment to having a productive and democratic society.



Discover Murray River War Trail takes you on a journey into Australia's rich military past, stories and culture.

Starting at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra you can follow the Murray River region's stories, people, experiences and places through New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia to the WWI Indigenous War Memorial in Raukkan near the Murray Mouth and Coorong.

You'll experience the Villers-Bretonneux sister town and connection in Robinvale and discover stories of Victoria Cross and Military Cross recipients. From World War One and World War Two to Vietnam, men and women from the Murray River region have both fort and fed Australia.

The 'River of Honour' will captivate, intrigue and cause for reflection as you traverse the bounty of the Murray River's agriculture, horticulture and wine regions that's given pride in its legacy of military service, settlement and sacrifice.

Robinvale - twin towns with Villers-Bretonneux, France

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Discover Murray River War Trail takes you on a journey into Australia's great river's rich military past, stories and culture.



For a complete guide please visit
www.MurrayRiverWarTrail.com.au

New South Wales • Victoria • South Australia

'Lest We Forget'

South Australia

Waikerie RSL Museum

Visitors welcome to enjoy facilities and Waikerie RSL Military Museum Display.

Frank Harding Gallery - Renmark

In 1988 Frank Harding (1935-1990) began his work on a series of aircraft paintings, compiled as a dedication to all the young Australian men that served in the RAAF during World War 2. (Visit 3 Squadron page). In 1989 he won the Royal Australian Airforce Heritage Award, with a painting titled "Creswells Kill".

Loveday Internment Camp

The Loveday Internment Camp was set up in 1941 and was one of the largest in Australia. It covered approximately 180 hectares of cultivated land and held 5380 internees and POWs at its peak and over 1500 AMF personnel. Contact the Barmera Visitor Information Centre.

Vice Admiral J.C. Glossop - Glossop

The town was named after Vice Admiral J.C. Glossop, Commander of HMAS Sydney that sank the German raider Emden during World War I. An anchor situated out the front of the motel is a memorial to this commander.

Wentworth Military Museum

The Wentworth Military Collection is a must see collection. This unique collection displays relics, artifacts and militaria from all over the world, with an emphasis on Australian service to our nation. From the 1890 Boer War to Iraq 2009.

RAAF Aviation Museum & Memorial - Mildura

From 1942 until 1946, the Mildura Airfield was a RAAF Base, being the home of No 2 Operational Training Unit or 2OTU. The role of 2OTU was to provide operational fighter conversion and training for pilots before they were posted to their operational squadrons. The RAAF Association Mildura Branch has established and maintains a Museum in the restored RAAF Headquarters Building and a RAAF Memorial adjacent to the Museum. The Museum contains a large number of RAAF Memorabilia and Displays relating to the activities of 2OTU at Mildura and wartime operations elsewhere. There is also a Memorial on the ground with the centre piece of the Mildura RAAF Memorial a life-size bronze sculpture of an airman mounted on a granite base.

Robinvale Euston War Memorial

Villers-Bretonneux, France became a sister town to Robinvale in 1984-85. Historians record that if not for Australian troops in the closing stages of World War 1, Villers-Bretonneux and the whole Western Front would have been laid open to the German Army. The battle at Villers-Bretonneux ranks high in acknowledgment of Australia's war commitments along with Gallipoli, Kokoda and many others. This relationship with Villers-Bretonneux was connected by the death of Lt. George Robin Cuttle MC, resident of Robinvale, killed near Villers-Bretonneux during WWI. In memory of their airman son, Lt. Cuttle's family renamed their new settlement on the Murray - Robinvale (vale Robin). Robinvale is a World War II soldier settlement community. The Rural Life Museum have a range of local pioneering and war artifacts.

Red Cliffs Military Museum

Red Cliffs Military Museum was established in 1997. The Museum has a wonderful collection of artifacts and memorabilia, from the Boer War to Vietnam, covering all Services including Women's Services, some are unique, not to be seen elsewhere, and is still growing. They also have a very extensive Library of Military related books and DVD's. Run by volunteers our museum has been described as one of the best outside of major cities.

Lake Boga Flying Boat Museum

The Lake Boga Flying Boat Museum, home of the historic Catalina Flying Boat and site of the secret RAAF Repair Depot. Lake Boga was an integral part of allied defense during World War II, with a facility that helped to keep Australia safe - the No.1 Flying Boat Repair and Service Depot. On the original site of the no.1 Flying Boat Repair Depot, stands an underground Communications Bunker which has been transformed into the Flying Boat Museum. It is fully air conditioned and is an educational trip into our recent history. Also at the museum is an interactive map of the Pacific region and an informative 20 minute film in the theatre.

3rd Cavalry Regiment (Vietnam), National War Memorial - Tongala

The 3rd Cavalry Regiment had a squadron serving in South Vietnam between 1967 and 1972 the men from the Regiment were involved in a pivotal role in the battle of Long Tan in 1966 and others. The memorial consists of seven, 2m high pillars of black granite with the names of 1200 veterans engraved in silver. Tongala was chosen as the preferred location for the monument because the town already hosts the Memorial to the Light Horse and The Avenue of Honour.

River OF HONOUR

DISCOVER MURRAY WAR TRAIL

New South Wales Victoria South Australia

McIntyre Field and WAAAF Creek Walk - Tocumwal

McIntyre Field was established by the USAAF in January 1942 (in expectation of the Japanese invasion of Northern Australia) and handed over to the RAAF in November 1942. It was the largest aerodrome in the Southern Hemisphere at one stage. A museum display of photographs, articles, books, model aircraft and memorabilia are on display at the Tocumwal Visitor Information Centre. Extending the airforce history you can take the WAAAF Creek Walk, a 1.6 kilometre walk just out of town on the Barooga Road. The involvement of women in military aviation began in 1941 with the creation of the Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force (WAAAF). At their peak, WAAAF numbers exceeded 27,000. Up to 400 women served at Tocumwal between 1943 and 1946.

Holbrook - Submariners Museum

Germanton was named Holbrook after Lt Norman Holbrook, who was awarded a Victoria Cross for a daring underwater raid on 13 December, 1914. Lt Holbrook had taken the British Submarine B11 into the Dardanelles to torpedo and sink the Turkish battleship "Mesudiye". Today, Holbrook's vision of a fitting memorial to Australian submariners has become a reality with the above water line superstructure of HMAS Otway about 90m from bow to stern lying in the centre of Holbrook. A Submarine Museum now displays photographs, Commander Holbrook's memorabilia, an amazing new 4D hologram, submarine components and mock area of the submarine interior such as wardroom and control room with a working periscope.

Australian War Memorial - Canberra

The amazing Australian War Memorial combines a shrine, a world-class museum, and an extensive archive. The Memorial's purpose is to commemorate the sacrifice of those Australians who have died in war.

Monument Hill War Memorial - Albury

Excellent views of Albury-Wodonga can be seen from the hill where the War Memorial is located. The monument was designed by architect Louis Harrison in 1923 and erected in 1924 at a cost of 3,000 pounds. In 1925 on Anzac Day the Memorial was dedicated to the men and women who served in World War I (1914-18).

Jim Simpson's Rug - Man from Snowy River Museum - Corryong

Contained in the museum is a wonderful section and interpretive signage for those that served for Australia in war. The story regarding the knitting of a rug mainly of used wool, in a prison of war camp in Germany by Jim Simpson during the Second World War (1939-45). This rug was knitted in Stalag IVB Muhlberg on Elbe, Saxony, Germany.

The Army Museum Bandiana - Wodonga

The largest and most diversified Military Museum in Australia. There are guns, tanks, vehicles, motor cycles, uniforms, medals and much, more to see and do. There is something for everyone. Sometimes closed to public as part of the military base.

Bonegilla Migrant Museum - Wodonga

Between 1947 and 1971, more than 300,000 migrants from over 50 countries called Bonegilla their first Australian home. It provided temporary accommodation for displaced persons after the war while they waited on deployment to jobs all over Australia. The accommodation was rudimentary as there were housing and building materials shortages in Australia due to the war effort. Bonegilla were former defense force installations.

Captain Albert Borella VC, MM, MID and the 100 Australian recipients of the Victoria Cross - Albury

The life sized bronze statue of Captain Albert Borella VC, MM, MID and bronze blade inscribed with the 100 names of the Australian recipients of the Victoria Cross. Albert Borella was awarded the Victoria Cross for "most conspicuous bravery in attack" at Villers-Bretonneux (sister town to Robinvale), France in 1918. He died on the 7th February 1968 and was buried with full military honors in the Albury cemetery.

Mulwala RSL - Mulwala

During the early 1950's the Returned Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia was a very strong Sub Branch in Yarrowonga. The Mulwala & District Services Club was formed and purchased the property upon which the Club now stands. The Club has a range of artifacts including tanks on the grounds.

Adelaide

Raukkan War Memorial - Coorong (near Meningie)

A beautiful tribute to local Aboriginal men who fought in service of the First and Second World Wars and the Korean and Vietnam Wars. A street artist has placed a mural near Meningie's Anzac Park in honour of 18 servicemen of World War I who came from the region to serve in WWI.

Peake Lone Pine cutting - Mallee

Several pine cones were sent by Lance Corporal B.J. Smith of the 3rd Battalion back to Australia after Gallipoli. Thirteen years later two seedlings were grown, one of which was planted at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. The Pines (at Peake) were planted here on the 25th April 2009 having been propagated from the tree at the Australian War Memorial.

