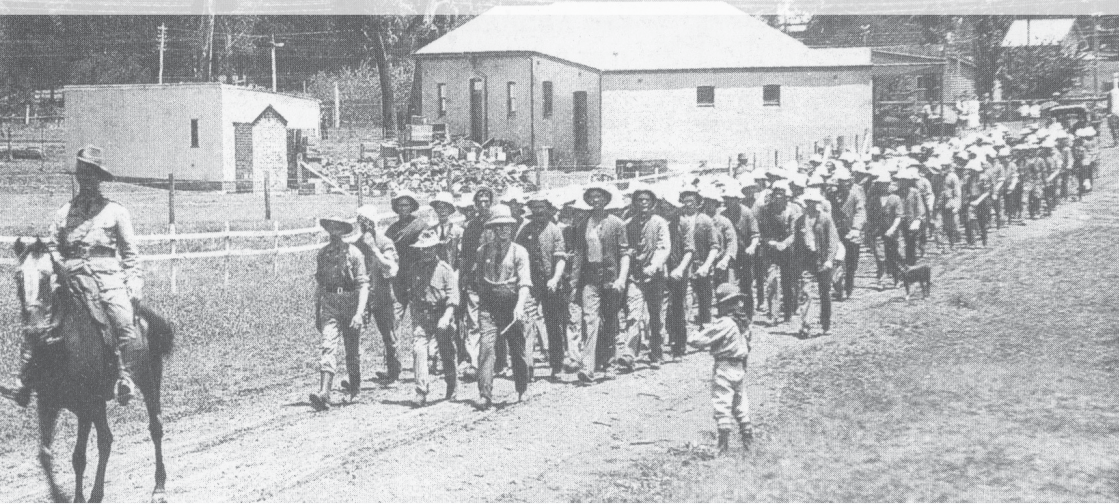




LAUNCH OF THE KANGAROO MARCH CENTENARY RE-ENACTMENT



IN THE PRESENCE OF
HER EXCELLENCY PROFESSOR MARIE BASHIR AC CVO
GOVERNOR OF NEW SOUTH WALES

SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER 2013

2.00 pm - Victory Memorial Gardens Wagga Wagga



OFFICIAL GUESTS

Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO

Governor of New South Wales



Councillor Rod Kendall

Mayor, The City of Wagga Wagga



The Honorable Victor Dominello MP Member for Ryde

Minister for Citizenship & Communities, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.

Representing the **Premier, Barry O'Farrell**



Mr Don Rowe OAM

President Returned Services League of Australia (NSW)



General Peter Cosgrove AC MC (Rtd)

Chairman of NSW Centenary of Anzac Advisory Council



Lieutenant Commander Andrew Collard

Senior Naval Officer, Wagga Wagga



Colonel David Hay

Commandant ARTC Kapooka, Wagga Wagga



Wing Commander Joanna Elkington

Representing The Commandant, RAAF Wagga Wagga





OFFICIAL GUESTS

The Honorable Michael McCormack MP

Member for Riverina



The Honorable Daryl Maguire MP

Member for Wagga Wagga



The Honorable Dr Brendan Nelson

Director of the Australian War Memorial & Patron of Kangaroo March



Mr Graham Brown

President Kangaroo March Centenary Re-enactment Association



KANGAROO MARCH CENTENARY RE-ENACTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Patron: The Honorable Dr Brendan Nelson, Director, Australian War Memorial Museum

COMMITTEE:

President | Mr Graham Brown

Vice-President | Ms Rhondda Vanzella OAM

Public Officer | Mrs Julie Scandrett

Secretary & Creative Writer | Mrs Angela Williamson

Community Liaison | Ms Gillian Adamson

Education and Music | Mrs Olita-Joy Rushton

Risk and Safety | Mr David Williamson

Membership Secretary | Mrs Jan Brown



ORDER OF COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

Arrival | Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO
Governor of New South Wales

Vice-Regal Salute

Welcome RSL sub-branch President Mr Kevin Kerr

Catafalque Party to Mount and Bugler to take up appropriate position near Cenotaph.

Prayer of Remembrance | Father Michael Armstrong St Johns Church

Laying of Wreaths:

Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO
Governor of New South Wales

The Honorable Victor Dominello MP, Mayor Rod Kendall
Mr Don Rowe OAM,

General Peter Cosgrove AC MC (Rtd), Colonel David Hay
Wing Commander Joanna Elkington, Lieutenant Commander Andrew Collard
The Honorable Michael McCormack MP, The Honorable Daryl Maguire MP
The Honorable Dr Brendan Nelson
Mr Graham Brown, Ms Rhondda Vanzella OAM

Representatives of Local Government to lay Wreaths

The general public will be invited to lay Wreaths

Schools Laying Wreaths:

Junee Public School, Junee High School, St Joseph's Primary School Junee,
Eurongilly Public School, Illabo Public School, Henschke Primary School
North Wagga Public School, Wagga Wagga Public School

The Ode | Mr Don Rowe OAM

Last Post

One minute silence

Rouse

Closing Prayer | Father Paddy Sykes Our Lady of Fatima Church

National Anthem | Australian Army Band Kapooka, Singer: Angela Williamson

Catafalque Party to Dismount



ORDER OF KANGAROO MARCH LAUNCH

Arrival | Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO
Governor of New South Wales

Master of Ceremonies | Phil Pinyon

Welcome to Wagga Wagga | Mayor Rod Kendall

Master of Ceremonies introduces Official Guests.

Message from the Premier | The Honorable Victor Dominello MP

Address | Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO
Governor of New South Wales

Address | General Peter Cosgrove AC MC (Rtd)

The Kangaroo March Medley:

Rural Commemorative Children's Choir, conducted by OJ Rushton

Overview of Kangaroo March Project | Mr Graham Brown

Launch of The Kangaroo March Centenary Re-Enactment
The Honorable Dr Brendan Nelson

Symbolic Start to the March:

Presentation of Kettle Drum | Wagga Wagga Primary School Children

Presentation of Kangaroo Banner | Mayor Rod Kendall

Presentation of Australian Flag | The Honorable Michael McCormack MP

Presentation of Union Jack | The Honorable Daryl Maguire MP

Blessing of Recruits | Father Paddy Sykes Our Lady of Fatima Church

Riverina Concert Band | Leads March in a procession around the gardens

Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO
Governor of New South Wales moves to Dais to view March Procession

Departure | Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO
Governor of New South Wales



KANGAROO MARCH CENTENARY RE-ENACTMENT - THE STORY

When, in 1915 and after Gallipoli, the Federal Government put a referendum for conscription to the populace, the proposal failed. Thus Australia resorted to Recruitment Marches, many of which started late in 1915. One such was The Kangaroo March which left Wagga Wagga on 7 December 1915 with 88 recruits, and was farewelled amidst much panoply and fanfare.

These, some of our forebears, marched through the many towns and villages inspiring more recruits along the way from places like Brucedale, Harefield, Junee, Illabo, Bethungra, Cootamundra, Wallendbeen, Murrumburrah, Harden, Galong, Binalong, Bowning, Yass, Jerrawa, Gunning, Cullerin, Yarra, Goulburn, Marulan, the several Southern Highlands villages, down into the Sydney basin to Campbelltown, where the recruits took the steam train into Sydney arriving with a total strength of 222 men.

Their March and their story is told brilliantly - both evocatively and in great detail - in a book by Sherry Morris and Harold Fife, both Wagga Wagga residents.

The genesis of this Re-enactment occurred in late 2011. Graham Brown, a light-horseman, had an idle thought: Wouldn't it be wonderful to re-enact this March. About the same time, Rhondda Vanzella had a similar idea, and Rhondda, being Rhondda, voiced her thoughts with Graham one day outside church in Exeter in Southern Highlands.



KANGAROO MARCH CENTENARY RE-ENACTMENT - THE STORY

Within weeks Rhondda and Graham were scouting for willing and useful participants, and an enthusiastic committed Committee evolved. Rhondda has had a lifetime of experiences in organising events of this type. Graham's business acumen and connections in the Lighthorse world has driven the initial construct. The Marchers were accompanied by a troop of the Lighthorse.

Why re-enact The Kangaroo March? It's going to be 100 years since these men of rural Australia signed up for what was then known as King, Country and Empire, to fight in a war that threatened to end the way of life Aussies and others in the British Empire held so very dear. They were away for 3 more years; some never came home, some came home permanently scarred, maimed or poisoned with mustard gas, or damaged mentally having witnessed the horrors of mates being killed before their eyes. We want to pay due tribute to the Kangaroos.

Why else? The mothers, the fiancées, the wives, the sisters, the daughters who said goodbye to their menfolk, not knowing what the outcome would be, not hearing for weeks if their son, husband, or brother was alive or not, dreading, but so often receiving, the soulless telegram: Missing in Action, or Killed in Action. We want to begin to understand the intensity of their losses: the mothers who lost their sons, the fiancées who never married, and the wives who carried on...

We do not seek to glorify war; we seek to remember those sacrifices, and to learn from them, to help new generations learn of their history, what a great-great-grand-dad did. Enjoy singing some of the songs of those days, be stirred by them all over again, re-kindle the feelings of that era, the attitudes of those days, the issues that shaped us into the nation we are today.



KANGAROO MARCH CENTENARY RE-ENACTMENT - THE STORY

The Kangaroo March by being re-enacted enables the children and their parents in the towns and villages along the route to learn something more of their collective past. The March comes to them in their town or village. The ANZAC story is well known; not so well known are the stories of the men who signed up after Gallipoli, who as much as the early ANZACs helped forge the Australian spirit.

We have been given the right to use any information from 'The Kangaroo March' book by Sherry Morris, and we believe that Harold Fife would have well and truly approved of the re-enactment.

Find us at www.kangaroomarch.org and join us in September - October 2015.





STORY OF THE BANNER

Two Kangaroo banners have been commissioned, but where is the original? No one knows where the original banner is and we would love to find it. One has been hand-made by Helen Draper whose grandfathers were in WW1 while the other was commissioned by the Wagga Wagga RSL Club. Both beautifully re-created banners are in use today.

HELEN'S STORY: Through my business, Patchwork Bliss, I often get asked to help with community projects and I try and help whenever I can. When Rhondra asked if I could recreate the banner for the Wagga Wagga Kangaroo Recruitment March of 1915 I said yes immediately. This is my way of honouring the sacrifices that my family made. I am humbled by all the men and women who sacrificed for our country - then and now.



Both my grandfathers were in France during the First World War and my father was in the Occupational Forces of the Second World War.

My father and grandfathers never talked about the war. I grew up not knowing much about their experiences or thinking about what horrors they had endured. The banner has taken almost 100 hours to make. As I have stitched each tiny stitch I have contemplated their courage and sacrifice and not only what they endured but also what their loved ones endured while they were away.



Helen Draper

www.patchworkbliss.com.au



RURAL COMMEMORATIVE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

One of the main education initiatives of The Kangaroo March Centenary Re-enactment of 2015 will be the formation of the Rural Commemorative Children's Choir, consisting of a representation of rural children from schools and communities along the March route. The choir will commemorate WWI through music, storytelling and song to remember the fallen, honour their local heroes and create an unforgettable experience both for those involved and those who listen, with a special emphasis on those songs sung during the Kangaroo March in December 1915; Lest we Forget.

We welcome all Primary Schools along the March Route to join the choir.

To register your interest contact music@kangaroomarch.org.



Schools participating in today's Choir are
Junee North Public School, Junee Public School, St Joseph's Primary School,
Eurongilly Public School, Illabo Public School, North Wagga Public School,
Wagga Wagga Public School



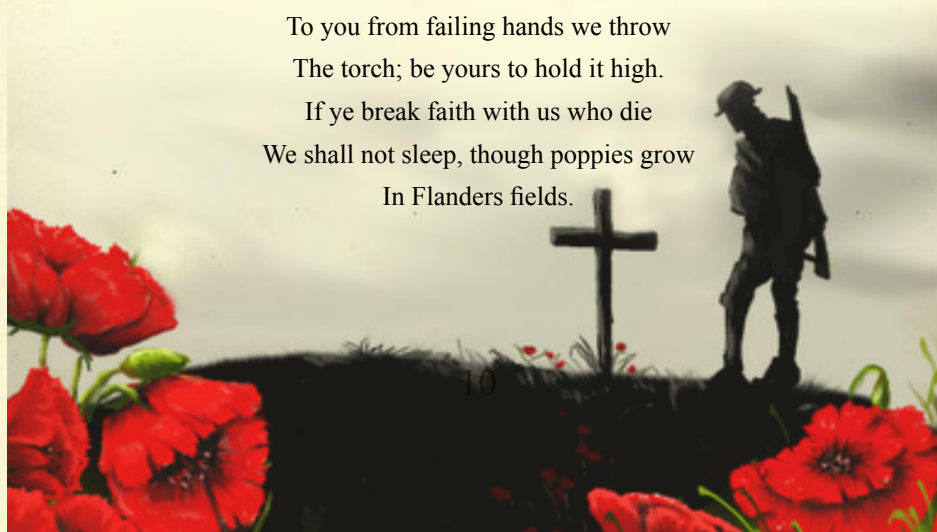
IN FLANDERS FIELDS

BY JOHN McCRAE

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.





"Kangaroos"
Route March
Dec. 7. 1915



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN THE KANGAROO MARCH CENTENARY RE-ENACTMENT

If interested, please go to our website www.kangaroomarch.org, complete and submit **Expression of Interest Form**

OR

Detach this page and post it to: KMCRA PO Box 3048 Exeter NSW 2579.

Please tick applicable boxes

I am interested in participating in the re-enactment of the Kangaroo Recruiting March.

I would like to march for the whole of the route September 5th to October 10th 2015.

I would like to march for part of the route.

I would like to assist with the planning.

I would like to join your mailing list.

I would like to join your association.

Name.....

Address.....

Email.....

Phone..... Mobile.....

Our privacy policy is on our website

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Wagga Wagga RSL sub-branch

Wagga Wagga City Council

Wingecarribee Shire Council

Australian Army Band Kapooka, Major Peter Thomas, Music Director

New South Wales Office for Veterans' Affairs

The Rural Commemorative Children's Choir

Riverina Concert Band, conducted by Justin Lidgard

New South Wales Centenary of Anzac Advisory Council

Army Reserves

Wagga Wagga Rotary

Helen Draper, Patchwork Bliss

Flower Talk

King-Gee

Blue Star Printing, Geoff Selig

Key Computers, Brian Miller

Graphic Design, Susie Moore