

February 2014

Bulletin # 1



From our President's desk:

*Our Committee has been developing the re-enactment for the last 15 months. We're consulting with organisations like all the Local Councils, the Roads and Maritime Services Department, Defence Logistics and Support, and the State Government Appointed Advisory Committee for the Centenary of WW1 and ANZAC in particular.*

*Lots of meetings, building relationships, and addressing the plethora of matters that attend an event as big as this one. It's fun but quite demanding! Will keep you posted with our progress.*

Graham Brown

### The Launch 7 December 2013

The Kangaroo March Re-enactment has been well and truly *Launched*.

On a summer's day in Wagga Wagga, the city's Mayor Rod Kendall presided over formalities when almost 2,000 people turned out.

They saw the Governor lay a wreath at the ceremony conducted by the Wagga RSL, and the Patron of the Re-enactment, Dr Brendan Nelson formally declare the project underway.

A colourful spectacle with young students from schools around the Riverina participating dressed in 1915 era clothes.

The Kapooka Army Band and the Riverina Concert Band played the Anthem and filled the afternoon air with tunes of a century ago.



Tents for Kangaroo Marchers' descendants to leave their stories and show their memorabilia were fully engaged.

The NSW Centenary of ANZAC Advisory Committee led by General Peter Cosgrove, AC MC, attended and participated.

Four families, the Fitzgeralds, Kimballs, Mortons and Redheads, descendants of the Kangaroos came from as far afield as the Hunter Valley.

The Lighthouse led the 'recruits' in a re-enactment to start the 'March' with their banner, kettledrum and Australian Ensign.

***"I go out to return by Courage and Faith"***

***Motto of the 1915 Kangaroos***




## What lies ahead?

19 Months from now.....

The count-down to 5 September 2015, the day the Re-enactment march leaves Wagga Wagga, has started.

What would the people of your town like to do or be doing when the Re-enactment March passes through? Several folk have asked us for some thoughts.

- Do the gardeners want to grow Heritage Vegetables in time for judging as the March comes through town?
  - Would you like to welcome the hungry Marchers with a pig on a spit?
  - Does your town want to hold an old-fashioned fair?
  - Have you thought of unveiling a Plaque in memory of the Centenary of the original March?
  - Will you refurbish and re-dedicate the plaque already in the School, Town Hall or School of Arts building?
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- Are you collecting stories of the Men from your town who enlisted in the Kangaroo March?
  - Visit [www.kangaroomarch.org](http://www.kangaroomarch.org) to find out the date the Re-enactment March comes through town.
  - Have you a CWA with plans for a Recipe competition for the best ANZAC biscuits?
  - What about scattering poppy seeds later this year so that they flower in time for next Sept-Oct 2015 on the roadside into and out of town? (Imagine the sight it would make if every town on the March Route did that...)



Photos courtesy M Herr for RSL Wagga Wagga

*Want to be part of a special piece of History?  
Become a Member of the KMCRA.  
Visit [www.kangaroomarch.org](http://www.kangaroomarch.org) and complete  
the Expression of Interest form.*

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