

**CENTENARY  
OF ANZAC 2014-2018**



Tuesday 23 April 2013

## South Australians to trace their ANZAC history

With 2014 marking the Centenary of the outbreak of World War 1, the State Library is digitising precious original pictures, letters and records to help South Australians trace their ANZAC history.

Director of the State Library of South Australia, Alan Smith, says there will be a concentrated effort in the next few years to digitise a range of WW1 records.

“The idea is to not only make our unique South Australian records more widely available, but to invite others to enhance the records with information they may have, add their own family material or share their comments online,” he said.

**In the lead-up to ANZAC Day, the State Library and State Records are today launching a digitised collection of images, *South Australians of World War 1*, on the social media platform, Flickr. <http://www.flickr.com/groups/slsaww1/>**

Manager of the State Library’s Online Projects, Andrew Piper says the Flickr group has been designed for the public to add photographs and information.

“The State Library has ‘seeded’ the group with almost 500 images from the Chamberlain Collection, featuring portraits of ANZAC soldiers on glass plate negatives that, until now, have only been available to view on request at the Library.

“State Records has provided a further 364 images of soldiers, sailors and nurses.

“In some cases, there is little detail in the records about the South Australians pictured, so we are inviting the community to help us identify them and tell their stories, including service details and biographical information.

“We’re also keen to include the contribution of people who assisted the war effort at home through groups such as the Cheer Up Societies.”

You can access the Flickr group via a new State Library Guide, *South Australians of World War 1: Share their story* at <http://guides.slsa.sa.gov.au/slsaww1>. This includes tips on how people can contribute to the group and provides them with research leads.

**The State Library also has in its collections the original South Australian Red Cross Information Bureau’s WW1 enquiries files.**

“These records contain as many as 8,000 enquiries from families and friends trying to trace wounded and missing soldiers and other army personnel, including nurses” Mr Piper said.

“These complement the files from other State Bureaux held at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

“The SA records make very moving reading. The anxiety of family and friends searching for their loved ones is evident and, with the South Australian Bureau known for not toning down the details divulged, the disturbing realities of warfare are revealed.

“With the assistance of volunteers, these thousands of enquiries have been sorted and are now being digitised by Library staff. We will then build an indexed, web resource of these records, which we plan to release in 2015 to coincide with the centenary of the Gallipoli landing.”

The State Library has also developed a self-guided walking tour on the War Memorials of Adelaide. It's one of a series of tours they've been developing for mobile devices with internet access.

“The War Memorials tour will take people on a journey of monuments, memory and emotion,” Mr Piper said

You can download the walking tours Apps to your smart phone, or other mobile device, via the State Library website [www.slsa.sa.gov.au](http://www.slsa.sa.gov.au).

South Australians can also add to the State Library's collection of WW1 material by uploading their own historic photographs, donating material to our archives or recording an oral history for us.

#### **MEDIA NOTE:**

**Interviews and picture opportunities are available at the State Library today at 12 Noon.**

**Please contact Loine Sweeney on tel: (08) 8207 7285 or [sweeney.loine@slsa.sa.gov.au](mailto:sweeney.loine@slsa.sa.gov.au)**

**Examples of pictures and stories in the collections are attached.**

## You-Tube presentation

The State Library has today uploaded a video presentation to You-Tube of its Centenary of ANZAC graphics and music, which media are welcome to use in coverage of this story. We have permission from Eric Bogle for his song, The Band Played Waltzing Matilda. to be used for this purpose. <http://youtu.be/9jO7drxJbJ8>

## Examples of stories in the collections

### Three Norwood footballers

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/state\\_library\\_south\\_australia/8165221289/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/state_library_south_australia/8165221289/)

This is a photo of three soldiers who were close mates – Brunel John Nash, Philip De Quetteville Robin and George Darling Beames. All three had played football for the Norwood Football Club, with Robin being amongst the finest players of his era. They were part of the 10<sup>th</sup> battalion, entirely recruited from SA, which was the first to land troops at Gallipoli along with the 9<sup>th</sup> from Queensland and the 11<sup>th</sup> from WA. Unfortunately both Nash and Robin were killed at Gallipoli with Robin being the SANFL footballer killed. Nash disappeared on the day of the landing and an enquiry was launched by the Red Cross, so we have the enquiry files relating that investigation. As it turns out, his mate Beames was one of the eyewitnesses who gave a statement. Robin, along with VC winner, Arthur Blackburn gained the furthest ground of any Australian during the Gallipoli campaign.

### Some other highlights:

Clift brothers

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/state\\_library\\_south\\_australia/7995060688/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/state_library_south_australia/7995060688/)

Family portrait

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/state\\_library\\_south\\_australia/7995053994/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/state_library_south_australia/7995053994/)

Unknown woman

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/state\\_library\\_south\\_australia/8165237826/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/state_library_south_australia/8165237826/)

Private George Arnold

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/state\\_library\\_south\\_australia/8165208089/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/state_library_south_australia/8165208089/)

Soldier with Kangaroo -

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/state\\_library\\_south\\_australia/7995058449/in/pool-2098235@N21/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/state_library_south_australia/7995058449/in/pool-2098235@N21/)