

22nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION ECHO

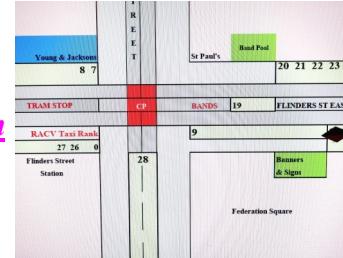
No 82

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION MARCH - 25 APRIL 2025

The 22nd Battalion Association, together with other active kindred WW1 Unit Associations, will “step-off”, behind their Unit Banners, from the “start point” on the south side of Flinders St East (see map) at 10:00 AM.

The 22nd Banner will be displayed at this location at 9:00 AM to be ready for an earlier start.

Pedestrian access from Flinder's St. Station is via a walkway under Prince's Bridge to Federation Square and Flinders St. East.



The Flag, the Australian Nation

Veterans are heard to say, we fought under the flag. The Anzacs used the Australian national flag, the Blue Ensign proclaimed as such with the passing of the Flags Act 1953, as well as the Red Ensign and the Union Jack.



The Australian National flag

Government schools in the 1950's practiced the "Oath: I will honour the flag, I will serve the King and cheerfully obey my parents, teachers and the law".

In Europe in 1914, the autocratic German Kaiser's military aggression threatened and nearly succeeded in overturning democratic freedoms. Challenged by Great Britain and allies, Australia was at war "under the flag". The Australian Imperial Force was born and Australia became involved in a bloody conflict over four years. The consequence was the death and injury of so many Australian troops.

The casualties of the 22nd Battalion resulted in a "turnover" five times, namely 5000 casualties. These men believed the sacrifice was the price for the freedom and values, evolved from the initial colonial settlement and have evolved further to define what it is to be Australian.

The 21st century has presented challenges but also opportunities to share Australia's bounty as has happened with welcoming migrants with a plethora of ethnic backgrounds. The challenge is their blending to the culture of their adopted country as part of the Australian Nation under the Australian Flag.



22nd Battalion Association marchers
Anzac Day March 2024

◆ EPIPHANY IN BELGIUM ◆

Driving in Belgium, south from Bruges through beautiful and flat countryside this August was different, not the excitement of seeing new places, but an emotional twist to over one hundred years ago when my father Fred Russell fought in some of the bloodiest conflicts of World War I.

My mind "switched back" to 1916 conflicts and thereafter, with my father and his 22nd Battalion mates fighting, getting wounded and dying in this area of Passchendaele, Polygon Wood, Bullecourt and Ypres.

The cemetery at Polygon Wood highlighted the extent of casualties with the row upon row of headstones bearing the "Rising Sun" badge many inscribed with, "unknown soldier of WWI".

Dining in the Grote Markt of Ypres my mind was confronted with another time long ago, when, as recorded in his diary, my father and a few mates sheltered in the Crypt of the shell-destroyed Cathedral. He records his delight at finding this relatively warm billet after "living rough".

This experience was for me, an epiphany, a moment when you suddenly feel you understand or are suddenly conscious of values that are very important to you, exemplified by those of the men of the 22nd Battalion, courage, mateship and to make the ultimate sacrifice for these values.

Ian Russell

IAN RUSSELL HON. SECRETARY/TREASURER/EDITOR

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Australians in Serbia World War 1.

An estimated 165 Australian troops served with the Serbian Army including a contingent of drivers from the 6th Brigade (22, 23, 24, 25 Battalions), 2nd Division AIF. Instead of proceeding to Gallipoli with the Brigade, about 50 pack-drivers were attached to the 12th Irish Division dispatched to assist the Serbians on the Salonika front, retreating from the Bulgarians.



Lt F Greenway M. M. and Bar

Included in the party of 22nd men who served in this campaign was Lt. F. Greenway, M. M. and Bar, whose decorations and commission were later awarded in France. 2nd. Lieutenant (Ned) Herring M.C. D.S.O. (later Lt. Governor of Victoria), served on the Salonika front.

Three 22nd Battn. men awarded the Serbian Silver Medal were, Pte. H.G. Cook, M. M. , J/Cpl. E. C. Bridges and Pte. R Allum.

The Serbian Medal for Bravery "Milos Obilic" was established 12 July 1913 by King Peter I and granted to soldiers for acts of personal courage on the battlefield. There are two degrees, gold and silver. The silver medal is worn on a tricolour ribbon, red, blue and white, the colours of the Serbian flag.



Serbian Silver Medal

Following a move to Dorian, near the border of Greece and Serbia they formed a Divisional H.Q. Guard and moved to the active operational zone at Hasanti.

Their duties were varied, ranging from care and collection of mountain ponies to the guarding of Bulgarian prisoners. Winter 1915 found them at Fourk. When the Serbian retreat began the Australian party were at Dedile. Prior to orders to withdraw, their main energies were directed to assisting numerous sufferers of "frost-bite".

The normal congestion involved in a retreat was aggravated by the narrowness of the roads and tracks. Progress to the objective, the Greek border near Lake Dorain, was slow and often dangerous due to steepness of the slopes bordering the route. On one occasion only one mile and a half was traversed in eleven hours, but the party with their ponies finally crossed the frontier border. Lambeth Camp their original resting place was reached on 11 December 1915. Having completed their duties they embarked for Egypt and rejoined their respective Battalions.



View from Mount Gucevo

Gucevo, a mountain in western Serbia, holds a unique and significant place in WWI history as the site of the "Battle above the Clouds", during the Battle of Drina in 1914. The name was inspired by the extra -high altitude conditions where Serbian and Austro-Hungarian soldiers fought above mist covered valleys on Mount Gucevo in September and October 1914. Despite the overwhelming odds, the Serbian troops delayed the Austro-Hungarian advance, critical to Serbia's survival.



Ossuary Monument

Today on the summit of Gucevo is an Ossuary Monument that holds the remains of approximately 4,000 soldiers who died during the battle. Soldiers of both sides are interred, a powerful gesture of conciliation and respect for the fallen, regardless of their allegiance.

While Australians are more familiar with the Gallipoli campaign, Gucevo's battle holds striking parallels. Both involved extra-ordinary acts of courage under severe conditions, large losses, and an enduring legacy of resilience in the face of overwhelming adversity.

Visiting this monument in September 2024, I now have a deeper understanding of the Great War's impact on many Nations. As an Australian it reinforces my gratitude for the sacrifice of the "Anzacs" and men of the 22nd Battalion A.I.F. in particular.

IFR.

INDIVIDUAL SUBSCRIPTION 2025 OF \$15 NOW DUE

- Please forward to 22nd Battalion Association
c/o Ian Russell Hon. Secretary/Treasurer
5 Orrell Crt. Mount Waverley Vic. 3149 or
- Transfer CBA BSB 063 010 A/c 1005 1054
Description-Sub/Name

To minimize costs, receipts will only be issued on request.

Some members have subscribed for more than one year and are still financial.

Members' subscriptions/donations for the year 2024 were in excess of expenditure, resulting in a surplus. The current subscription of \$15 will be maintained for 2025.

Member donations over and above the subscription have been appreciated and are significant in the total income stream.

Email addresses of members would facilitate communications and be treated as restricted to Battalion business only. Please resubmit to ensure currency.

Members with ideas for activities and a preparedness to take the initiative, are welcome.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR 12 MONTHS ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024

	INCOME		EXPENDITURE
	\$.		\$
Member Subs/Donations	945.00	“ECHO” Production	598.85
Bank Interest	<u>0.00</u>	Distribution /Postage	216.00
	945.00		814.85
Surplus for Year			130.15

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

<i>Member Funds at Bank 31 Dec. 2023</i>	<i>4146.38</i>
<i>Surplus for current Year</i>	<i>130.15</i>
<i>Accumulated Funds 31 Dec. 2024</i>	<i>4276.53</i>



22nd Battalion Association

Upon their return from Europe and the Great War in 1919, the former soldiers of the 22nd Battalion met and formed the Battalion Association to keep alive the Anzac spirit and legacy of mateship that was forged on the beaches and cliffs of Gallipoli and which defined the Australian through the tough fighting in France and Belgium, and beyond. As the years have passed the legacy has now been passed to the relatives of the men that fought within the Battalion, under the stewardship today of Ian Russell, son of 524 Pte Fred Russell, the Honorary Secretary of the Association from its inauguration in 1920 until his death in 1978.

Each year the Association remembers those that served and marches on Anzac Day in Melbourne. In addition the Association produces an annual newsletter entitled the ‘22nd Battalion Association Echo’, taking the name from the publication of the same title that the Battalion produced on active service in 1918 until the troops returned home.

The Website www.anzac-22nd-battalion.com was established by Greg Stephens, grandson of “Bob” a 22nd Battalion veteran. It is a valuable source and repository for contributions/notices from/to Association members, particularly the “Collections” drill down of the “Family” section as well as a Facebook link.

This project has now been archived in the “Pandora” project of the National Library of Australia ensuring its retention for posterity.

In Memoriam Roll 2025

Mr J	Armstrong	Percy Armstrong - G'Uncle
Mr P	Baird	Enos Good-G'father
Mr H F	Ball	W A Ball-Father,G'father Stephen,Graeme,David
Mrs J	Ball	John Lyle - Father
Mrs G	Banham	Edwin Edmonds-G'father
Mrs C	Barber	Victor Woolcock-Father, William Ruthven VC-G'father
Mrs S	Belcher	John James Armstrong-G'father, G'.G'father of James&Daniel
Mrs J	Bellis	Lewis Strawhorn-G'father
Mr P	Bellis	Edgar Marcham Bellis-G'Uncle
Mr A	Binns	Laurie Binns-G'G Father;G'G'Uncle Will, John Blackley
Mr R	Binns	Laurie Binns - G'father;G'Uncles Will,John Blackley
Mrs P	Bird	Hubert Wilkinson - Father of Patricia, G'F David,G/GF Erik, Lucas, Bryn,Ari
Mrs P	Boag	Bass Stringer - Father
Mr D	Boothroyd	W F Boothroyd-G'father
Mr E	Boothroyd	W. F. Boothroyd - Father
Mr F	Brain	James Brain - Uncle
Ms P	Brown	J. W. Berrill - Grandfather
Mrs Alison	Burgess	Leslie N Castle-Father
Ms D	Burgess	George Shanks-Uncle
Mrs F	Caffery	Fred Russell- G'father
Mr K	Camm	Herbert Alexander Camm-Father
M/s Fay	Carlin	Charles John Carlin-G'father
Mr K	Carroll	Lt.Arthur Carroll MM - Father
Mr D	Carroll	Lt. Arthur Carroll MM- Father
Mr W.B.	Castle	Leslie N Castle-Father also of Alison Burgess
Mrs A	Charles	Robert Andrew - Father, Vicki Bromley G'father, Kabel Davis G'G'father
Mrs M	Chatfield	William Tuddin-G'father
Mrs B	Clayton	Albert Edward Strandgard-Father
Mrs J	Clift	Everett Mark Rickard-Uncle
Mr R	Coad	Edward John Hosier-G'father
Mrs Isabella	Collyer	William Sorenson- Father
Mr D	Cooke	Bass Stringer - Grandfather
Mr P	Cooper AM	Percy Cooper - Father
Mrs P	Craddock	Ernest Green - Father, G'father, GG'father
Mr J	Crawford	John Crawford -- G'father
M/s S	Dalton	Henry Brown- G'father
Mrs B	Daniel	John Daniel - Father-in-law
Mrs M	Dawson	John Malloch-Grandfather
Mr P	Delves	Edward Delves - Father
Mrs V	Devery	William Pentland-Uncle, G'Uncle Vincent
Dr & Mrs L	Drew	Ern McL Green- Father (Josie)
Ms K	Driver	John Stuart James Canavan-G'father
Mrs J	Ellis	Leslie Ellis - Uncle
Mrs E	Fountaine	Bass Stringer - Father
Mr D	Fox	Charles Eddy-G'father, Albert Eddy-G'Uncle
Mrs J	Frost	V N Moore - Father
Ms P	Gibson	Ernest Albert Harris - G'father
M/s Sylvia	Gilbert	John Lambert-G'father
Mr W	Gilbert	John Lambert - Great Grandfather

In Memoriam Roll 2025

Mrs D	Goodsall	Alan Leslie Cadman M.M. - Father
Mrs M	MGreig	Will Greig - Grandfather, George Hill - Great Uncle
Mr R	Griffiths	Henry Griffiths - Father
Mr & Mrs	G Guerin	Fred Russell - G'Grandfather
Mr B	Hammon	N C Hammon - Father
Mrs O	Hammond	Henry George Dawson-G'father
Mr V	Harley	Walter Harley-Father
Mrs M	Hart	Charles West - Father
Mr Luke	Hickey	Leo Mc Cartin-G'G'Uncle
Mrs Anne	Hickey	Leo McCartin-G'Uncle
Ms B	Hill	John Stillman - Grandfather also of Marg Lee
Mr B	Hogan	William Hildebrand - Great Uncle
Ms F	Holian	John Williams - Father
Mr J	Hondros	George W F Chick-G'G'father
Mr J	Hyde	Frederick William Hyde-G'father
Mrs M	Jackson	James O'Donnell Ryan-Uncle
Mrs J	Jacobsen	Norman Sydney Jacobsen-Father-in law,Father of Neville,G'G'Uncle Jacob Grigg.
Mr R	Jelley	Robert Francis Napoleon Jelley-G'Uncle
Mrs J	Johnson	Robert Hodgens - Uncle, GG Uncle-Helena Johnson
Mr C	Kaye	Norman Kaye - Father,G'father of Stephen Ryan, GG'father of Leah Megan Kaye.
Mrs N	Kelly	George Henry Moore-Father
Mr I	Kennett	J S Kennett MM-Father,Jo-Anne Kennett/Smith& Stuart Kennett G'Father
Mr FG	King	Frank King - Father
Dr D	Lakeman	Roy Lakeman- Grandfather,GG'father Ned
Mrs M	Lee	John Stillman - G'father, GG Father-Alexandra Lee
Mr L	Levison	W E Leviston-Father
Mr N	Leviston	W E Leviston-Father
Mrs H	Logan	James Taylor Douglas MM - Father
Mr A	Love	Ted "Sailor" Parsons - G'Father
Mr T	Lynch	John Jones Lynch-Father
Ms J	Lynch	Louis Anthony John Lowther-G'father
Mr L	Magree	Sgt.Frank Rowden - Uncle
Mr G	Malloch	J G Malloch - Father
Mr L	Mance	Charlie Mance - Father
Mr E	Mann	Thomas Mann - Father
M/s J	Marshall	Lindsay Harricks-G'father
Mr Leo	McCartin	L McCartin-G'Uncle
Mr T	McMillan	Ernest McMillan-Father
Mrs L	McMillan	William Melville Chamberlain-Father
M/s Kate	Melville	Frederick Charles Russell-G'G'father
M/s Tess	Melville	Frederick Charles Russell-G'G'father
Mr Brett	Melville	Frederick Charles Russell-G'G'father
Mr A	Meyers	Alfred H Meyers-Father
Mr J	Miles	Tom Miles - Father
Mr S	Miles	Tom Miles G'father
Mr G	Monk	Clarrie Monk - Grandfather
M/s Kaye	Moore	George Henry Moore-G'Father
Mr BJ	Moore	George Henry Moore- G'father
Mr K	Moore	George Henry Moore-Father
Mrs K	Newey	Fred Russell-G'G'father
Mrs J	Nicholson	R W Day - Father of Joan, Grandfather of Brian

In Memoriam Roll 2025

Mrs D	O'Mara	Frank Lindsay MM-G'father
M/s M	O'Shannassy	Albert Ziebell-G'father
Mr A	Paterson	Ernest Ellerman Paterson-G'G'father
Mr S	Pattinson	AJ Pattinson - Uncle
Mr J T	Phelan	James Steven Hogan-Uncle
M/s G Zachary,	Porter	George Giroud - Father,GF Michelle,GG/F Rebeccah,GGG/F Riley, Prudence
Mr J	Powell	William Henry Powell-G'Uncle,Uncle Mick,Stan Mc Curdy
Mrs D	Powell	Stanley Robert McCurdy-Father,also Meridith Lennie,Stanley Robert McCurdy,G'father Jim
Mr K	Powerlett	George Powerlett-Father, Wendy Thomas-G'daughter
Mr D	Rebbechi	Charles Henry Haar-G/G'father
Mr R	Reed	Albert Louis Reed-Father
Mr B	Reed	Albert Louis Reed-father
Ms N	Ridgeway	Mark Ridgway - cousin
Mr W G	Ridgway	Mark Ridgway-Uncle
Dr J	Robinson	John Urquhart-G'father
Mr M	Rodda	Edmund Rodda - Father
Mr I	Russell	Fred Russell - Father
Mr P	Russell	Fred Russell - G'father
Mr E J	Russell	George Russell - Father
Mrs K L	Russell	Fred Russell - G'father
Mr WJ	Searle	George Norman Searle-Father,G'father Aiden
Mr J	Smart	Robert Smart, George Smart-Uncles
Mrs G	Smith	John Cumming Father, G'father Jo-anne,Sandra,G'fatherames,Daniel,Caitlin,Amber
Mr Harry	Smith	Charles Henry Watson- G'Father
Mrs N	Smith	W.A.Ball-Father
Mrs B	Sommers	Robert Eugene Reginald Baker, Arthur Ernest Leonard Baker-Uncles
Mrs B	Strawhorn	Lewis Strawhorn-Father-in Law, G'Father- Jean Bellis
Mr PD	Tehan	Eugene Gorman-G'Uncle
Mr D	Thewlis	Eric Thewlis MC - Great Uncle and William Wilson
Ms J	Topliss	Charles Hutton - Father
Mr R L	Urquhart	Horace Urquhart - Father
Mr C	Wakefield	John McKenzie - Uncle
Mr W	Wakefield	John McKenzie - Uncle
M/s E	Walker	William A Ball-G'G'father, G'father P Walker
Mr M	Ward	Eugene Gorman-G'Uncle & his friend W McC Braithwaite
Mrs Janet	Weddle	Walter Foskett-Father
Mrs R	Wells	Charles Bloomfield - G'father,(Beryl)GG'father,(Rhonda) GGG'father,(Hannah)
Mrs H	Whiley	Charles Bullock - Grandfather
Mrs H	Wilde	Alex Milne - Father
Mr R G	Wilkins	Leonard Walter Wilkins-G'Uncle
Mr/Mrs E/	Winter	Edwin Canham- Father, also daughter Jean Harves
Mr J	Wood	Jonathan Wood-Father
Mrs J	Woolhouse	Herbert Franklin Curnow-Uncle also Norma Gallacher- Uncle

Pilgrimage Belgium, Villers Bretonneux/Museum and Monash Centre

The deafening silence of the WW1 battlefields is overshadowed by the emotion one experiences at these places of such horrendous conflict.



In August 2024 I drove with my wife Glenda, from Brussels to Ypres as the starting point of a meander of the battlefields where the 22nd Battalion in particular was fighting from 1915 onwards. No one town on the "Western Front" suffered more damage than Ypres. The cellars in the convent were used as billets by the 22nd and 23rd Battalions that shared the line-work of the Brigade on this front.



Menin Gate Buglers

The Ypres Gate Memorial commemorates 54,500 British and Commonwealth soldiers who died before 16 August 1917 and have no known grave. A "Last Post" ceremony is performed by local Fire Brigade buglers every evening since 1924.



Polygon Wood and Canadian War Memorials

Pozieres was the key obstacle to the capture of Moquet Farm and the Thiepval Ridge. It was the bloodiest and most costly for the 22nd Battalion that lost 33 officers and 763 men. The three Australian Divisions, serving in this sector, lost more than a third of their men.

Pozieres was captured on 23 July 1916, the exhausted men being relieved by the Canadians at Moquet Farm on 5 September 1916.

Franco-Australian Museum

The Museum is located on the first floor of Victoria School at Villers Bretonneux, the turning-point of the war in 1918, was destroyed and rebuilt after largely funded by donations collected by children of Robinvale, Victoria as a bond of friendship between the people of VB and Australia.



Victoria School and Museum display

The Museum houses a wide range of military reliefs of the war. Of particular significance to the 22nd Battalion is the uniform of Fred Russell, Secretary of the 22nd Battalion from 1920 to his death in 1978 that is now on permanent display.

My wife Glenda and I with family members visited the Museum in September last year and presented



**Presentation
"With the Twenty-Second"**

Board member Michel Durand with a copy of the 22nd's war history, "With the Twenty-Second".



Monash Centre adjunct to the Australian War Memorial

This presentation strengthens further the bond between Villers Bretonneux and Australia, and the 22nd Battalion in particular.

The Anzac Spirit

For young children to understand the meaning and significance of these words it is by demonstrating with appropriate objects their relevance to this statement.



Slouch hat and trench-coat on display

The East Malvern Early Learning Centre has adopted this strategy with the young children it educates. In recent years some of my great-grandchildren have attended, now Charlie. The Centre. Aware of my association with the 22nd Battalion WWI, has invited me to explain the derivation of "Anzac", and it's significance on Anzac and Remembrance Days.

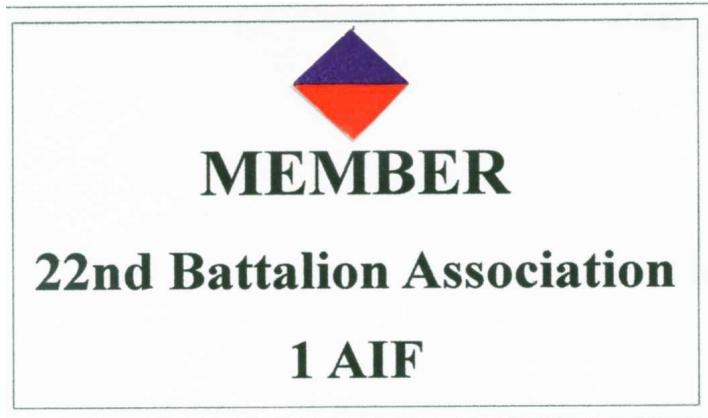
The Battalion's archives have been the source of relevant objects to display. My father's Greatcoat has helped explain the extremely cold weather the soldiers had to cope with and the slouch hat with affixed Rising Sun badge is well identified with the Australian soldiers (AIF) .

Simple diagrammatic maps of the countries and places the Anzacs fought, such as at Gallipoli, Turkey help the children understand the distances travelled by the soldiers and the time they were away from families, for those that returned..

Together with the children's questions these talks and displays helps them understand the hardship and danger of war, but also the values for which the Anzacs and subsequent Australian Defence Forces have made sacrifices to preserve the wonderful lifestyle we enjoy in Australia..

Member Badge

The Member Badge below can be cut-out and inserted in a plastic holder available from most Stationers. The Badge can be worn at official events.



22nd Battalion Association members at the Shrine after the 2024 Anzac Day March



Keith Powerlett with daughter Wendy Thomas

PROTOCOL/GUIDELINES FOR DESCENDANTS IN ANZAC DAY MARCHES

Participating in the official March is a great privilege but brings with it the responsibility to do so with dignity and respect in memory of our "22nd" forebears in particular.

- Marchers (not young children) must be respectively dressed in accordance with the solemnity of the Commemoration March (sporting gear/footwear/torn jeans/photos are not approved). Descendants should wear the medals of forebears on the right breast; their own on the left.
- Marchers are to form up 6 abreast and maintain step with the Banner Bearer. At the Eternal Flame in the forecourt (not the official dais) "Eyes Right" will be ordered and the Battalion Banner lowered. Once past "Eyes Front" will be ordered and the Banner raised.
- Strict adherence to these reflects a commitment to remember them.