



M is for Mates

Animals in Wartime from Ajax to Zep





For all creatures great and small, especially those who have served their country in wartime.



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G'day! I'm Ajax.

Find me on each page, and discover some stories about animals during wartime. Four of my mates are hidden in the photos below. Can you spot them?



*Back Row: Mr. Kelly, St. Archibald, Cpl. Hill, Frigger, B. Jones, Cpl. Mandy, Fr. Bryce, S. Jensen, Cpl. Moberg, Fr. S. Jensen
Center Row: Fr. S. Jensen, Cpl. Moberg, Cpl. Moberg, Cpl. Moberg, Cpl. Moberg, Cpl. Moberg, Cpl. Moberg, Cpl. Moberg, Cpl. Moberg, Cpl. Moberg
Front Row: St. Archibald, Fr. S. Jensen, Cpl. Hill, Fr. S. Jensen, Cpl. Moberg, Cpl. Moberg, Cpl. Moberg, Cpl. Moberg, Cpl. Moberg, Cpl. Moberg
(Absent in hospital) Cpl. S. Jensen, Fr. S. Jensen*





First World War, France, 1918.



First World War, France, 1914.

Animals have played an important part in all the wars in which Australians have been involved.

Animals carry messages, and transport people, supplies, and equipment.

They also act as life-savers, searching for hidden explosives, or finding people and rescuing them.

Animals often serve as mascots or symbols for military units, and many have been kept as pets or companions, providing friendship and comfort for their keepers during the stress of war.

Animals help to feed and clothe soldiers.

Some animals have even been used to persuade Australians to join up, or to assist in the war effort.

Not all animals are helpful however. Some, like insects and wild animals, can make life difficult and dangerous for Australians during wartime.

What part are the animals playing on these pages?

is for animals



How did the parrot escape from the plane?
With a parrot-chute!

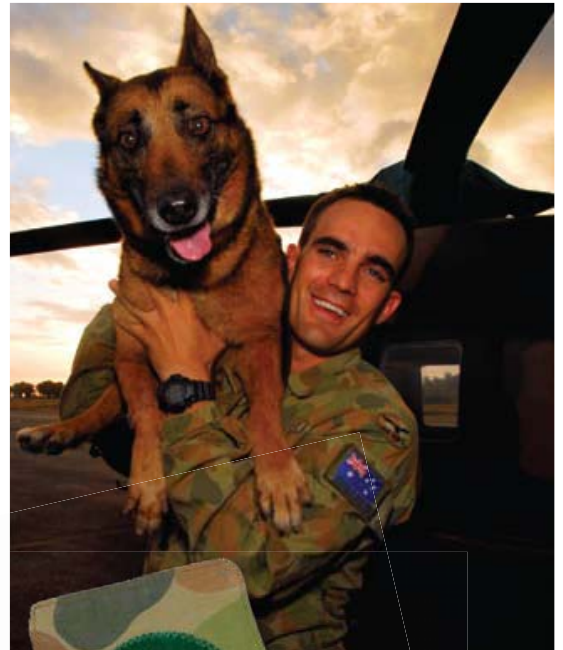
Second World War, Australia, 1941.



First World War.
George Lambert, *A favourite charger with groom, Anzac Mounted Division.*



Second World War,
New Guinea, 1944.



East Timor, 2008.

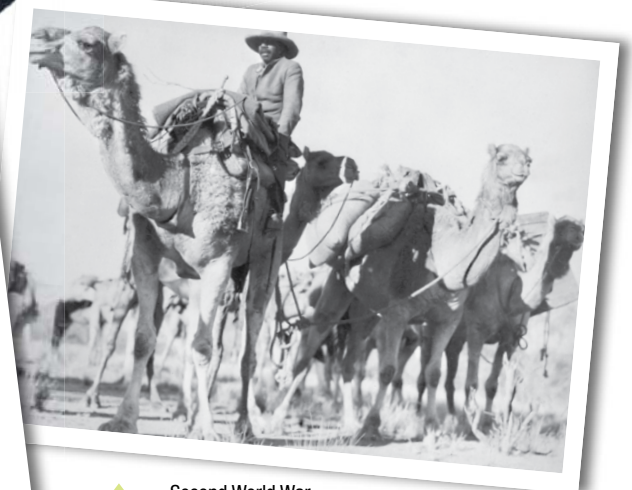


Vietnam War,
South Vietnam, 1971.

Peacekeeping,
Somalia, 1992.



United Nations
peacekeeping,
Morocco, 1990.



Second World War,
Australia, 1942.

Second World War,
Palestine, 1940.

Things to do... Make up your own
alphabet of animals that have been used during wartime
as you explore each page.

Canaries, cockatoos, chooks, ducks, emus, ostriches, owls, parrots, pigeons, rosellas, and swamp hens are just some of the birds linked to Australians at war. The pigeon is a hard-working military bird.



Second World War. 1943. The aluminium ring around the pigeon's leg carries his service number, 139:DD:43:T

First World War, 1918. What message do you think this little lifesaver is about to take back to base from this British tank in France? How is the soldier feeling?



Communication

is very important to troops during wartime. Messages often need to be sent quickly to let headquarters know of the enemy's position, or to report on the progress of a mission. Urgent requests for supplies, or for help to evacuate* troops are also sent.

In both the First and Second World Wars, when field phones or radio sets did not work, pigeons were used to carry urgent life-saving messages.

is for



First World War, 1915. This wicker basket for two birds, is lined with soft material. Can you see the tiny message capsule on the bird's leg?

Pigeons

can fly very fast, over long distances, without stopping. They also have very strong "homing instincts" that help them find their way back to their lofts from far away. Messages were carried in special containers on the birds' legs, or in small pouches looped over their backs.

Delivering the messages was sometimes very dangerous. Pigeons could be shot down by the enemy, be attacked by bigger birds, be blown off course, or even die from exhaustion. Many pigeons still managed to get their message through.

Pigeons were carried in baskets to the frontline trenches during the First World War, and in jeeps or on motor bikes by soldiers or local guides in tropical jungles during the Second World War.

Baby pigeons are called "squabs" or "squeakers".

What did the little pigeon say to the big pigeon?

Peck on someone your own size!



Strange but true!

Pigeons have very good eyesight and can see some colours that humans cannot see. They have been trained to spot the orange life jackets worn by people lost at sea.

bird



First World War.
James F. Scott, *Some of the birds of the AIF rank and file and others 1914-1918*.
How many birds can you name in this poster? It was drawn to represent the ranks of soldiers in the army.



Second World War, New Guinea, 1942. This parrot's name was Iorobaiwa Joe. Corporal McNichol carried him up one side of a mountain range and down the other side, feeding him on a diet of army biscuits.

Australia, 1925. "Cocky" lived in a Melbourne nursing home, where soldiers were recovering from the war. He was known to use words that made the nurses blush, and the soldiers laugh.
One day, when accidentally locked inside the hall used for concerts and church services, he shredded the prayer books with his sharp beak.

B is for Bravery

During the Second World War, a special award for brave animals, the Dickin Medal, was introduced. 54 medals were awarded, 32 of them to pigeons for "conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty". Two carrier pigeons, working in the Australian Army Signal Corp were awarded the Dickin Medal for their bravery. One of them was No.879:D/D:43:Q, a blue chequer male, part of 1 Australian Pigeon Section.

In 1944, he was sent to assist the United States forces trying to recapture Manus Island, north of New Guinea.

A small group of soldiers was sent to investigate reports that enemy troops were preparing for a counter-attack near the village of Drabito. The soldiers headed off through dense jungle with a radio and a basket of pigeons, one of whom was Q.

Just outside the village they confirmed that the reports were correct; many Japanese soldiers were camped nearby, preparing for a major attack. As the Americans were heading back to base with their news, they were spotted by the Japanese. A fight broke out, and the soldiers needed help, but their radio no longer worked. Time for Pigeon Power!

One after another the pigeons were released, with messages calling for help rolled up in tiny canisters on their legs, but each pigeon was spotted by the Japanese soldiers and shot down. The Americans were in great danger. They were surrounded by the enemy. It was all up to Q. Could he get the vital message through?

Brave little Q was sent skywards. The soldiers knew he was their last chance for rescue. Up, up, up he flew, but suddenly, as he broke through into clear sky, the sounds of gunshots rang out.

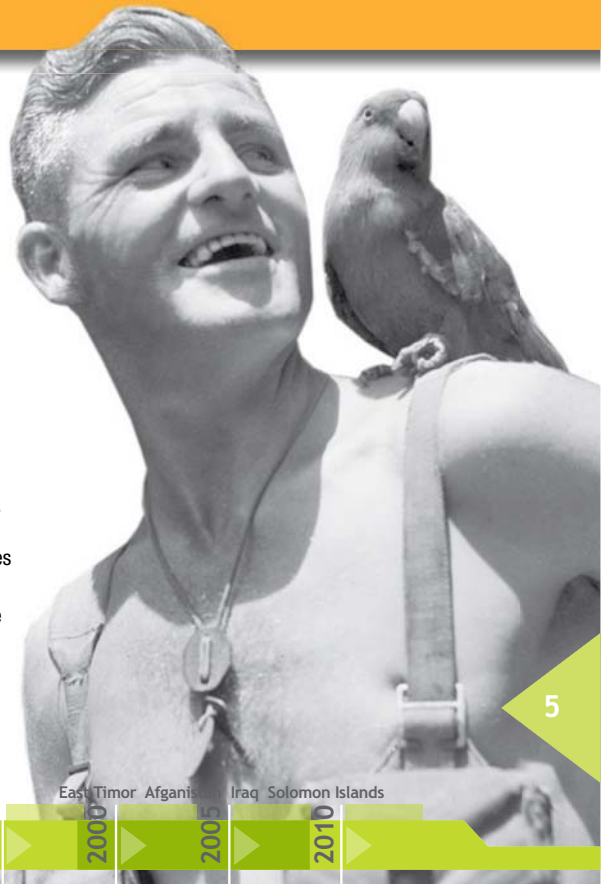
"Come on. Come on, little buddy", the soldiers were thinking.

Higher and higher he spiralled, changing course quickly and avoiding the enemy's gunfire. Within minutes he was out of range, and away safely on his very important rescue mission.

He flew the 48 kilometres back to base in 47 minutes, and as a result, help was sent, and the patrol was saved.



The Dickin Medal. This medal was awarded to animals by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals (PDSA) in Britain during the Second World War.



Camels transported people and equipment in the Middle East and North Africa during the First World War. They travelled long distances with heavy loads, through hot, dry country. Sometimes, though, they were very hard to handle!



is for



The dromedary (*pronounced **dro-me-dee***), a single humped camel, is native to North Africa and the Middle East. It can go without water for up to six days, and can travel over 40 kilometres a day.

Camels have large, padded feet which allow them to walk on very hot sand. Long drooping eyelashes, transparent* eyelids and slitted nostrils keep out blowing sand. Strong, sharp teeth help them to eat almost any greenery they find in the desert.

A camel's neck is over one metre long, allowing it to eat or drink without kneeling.

What do you call a camel with three humps?

Humphrey!!



First World War, Middle East. The Imperial Camel Corps* was formed in 1916 and included men from Australia, New Zealand, and Britain.





First World War, Egypt, 1915. These Australian nurses had a souvenir photo taken, showing themselves on top of decorated dromedaries in front of the Sphinx.

Strange but true!

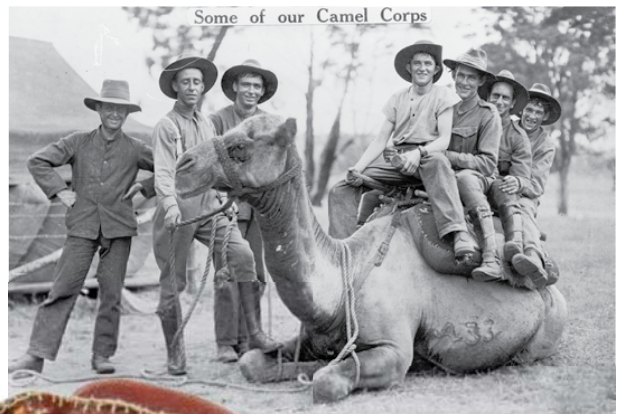
Camels can be stubborn and bad-tempered. They do not like to be led, or hurried. When cross, they can kick viciously sideways, catching bystanders by surprise. Some cameleers* called them hooshstars, and gave them nick names like Cyanide and Stinker! Sometimes camels' babies were carried in nets on their mothers' backs.

Here's one cameleer's description of where camels come from!

The Arabs say that at the Creation, when the beasts of the earth were formed, there were left over remnants out of which was made a camel ... the head of a sheep was placed on the neck of a giraffe, which was attached to the body of a cow, and the neck bent in shame at being put to such use. The tail of an ass was stuck on and the whole was set on the legs of a horse which ended in the pads of a dog, on each of which was stuck the claw of an ostrich.

Can you draw an animal using this description? Does it look like a camel?

First World War, Australia. These men are training at Camel Corps camp. What things would they need to learn?



camel

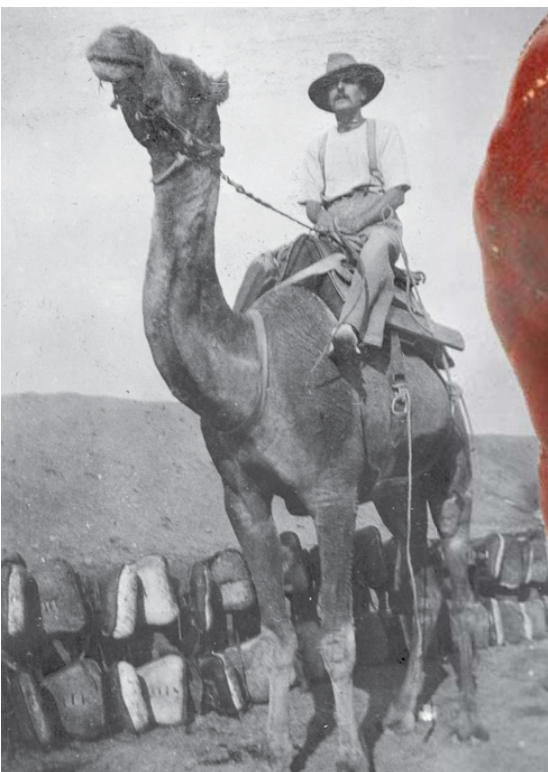
Maxine's camel.

Maxine was just two years old when her dad went away to war. In 1941, Private Maxwell (Max) Wheeler was sent to Syria to help protect it from an enemy

Max wanted to send Maxine a doll for her birthday; a porcelain doll with long ringlets. The closest thing he could find in the Syrian bazaars was a small camel made of red leather. He bought it, wrapped it, and sent it off. It could take four weeks or more to reach her in

On 17 June 1941, Private Wheeler was killed in action during a battle in Syria. He was 29 years old. Soon after, there was a knock at Mrs Wheeler's door, and an army chaplain had come to tell her the sad news. She was now

When the postman arrived with a small package wrapped in his own paper and string, Maxine and her mum unwrapped it and found a red leather camel. Before Maxine could get her little fingers around it, her mother bent down, picked it up and placed it on the mantelpiece, where it stayed until Maxine was old enough to reach it

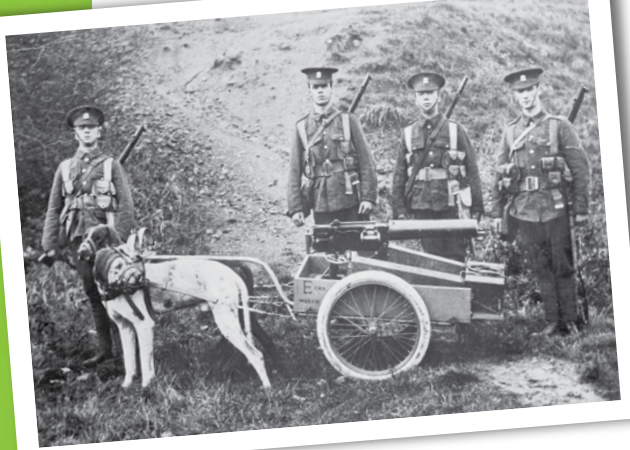


First World War, Middle East, 1917. Corporal Albert Holland and his camel. Look at the camel saddles behind him.

Maxine's dad.

... e, unspoilt, in memory of

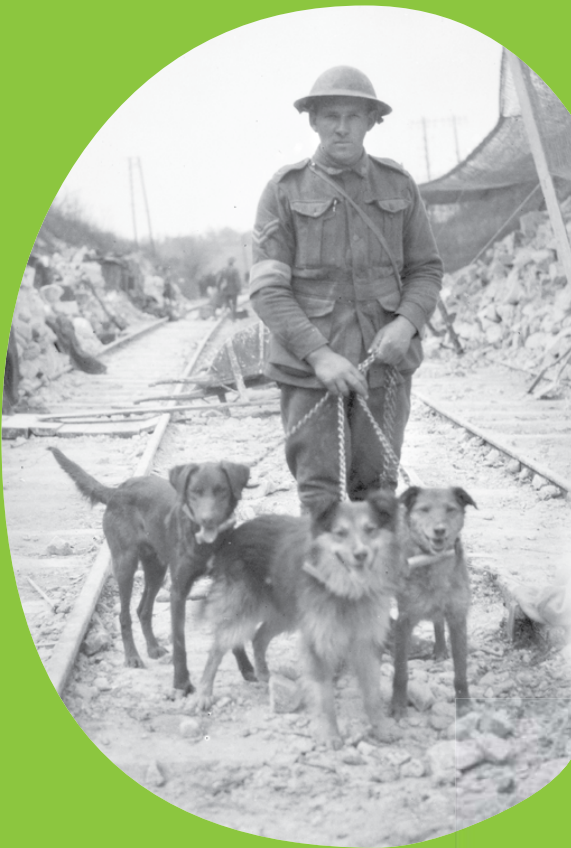
Have you heard the expression, "A man's best friend is his dog"? During wartime dogs also become soldiers, working as guards, messengers and life savers. What qualities do dogs have that make them suitable for these jobs?



▲ First World War, Gallipoli, 1915. Large dogs also did other jobs. These two have been harnessed to a cart, loaded with a machine-gun and ammunition.

During the First World War dogs were sometimes used to carry messages when wireless or telephone links failed. They could move quickly around the shell holes and through the trenches. They were trained to operate in the noise and chaos of battle.

▼ Second World War, Australia, 1943. This puppy is being cleaned up for the visit of General MacArthur, Commander in Chief of Allied forces in Australia.



▲ First World War, France, 1918. Corporal James Coull with Nell, Trick, and Bullet, three of the dogs from the 4th Division Signal Company. Can you see the message cylinders on their collars?

Dogs could never be completely relied on to get their messages through. Trick was a very efficient messenger. Bullet however, took eight minutes to deliver a message one day, and a few days later was gone for 19 hours!

What things may distract a dog from delivering his message?

▲ Second World War, New Guinea, 1944. Sister Moxham with Rinte.



is for dog

A dog's sense of smell is hundreds of times more sensitive than a human's. Humans can smell a pot of stew. If they could talk, dogs could tell you all the ingredients in it!





Strange but true!

Vietnam, 1967. Corporal Griggs holds an unusual looking dog. Everybody who saw it was baffled by its appearance. What animal does it look more like?

During the Vietnam War, dogs were trained as trackers. They were taken into the jungle, sometimes being winched down from a helicopter, to try to locate enemy soldiers and their hideouts.

Vietnam War, Vietnam, 1968. Private Bob Hunter is led through the jungle by tracker dog Milo in search of the enemy.



Things to do...

Make a list of all the other jobs dogs have in our community. Can you name five?

Horrie's story: Part One

Horrie was a white Egyptian terrier puppy, found in the Western Desert in North Africa by Private Jim Moody one day in 1941. Jim was a despatch* rider in the 2/1st Machine-Gun Battalion. While out delivering messages on his motor bike, he came across the hungry little dog, chasing lizards.

Jim smuggled him back to camp, and Horrie, with his cheeky grin and friendly manner, was soon adopted by the entire battalion. He went on patrols and parades with the men, and was promoted to corporal and given the service number EX1 (No. 1 Egyptian soldier). He remained very faithful to Jim, even sleeping at the foot of his camp str. When the soldiers left Africa and moved to Greece, he travelled in Jim's kitbag.

Private Moody and his mates soon discovered that not only was Horrie a great mate, but he had a vital, lifesaving ability as well. His super-sensitive, doggy hearing meant he could hear aircraft approaching before the men could. Not only that, he would start barking in a particular way if the incoming aircraft were German, giving the men time to take cover fr their enemies.

Life was not always easy for the little war dog. When the soldiers left Greece, their ship was sunk, and Horrie only narrowly escaped being crushed between two life boats.

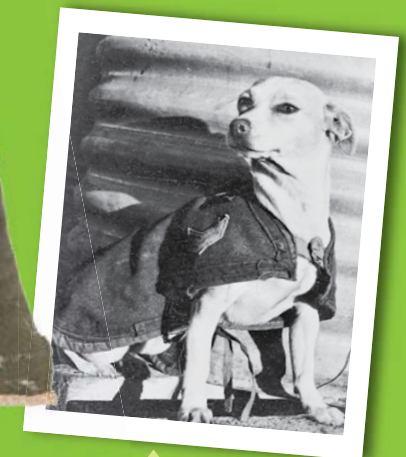


Second World War, Syria, 1941. Horrie standing on a fuel can wearing his Corporals' uniform.

During another evacuation, this time fr Crete, Horrie was wounded by shrapnel in a



Second World War, Palestine, 1943. Horrie's coat was lined with a scarf for extra warmth. Find the two corporal's chevrons, the ribbon bar for the Africa Star campaign medal, and the triangular battalion colour patch.



Second World War, 1942. Imshi. Her name comes from an Arab word meaning "Go away".

Imshi, another white Egyptian terrier, was the mascot for 2/1st Anti-Tank Regiment. She cheered him up a lot, and it is said he made a remarkable recovery from an illness when she arrived one day and licked him on the nose!

In 1942, the war changed in a big way for Australians!

... to be continued.

(see the end of Horrie's story later)



First World War, Germany, 1916. This gas mask, lined with rabbit fur, was worn by a German army messenger dog.

All soldiers wear two identity tags. They are known as "dog tags." Does that make mine a dog human-tag?



In order to do their jobs, animals use various pieces of equipment. Some of these things have changed and improved over time.

is for



Second World War, New Guinea, 1944. A member of the pigeon section demonstrates how to place a message in the special capsule attached to the pigeon's leg.



Second World War, 1945. This fold-up pigeon basket is designed to be carried on a soldier's back.



Second World War, New Guinea, 1944. Members of the pigeon company cared for their birds in these lofts in New Guinea. Each one had to be constructed when the army base was set up.

Things to do... Cut out a strip of thin paper, about 2 cm by 10 cm. How much information can you write on it? Try writing a special message for someone, then roll it up tight and "fly" over and deliver it!





Vietnam War, Vietnam, 1966. This aluminium identity tag belonged to Caesar, a member of the Combat Tracking team with the Australian Task Force. He was from NSW and was the third dog taken into the army in 1966.

On their collars, dogs wore an identity disk giving their name and number. Often their handlers attached other items to show the kind of service given by the dog. Sometimes the dog was even given a rank.



First World War, 1917, France. The dog collar for Spot, mascot of 8 Battalion AIF*. Can you see the Rising Sun badge (worn by members of the Australian Army), the red and white colour patch of the 8 Battalion* AIF, a brass "A" for ANZAC*, a brass stripe denoting a war wound has been received, a piece of blue and white ribbon from a Military Cross, and a brass officer's pip?

Vietnam War, Vietnam, 1967. Caesar on parade with his handler, Private Haran. Do you think the parade commander has been speaking for a little too long?

As technology improved, dogs could be used in new ways. During the Vietnam War, dogs were responsible for locating enemy soldiers and their bases, sometimes hidden in the jungle. These highly trained dogs could often sniff out the enemy, long before the soldiers on patrol were even aware they were in danger.

equipment

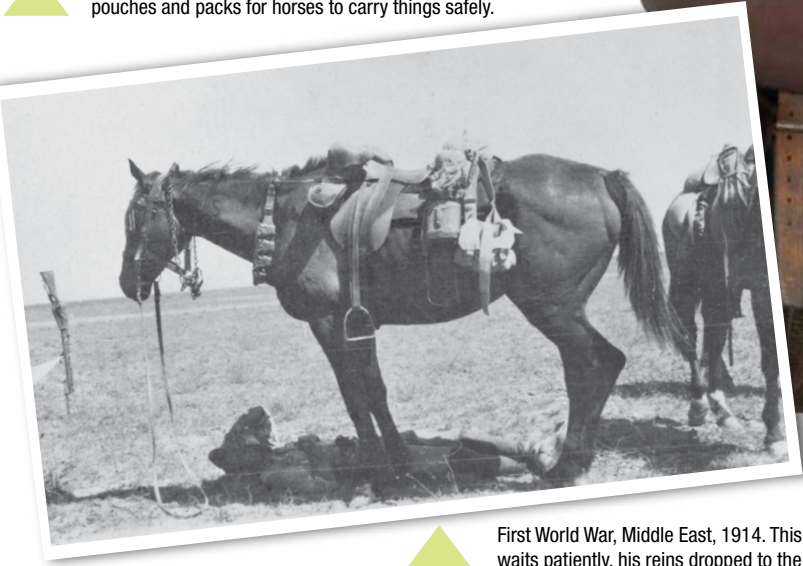


Second World War, Australia, 1943. Saddlers make all types of pouches and packs for horses to carry things safely.



This is the 1912 Universal pattern leather saddle used by soldiers.

Tack is the term used to describe any of the bits of equipment worn by horses. The horse had to carry all of its own equipment, and everything needed by the rider, as well as the rider!



First World War, Middle East, 1914. This horse waits patiently, his reins dropped to the ground, but where is the rider?

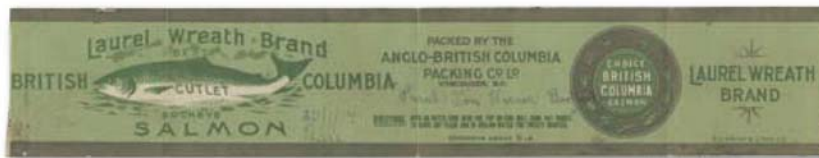
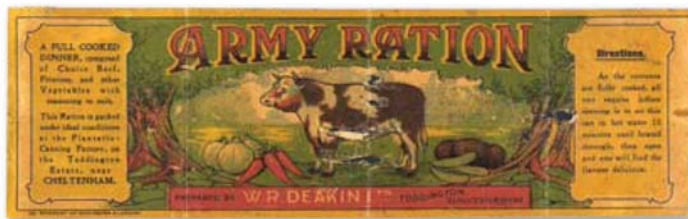
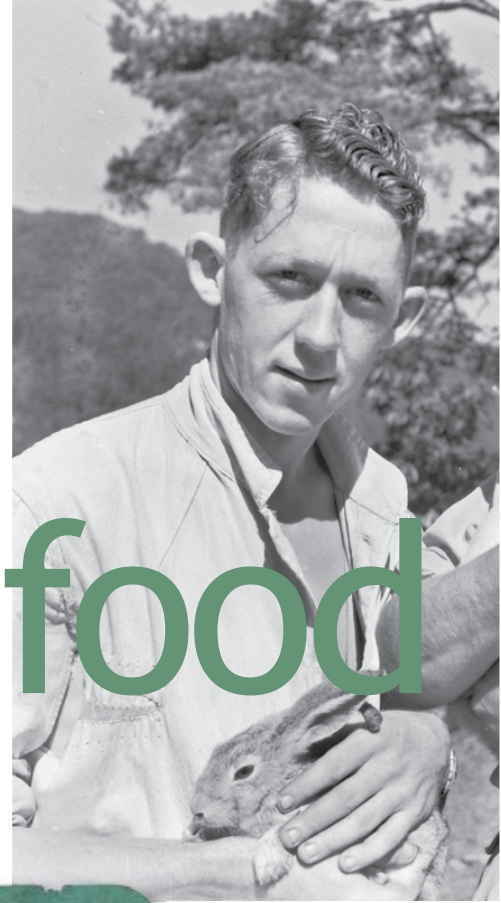
Strange but true!

ed these pigeon



Animals need food to survive, but so do humans. Most of the soldiers' food came from tins when fresh food was in short supply.

is for food



Imagine trying to feed thousands of soldiers on the front line during the First World War. Can you work out what's on the menu from these cans of food?



First World War.
C. H. Gould, *Extracts from Intelligence Report*.
These soldiers are roasting pigeons for their dinner. Homing pigeons were protected, and there were rules against the shooting of any pigeons during the war, just in case they were carrying vital information.



Second World War, Rabaul, 1945. A shipment of sheep sent to provide fresh meat for the troops in New Guinea. Are there more than 100 sheep?



First World War, Palestine, 1918. A Light Horse fodder dump.



Fodder is another word for food that is used for animals. It can include grains, leaves and stalks. When animals such as horses are used in war, they cannot roam around looking for grass. Their food has to be provided. During the First World War, around 120,000 horses were taken overseas. If each horse needed one bale of hay per week, how many hay bales would be needed to feed 10,000 horses for a month?

Post Second World War, Japan, 1948. These rabbits are not pets. They will shortly become rabbit stew.

Second World War, New Guinea, 1944. Soldiers working in tropical locations sometimes had the luxury of fresh seafood for dinner.

Strange but true!

Pigeons will eat almost anything. They have only 37 taste buds, while you have about 9,000! The army ration for pigeons working in the tropics during the Second World War included maple peas, wheat, rice, canary seed, linseed, oats, and Milo!



First World War, 1915. There is an expression, "putting on the nosebag." This is one; a canvas bag filled with horse feed, which is pulled up over the horse's nose and tied over its head so that it can eat. The bag can be attached to the saddle to carry the feed as well.

Things to do...

1. Find a piece of calico fabric and try making your own "feed" bag. Make it the same size as the horse feed bag, 78 cm high, 38 cm wide, and 17 cm deep. Work out how much fabric you will need. Remember, there are four sides.
2. List all the food you eat in a day. How many items have come from an animal?
3. Make a batch of Anzac biscuits to share with your friends.

Members of the Pigeon Corps trained their birds to return to the lofts by shaking tins of peas. Food was used as a reward.

Second World War, 1945. Do you think this working bird has become a pet as well?





The RSPCA Purple Cross awarded to Murphy the donkey. The certificate reads; "For all the donkeys used by John Simpson Kirkpatrick, for all the exceptional work they performed on behalf of humans while under continual fire at Gallipoli during the First World War."

is for

Australian soldiers landed on the beach at Gallipoli in Turkey on 25 April 1915. It was a place of steep, rugged cliffs, and rough, narrow tracks. The Gallipoli donkeys were walking ambulances and have become some of the most well-known animals from the First World War.



A male donkey is called a jack, and a female donkey is called a jenny. Have you heard someone called a jackass? What do you think that means?



First World War, 1915. Private Simpson's identity disk.

Simpson was born John Simpson Kirkpatrick in 1892, in England. As a young man he joined the merchant navy and travelled the world, but "jumped ship" in Australia in 1910. When the First World War broke out, he enlisted as a soldier in Perth, but fearing that he would get into trouble for deserting his ship five years before, he called himself John Simpson.

United Kingdom, date unknown. John Simpson as a young boy.

First World War, Turkey, 1915. Anzac Cove, Gallipoli.



Donkeys are smaller than horses, with short legs, big heads and long ears, but they are well suited to hot, rugged environments. They are sure footed and can travel quickly over rocky country, even when weighed down with a heavy load.

A number of donkeys were brought to Gallipoli to help with transport, as horses could not be used on the steep hillsides. Water, ammunition, and supplies all had to be moved from the beach at Anzac Cove to the men in the trenches. Animals and men found the noise and confusion of the battle very frightening.



First World War, Western Australia, Members of the 3rd Field Ambulance Australian Medical Corps, before lea Gallipoli. Can you see Jack smiling for the camera? (He's not wearing a hat.)

First World War, Australia, 1914. Colonel Sutton's Red Cross armband, said to have been worn by Murphy the donkey.

Gallipoli donkeys

The Turkish soldiers watching from the cliffs above opened fire with machine-guns and rifles, and many Anzacs* were killed or wounded as they came ashore.

Men from the Medical Corps ran out of stretchers to carry the casualties. Sometimes they had to hoist wounded soldiers over their shoulders.

Private John Simpson Kirkpatrick, (known as Jack), a stretcher-bearer with the 3rd Field Ambulance, came up with a plan to help. He found a donkey sheltering in a scrubby gully. Tossing a blanket over its back for a saddle and tying a halter made from bandages around its neck, Jack soon had a four-legged ambulance. He named him Murphy.

From then on, the pair worked tirelessly each day from dawn until well into the night, travelling up and down the rocky hillsides, retrieving the wounded. It was dangerous work for Murphy, dodging gun shots and shellfire. Beside him, Jack softly whistled and sang, reassuring the donkey and his patient as they headed for the beach. On the return trip, Murphy carried fresh water back for the men.

Sometimes, Jack and Murphy visited the camp of an Indian artillery unit. There Murphy enjoyed catching up with his mates, the mules used to transport supplies. The Sikh gunners named him "Bahadur", which means "the bravest of the brave". Duffy, Abdul and Queen Elizabeth were the names of some of the other donkeys Jack used.

Colonel Sutton, the commanding officer of the 3rd Field Ambulance, took his Red Cross armband and tied it around Murphy's forehead. He had become an official member of the unit.

On 19 May 1915, tragedy struck. As Jack and Murphy made their way along a track, bringing in yet another wounded soldier, there was a loud crack of gunfire. Private Simpson fell dead beside his donkey. Nearby soldiers discovered

their mate, and news of his death spread quickly down the line.

Murphy barely stopped. He continued on his way, plodding down the valley on the well-worn track to the hospital below. Later that day, Jack was buried near the beach at a place called Hell Spit.

In just 24 days, Jack and his donkey had rescued many wounded men.

But what happened to the little donkey?

Some say he was taken by Private Richard Henderson of New Zealand, who continued to use him to retrieve the wounded. Others say that he became a pet of the Indian artillery men, and they took him with them when all the soldiers were evacuated from Gallipoli in December 1915.

Perhaps he was released from service when the soldiers left and he lived out his days roaming the scrubby hillsides of Gallipoli, peaceful again, now the guns of war were silent.



First World War, 1915, Gallipoli. Private Simpson with his donkey and a patient.



First World War, Gallipoli, 1915. Private Richard Henderson of New Zealand, who continued Simpson's work with the donkeys.



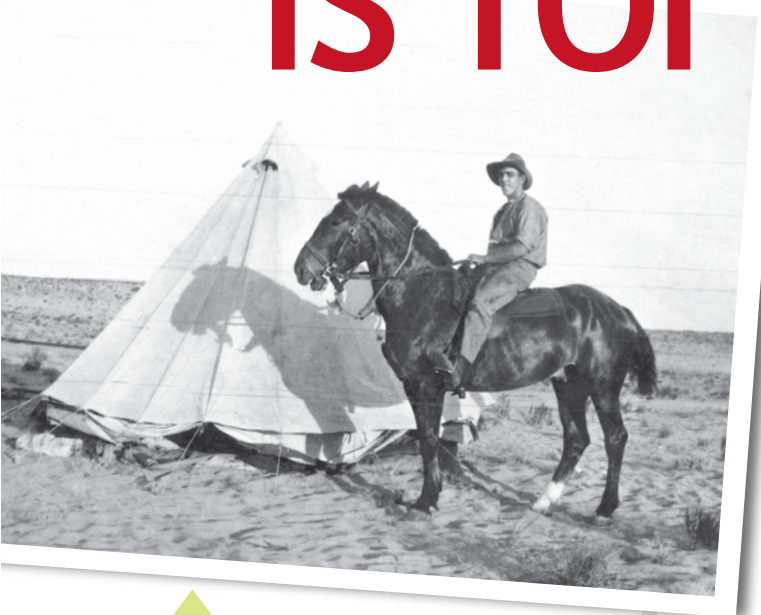
First World War, Palestine, 1918. Horses tethered by lead and heel ropes on the picket lines in camp. Can you see the fly veils on their heads and the nose bags for their feed?



First World War, Jerusalem, 1918. An Australian Light Horse regiment on the move.

Horses have been used in war for thousands of years. Warriors in ancient civilisations charged into battle in horse drawn chariots. Medieval knights dressed their horses in armour for protection from spears and arrows. Later, cavalymen armed with swords and lances thundered towards each other on horseback. The stories of the Australian Light Horse continued this heroic tradition.

is for horse



First World War, Egypt, 1918. Men camped in bell tents close to their horses. Each tent slept eight men, feet towards the centre like the spokes of a wheel.

Australian horses were sent overseas from the 1830s onwards. Around 40,000 served with Australian troopers in the Boer War in South Africa. Before the First World War, the Light Horse regiments* were formed. They were mounted infantry,* who galloped close to a battle, then dismounted and fought on foot. They gained a reputation as a tough and courageous force.

The smallest unit of a Light Horse regiment was the four-man section. One soldier held the reins of four horses, while the other three soldiers went forward to fight. The horse handler had a dangerous job, as enemy aircraft could target him.

120,000 Australian horses were sent overseas during the First World War, many to the Middle East.

Why did the pony cough?

Because he was a little hoarse!



Many young men, especially from country areas volunteered to join up in Light Horse brigades.* Quite often, these recruits brought their own horses. Some volunteers were indigenous Australians who possessed natural tracking abilities and horse handling skills.

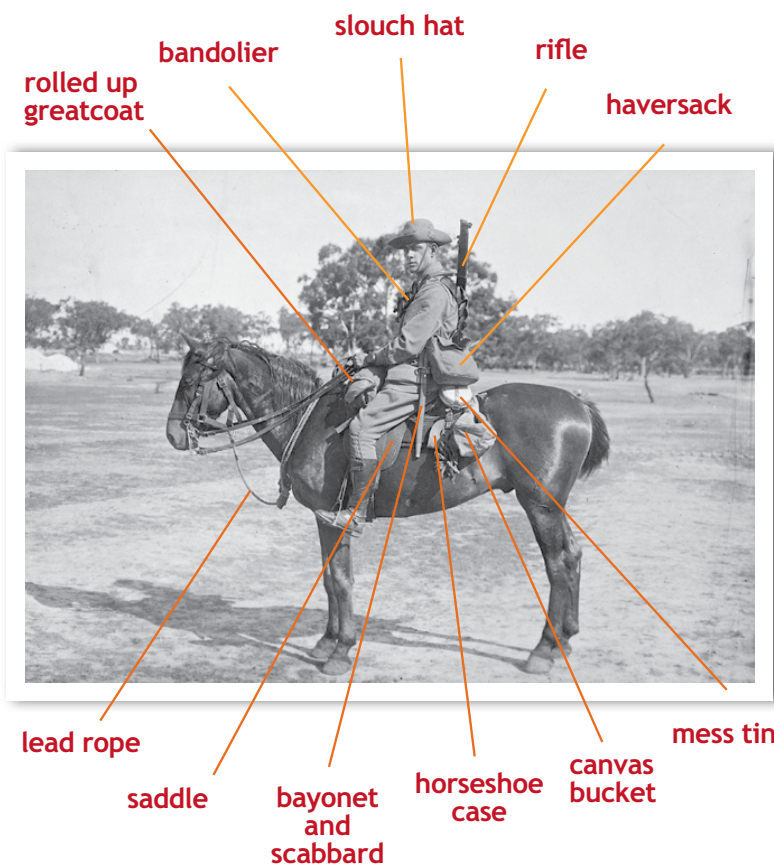


ART103690

First World War.
Henry Woolcott, *Typical light horse.*

Originally recruited from New South Wales, the horses were known as walers. From then on, even when other states in Australia sent horses, they were still known as walers.

They were medium-sized, tough, bush horses, able to carry heavy loads and travel long distances. Usually, a horse needs to drink about 30 litres of water each day. Sometimes the walers in the Middle East had to go for two or three days without a drink, while carrying a rider and equipment weighing 120kg or more on their back.



The last great charge!

Late in the afternoon, on 31 October 1917, Australian Light Horsemen charged into battle for the last time. Men from the 4th and 12th regiments, about 800 in all, had already travelled for 50 kms, and the horses had not been watered for more than a day.

The town of Beersheba lay ahead, controlled by Turkish soldiers with artillery* and machine-guns. The charge must succeed, or the horses and men would die from dehydration.

The horsemen formed up, and moved off, each squadron* in three long lines. The walk turned to a trot, then a canter. Then, in a thunderous gallop, the soldiers descended on the Turks, yelling wildly with bayonets* drawn. There was no dismounting this time! Many leapt over the Turkish trenches, and captured the enemy's guns. Such a terrifying sight frightened the Turkish soldiers, and their gunfire went off course.

In less than an hour, Beersheba had been captured. It took thousands of litres of water to quench the thirst of the horses and riders at Beersheba after the battle. Of the 800 men who rode in this last great charge, 31 lost their lives, along with about 70 horses. For many years after, people continued to talk of the charge at Beersheba, and how the walers saved the day.

"It was the horses that did it, those marvellous horses. Where would we have been without them?" said one trooper.

Strange but true!

Men from Light Horse brigades were sent to Gallipoli in 1915 but without their horses, as the hills and gullies around Anzac Cove were too rough and steep.



First World War, Belgium, 1917. How many horses and soldiers were needed to pull this wagon from the muddy ditch?

Most of the First World War was fought in long trench lines, extending through France and Belgium for hundreds of kilometres. This battle zone was known as the Western Front. Weapons, like machine-guns and grenades, made this a terrible place for horses.

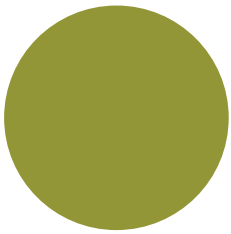
Charles Bean, the official Australian war correspondent, wrote in his diary, "The poor old things were covered with dry mud, their tails clotted with it, their eyes blinking at you through it."

In the Second World War, many Light Horse units were changed into armoured vehicle and tank regiments. Horses went on patrol along narrow jungle tracks searching for missing aircraft or delivering supplies to troops.

Today the Royal Australian Armoured Corps carries on the traditions of the original Light Horse Brigade.



Vietnam, 1965. A modern "work horse" being airlifted into battle.



Second World War, Australia, 1942. Here is one form of fly protection.

Not all animals are useful to humans. Some make life uncomfortable, and some are dangerous or even life threatening. Australians have had to deal with many annoying “mini-beasts” during wartime.

T is for insect

Australian soldiers have often travelled to war by ship. In the Second World War one young sailor aboard HMAS *Westralia* wrote,

The ship was a haven for cockroaches. When opening our lockers, dozens of the dirt devils scattered for cover and they left their mark on everything. They crawled over sleeping sailors, peering into ears and noses, and I once saw a cockroach drawn into the mouth of a heavy snorer who never knew what he had swallowed!
Stoker Jack Searle

The Anzacs arrived on Gallipoli at the start of a hot, dry summer in 1915. The swarms of flies everywhere reminded the soldiers of summers back home. But these flies bred in their millions. Open pit toilets, animal manure, and unburied bodies provided them with an ideal breeding ground. They spread diseases like dysentery* and enteric fever* quickly, and many sick men had to be evacuated; some even died.

During the Second World War and later conflicts, Australians fighting in the tropical jungles north of Australia were constantly in danger from malaria-carrying mosquitoes. Soldiers serving in Vietnam had to take anti-malaria tablets three times a day, and could get into serious trouble if they didn't. Why do you think this was a punishable offence?

UN peacekeeping, Rwanda, 1995. These Australian soldiers are dipping their entire uniform in a tub of insect repellent.

Second World War, Egypt, 1942. Swatting flies in the desert.

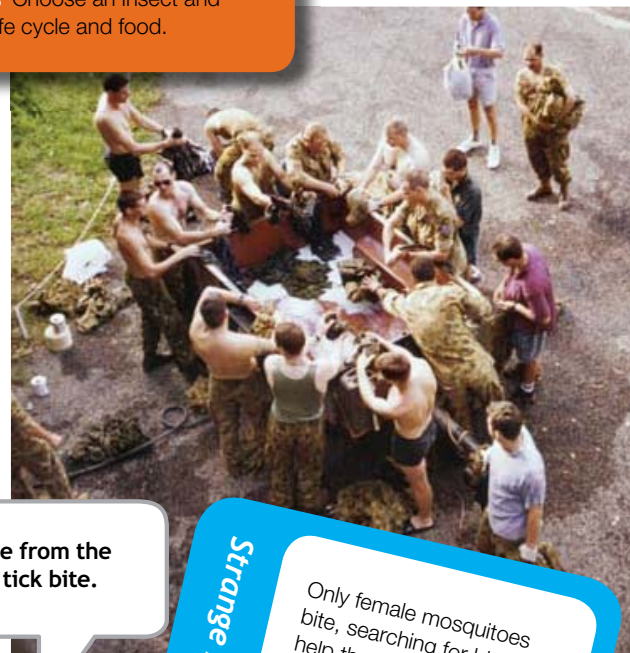


Second World War, Australia, 1944. Sister Cliff discovered this insect hiding in the Christmas decorations in the hospital ward. Can you work out what it is?

Things to do... Choose an insect and research it. Find out its habitat, life cycle and food.



Second World War, Australia, 1943. This is an early form of mosquito repellent. What might be a problem for soldiers wearing this when they are out on patrol? (Think about the smell!) What are some of the insect repellents we can use today?



Dogs can die from the poison of a tick bite.



Strange but true!

Only female mosquitoes help them develop eggs. The word “mosquito” is Spanish for “little fly”.



Australians have become skilful jungle fighters, but wild animals, hidden in the dense rainforests, have sometimes posed a serious threat.



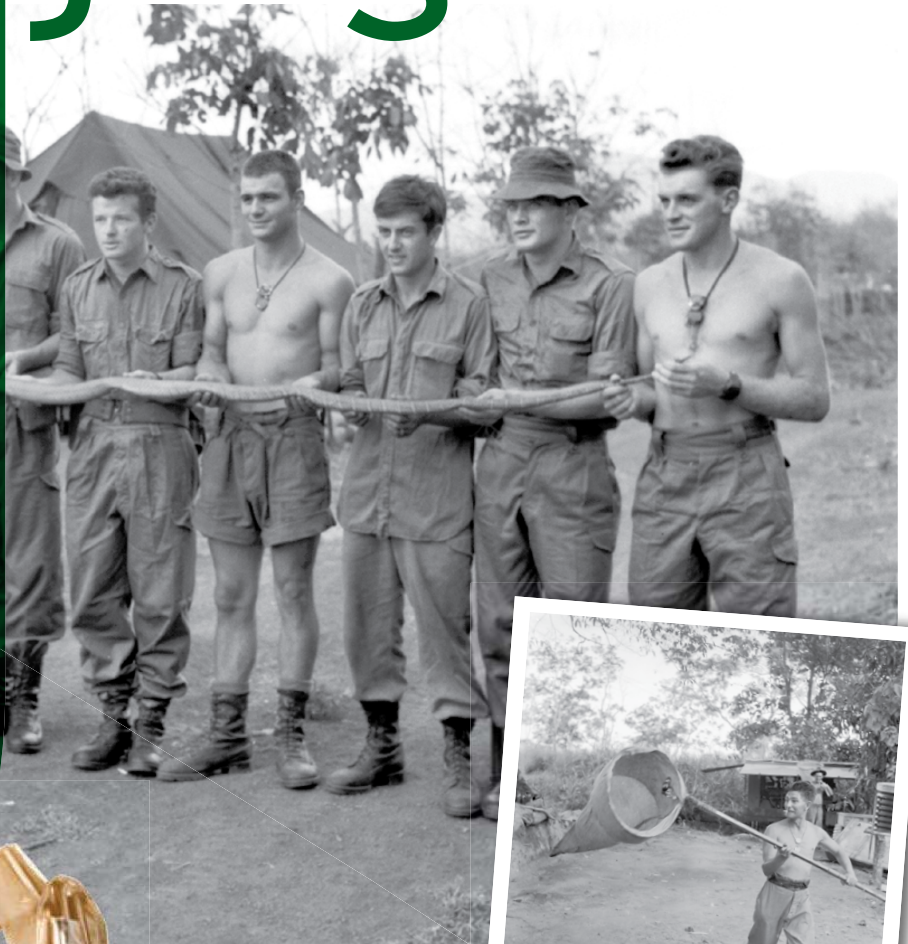
Vietnam War, Nui Dat, 1966. This tiny monkey looks harmless. What would you call him?

Vietnam War, 1967. The extreme heat and humidity in the jungle can make life difficult for working animals serving there too. Justin gets a cool-down after being on patrol tracking the enemy known as the Viet Cong.

is for jungle



Vietnam War, Nui Dat, 1967. This king cobra wanted to share a tent with the soldiers. They claim it is the largest ever captured by the Army. Can you work out how long the snake is?



Second World War, New Guinea, 1943. The jungle is also home to many exotic butterflies. This airman has made a very large net to collect jungle specimens. Sometimes they were used in accessories. Can you guess what these decorative items are?





First World War, Egypt, 1914. Many Australian units brought animals from home to Egypt. They could not be brought back when the war ended, so were donated to the Cairo Zoo. In the 1950s, it was said to have had the largest collection of Australian native animals outside Australia!

is for kangaroo

Native animals came to symbolise national pride for Australians overseas during wartime. Like the soldiers, some of them travelled a long way from home.



During the Second World War, a group of Australian nurses were taken prisoner by the Japanese in The Netherlands East Indies (now known as Indonesia). Every morning in the prisoner of war camp, they were ordered to bow to the Japanese flag hanging on a pole in the camp yard. How do you think they felt about that?

One day they came up with a plan. They hand stitched Josephine, a small kangaroo, only about 30 cm tall. The Japanese guards gave them permission to place Josephine on top of the flag pole. From then on, when ordered to bow to the Japanese flag, the nurses knew they were really bowing to their home country, symbolised by little Josephine.

What do you call a baby kangaroo that doesn't get out much?
A pouch potato!



First World War, England. An Australian nurse with food for Jimony, the pet kangaroo.



First World War, England, 1915. Soldiers recovering in a British hospital built a snow kangaroo.

Things to do... Try making your own Josephine out of cardboard or fabric. Make each of the body parts separately, stuff them with cotton wool, and then sew or glue them together.



World War, 1916. Corporal John Maher's canvas kitbag, painted with a kangaroo and an emu as they appear on the Australian coat of arms.* He may have even painted it when on the troopship on his way to Europe.

Second World War, Australia, 1943. Flying Officer John Venning was on board a troop train, heading for Perth. It stopped to take on water on the Nullarbor Plain in central Australia. There he bought a kangaroo from Aboriginal wood carvers. Children's toys became quite scarce in Australia during the war, so he gave it to his children, Lorraine and Keith.



and koala

Like kangar koalas were smuggled overseas, hidden in soldiers' tunics and back-packs.

Australia, 1980. The kangaroo has become symbolic of Australia. This is the patch for a section of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF). Who is sitting on the kangaroo's back?

Things to do...

- Listen to the song "T Down, Sport" by Rolf Harris.
- How many clubs or sporting teams can you find that use an Australian animal as part of their name? For example, the Wallabies.
- Design a poster using native fauna* to promote the area you live in.

First World War, Egypt, 1916. Patients in an Australian hospital with their nurse and her furry friend.



Second World War, Australia, 1940. These soldiers are on the wharf in Sydney waiting to board a ship bound for the Middle East. This rather large toy koala is going along for the ride as well. Would it make a good pillow?

Vietnam War, South Vietnam, 1970. Why do you think Jim Blundell has tied the little toy koala to his field radio?



First World War, France, 1917. Meet Jackie the guard rooster. His soldier mates brought him to France from Egypt when he was just a chicken. He proved to be a better guard than a dog, flapping and pecking at any stranger who came too close.



Second World War, England, 1940. RAAF* pilots sometimes took carrier pigeons with them on flights as an emergency measure, in case their communication systems failed.

Animals help to save lives during wartime. Some have carried emergency messages; others have tracked down enemy camps and weapons. Animals with sharp ears have alerted soldiers to approaching attacks, and others with strong backs have carried wounded soldiers to safety.



Second World War, Darwin, 1942. Gunner the kelpie was just a puppy when Darwin was attacked by enemy aircraft. In the chaos and destruction that followed, Gunner suffered a broken leg. Percy Westcott took care of him and adopted him. Later, Gunner repaid the favour, by alerting Percy and his mates when Japanese aircraft were approaching. Long before the air raid sirens sounded, Gunner would get very excited and head for shelter.

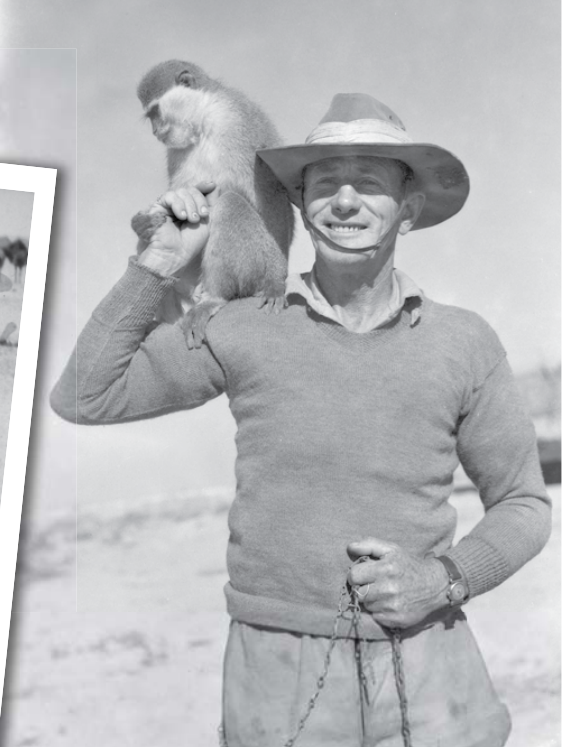


First World War, Palestine, 1918. Many soldiers taught their horses to lie down. This protected the horse, and provided a safer place for soldiers to take cover. Men were very upset if their horse was shot or wounded, and then put down.

is for



First World War, Egypt, 1916. This camel is an ambulance on legs. What sort of a ride do you think these wounded soldiers would have had?



Second World War, Africa, 1942. Smiler the monkey had good hearing. He could tell the difference between friendly planes and enemy planes. His soldier mates knew it was time to take cover when Smiler dived into a trench.



First World War, 1916. This was the lifesaving, medical equipment carried by the Light Horse Field Ambulance medics. The pouch was carried on the soldier's belt.

lifesaver

Vietnam War, Vietnam, 1967. These dogs and their handlers are running towards a helicopter to get a ride back to base. They have been tracking the enemy through the jungle.

Dogs can hear things four times further away than humans can. Our ears move in different directions to help us.





is for mascots

▲ Vietnam War, South Vietnam, 1968. Denton the Dynamic Duckling was found in a house which had been destroyed during fighting. Australian soldiers took him into their care, and from then on he travelled with them on patrol in their tank.

Mascots are supposed to bring you good luck. Many Australian military units have chosen an animal to represent them as their mascot. Often the animals and the servicemen and women became great mates.



▲ Second World War, New Guinea, 1942. Sister Wallace with Peter Fox.



▲ Second World War, Papua, 1942. "Garbage Guts" is an expression given to people who will eat anything. Tilly the goat loved to eat cigarette butts from the ground whenever she saw them. Do you think this would be a good nickname for her?



First World War, England. Jimony poses with the brass band at Harefield, an Australian hospital.

How many mascots can you see?



and mates



Second World War, Queensland, 1944. Zog the marsupial possum tickles Corporal Byng as he crawls down her arm.



Second World War, Libya, 1941. Corporal Buzz, the RAAF's No. 3 Squadron mascot, takes a break, while his friend catches up on the news.



Second World War, Palestine, 1940. Tim the turtle with Captain Michelson.

Things to do...

If you had to choose an animal mascot for your school, what would it be? Why?



Second World War, Northern Australia, 1943. RAAF* mascot Min gets ready for an air raid, complete with tin hat and turtle shell shield.



Second World War, Australia, 1943. A cat called Aircrew, mascot of the RAAF flying training school. His collar badge with double wings is normally worn by pilots.



First World War. The mascot of HMAS *Encounter* in the muzzle of a large ship's gun.

is for navy cats

Cats have been on board warships for hundreds of years.

Their job was to catch mice, rats, and other pests, and to protect the sailors' food supplies from being eaten. A ship's cat was thought to bring good luck to a voyage, and some sailors even believed that cats had miraculous powers that could protect ships from bad weather. Navy cats became ships' mascots, and provided comfort to sailors who were away from home for a long time.



First World War, 1916. Soldiers and nurses on board the troopship *Demosthenes*, bound for England. Can you spot the cat?



Post Second World War, 1949. HMAS *Sydney's* mascots; Shrapnel the dog and Salvo the cat. Do you think these two were mates?



Red Lead

In early 1942, HMAS *Perth* and its crew of over 600 men were patrolling the oceans around Australia. When docked in Fremantle, they took on an extra passenger; a kitten called Red Lead. There were many exciting nooks and crannies for the inquisitive little cat to explore, but curling up in Captain Waller's cabin was her favourite pastime.

At the end of February, *Perth* joined a fleet of British, Dutch, and American ships in a fierce sea battle with the Japanese. Red Lead took cover in the captain's cabin as the noise of guns and explosions raged around the ship. The fleet was outnumbered, and one by one the Allied* ships were crippled, sunk, or forced to withdraw.

Perth made it safely back to the harbour, but Red Lead had had enough. It was time to find another home. Stealthily, she crept down the gangway.* A sharp-eyed sailor spotted her, and returned her to the deck. Later, Red Lead tried to escape again. And again. Three times the cat tried to make a getaway but each time she was returned. Some superstitious sailors believed this was a bad omen for future voyages.

The next day, the ship went on patrol again, and met a large fleet of Japanese ships. After a desperate battle, *Perth* was sunk. Over 350 men, including Captain Waller and one little ship's cat, went down with the ship.



Second World War, Australia, 1942.
Dennis Adams, HMAS *Perth*.

ART26927



Second World War, 1941.
Some of *Perth's* crew.

Strange but true!

Cats have very sensitive inner ears. Because of this they have excellent balance, able to land on all fours when falling. This sensitivity also allows them to detect even slight changes in the weather. An approaching storm often makes cats nervous or restless.

When real cats were no longer taken on board ships, for reasons of hygiene and quarantine, sailors continued the tradition of the ship's cat with soft toy animals.



Vietnam War, 1967. Felix the Cat became the unofficial mascot for HMAS *Brisbane* when it saw duty in the Vietnam War, and then the war in the Persian Gulf in 1990.

What is white, sweet, has whiskers, and floats on the ocean?

A catameringue !



HMAS *Darwin*, 2002. This ship needed urgent repairs, (reported as an URDEF-urgent defect) on its way to the war in the Persian Gulf. Commander Ingram was frustrated by how long it was taking for help to come. One morning the sailors heard him say, "I'm going to my cabin to kick the ship's cat!" The officers gave the Commander this large toy lion to be the ship's cat. They named it URDEF, and it wore Commander Ingram's medal ribbons on its collar.

First World War, Australia, 1917. This lucky black cat bookmark was given to a soldier before he went overseas. The message with it said,

*I'm a lucky black cat
And hereby hangs a "tail"
I'll bring good luck to a soldier boy
If you'll send me by the mail.*



Where in the World?

Find where some of the animal stories took place.



South
America

Europe

Africa



Pigeon



Camel



Dog



Donkey



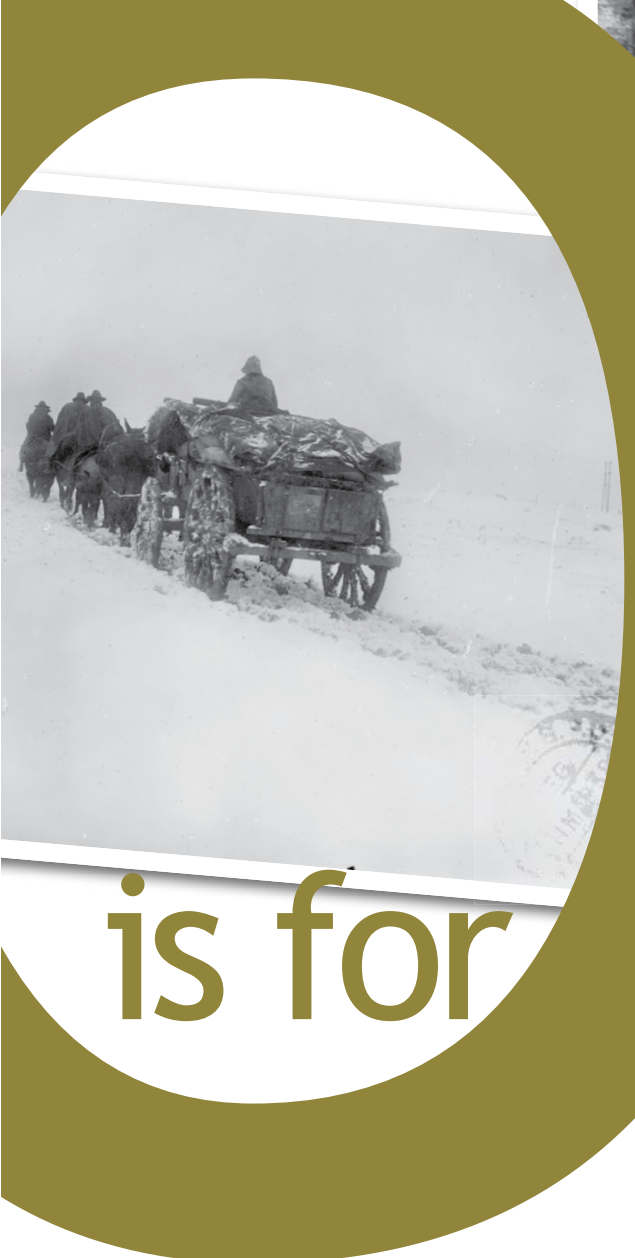
Horse



Kangaroo



Cat

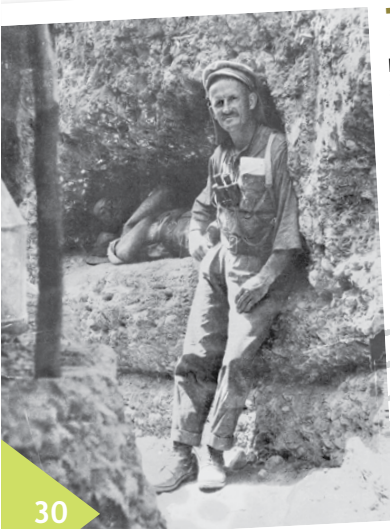


FRANCE

First World War, 1917. Which of these two environments would be more dangerous for the horses?

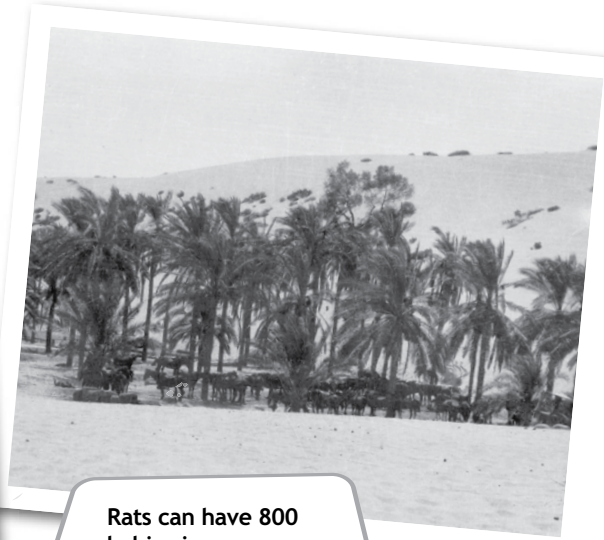
is for overseas operations

Men and women of Australia's armed forces have served in Australia, and in many countries overseas. The animals with them often found themselves in harsh environments, far from the comforts of home.



TURKEY

First World War, Gallipoli, 1915. Rats were an unwanted companion in the trenches of Gallipoli. They feasted on scraps and rotting food, and sometimes grew as big as cats. This sleeping soldier will probably share his dugout with them. What would he use as a pillow?



EGYPT

First World War. This oasis provided welcome protection from the heat of the desert for these walers.*

Rats can have 800 babies in a year.





LIBYA

Second World War, Libya, 1941. The Germans described the Australian soldiers at Tobruk as "caught like rats in a trap". Proud of their toughness, they took on the nickname Rats of Tobruk. Like real rats, they were hard to get rid of, and they often took shelter in tunnels and trenches when bombarded. When they could, they gathered up equipment and machinery that had belonged to the enemy. The Australians made souvenir medals for themselves in the shape of desert rats.



NEW GUINEA

Second World War, 1945. Local people worked with Australians to transport the carrier pigeons through the jungle.

BELGIUM

First World War, 1917. Two signallers head back to camp through the mud with their baskets of carrier pigeons.



AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan, 2008. The desert thorns and rocks can damage animals' paws, so dogs often wear protective doggy booties. Look at the red boots on this dog.



Things to do...

Can you find all of these places on a map?

NORTHERN AUSTRALIA

Second World War, 1943. These soldiers in Darwin had an animal parade at their beach carnival. There are five dogs, two goats, and one cat (in the box). Which one would you choose as the champion?



What happened when the owl lost its voice?
Nothing, he didn't give a hoot!



Second World War, Australia, 1943.
R. Malcolm Warner, *Those who talk don't know...* This poster reminded people of the dangers of talking about military information. Why do you think this could be a problem?

is for persuasion

Animals and people get quite attached, and this connection can make people feel very emotional. Pictures of animals were used to encourage Australians to get involved in the war effort. Persuading people in this way is known as propaganda.

How do the animals in these posters make you feel?
What are they trying to convince you to do?



Second World War, United Kingdom, 1939.
Artist unknown, *There's deadly danger in that bite!*
This poster warned against the danger of catching malaria. It gave details about where mosquitoes were found, and how to prevent malaria.

Things to do...

Design a poster to encourage your friends to complete a task. Choose an appropriate animal to get your message across. For example, "Clean up your mess", with pictures of pigs!



First World War, France, 1917.
G. Douanne, *Soignons la basse-cour* [Let us look after the farmyard].
Posters encouraged people in France to help in the war effort. The French words on this poster translate as: "Take care of the farmyard. I am a brave hen of war. I eat little and produce much."



Second World War, Australia, 1943.
Unknown, *How she'll prize your letters from overseas*. This poster was used to recruit soldiers into the Australian Imperial Force.



First World War, Australia, 1915.
P.S. Templeton, *Assisting Queensland's patriotic day*.
Kangaroos were often used to urge Australians to "hop to it" and help in the war effort. What country does the red fez hat represent?



Second World War, Palestine, 1942. Horrie in his travel pack.



Second World War, 1940. Jim's backpack used to transport Horrie back home.

Quarantine rules control which plants and animals are allowed to enter Australia. This is to stop the spread of disease. For this reason, very few wartime animals could be brought home.

is for

Horrie's story: Part Two

In 1941, Japan joined in the Second World War, and Australian servicemen were recalled from the war in Europe to defend their homeland. Private Jim Moody was one of them.

Quarantine regulations were very clear: no animals were to be brought back from overseas. But Jim could not part with his faithful friend. He would have to smuggle him home!

Jim adapted a canvas backpack, allowing access for food and water on the long trip. Horrie was taught to sit very still inside his new home as the soldiers boarded the troopship. During the long voyage to Australia, Jim kept him hidden in his cabin, way below deck. What a relief when the ship docked at Adelaide and Jim was able to hand over his precious, secret cargo to his dad.

Some other animals were not so lucky. Quarantine officers seized 21 dogs, 17 monkeys, three squirrels, a cat, a rabbit, and lots of birds from returning troopships. Many other soldiers had tried to smuggle their mates and mascots back home.

Horrie went to live in Melbourne with the Moody family, while Jim continued his life as a soldier in New Guinea. Mission complete ... or was it?

After the war, quarantine officials found out that Horrie had been smuggled home, and insisted the dog be handed over. Jim had another cunning plan. At an animal pound, he found a stray dog that looked remarkably like Horrie. He handed the look alike dog over to the authorities. The real Horrie lived out his life on a farm in Victoria, enjoying peace and freedom with Jim and his family, now that the war was over.



Vietnam War, South Vietnam, 1971. The tracker dogs used in Vietnam were not allowed to return to Australia. Suitable homes were found for all of them in Vietnam. Here Marcian is introduced to his new family in Saigon. How is his handler feeling?

Tracker dogs in Vietnam were often airlifted by helicopter into the patrol zone. They enjoyed the ride in the cool air, which gave them a break from the heat and humidity of the jungle.



Vietnam War, South Vietnam, 1969. Army tracker dog Justin receives a hug from Helen Porter. The Porter family of England took Justin on his retirement, after more than two years' service with the 1st Australian Task Force.



Second World War, 1945. By the end of the war, there were thousands of carrier pigeons in New Guinea. Because there were no appropriate food grains available for them there, they would have starved if they were released into the wild. The cost of transport, and quarantine rules, prevented them from coming back to Australia, so the birds were put down. A few bodies were returned for display at the Australian War Memorial.



Afganistan, 2008. The military working dogs currently serving overseas are allowed to return home. They are kept for at least four weeks in special quarantine stations when they return. These dogs are very valuable, worth up to \$30,000 when you add up the cost of training, transport, and food.

quarantine

At the end of the First World War, Australians in the Middle East and on the Western Front had to decide what to do with more than 20,000 horses. In France, Belgium and Britain the horses were sold to locals. In Egypt, donkeys and camels were more popular work animals, and many soldiers feared their horses would be mistreated if they were sold there. Commanders decided that some would be given away, and old or unfit horses would be destroyed. Their manes and tails were shorn, as horse hair could be sold, and their shoes removed. Then, under the care and guidance of veterinary officers, they were put down. Many light horsemen were very sad that the horses could not be returned to Australia.

First World War, 1919. George Lambert, *A favourite charger with groom, Anzac Mounted Division.*





Australia, 1966. These four veterans* took part in an Anzac Day* march in Melbourne. They all served with Light Horse regiments in the First World War. Can you see their medals?



Australia, 1946. Frank Fayer, a soldier whose sight was damaged in the First World War, marches in the Sydney Anzac Day march with his guide dog.

Thinking about the animals that died during wartime makes us sad. We can also feel proud and thankful that they worked hard to help save lives. At many memorials,* animals also help us to remember the people who have died in war.

is for remember

The Australian War Memorial in Canberra is the national memorial where people come to learn about and remember Australians who have served and died in wars. It holds stories, photographs, artworks, and objects. Many of these feature animals.

Things to do...

- Do you have a memorial in your town or suburb? What information is written on it? Why do you think remembering is important?
- Design your own national memorial to animals. What animals would you include? What words would you use? Make a miniature version using clay or plasticine.



Australia, 1988. Peter Corlett, *Simpson and his donkey*, 1915.



ART12510.001

Belgium, 1200-1300. These two lions, carved out of limestone over 700 years ago, guard the entrance to the Australian War Memorial. They originally sat either side of the road near the city gates of Ypres in Belgium. During the First World War, many Australian soldiers marched through the Menin Gate on their way to war, and many died trying to save that part of Belgium from enemy attacks. The lions were badly damaged during the fighting. After the war, in 1936, the local burgomaster* in Belgium gave them to the Australian War Memorial as a way of thanking Australia for the help that was given to his city during the war.

Strange but true!

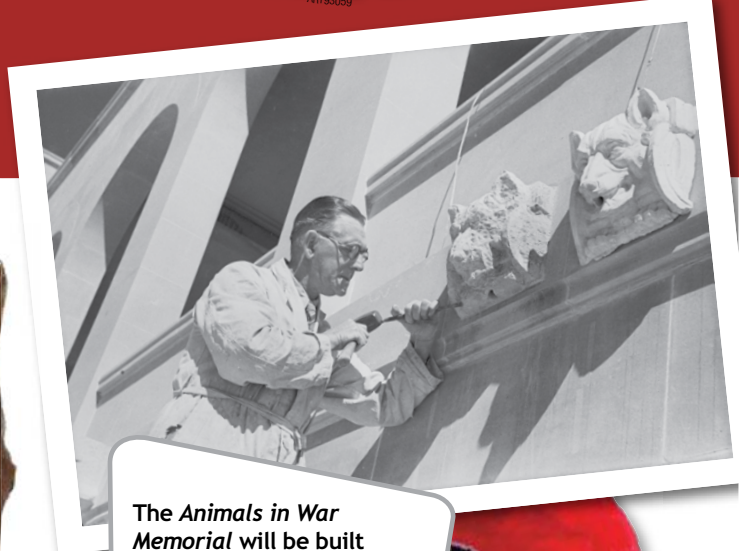
Sometimes, one horse with no rider is led at the head of an Anzac Day march, walking in front of the veterans. Riding boots are placed in the stirrups, but facing the wrong way. This is used to represent wars from which there are no longer any surviving veterans.

Sandstone sculptures line the walls of the Commemorative* Area at the Australian War Memorial. They were carved by a stonemason in 1940, and show many types of Australian fauna.* Match the name of the sculpture to the animals pictured below.



Frilled neck lizard, mopoke, koala, frog, platypus.

Canberra, ACT, 1941. Mr Swan, the sculptor, at work. He is copying from a plaster model.



The Animals in War Memorial will be built in the Sculpture Garden of the Australian War Memorial, in 2009.

Sandy, the horse who came home.

Major General William Bridges was the first commander of the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) and he took his horse Sandy with him on the long voyage by ship to Egypt in 1915. General Bridges went to Gallipoli, but within three weeks, he had been wounded, and later died. His body was sent back to Australia. Sandy was taken to France and continued to work there until the Australian government decided he should be brought home too. After months in a quarantine station in England, he finally reached Melbourne in 1918. He lived out his days quietly on a farm near Melbourne. Later, his head was mounted and displayed at the Australian War Memorial. He still wears the bridle that Lady Bridges gave to the General for Sandy, the horse with a star.



Australia, 1923. Sandy's head.



S is for symbol

Animals are a favourite symbol to represent military units.

These cloth patches represent army units from five states in Australia. They are South Australia, the Northern Territory, Tasmania, New South Wales and Western Australia. Can you work out which is which?



The animals on the Australian Coat of Arms were chosen for their strength and speed. Neither animal can move backwards. Can you name them? (Hint: Look on the back cover of this book)

Things to do...

Design a badge for your school. Include an animal in your design that you think best suits your area.





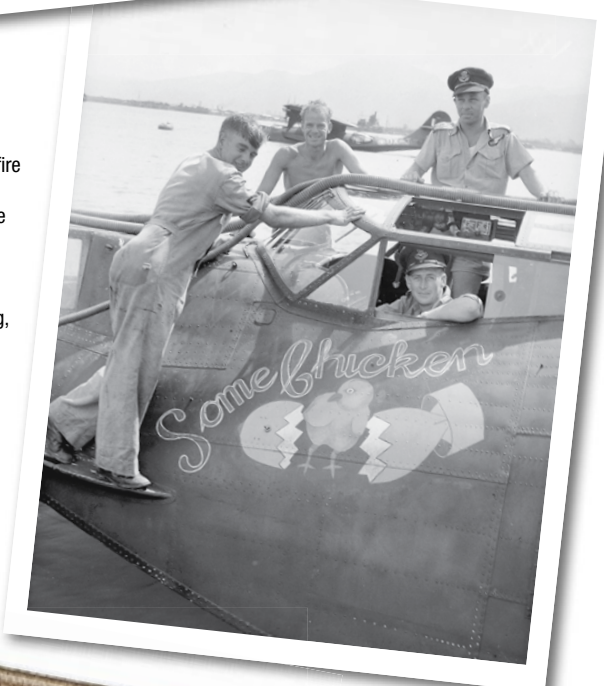
Second World War, Netherlands East Indies, 1945. No. 457 Spitfire Squadron adopted the fierce nose and jaws of the grey nurse shark as its symbol, and called themselves the Grey Nurse squadron. Here are some crew members with their mascot dog, Boomer.



Nose art

The pictures painted on the noses of aircraft often include animals. Sometimes these animals are shown attacking symbols representative of the enemy.

Second World War, England, 1944. This Lancaster bomber, X for X-ray, shows a fighting kangaroo on its nose. The miniature kangaroos behind it indicate how many operations it has flown. How many can you count?



Second World War, Australia, 1944. From what is the chicken hatching, on the nose of this flying boat?

Strange but true!

This badge was made by a soldier during the Second World War. He made it by cutting and drilling out a penny.*



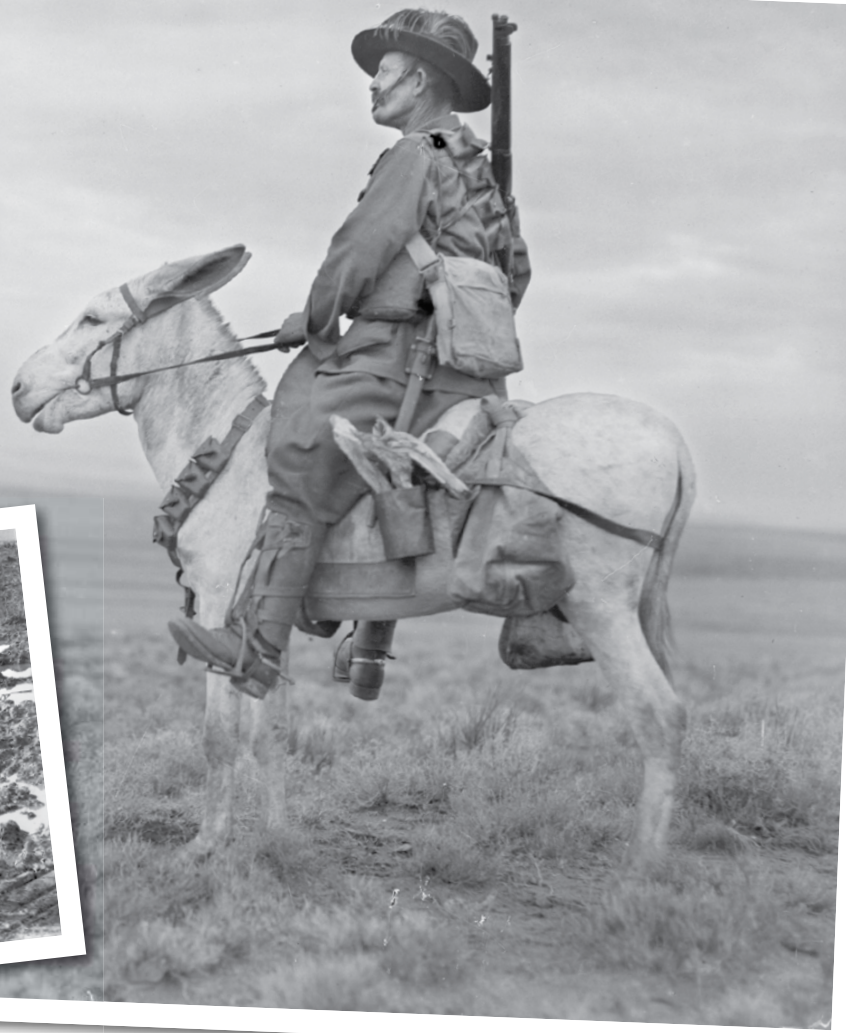
Joint Taskforce, Iraq, 2004. This embroidered arm badge signified members of the 2 Battalion Royal Australian Regiment during its service in Iraq. Soldiers stuck it onto their shirt with Velcro.



Peacekeeping, Solomon Islands, 2001. Soldiers from Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and Vanuatu worked together towards keeping the peace on the Solomon Islands. What animal is featured on their hat?



Peacekeeping UN* operations, Somalia, 1993. Royal Australian Navy 817 Squadron operated helicopters from on board HMAS *Tobruk*. They had an important role searching for enemy submarines. Can you see what is in the shark's mouth?



First World War, France, 1917. The deep mud made travelling from one place to another very difficult on the Western Front.

First World War, Palestine, 1918. Light Horse regiments kept a few donkeys. These were ridden by batmen* and horse grooms.

is for transport

Transport is one of the main tasks animals have performed during wartime. Horses, mules, donkeys, and camels have worked hard moving soldiers and equipment from place to place, especially in areas where vehicles cannot travel.



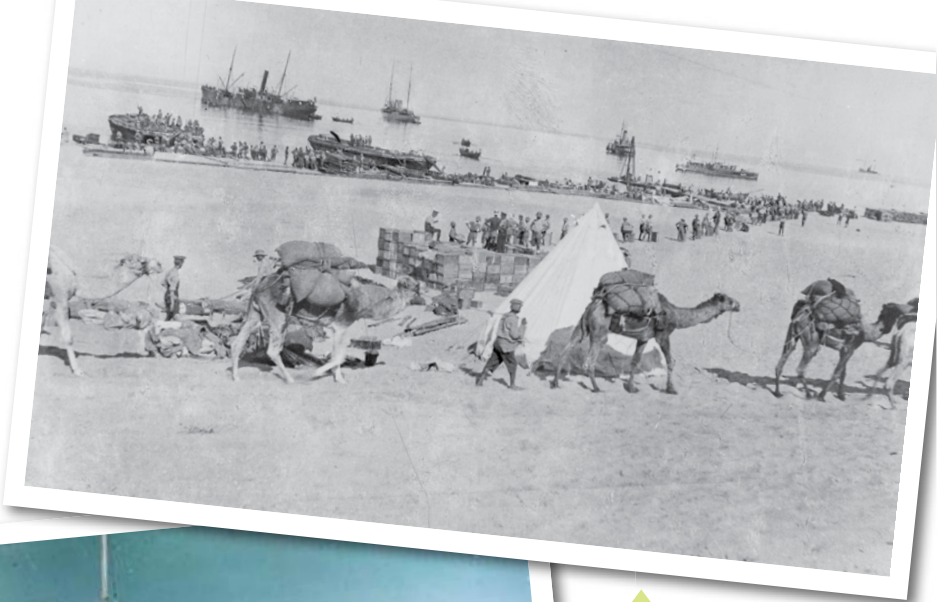
Second World War, Greece, 1941.



Second World War, Syria, 1942. These mules were the best means of transporting ammunition in the rough countryside.

Strange but true!

When a male donkey and a female horse have a baby, it is called a mule. A baby from a female donkey and a male horse is called a hinny.



First World War, Egypt. Fresh supplies went from ship to barge to camel to camp.

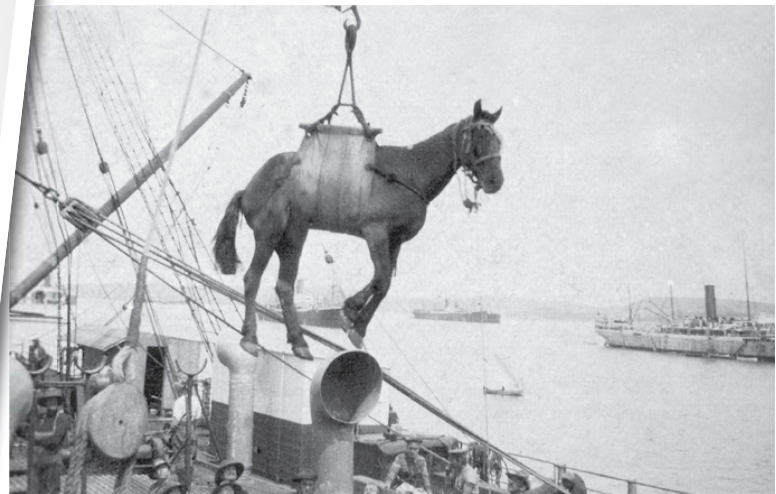
First World War, Egypt, 1918. These camels have become ambulances to transport the wounded. The bed attached to the camel's saddle is called a cacolet. What do you think the flag stands for, and why did they fly it?



Horses, mules, or donkeys that carry loads on their back are known as pack animals.



First World War, Palestine. How much horse-power does this ambulance have?



First World War, Egypt, 1915. How did Australian horses get to the war overseas? They travelled by ship with the men, and were often unloaded by a crane.



United Kingdom, 1930. This helmet was worn by members of the Royal Horse Guards in London. The plume is made from yak hair dyed red.



United Kingdom, 1900. Work out which animals contributed to the production of this impressive bonnet, worn by members of the Victorian Scottish regiment. It contains black ostrich feathers, a white vulture plume, black silk ribbons, a red and white woollen band around the base, and a leather sweat band on the inside.

is for

Animals not only contribute to what we eat, they also contribute to what we wear. In the past, many parts of a soldier's uniform came from animals.

United Kingdom, 1875. Hats in this shape are called beavers, but not because they are made from beaver skins. This one, worn by a member of the Victorian Colonial Military Force, is decorated with swan's feathers.



Iraq, 2005. The emu plume in their hat became the symbol of the Light Horse. Soldiers in the First World War tried to trick some of their British mates into believing that they were actually kangaroo feathers. Today, soldiers in some units still use this plume in their hats.

First World War, Australia, 1915. Trooper Harry Bunyan of 12th Light Horse Regiment. Can you match the animal, with the item of uniform to which it contributed? cow, sheep, rooster, rabbit.



- PLUME IN HAT
- FUR FELT HAT
- WOOLLEN TUNIC
- HIDE LEATHER AMMUNITION BANDOLIER*
- HIDE LEATHER BELT

Strange but true!

First World War, Australia, 1915. Before leaving Australia, this soldier had his photo taken wearing a possum-skin coat.



uniform



Boer War, 1898. This hat belonged to Lieutenant James Osborne of the 1st Australian Horse. Slouch hats were made from felted rabbit fur, and this one has black rooster feathers tucked into the puggaree.*

United Kingdom, 1937. General Sir Harry Chauvel, commander of the 1st Light Horse, wore this special woollen tunic to the coronation of King George VI in London. How many medals can you count?

Sometimes animals wore uniforms. Here is my navy mate from HMAS *Swordsman* in 1925.



Afghanistan, 2007. American vet staff and Australian soldier Zeke Smith check on the condition of Flo Jo. She has had surgery on her front paws to stop her claws rubbing on the protective booties that military dogs wear in the desert.



When working animals are sick or injured, they need to be cared for by a veterinarian. Vets are doctors for animals.



Korean War, Korea, 1950. Rusty and Phyllis have to line up for their anti-rabies injections every few months.

is for vet

The Australian Army Veterinarian Corps was formed in 1909, and has looked after thousands of animals. Not only do vets treat animals for wounds and injuries, they also inoculate them against dangerous diseases, and take care of their teeth. It is not always easy for vets to work on large animals. Just like you, horses don't like having needles, or having their teeth checked.

Strange but true!

In the First World War, horses were often injured by stepping on nails. The injury was called a PUN, a picked-up-nail. Soldiers often built small fires using the wood from old packing cases held together with nails. When they had cooked their meal, and the fire was out, the ashes, including the nails, were raked out onto the roads. Many horses became lame from the PUNs.



First World War, France.
H. Septimus Power, *Evacuation of wounded horses in the battle line.*



Second World War, Australia, 1944. Vets at work.



First World War, France, 1918. This gas-proof box was found in a German army pigeon loft. It was used to hold pigeons while messages were being attached to them during a gas attack.



Working animals need constant care and attention to keep them healthy and safe. In return, animals look after the welfare of people by being lifesavers, messengers, and mates.

What do you give a sick bird?

Tweetment.



Second World War, Australia 1943. Pigeons that had been in active service for ten months were given a rest in these lofts for two months. They then resumed training, and were put into active service again.

is for welfare

Second World War, HMAS *Kanimbla*. This ship's cat was given his own little hammock to sleep in. Does your pet have a comfortable bed?



First World War, at sea, 1914. It took about six weeks to transport horses overseas by ship from Australia during the First World War. Sadly some horses died during the voyage, but the number of deaths was kept low because of the high standard of care given. Decks were kept clean, horses were well fed, stalls were well ventilated, and animals were massaged regularly to keep them healthy.



Things to do...

The RSPCA is an organisation that looks after the welfare of animals today. What do the letters stand for, and what does the RSPCA do for animals?

The army, navy, and air force all train animals to search out explosives, weapons, and ammunition. These can be hidden by being buried underground or even underwater.

X is in

Explosive Detector Dogs (EDDs) have been working with the Australian Army since 1981, both in Australia and overseas. Dogs are recruited at the age of 12 to 18 months, and must be good at chasing balls. No special breed of dog is chosen, but border collies, labradors, German shepherds, and retrievers have all become EDDs. Some dogs from the RSPCA have been given a new home and a job with the Army.

It is important for the dog and its handler to bond well. Feeding, playing, grooming, and searching are all done together. EDDs wear a working harness and are trained using a tennis ball. Training becomes like a game for the dogs. The ball appears as a reward when explosives are discovered. A dog's keen sense of smell can pick up about 25,000 different scents.

When at work, dogs search for up to 40 minutes at a time, followed by a 20 minute rest. If they detect something suspicious, they are trained to sit quietly beside it until the handler alerts other soldiers by radio.

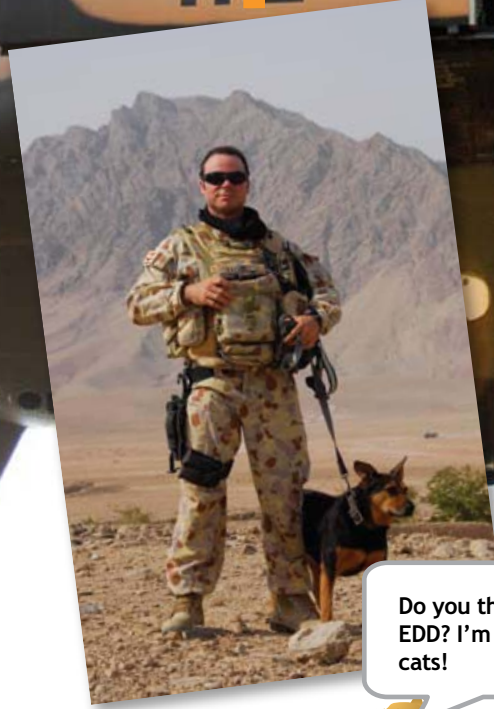
After overseas service, dogs are returned home and placed in quarantine for up to 60 days. An EDD works for up to ten years and is then retired to live with the handler or a local family.

Afghanistan, 2008. Handler Zeke Smith and EDD Flo Jo on patrol in the desert.

Flo Jo was recruited from an RSPCA shelter. One day when out in the desert she was found rounding up a mob of sheep.



explosives



Do you think I could be an EDD? I'm good at chasing cats!



Afghanistan, 2006. Handler Adam Exelby with Kylie. After working as an EDD for seven years, Kylie retired. She now lives with Adam as his pet.



East Timor, 2007. Elmo gets hoisted aboard a helicopter with his RAAF handler, Steven Pratt.

Strange but true!
Navy divers use dolphins to detect underwater mines. Dolphins have very sensitive inbuilt sonar. They emit clicks, which bounce off underwater objects. Handlers train them to report back in a specific way if a mine-like target is detected. The location is then noted so that navy ships can avoid it.

The RAAF has a breeding program, using German and Belgian shepherd dogs. After the puppies are born, they have lots of activities to increase their confidence. At 12 weeks they are taken into shopping centres and backyards, spending time with families and a variety of people, learning to socialise in the big wide world. By the time they team up with a military dog handler they are ready for serious training and together they form strong bonds.

Today, RAAF military working dogs (MWDs) provide protection for people and places, and track down explosives or illegal items.

East Timor, 2008. Kaja "smiles" for the camera with his handler, Ben Geurts.



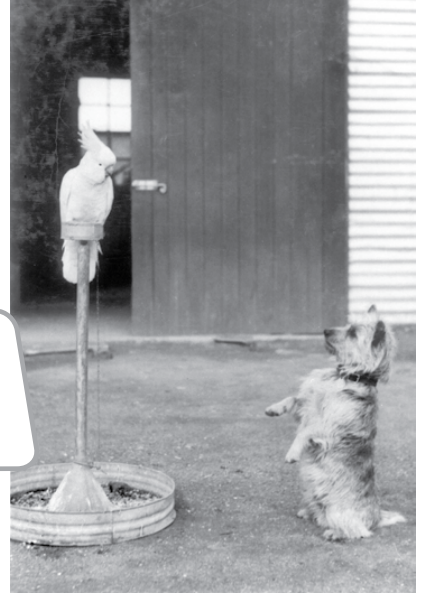
Afghanistan, 2007. Merlin checks items at a local market with his handler Peter Lawlis. In September 2007, Merlin was accidentally killed by a vehicle, and soldiers held a special service before his burial at Tarin Kowt. He served with distinction throughout his Army career.



Second World War, Australia, 1943. Do you think Whacko the cockatoo and Cobber the dog are sharing a story?

What do you get if you cross a parrot with a centipede?

A walkie-talkie!



is for yap and yabber and yowl and yelp

Animals can be very noisy. This is useful to sound an alarm, or to scare away attackers, but it can be dangerous if it gives away a soldier's position.

First World War, Gallipoli, 1915. Do you like to chat with your friends? There is another meaning for the word "chat". On Gallipoli, "chats" was the nickname for small lice-like creatures that invaded soldiers' uniforms. They made life very uncomfortable and irritating. The soldiers searched through their clothes to find and kill these pests.

Driver, the quiet dog.

Driver was a tiny silky terrier puppy when he went to the First World War, smuggled inside a soldier's coat on board a troopship. He went everywhere with his master, serving in France and Belgium. Soldiers often took him on ratting expeditions in the trenches, and he became an expert at catching the rodents.

Driver faced the same dangers as the soldiers, dodging bombs, bullets, and exploding shells. Once he was so frightened that he ran away for two days.

When his keeper Leslie Ross came home to Sydney in 1919, he wanted to bring Driver too. Quarantine restrictions were a problem, and Leslie suspected that the officials would be waiting for him in Sydney, so another soldier sewed a bag like a giant pocket inside his coat and when the ship reached Melbourne, Driver was popped inside and carried down the gangway. Had the cunning plan worked?



Soldiers were ordered to put down their coats and line up for a parade on the wharf. What if Driver barked? For the entire parade, the soldier stared at the coat, willing Driver to stay still and silent. At last the parade was dismissed, and Driver was picked up and sent to Leslie's home in Sydney, where he lived out the rest of his life.



Second World War, Australia, 1944. Look carefully at this cow. Is it real? Members of the Australian Women's Land Army practise their milking skills.

Animals do not have a choice about serving in the military. They are used because of the assistance they offer humans. However, like humans, some animals suffer and die as a result of war.

Have you made up your own alphabetical list of all the animals in this book? How many have you found?



First World War, France, 1919. Frank Fryer and two of his assistants from the Society of Friends rug up against the freezing cold, and head off in their ambulance.

Animals that work during wartime include camels, dogs, donkeys, horses, mules, and pigeons. Many others are used as mascots and symbols. Along with wild animals and pests, there would be enough to make a zoo.

is for zoo

Z is for Zep

An Australian called Frank Fryer went to France during the First World War to drive an ambulance. He and his friend, a nurse called Ethel Ubsdell, wanted to help the wounded.

One day after an air raid, they discovered a very frightened dog. They managed to coax him into the ambulance and from then on he became their constant companion. They named him Zep after the zeppelin* airships that floated overhead. He visited patients in the hospital with Sister Ubsdell, and liked to ride up on the front seat of the ambulance as they went about helping the injured.

Ethel decided Zep should have a permit to allow him to travel legally in military zones, just as the humans did. She listed his special characteristics and stamped it with his paw print.

After the war, Frank and Ethel married, and returned to Australia. Zep had to be left behind, but it is said he was found a good home.




First World War, France, 1916. Zep's passport and ID. Can you see his paw print?

Things to do...

- 1 Have a talk with your friends about this idea: "Animals are heroes in wartime". Use examples from the stories you have read.
- 2 Listen to a recording of *Carnival of the Animals* by Saint-Saens, or *Peter and the Wolf* by Prokofiev. These composers have written pieces of music representing different animals. Can you identify the animals in the music?
- 3 Choose one of the stories in this book. Turn it into a play and perform it with your friends. Maybe you could make animal masks for the characters.
- 4 Find out the origin of origami paper cranes. How are they linked with peace? Try folding some.

How much do you know?

Test your knowledge of animals in wartime by completing this crossword.



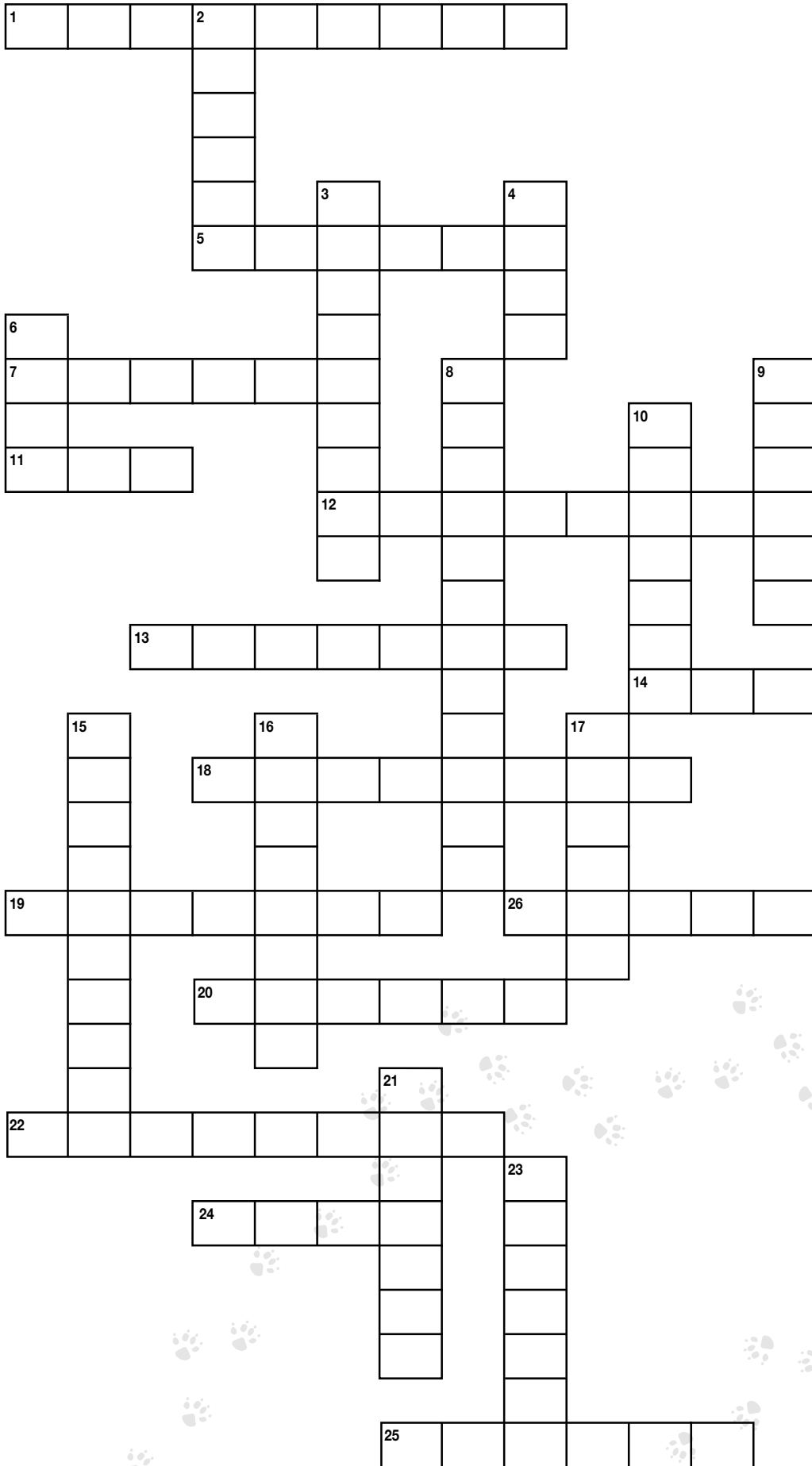
The letter and page number at the end of each clue will help you find the answers.

ACROSS

1. A single-humped camel. (C p6)
5. Where the soldiers dug in and fought from in the First World War. (O p30)
7. A disease dogs can catch. (V p44)
11. Australian Light Horse soldiers used feathers from this bird in their slouch hats. (U p42)
12. Horrie was smuggled home to Australia in this. (Q p34)
13. What happened to Red Lead, the ship's cat, on board HMAS *Perth*? Was she rescued, did she escape or was she drowned? (N p26)
14. A pest living in the trenches during the First World War. (Y p48)
18. A tubular German airship. (Z p49)
19. Soldiers in the jungle can catch this disease from mosquitoes. (I p18)
20. The Australian city which was heavily bombed in the Second World War, with many lives lost. (L p22)
22. When Australian nurses were held as prisoners of war, what toy did they place on the top of a flag pole to remind them of home? (K p20)
24. The Second World War mascot that ate anything! (M p24)
25. Food supplies for soldiers are called rations. Food for animals is called _____. (F p12)
26. The Australian navy uses dolphins to find underwater _____. (X p46)

DOWN

2. An animal used by a military unit as its symbol. (A p2)
3. The Australian Light Horse captured this town in the desert in 1917. (H p16)
4. 120,000 horses were transported by _____ to serve in the First World War. (W p45)
6. The Vietnam War took place in a jungle environment. True or false? (J p19)
8. Soldiers serving in the Solomon Islands are called _____. (S p38)
9. The most suitable animal to work in rough, hilly areas. (T p40)
10. Milo was a trained _____ dog in Vietnam. (D p8)
15. Another word for persuasion in wartime. (P p32)
16. A place to remind people of a person or an animal that has died. (R p36)
17. The name of the medal given to animals that show bravery. (B p4)
21. Identity tags worn by soldiers. (E p10)
23. Donkeys were used to carry _____ soldiers down the steep hills of Gallipoli. (G p14)



ANSWERS 1. dromedary 2. mascot 3. Beersheba 4. ship 5. trench 6. true 7. rabies 8. peacekeepers 9. donkey 10. tracker 11. emu 12. backpack 13. drowned 14. rat
 15. propaganda 16. memorial 17. Dickin 18. zeppelin 19. malaria 20. Darwin 21. dogtags 22. kangaroo 23. wounded 24. goat 25. fodder 26. mines

What word is that?

The words in this book followed by * are explained here.



AIF:

Australian Imperial Force. This large group of soldiers was formed for the first time at the outbreak of the First World War. They are known as the 1st AIF.

allied:

Countries that join together, with a shared goal. For example, in the Second World War, Australia was part of the Allied forces, along with countries like Britain, France, and the United States of America.

Anzac:

The word Anzac was originally an abbreviation for **Australian and New Zealand Army Corps**. The Anzacs first fought together on Gallipoli in 1915.

Anzac Day:

Anzac Day is held every year on 25 April. This was the day that the Anzacs landed on Gallipoli in Turkey in 1915. It is now a national day of commemoration to remember all Australians who fought in wars, especially those who lost their lives. Services are held at dawn, the time of the original landing, at war memorials in many cities and towns in Australia and New Zealand.

armistice:

An armistice occurs when countries at war agree to stop fighting. The armistice at the end of the First World War occurred on 11 November 1918. It was at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. This day is now known as Remembrance Day.

artillery:

Large guns which fire explosive shells. They are usually transportable and are operated by a team of men.

batman:

A personal assistant to an officer. Some of a batman's duties include delivering messages, looking after the officer's uniform and personal equipment, and acting as the officer's bodyguard in wartime.

battalion:

An army unit usually consisting of a headquarters and three or more companies. In the First World War, a battalion had approximately 1,000 soldiers, but today it has approximately 600. A battalion is usually commanded by a Lieutenant Colonel.

bandolier:

A shoulder belt with pockets for carrying ammunition.

bayonet:

A long, sharp knife that fits onto the end of a rifle and can be used as a weapon.

brigade:

A large group of soldiers made up of two to five battalions. The officer that commands a brigade is usually a Brigadier.

burgomaster:

The mayor of a town or city.

cameleer:

A person who works with camels.

coat of arms:

An official symbol or badge. Australia's current coat of arms was granted by the King of England in 1912. It features a shield divided into six sections to represent the six states of Australia. Above the shield is a seven-pointed star, representing the six states and one territory in the nation. Two animals native to Australia, the kangaroo and emu, are holding up the shield. Behind it is a large branch of wattle, the national floral emblem.

commemorative:

This describes a time, object or place that helps people remember past events with pride.

corps:

Two or more divisions or a branch of the services. For example, the Armoured Corps or the Medical Corps.

- despatch rider:** A motorcycle messenger
- dysentery:** A disorder of the digestive system which causes severe diarrhoea.
- enteric fever:** This disease, also known as typhoid fever, causes very high fevers, vomiting and diarrhoea. It is caught by using contaminated water.
- evacuate:** To move people away from a dangerous place.
- fauna:** Animal life of a particular region.
- gangway:** A narrow bridge laid between ship and shore.
- HMAS:** **H**er (or **H**is) **M**ajesty's **A**ustralian **S**hip. "Her/His" refers to the Queen or King of England.
- indigenous:** Original inhabitants of a country or an area.
- infantry:** Soldiers who are trained to fight on foot. They must be fit and strong.
- memorial:** War memorials remember those who have served and died during wartime.
- penny:** A coin used in Australia from 1911 until 1966.
- puggaree:** The cloth band worn around the outside of a soldier's slouch hat.
- regiment:** Two or more batteries form an artillery regiment. A number of battalions form an infantry regiment. For example, the Royal Australian Regiment, the Royal Victorian Regiment. The officer that commands a regiment is usually a colonel.
- RAAF:** **R**oyal **A**ustralian **A**ir **F**orce
- sonar:** These letters originally stood for the words **s**ound **n**avigation **a**nd **r**anging. Sonar is a system used by ships as a measuring instrument. A sound wave is sent out, and the time it takes for the echo pulse to return indicates the distance from the ship to the object.
- squadron:** A unit of horses, aircraft, armoured vehicles, or warships.
- technology:** Using tools and machines to improve how things work.
- transparent:** Able to be seen through.
- UN:** The **U**nited **N**ations is an international organisation which promotes peace and security.
- veteran:** A war veteran is someone who has served with the armed forces in wartime.
- waler:** Horses originally bred in New South Wales and transported overseas in the 1880s, and during the First and Second World Wars.
- widow:** A woman whose husband has died.
- zeppelin:** A large, rigid, cylindrical airship designed by Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin from Germany in the early part of the 20th century. They were used by the German army in the First World War as bombers and scouts. Zeppelins were filled with hydrogen or helium gas to make them fly.



ART00059



ART02837

Want to know more?

BOOKS: Fiction

Lofty's Mission by Krista Bell

The Animal's War: Animals in Wartime from the First World War to the Recent Day by Juliet Gardiner

Simpson and his Donkey by Mark Greenwood and Norman Jorgensen

The Silver Donkey by Sonya Hartnett

In Flanders Fields by Brian Harrison-Lever

The Cats in Krasinski Square by Karen Hesse and Wendy Watson

Animal Heroes by Anthony Hill

Simpson and Duffy by Mary Small and Ester Kasepuu

War Horse by Michael Morpurgo

Only a Donkey by Patricia Mullins and Celeste Walters

BOOKS: Non-Fiction

Animals in War by Jilly Cooper

Not Only a Hero by Tom Curran

Walers Go to War by Vashti Farrer

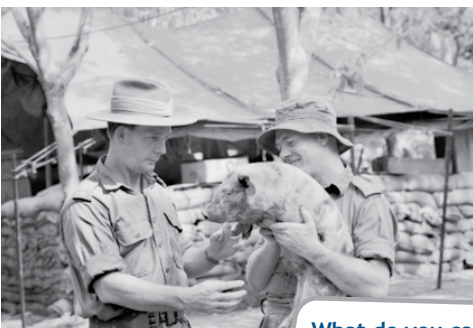
Animals at War Usbourne Young Reader by Isabel George and Rob Lloyd Jones

The Legend of the Light Horse by Ian Jones

Feathered Soldiers by Mary Small and Vashti Farrer

FILM

Valiant, the Pigeon. Released 2005, Walt Disney Pictures



What do you call a cat that has swallowed a duck?

A duck filled fatty puss!



WEBSITES

- 1. Australian War Memorial**
www.awm.gov.au/exhibitions/travelling/animals
Follow the links to the *A is for Animals* special exhibition notes and activities.
- 2. Australian War Memorial Encyclopaedia**
www.awm.gov.au/encyclopedia/
Search for horses, dogs, pigeons and the Dickin Medal.
- 3. The Imperial War Museum – An exhibition: The Animals' War**
<http://london.iwm.org.uk/upload/package/74/AnimalsWar/index.htm>
Search for information about animals in war from an exhibition. Downloadable worksheets, a quiz, and activities.
- 4. Canadian Department of Veterans' Affairs**
www.vac-acc.gc.ca/remembers/sub.cfm?source=feature/week2007/vw_edres/animalswar_news
Search for worksheets and information about animals in war.
- 5. RSPCA Memorial to Animals in War**
www.rspca.org.au/difference/memorial.asp
- 6. Animals at War**
www.greatwardifferent.com/Great_War/Animals_at_War
Search for Dogs of War, soldiers' pets, dogs and wildlife in the trenches, horses and elephants.
- 7. Military dogs**
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War_dog
Search for information on working dogs used in wartime.
- 8. Great War animal photographs**
www.gwpda.org/photos/animals.htm
- 9. History Learning Site**
www.historylearningsite.co.uk
Search for information about horses, dogs, and pigeons in the First World War.
- 10. Teaching notes for *Animal Heroes* by Anthony Hill**
www.penguin.com.au/PUFFin/notes/pdf/0143003801.pdf
Search for background to the stories in the book.
- 11. National Archives of Australia**
www.naa.gov.au/learning/schools/online/its-a-dogs-life/horrie.aspx
Search for further information on the story of Horrie.
- 12. Army working dogs**
www.diggerhistory.info/pages-asstd/dogs_of_war.htm
Search for information about the history of Army working dogs.
- 13. Animals in War Memorial Fund**
www.animalsinwar.org.uk/index.cfm?asset_id=1375
Search for information about animals who served with British Forces.
- 14. The Light Horse Association**
www.lighthorse.org.au/manual/8.html
Search for information about the equipment, role, and care of the Light Horse.
- 15. Pigeons in wars**
http://militaryhistory.suite101.com/article.cfm/carrier_pigeons_in_the_word_wars
Search for further information about pigeons used in war.
- 16. First World War children's picture book**
www.greatwardifferent.com/Great_War/Childrens_Books/Animals_Do_Their_Bit/Animals_Do_Their_Bit_01.htm
- 17. Paper cranes and peace**
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thousand_origami_cranes
- 18. How to fold an origami paper crane**
<http://monkey.org/~aidan/origami/crane/>

Photographs and works of art in this book.

The Australian War Memorial has a large collection of photographs and works of art. Each one is numbered. Find out more information about each image used in this book at: <http://cas.awm.gov.au> In the search box, type in the number listed below, then press "search". Images listed as being from a private collection cannot be found in the Memorial's collection.

Included below are the answers to the questions you have found in this book.

Page 1 Introduction

A04862
First World War, 1916. This group of soldiers from the 7th Australian Light Horse were the last men to leave Gallipoli when it was evacuated in December, 1915.

021156
Second World War Alexandria, 1941. Men of the 9th Division after leaving Tobruk in North Africa.

076646
Second World War, New Guinea, 1944. Stinker the dog on board the troopship *Cape Alexander*.

HOB/56/0628/MC
Malaysian confrontation, Perak, 1956. Inspection of Support Company, 2nd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment. This dog mascot is sitting to attention but facing the wrong way.

Page 2–3 A is for animals

EO2427
First World War, France, 1918. The soldiers nicknamed this group of animals The Royal Family.

RC06471
First World War, France, 1914. A postcard featuring some good luck symbols: a black cat and a horse shoe.

006033
Second World War, Australia, 1941. Nurses with their cat mascot.

ART02837
George Lambert, A favourite charger with groom, Anzac Mounted Division (1919 oil on canvas on wood panel, 35.6 x 46.2 cm)

075236
Second World War, New Guinea, 1944. A messenger pigeon carrying important information is released.

REL25363
United Nations Peacekeeping, Morocco, 1990. Kangaroo symbol on a uniform armband.

20080609ADF8262658_057
East Timor, 2008. Kaja the RAAF military working dog with his handler, Ben Geurts.

FOD/71/0563/VN
Vietnam War, South Vietnam, 1971. Tracker dogs and their handlers.

REL35113
Peacekeeping, Somalia, 1992. A cartoon rat on a uniform cloth badge worn by sailors on HMAS *Tobruk*.

013024
Second World War, Australia, 1942. Cameleers transporting supplies.

001176
Second World War, Palestine, 1940. Soldiers with their transport donkey.

Page 4–5 B is for bird

RELAWM30785
Second World War, 1943. The aluminium ring around the pigeon's leg carries his service number, 139:D/D:43:T.

H09572
First World War, France, 1918. A carrier pigeon being released from a British tank.

RELAWM04398
First World War, 1914. Wicker basket for two birds.

RELAWM30697.001
Second World War, United Kingdom, 1946. The Dickin medal.

ARTC00062
James F Scott, Some of the birds of the AIF rank and file and others 1914–1918 (1918, pen and black ink on card and backing paper, 36.6 x 25.2 cm). The birds include an eagle, owl, myna, parrot, magpie, kookaburra, cockatoo, budgerigar, crane, waterhen, lyrebird, swan, heron, emu, duck, pelican, and flamingo.

RELAWM08024
After First World War, Australia, 1925. Cocky the cockatoo.

013842
Second World War, Papua, 1942. Iorobaiwa Joe the parrot.

Page 6–7 C is for camel

013045
Second World War, Australia, 1942. Camel teams operated by indigenous Australians took supplies to outlying military camps in Northern Australia.

P03631.007
First World War, Middle East, 1918. Australians of the Imperial Camel Corps on the sand hills.

A05410
First World War, Egypt, 1915. Four sisters from the Australian Army Nursing Service pose on camels in front of the Sphinx and pyramids.

A03584B
First World War, Australia, date unknown. These men are training at a Camel Corps camp.

P00812.018
First World War, Middle East, 1917. Corporal Albert Holland and his camel.

REL24330
Second World War, Egypt, 1941. Maxine's red leather camel.

Page 8–9 D is for dog

P02906.002
First World War, Gallipoli, 1915. These two dogs have been harnessed to a cart, loaded with a machine-gun and ammunition.

E02318
First World War, France, 1918. Corporal James Coull with Nell, Trick, and Bullet. Smells, food, other dogs, or humans could distract a dog.

053601
Second World War, Australia, 1943. A puppy being cleaned up for the visit of General MacArthur, Commander in Chief of Allied forces in Australia.

017383
Second World War, New Guinea, 1944. Sister Moxham with Rinte.

COL/67/0906/VN
Vietnam War, Vietnam, 1967. This strange spotted dog looks more like a leopard.

COM/68/1046/VN
Vietnam War, Vietnam, 1968. Private Bob Hunter and Milo.

076877
Second World War, Syria, 1941. Horrie standing on a fuel can wearing his corporal's coat.

RELAWM32386
Second World War, Palestine, 1943. Horrie's coat.

P06269.001
Second World War, 1942. Imshi.

Page 10–11 E is for equipment

RELAWM04098
First World War, Germany, 1916. German army messenger dog's gas mask.

MAY/67/0231/NC
Vietnam War, Vietnam, 1967. Caesar on parade.

074798
Second World War, New Guinea, 1944. Message capsule to be attached to a pigeon's leg.

085464
Second World War, 1945. A fold-up pigeon basket.

017485
Second World War, New Guinea, 1944. Pigeon lofts.

REL35028
Vietnam War, Vietnam, 1966. Caesar's dog tag.

RELAWM11744
First World War, France, 1917. Spot's dog collar.

H06801
First World War, Egypt, 1916. These pigeon lofts were made from clay bricks.

REL31912
This is the 1912 British Universal Pattern leather saddle used by soldiers of the Light Horse.

052756
Second World War, Australia, 1943. Saddlers at work.

P05093.019
First World War, Middle East, 1914. The rider is asleep in the shade provided by the horse's shadow.

Page 12–13 F is for food

145706
Post Second World War, Japan, 1948. Rabbits bred for food at a British Commonwealth Occupation Force farm.

RC02563
First World War. Beef rations.

RC02041
First World War. Rabbit rations.

C02564
First World War. Sardine rations.

RC06656
First World War. Salmon rations.

C03075
First World War. Corned beef rations.

ART02555
C. H. Gould, Extracts from Intelligence report: "Yesterday two of our pigeons failed to return" (3 January 1917, pencil, pen and ink on paper, 17.4 x 24.4cm). These soldiers are roasting pigeons for dinner.

099259
Second World War, Rabaul, 1945. A shipment of sheep bound for New Guinea. There are more than 200.

017009
Second World War, New Guinea, 1944. A fish caught on a native spear.


B01445
First World War, Palestine, 1918. Light Horse fodder dump. 40,000 bales of hay would feed 10,000 horses for a month.

REL30045.011
First World War, 1914. Canvas nosebag for horse feed.

079120
Second World War, 1945. Pigeon feeding time.


Page 30–31 O is for overseas operations

E00164




First World War, France, 1917. A horse drawn General Service wagon moving through heavy snow.

E00384



First World War, France, 1917. Soldiers on horseback pass through the wreckage in the Rue de Peronne.

J02650A



First World War, Egypt. The oasis Hod-el-fatia used by the Australian Light Horse for water and concealment.

A05401



First World War, Gallipoli, 1915. Soldiers in trenches.

P05645.003




Second World War, Libya, 1941. A soldier with his dog.

REL/07695




Second World War, Libya, 1941. Rat of Tobruk medal.

079122




Second World War, New Guinea, 1945. Australian soldiers with locals on jungle patrol.

E01198




First World War, Belgium, 1917. Two signallers with baskets of carrier pigeons.

015505



Second World War, Australia, 1943. The third anniversary beach carnival of a field regiment in Darwin.


Image from private collection.



Afghanistan, 2008. A modern soldier with his dog, both dressed in protective gear.


Page 32–33 P is for persuasion

ARTV02497




R. Malcolm Warner, *Those who talk don't know...* (1943, lithograph, 50.1 x 38.0 cm). Giving away information could risk an attack.

ARTV05245




Artist unknown, *There's deadly danger in that bite!* (c. 1939–1945, offset lithograph on paper, 55.0 x 35.0 cm). A British poster warns against the danger of malaria.

ARTV06107




G. Douanne, *Soignons la basse-cour [Let us look after the farmyard]* (1917, lithograph printed on two sheets, 55.2 x 36.2 cm). Poster drawn by a French school child.

ARTV04340



Unknown, *How she'll prize your letters from overseas* (1943, photolithograph on cardboard, 36.5 x 23.7 cm). A recruitment poster.


ARTV00150



P.S. Templeton, *Assisting Queensland's patriotic day*. (1915, lithograph on cardboard, 22.8 x 29.8 cm). A recruitment poster using a kangaroo to represent Australia. The red fez represents Turkey.


Page 34–35 Q is for quarantine

RELAWM32387



Second World War, 1940. Jim's backpack, used to transport Horrie back home.

076878




Second World War, Palestine, 1942. Horrie in his travel pack.

FOD/71/0566/VN




Vietnam War, South Vietnam, 1971. Tracker dog Marcian meets his new family in Saigon.

LES/69/0870/VN




Vietnam War, South Vietnam, 1969. Army tracker dog Justin receives a hug from Helen Porter.

UK2489



Second World War, 1945. A pigeon returned for display at the Australian War Memorial.

Image from private collection



Afghanistan, 2008. Handler Zeke Smith with Flo Jo.



ART02837

George Lambert, *A favourite charger with groom, Anzac Mounted Division*. (1919, oil on canvas on wood panel, 35.6 x 46.2 cm) Trooper George Shelton Lambert with his horse in the desert.

Page 36–37 R is for remember

P04474.002

127101

ART40993

ART12510.001

ART93064 [detail]

ART93046 [detail]

ART93049 [detail]

ART93059 [detail]

ART93063 [detail]

XS0142

RELAWM00300

Page 38–39 S is for symbol

REL25996

REL25992

REL26003

REL25995

REL25994

OG2414

UK2252

NEA0328

REL38808

REL29030.001



REL25191.001

Second World War, Borneo, 1945. A soldier made this badge by cutting and drilling out a penny.



REL35112

Peacekeeping UN operations, Somalia, 1993. A uniform badge worn by members of Royal Australian Navy 817 Squadron. They had an important role searching for enemy submarines. The shark has one in its mouth.

Page 40–41 T is for transport

B01618

E00952

007632

024164

A01616

P03631.002

B00449

P00211.004

Page 42–43 U is for uniform

RELAWM15254.007

REL/07693.001

REL/18088.003

REL34696.001

P07382.003

DA08338

REL/04262.001

REL/04696

P00068.005

Page 44 V is for vet



064617
Second World War, Australia, 1944. Sergeant Roach, a veterinary surgeon filing the teeth of a horse.



MELJ0792
Korean War, Korea, 1950. Anti-rabies injections for dogs.



ART03313
H. Septimus Power. *Evacuation of wounded horses in the battle line* (1917, watercolour, charcoal, pencil on paper, 37.7 x 53.5 cm)



Image from private collection
Peacekeeping, Afghanistan, 2007. Australian soldier Zeke Smith and American vet staff standing behind Flo Jo in the vet clinic.

Page 45 W is for welfare



H09585
First World War, France, 1918. A gas proof pigeon box.



050783
Second World War, Australia, 1943. Pigeons' resting loft.



C01715
First World War, at sea, 1914. A soldier waters the horses on board HMAT *Wiltshire*.



300848
Second World War. Ship's cat on board HMAS *Kanimbla*.

Page 46–47 X is in explosives



Image from private collection.
Afghanistan, 2008. Handler Zeke Smith and EDD Flo Jo on patrol in the desert.



P07697.011
East Timor, 2007. Elmo gets hoisted aboard a helicopter with his RAAF handler Steven Pratt.



P07697.001
Afghanistan, 2006. Handler Adam Exelby with Kylie.



P07697.002
Afghanistan, 2007. Merlin checks items at a local market with his handler Peter Lawlis.



20080609ADF8262658_057
East Timor, 2008. Kaja smiles for the camera with his handler Ben Geurts.

Page 48 Y is for yap



052601
Second World War, Australia, 1943. Camp mascots at No. 1 Tatura Internment Camp, Whacko the parrot and Cobber the dog.



P00437.013
First World War, Gallipoli, 1915. On Gallipoli, "chats" was the nickname for small lice-like creatures that invaded soldiers' uniforms.



141684
Second World War, Australia, 1944. Members of the Australian Women's Land Army practised their milking techniques on papier mache cows at the training farm.



RELAWM09411
Post First World War, Australia, 1926. Driver the dog.

Page 49 Z is for zoo



P02686.026
First World War, France, 1919. Frank Fryer and two of his assistants with their ambulance.



PR86/342
First World War, France, 1916. Zep's passport and ID.

Page 52–53 What word is that?



A04862
First World War, 1916. This group of soldiers from the 7th Australian Light Horse were the last men to leave Gallipoli when it was evacuated in December, 1915.



ARTV02497
R. Malcolm Warner, *Those who talk don't know...*, (1943, lithograph, 50.1 x 38.0 cm). A security poster reminds people about the dangers of loose talk during war.



REL24330
Second World War, Egypt, 1941. Maxine's red leather camel.



A03584B
First World War, Australia, date unknown. These men are training at a Camel Corps camp.



REL25994
Australia, 1950's. Uniform cloth badge for Western Command, Western Australia.



ART93059 [detail]
Leslie Bowles, *Fried neck lizard* (1940–41, sandstone (Wondabyne) 30.0 x 30.0 x 18.0 cm)



REL35113
Peacekeeping, Somalia, 1992. A cartoon rat on a uniform cloth badge worn by sailors on HMAS *Tobruk*.



REL34696.001
Iraq, 2005. Slouch hat worn by Australian Lieutenant Colonel Noble of the Al Muthanna Task Group, Iraq.



P03631.002
First World War, Egypt, 1918. Four camel ambulances attached to the Imperial Camel Corp.



ART02837
George Lambert, *A favourite charger with groom, Anzac Mounted Division*. (1919, oil on canvas on wood panel, 35.6 x 46.2 cm) Trooper George Shelton Lambert with his horse in the desert.

Page 54 Want to know more?



COL/67/0316/VN
Vietnam War, Nui Dat, 1967. The tiger pig mascot for the 5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment.

Front cover



E02427
First World War, France, 1918. Cooks of B Company, 27th Battalion, with their pets known as The Royal Family.



013842
Second World War, Papua, 1942. Iorobaiwa Joe the parrot.



RELAWM30212
Second World War, Netherlands East Indies, 1942. Josephine the kangaroo



RELAWM04398
First World War, 1914. Wicker pigeon basket.



REL/05784.124
Boer War, West Australia, 1895. West Australian Military Forces cap badge.

Inside front cover



REL24330
Second World War, Egypt, 1941. Maxine's red leather camel.

Inside back cover



PAIU2008/12.04
Australia, 2008. Ducklings hatched in the hedges surrounding the Pool of Reflection at the Australian War Memorial.

Back cover



000845
Second World War, 1940. Private George McCullough with Butch.



RELAWM30785
Second World War, Australia, 1943. Army carrier pigeon No. 139:D/D:43:T



ART02837
George Lambert, *A favourite charger with groom, Anzac Mounted Division*. (1919, oil on canvas on wood panel, 35.6 x 46.2 cm)



017383
Second World War, New Guinea, 1944. Sister Moxham with Rinte.

Without the service of animals
many more Australians would have
lost their lives during wartime.



Australian War Memorial, 2008.

Thank you to all
my mates for
their stories.






Australian War Memorial
Australian Tourism Awards
Major Tourist Attraction
HALL OF FAME



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs