

Army Museum of NSW Foundation

Member Update August 2021

Good morning Foundation Members,

As there has been much work being carried out by our Reserve staff, volunteers and your Board during this COVID period and as due to the Museum being closed not allowing you to visit, I thought I would like to detail in this member update some of that work and to show how your museum is being updated with new displays within new display cabinets. I hope you enjoy this update.

Regards,

Graham Fleeton



Your New Front Entrance.



This is a special exhibition that shows the link between the Military and Rugby Union in NSW. These artifacts were provided on loan by NSW Rugby Union from their Museum.



Another view of the Main Gallery depicting our Colonial Heritage.



Still in the Main Gallery, our Pre 1900 display in this cabinet and the one below.





On the far wall you can see our Boer War Display.



This is the First World War Section of our Main Gallery. Also, in this Section we have a cabinet with some of our specific and special Medal Collection and a cabinet with some weapons including a weapon that has been cross sectioned to show the workings of the weapon.



A special display of Women's Royal Australian Army Corps and Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps Uniforms.

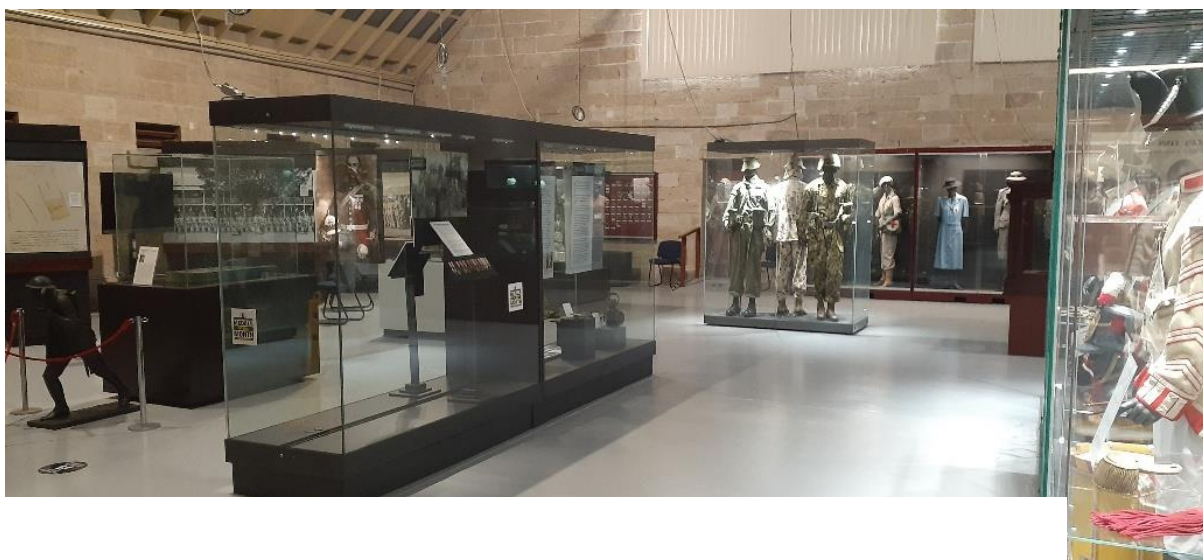


Photographic Display Cabinets located around the small theatre where we show the Documentary of the History of Victoria Barracks which was edited "From Sydney Cove to Paddington Hill" from the Mitchell Library. Highlight the Link below and click on it to view the film.

[VictoriaBarracks_PeterEdit_v01.mp4](#)



Some more Photographic Cabinets and within the glass cabinet to the lower right we have a cricket display as many famous cricketers from NSW fought in both World Wars. Artifacts are on loan from the Sydney Cricket Ground Trust Museum.



A view in the Main Gallery showing one of our temporary display cabinets.



This is our new sign to be installed over the Museum Entrance.



Here is a close up of the actual badge on our sign.



The Sun Trophy was sculpted in bronze in the 1930s by George Rainer Hoff as a Brigade Shooting Trophy. Rainer Hoff also had sculpted the statues that are decorating the ANZAC Memorial in Hyde Park Memorial. The Sun Trophy now resides permanently within our museum, and we will be able to have it on display as soon as the new extra strong glass cabinet arrives.

The photo on the right shows the new base and how the new taller glass case will sit.

The photo above indicates where the Trophy will reside on display.

The existing stand the sculpture sits on, is to be re-enforced. With the weight of the glass being around 100kg, the figure at 200kg plus and the granite slab that goes under the sculpture at 40kg, we are looking at a combined weight of 340kg plus. We have a carpenter programmed to come in and complete that work shortly.

During this period, we have received much support and help from the Army History Unit. Army history has just signed off on a new 8m exhibition case (same as the one in the WW2 gallery) at a cost of \$55K. It will replace the four 1960s period cases we currently use to hang those giant prints of Victoria Barracks off. Last year these cases were condemned because they failed all electrical testing. The new case we hope, will be up from Melbourne early October. The RAA Banner parade at VBS is still scheduled for 9 NOV 21. We need this new case up and running for that day. This case will be 100% dedicated to the History of Victoria Barracks.

Army History Unit has also signed off on three high security edged weapons cabinets. This will go into the northern conservation room on the ground floor. It means all the edged weapons in the upstairs gallery will be moved down and be able to be displayed. The new cabinets will give much better environmental protection and added security, plus it will make counting the weapons so much easier, now every six months. Especially when they are fitted with barcodes for scanning.

All of the drop-down power cord pendants in the main gallery have now been installed.

Our Museum Manager, CAPT Michael Kelly has arranged COVID scanning for the museum. So now when you visit, you will need to scan in, as well as sign in. This also applies to the library, there will be a QR code attached to the library door.

Visitors to Busby's Bore who are not under the control of the museum will need to scan in using that code.

Ken McKay and Sgt Peter Ryan are still preparing our Medals of the Month for our Foundation website and for Army "The Cove" social media sites.

Over the last few weeks, we have received some more giant prints from Bandiana concentrating on Victoria Barracks. The prints are excellent, taken from images purchased from the NSW State Library and NSW State Archives. They are now up on display. AAHU has now signed off on twelve new hi-res WW2 images from the AWM. This means we will be able to update some of the WW2 displays like the Japanese attack on Sydney, the Cowra breakout and Linda's concept of highlighting the significant role of the Civil Defence in defending NSW.