Entry type: Cultural Artefact
Entry ID: AWE0569

Australian Ex-Prisoners of War Memorial

Occupation Commemoration

Summary

The Australian Ex-Prisoners of War Memorial located at the Ballarat Botanical Gardens features a granite wall listing the names of Australian Prisoners of War (POW). The listing is by surname and initials and shown by war. Between the Boer War (1899-1902) and the Korean War in the 1950's 34,737 Australian servicemen and women (59 World War II nurses) were incarcerated in POW camps.

Details

The monument, designed by sculptor Peter Blizzard, is intended to provide ex-prisoners of war, their descendants, visitors and future generations with a reflective experience.

The design of the POW monument uses the basic idea of a journey through and an experience of time and place. The start of the pathway is long and straight heading off into the shape of railway sleepers, a reference to the Burma Railway. Running parallel to the pathway is a polished black granite wall, 130 metres long etched with the names of all Australian POWs. Standing in a reflective pool are huge basalt obelisks up to 4.5 metres high with the names of the POW camps. The columns are out of reach and across the water symbolizing that all the POW camps were away from Australian shores. Further on, there is another wall with the words 'Lest we Forget' engraved, allowing for an area of contemplation and reflection after the "journey".

The Memorial's dedication took place on 6 February 2004.

Nurses listed on Memorial

Anderson, M J
Ashton, C J
Balfour-Ogilvy, E L
Beard, A M
Blake, K C
Blanch, J J
Bridge, A J
Bullwinkel, V
Callaghan, E M
Casson, F R
Clancy, V A
Cullen, M C
Cuthbertson, M E
Davis, W M
Delforce, C E M
Dorsch, M H M
Doyle, J G
Drummond, I M
Elmes, D G
Fairweather, L F
Freeman, R D
Gardam, D S

Greer, J K
Gunther, J P
Halligan, C I
Hannah, E M
Harper, I
Harris, N
Hempsted, P B
Hodgson, M I
Hughes, G L
James, N G
Jeffrey, A B
Keast, D C
Keats, E L
Kerr, J
McElnea, V I
McGlade, M E
Mittelheuser, P B
Muir, S J M
Neuss, K M
Oram, W E F
Oxley, C S M
Parker, K I
Raymont, W R
Salmon, F A
Short, E M
Simons, J E
Singleton, I A
Smith, V E
Stewart, E S J
Syer, A C
Tait, M M A
Trotter, F E
Tweddell, J
Whyte, L M
Wight, R J
Wilmott, B
Woodbridge, B

Published resources

Article
34,737 PoWs...we will remember them, O'Connor, Angela, 2002, http://www.theage.com.au/articles/2002/10/11/1034222594951.html

Newspaper Article
All expectations surpassed despite unexpected heat, Ellery, David, 2004

Thousands eager to search for names, Ellery, David, 2004

Memories shared by generations, Best, Catherine, 2004

Resource
The Australian Ex-Prisoners of War Memorial, Ballarat Botanical Gardens, http://www.ballarat.com/memorial.htm

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Digital resources



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