Keepsakes: Australians and the Great War

To mark the centenary of the First World War, the Library invites you to explore Australia's memory of the war through the mementos and souvenirs kept by service personnel, political leaders, civilians, artists and families. Among the many treasures on display are Norman Lindsay's original artworks for some of his most famous propaganda posters, Billy Hughes' handwritten notes from the Paris Peace Conference and Stan Cross' cartoons of wartime Australia. Sourced entirely from the Library's collections, this exhibition highlights the private experience of war. Many of the young men and women who left Australia to serve as soldiers and nurses returned with mementos of their time abroad. The letters they wrote and the photographs they took were gathered together and kept as treasured items by their families.

Over time, some of these collections have made their way into the holdings of the Library. It is also the home for the papers of Australia's key wartime leaders, including the prime ministers, Andrew Fisher and Billy Hughes, Governor-General Munro Ferguson, and General John Monash. These collections are complemented by recruitment posters, photographs, maps, diaries, cartoons and other ephemera.

The print record of the war is also kept as part of the Library's extensive collection of Australian magazines, newspapers, histories and memoirs, as well as novels, plays and poetry. These collections comprise a vital resource for understanding the impact of the First World War. Keepsakes: Australians and the Great War provides the opportunity to discover how the very personal experiences of our soldiers, nurses, politicians, artists, writers and families become collective memory.

Keepsakes: Australians and the Great War
26 November 2014–19 July 2015
10 am–5 pm daily
Free exhibition
Media Enquiries:
Sally Hopman, 02 6262 1704 or 0401 226 697

Please Note:

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Image captions

James C. Cruden

Wedding portrait of Kate McLeod and George Searle of
Coogee, Sydney 1915
silver gelatin print; 19.2 x 13.6 cm
Pictures Collection, nla.pic-vn6540284
National Library of Australia



Portrait of Australian soldiers, J. Ellison and E.D. Coates, 20th Battalion c. 1916
silver gelatin print; 13.6 x 8.8 cm
Pictures Collection, nla.pic-an24613372
National Library of Australia





Portrait of a soldier and family members c. 1915 black and white photograph; 13.4 x 8.2 cm Pictures Collection, <u>nla.pic-vn6420010</u> National Library of Australia



Anne Donnell (d. 1956)

Letters and photographs of Anne Donnell

Manuscripts Collection, nla.cat-vn2876157

National Library of Australia



E.O. Milne (1886–1963) **Papers of Edmund Osborn Milne**Manuscripts Collection, nla.cat-vn44426

National Library of Australia





A.W. Wheen (1897–1971)

Papers of Arthur Wesley Wheen

Manuscripts Collection, nla.cat-vn721190

National Library of Australia



William Morris Hughes (1862–1952)

Papers of William Morris Hughes

Manuscript Collections, nla.ms-ms1538

National Library of Australia



Sir Brudenell White (1876–1940)

Papers of Sir Brudenell White

Manuscripts Collection, nla.cat-vn1096442

National Library of Australia



For freedom. Have you bought a War Loan Bond?
c. 1915–1918
colour stamps; approx. 28 x 21.8 cm
Australian Ephemera, nla.aus-vn2600873
National Library of Australia





Norman Lindsay (1879–1969) German monster c. 1918

poster; 50.8 x 38.2 cm

Pictures Collection, nla.pic-an11284020

National Library of Australia



Frank Hurley (1885–1962)
The morning after the first battle of Passchendaele showing Australian infantry wounded around a blockhouse near the site of Zonnebeke Railway Station, 12 October 1917

gelatin silver print; 54.3 x 49.2 cm Pictures Collection, <u>nla.pic-an24574133</u> National Library of Australia



David Low (1891–1963) **Billiwog, London's latest craze** 1916
pen and ink, pencil, collage; 38.2 x 27.5 cm
Pictures Collection, nla.pic-an5600065
National Library of Australia





Stan Cross (1888–1977)

Young woman laying flowers on the grave of the soldier she loved
pen, ink and wash; 73.1 x 51.1 cm
Pictures Collection, nla.pic-vn4306040
National Library of Australia









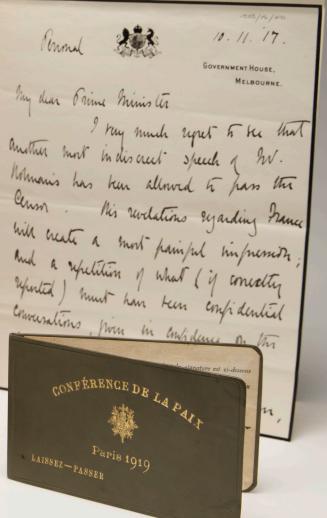




















































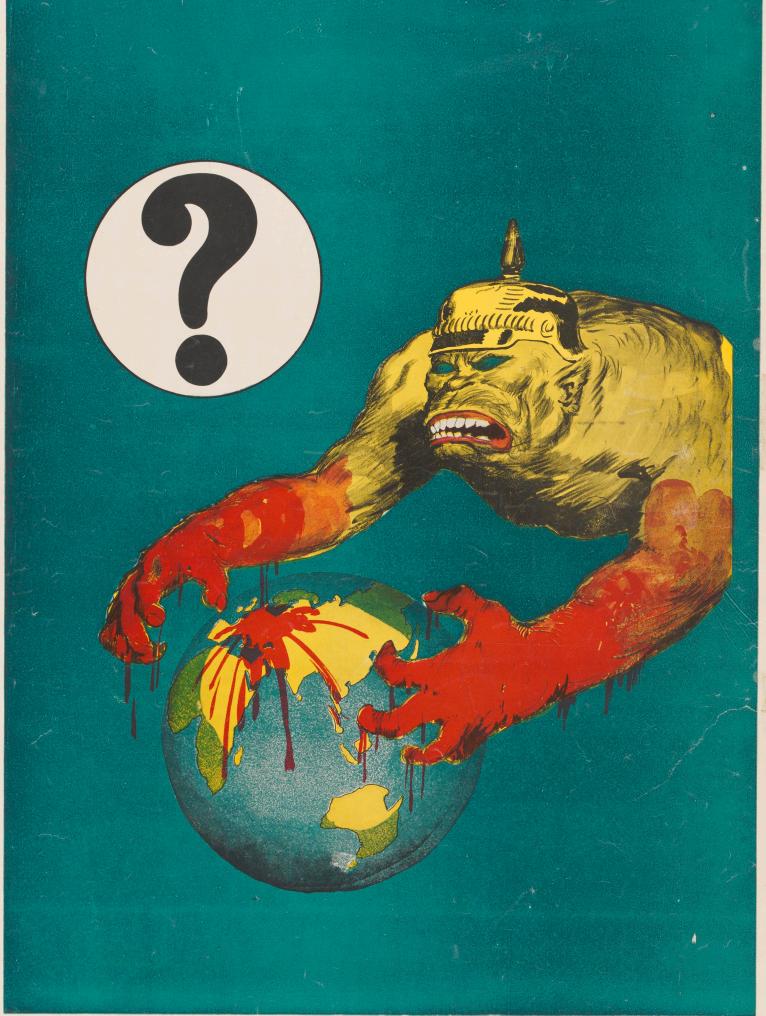












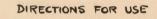


BILLIWOG



ALMOST

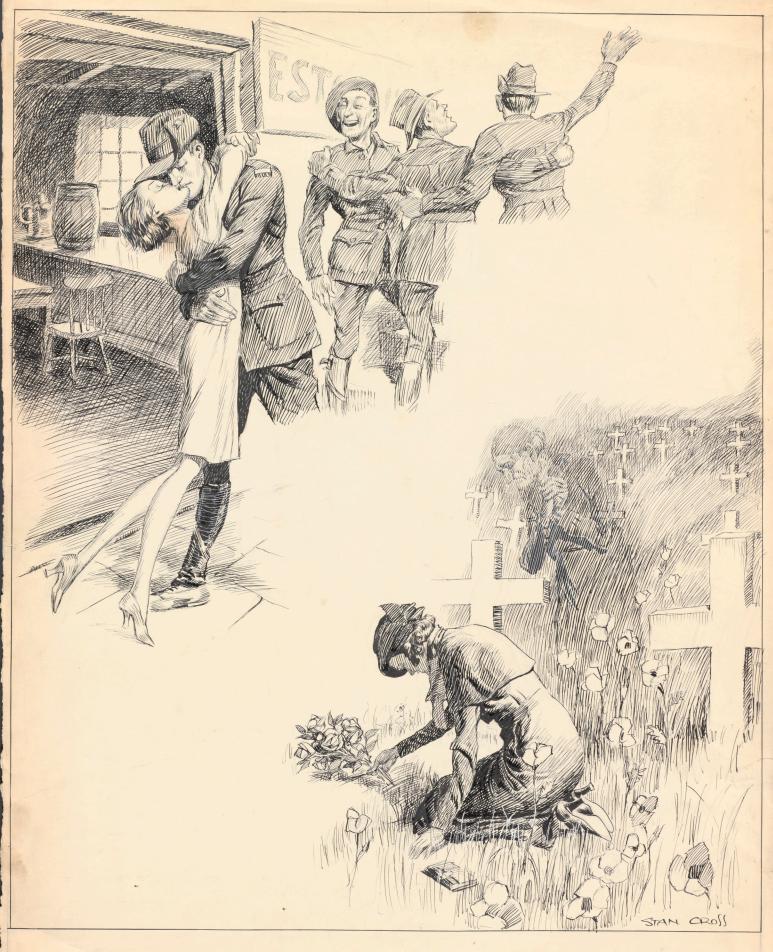
BABIES CRY FOR IT



Blow up with wind until head expands, then release hole in face, whereupon Billy will emit loud noises until he does flat.....

NO WAR IS COMPLETE WITHOUT ONE





wanted funday

Pierce block for Yerra