



SOUTHERN VILLAGES WAR MEMORIAL

A perspective from the
BUNDANOON RSL sub-BRANCH



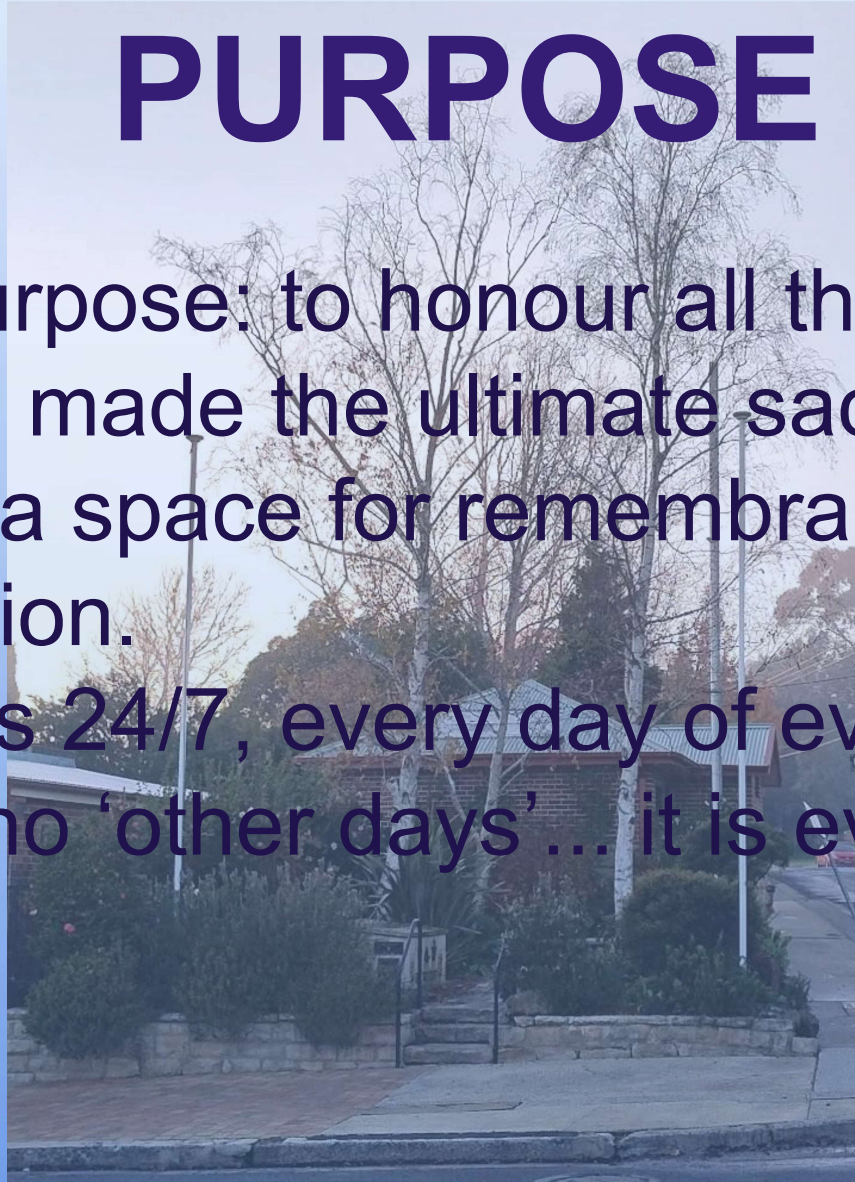
HISTORY

- The Memorial Garden was initially created in 1991 by the Bundanoon Garden Club supported by a number of community organisations, including the Bundanoon RSL sub-Branch.
- A DA submitted by Bundanoon RSL sub-Branch and passed in 2007 (DP 330415). Construction was enabled by several Govt. grants through the WSC as well as local fundraising.
- Dedicated by Hon. Alby Schultz MP , 11 Oct 2008
- Arrangements were formalised under the WSC Cenotaphs & War Memorial (Protected Places) Security & Protection Policy (2016) which applies to the garden, flagpoles, memorials & curtilage.



PURPOSE

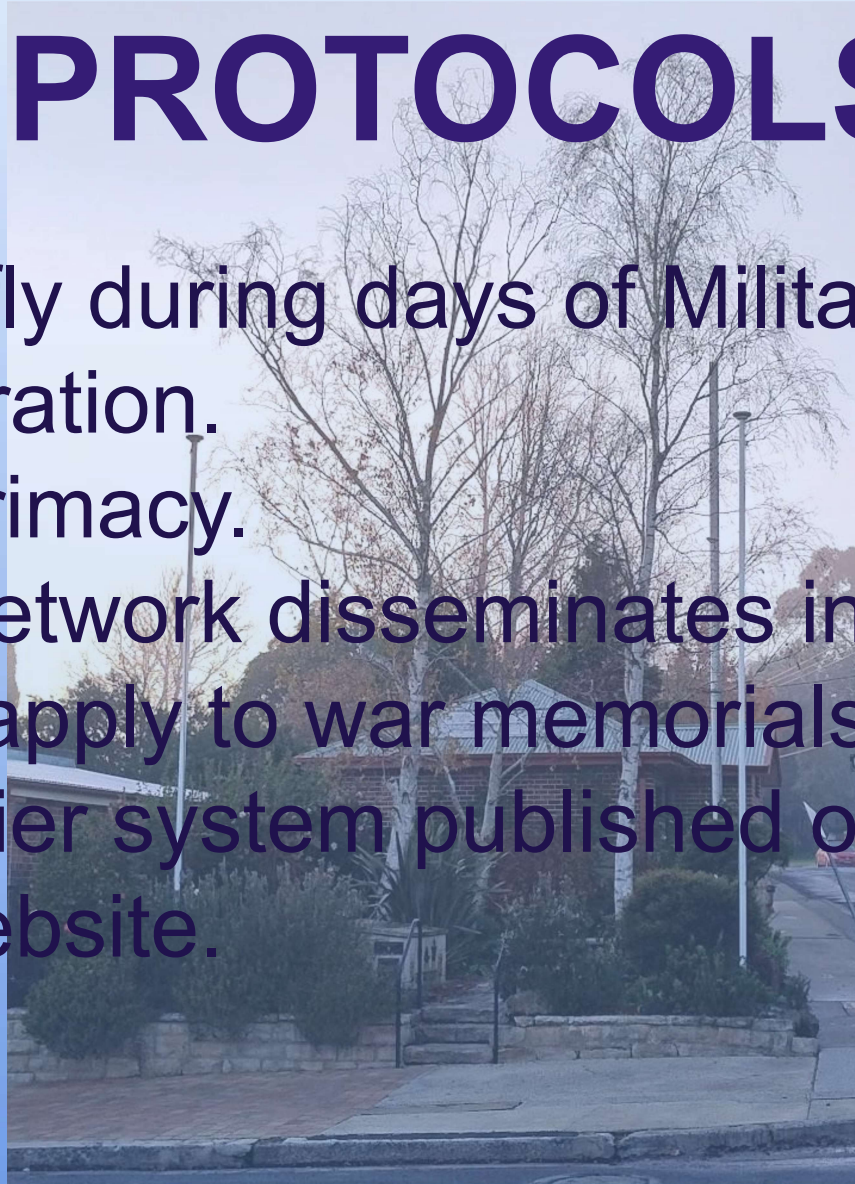
- Singular purpose: to honour all those that have served and made the ultimate sacrifice.
- It provides a space for remembrance and contemplation.
- This applies 24/7, every day of every year.
- There are no 'other days'... it is every day.





PROTOCOLS

- Flags only fly during days of Military Commemoration.
- ANF has Primacy.
- The Flag Network disseminates information that does NOT apply to war memorials.
- There is a tier system published on the Dept. of Defence website.





PROTOCOLS

Flag order of precedence

The flag order of precedence is as follows.

1. Australian National Flag (ANF).
2. Other nations national flags in alphabetical order.
3. State flags.
4. Territory flags.
5. Other flags prescribed by the *Flags Act 1953*, e.g. Australian Aboriginal Flag and Torres Strait Islander Flag.
6. Australian Defence Force Ensign.
7. Australian White Ensign.
8. Royal Australian Air Force Ensign.
9. Merchant Marine.

<https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/events/ceremonial-support/protocols-guidance>



COVENANT

- We owe a debt to our service personnel that made the ultimate sacrifice after answering their country's call.
- The only way we can repay the debt is by honouring them in perpetuity.
- Our fallen are at the core of our country's soul. First, the ANZACs and then from every conflict thereafter.
- We must also pay tribute to those lost in peacetime during exercises that mirror the conditions of conflict. The dangers are real and present.
- The Southern Villages War Memorial, as with every war memorial, is the physical manifestation of our repayment... which can never be made in full.

Lest we forget.



COVENANT

The Ode:

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

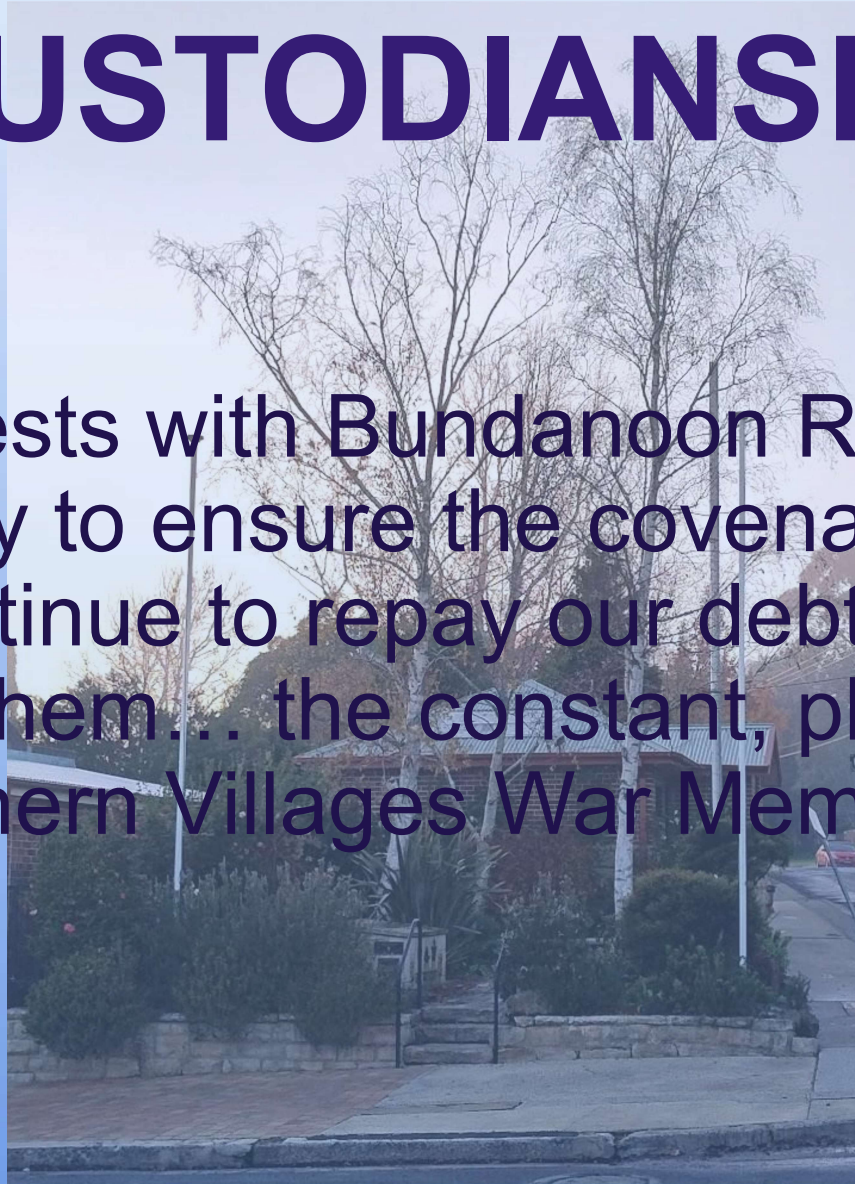
We will remember them.

Lest we forget.



CUSTODIANSHIP

- Currently rests with Bundanoon RSL sub-Branch
- It is our duty to ensure the covenant is maintained
- We will continue to repay our debt to the fallen by honouring them... the constant, physical reminder is the Southern Villages War Memorial.





RELEVANCE

A good mate told me this that this is his grandfather's grave. That's what it is for the loved ones of so many who made the ultimate sacrifice and never came home to rest. Hallowed ground at all times.

'its the grave of all those who fought and never returned and those who's wounds that ultimately beat them in the end. It's a place to remember good times, bad times and also funny times with your mates and family members when ever you feel the need'.

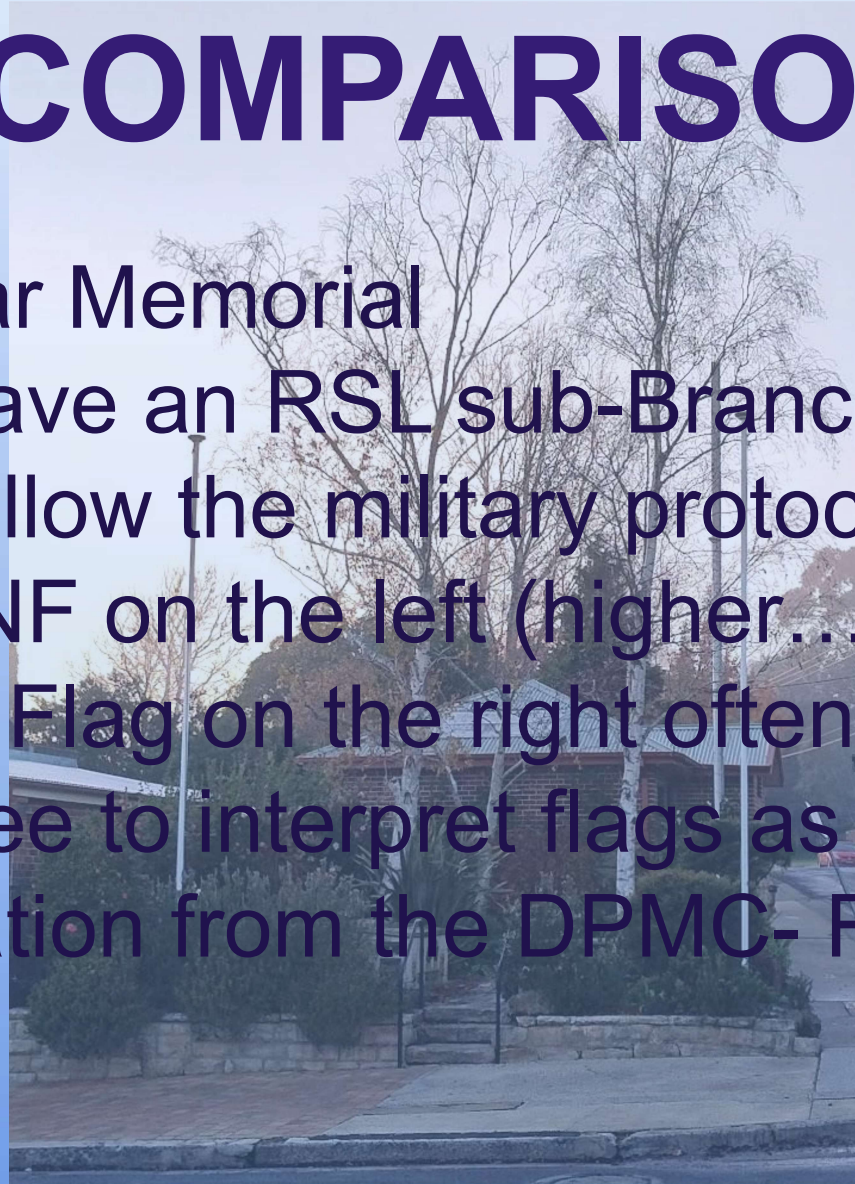
Every war memorial will bring up those same thoughts and memories of the past no matter which war memorial you attend.'



COMPARISON

Berrima War Memorial

- Does not have an RSL sub-Branch as custodians
- Does not follow the military protocols
- Flies the ANF on the left (higher...?) and the Indigenous Flag on the right often 24/7.
- They are free to interpret flags as they see fit (c.f. Information from the DPMC- Flag Network)





CONCLUSION

Thank you for listening

Lest we forget



Rod Broadhead
Acting Secretary
Bundanoon RSL