



*"Lest We Forget"*

## **MOLONG & DISTRICT**

### **SERVICEMEN AND SERVICEWOMEN'S PORTRAIT GALLERY**

Molong RSL Club, 22-24 Riddell Street, Molong NSW 2866

Web page: [www.molongrslclubportraitgallery.com.au](http://www.molongrslclubportraitgallery.com.au) 6366 8105

Greetings Friends

August, 2018

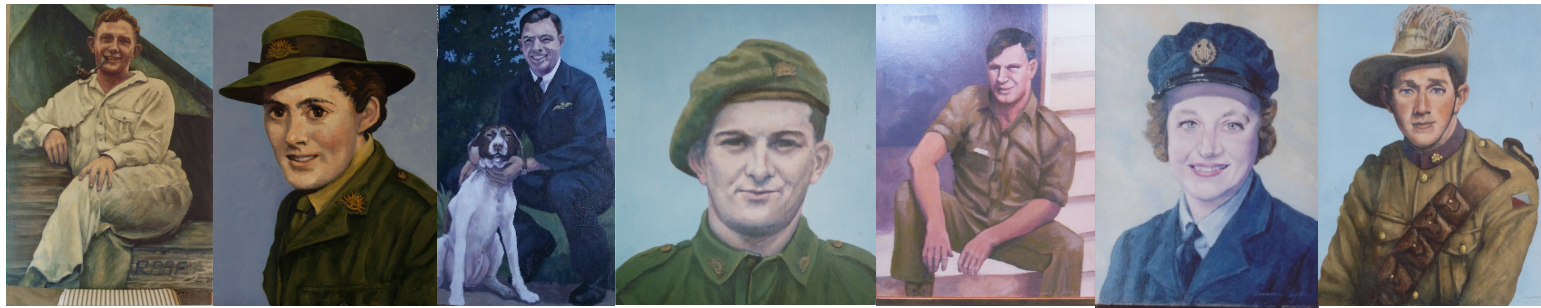
In April, an Art Competition was held with the students from St Joseph's School attending the Gallery, choosing their favourite portrait and doing some research. They then painted the serviceman or woman they had chosen. These paintings were displayed for Anzac Day. Kerry Nichols again judged the students' paintings and was very impressed with the skills the students demonstrated. On 13 June, Kerry presented the prizes at St Joseph's and Rhoma Hale and Helen Powell presented the certificates to them all, welcoming them as Friends of the Portrait Gallery. The prizes were generously donated by John and Rhoma Hale.



Also on display for Anzac Day, were the wonderful poppies made by children at Molong Early Learning Centre.

The Orange Regional Museum's "Paddock to Plate" is a "must see" exhibition. To tie in with the exhibition, other district museums have also organised relevant displays. The Orange and District Historical Society has lent the Portrait Gallery a small display cabinet., to use for items about "An army marches on its stomach." Mrs Pat Troth kindly lent for copying the menus that belonged to David Ball, who was a member of the Molong Half Squadron of the Light Horse, that attended the celebrations for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897. The colonial visitors were treated to amazing hospitality, with menus that included a huge variety of food and wines, and often entertainment, speeches and toasts.

After submitting an expression of interest last December, we were invited to apply in February for an Armistice Centenary Commemorative Grant. In June the Department of Veterans' Affairs advised that we had been granted \$2728.00 to purchase a display case for the Gallery. Our thanks to Federal Member Andrew Gee and his office for assistance with the application and to David Bloomfield and Molong RSL Sub-Branch for the letter of support.. There will be a display of World War 1 memorabilia in November, marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armistice.



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On Saturday 25 August, Robin Droogleever who edited and published "Banjo" Paterson's "Dispatches from the Boer War", visited the Club to discuss information about the men from Molong who served in the Mounted Rifles and left for South Africa at the end of 1899. If you have any information about these men, please let me know and I can pass it on to Rob who is writing the regiment's history.

Regards,

Helen.

[hayneshm@bigpond.com](mailto:hayneshm@bigpond.com) 0263 604114