

Serving in War and the War at Home

The war service display of Wingham Museum includes items from almost every foreign war where Australians have seen active service – from the Sudan in 1886, through the Boar War, both World Wars, Korea and Vietnam to the modern campaigns in the Middle East.



Our collection holds a great assortment of military equipment – machine guns, gas masks, kitbags, shells, uniforms, helmets, medals and lithographs, portraits, trench art, campaign furniture and home front material such as knitting patterns, memorabilia and blackout lights.



We are also lucky to hold a large number of very personal items donated by the community.

The Alf Haynes postcard collection (see below) interprets the personal impact of WWI on soldiers and their partners, while the “dead man’s” penny of James Cross reminds us of their sacrifice.

The impact of these wars on the community is also well represented by the finely crafted honour boards, lithographs and memorials featured in the museum.



One of the latest additions to the war service display is “dedicated to the memory of John Lancelot Andrews and the boy soldiers of the Manning Valley”. It holds a collection of documents, photos and other memorabilia belonging to John (Jack) Lancelot Andrews, who was killed in the First World War aged just 16 years and 8 months – the youngest known casualty from the Manning Valley and one of the youngest in the country.

