

Australian Army Museum of Western Australia

THE MAGAZINE



Issue 17, October 2018



Victoria Cross Exhibition

ARMISTICE CENTENARY

The Victoria Cross Exhibition was officially opened by Mr Tim Britten, CV on the 9th August 2018 at the Artillery Barracks Australian Army Museum of Western Australia.

The Foundation Chair welcomed a small attendance including Foundation patrons Messrs Josh Wilson and Bob Kucera, representatives from politics, DVA, Army, Defence Base Support, City of Fremantle, WA Royal Historical Society, St George's Cathedral, Legacy and family members of VC awardees.

The Exhibition is presented by the Australian Army Museum to commemorate the centenary of the Last 100 Days leading to the Armistice on 11 November 1918 and displays six original Victoria Crosses.

The Exhibition is open from 8 August to 11 November 2018 in the largest display of Victoria Crosses in Australia outside of the Australian War Memorial.

Each of the six original VCs, together with the story of their recipient and the action resulting in the award are featured. Specially commissioned environmental standard showcases have been acquired to enable unprecedented close up public viewing of the medals.

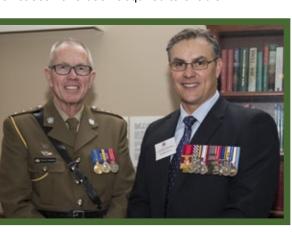
As part of the display, the replica medal groups, photos and citations of all Western Australians awarded the Victoria Cross, from Frederick Bell in South Africa 1901 to Ben Roberts-Smith in Afghanistan in 2010, are displayed. Interpretive panels describe the significance of the Victoria Cross and the Victoria Cross of Australia as part of the public program. Accompanying the exhibition will be a program of lectures and school oriented events to ensure the widest possible access to the exhibition.

Funding of the Exhibition has been provided by a grant from Department of Veterans' Affairs via the Armistice Centenary Grants Program, the Australian Army History Unit and the treasury of the Foundation.

THE LAST 100 DAYS

Beginning with the Battle of Amiens on 8 August 1918 the Australian Imperial Force participated in the hardest fought battles of the Great War until the armistice.

The Victoria Cross Exhibition is the culmination of the Australian Army Museum of Western Australia's five year program of commemoration of the Centenary of World War One which commenced with the official opening of the World War One Gallery in February 2014.



Capt. Wayne Gardiner and Tim Britten



INSIDE

- FROM THE MANAGER
 - FROM THE CHAIR
- FROM THE CURATOR
- SUNSET CONCERT
 - ESPERANCE OUTREACH
- VISIT TO NUNGARIN
- KALINDI'S VISIT TO SCOTLAND
 - SHERIDAN'S BIG BERTHA
 - KNOW YOUR DIRECTORS
 - COL. BRUCE
 APPOINTMENT
 - YOUR WILL IN DIGITAL ERA



AUSTRALIAN ARMY MUSEUM OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA MANAGEMENT

Museum Manager Maj Henry Fijolek

Museum Assistant
Manager
Capt Wayne Gardiner

Museum Curator
Robert Mitchell

Museum Deputy Curator
Richard Bennett

FOUNDATION DIRECTORATE

ChairmanLloyd Halvorson

Deputy ChairmanGraeme Smith

TreasurerPeter Dennis

DirectorsGeoff Murray
Bruce Hamling
Garry Hugo
Eric Trevaskis

Company Secretary
Lloyd Halvorson

Marketing Manager
David Baker

From the Museum Manager



2018 has been a busy year and has gone so quick that we are now in the planning for 2019 phase (where did the year go).

We started with the Army

Band Sunset Concert in February that saw over 1200 people attend a fantastic concert. The concert coincided with a visit to the museum of the new Head of the Australian Army History Unit Mr Tim Gellel who attended with the Deputy Head Neil Dailey. Tim was impressed not only with the concert but also with the standard of the museum and the dedication of the volunteers.

The next big event was the ANZAC Day Fremantle Dockers Len Hall tribute match which was run at the new Perth arena for the first time. Whilst there were a few teething problems again this was a successful event.

The latest major event was held in Esperance in August where the new WW2 museum app was launched at a major event sponsored by the RSL and the city of Esperance. The museum provided an education team that deployed two weeks

earlier and visited regional schools that could not make it to the major event on the weekend. The entire event managed to reach out to over 2500 regional school children.

On the Curatorial side work continues on the collection and the curatorial team worked diligently on the Victoria Cross display which is still running until the 11 November. Comments received on the display reflect the dedication and planning that went into it. The Curatorial workshop team have also been hard at work on the restoration of the Grant Tank which should be ready by the end of the year.

Finally I would like to end with congratulating two of my Army staff members, Captain Wayne Gardiner for being awarded an Order of Australia Medal for his tireless work not only at the museum but also with his work with other organisations such as Legacy, RSL and the ABC. The other is Private Danielle Taylor for her award of the Defence Force Long Service Medal.

There are many people associated with the events outlined above and others who work at the museum whom I have not individually named in this message as I have only been given a limited space for this message. Those people know who they are and will be officially recognised in due course.

Major Henry Fijolek Manager

Army Museum of Western Australia

VALE

William Jamieson, John Deykin, Alan Jennings, Graham McLure, Ray Mawson

My grandfather once told me that there are two kinds of people: those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try and be in the first group; there was less competition there. By: Indira Ghandi

MUSEUM CLOSED OVER HOLIDAY PERIOD

16 December 2018 to 8 January 2019

Reopening 9 January 2019

VOLUNTEER XMAS PARTY

Sunday, 16 December 2018

COMING EVENTS AT THE BARRACKS

14 October 2018

The Great Ride: A one hour presentation of music, images, letters & poems to commemorate the 10 Light Horse in Palestine in 1918

18 November 2018

1918, The Year of Victory: A talk by Capt. Gardiner

From the Chair



Welcome to Issue 17 of the Magazine the first issue for 2018.

The Foundation does not have a permanent editor and a volunteer to fill this empty position would be welcome as would contributions from volunteers and members - so

please let us have your articles for publication.

A major event this year was the Sunset Concert Spectacular in February which attracted over 1000 visitors who enjoyed a program of band music and accompanied by Army and Navy artists singing popular war time hits.

In March, the Board presented Peter Shaw with a Museum plaque in recognition of his 40 years' service as a volunteer of the Army Museum of WA.

In March, at the farewell function for Her Excellency The Honourable Kerry Sanderson AC, the Governor of Western Australia at Government House Ballroom, attended by the Chair and Capt Gardiner, the Governor was presented with the 40th Anniversary book on the Army Museum.

Other major events:

- Opening of the Victoria Cross Exhibition on 9 August with the exhibition continuing until 11 November 2018, Remembrance Day.
- Esperance RSL Retrenchment function on 24 August 2018 was a great success and thanks to the Education section and Events Co-Ordinator. The museum's World War 2 APP was released at this function.

Veteran's Health Week was with us again in September and we thank Visitor Services Officer, Geoff Murray is arranging this activity and DVA for their support.

Thanks go to our volunteers who perform a variety of tasks in Curatorial, Treasury, Admin, Education, Marketing, IT, Events, Visitor Services, Archives & Research, Textiles, Website, Facebook, Workshop and to the people at the "front office" of gate, cashier, galleries and gift shop.

And of course to:

- Fellow directors who deliberate, meditate and make decisions and work behind the scenes in many forms for the benefit of the museum.
- The AAHU Army staff for their support, co-operation, harmonious relations and funding.



Peter Shaw: 40 years of Service to the Army Museum

Peter Shaw was presented with an Army Museum plaque at a dinner on 1st March at the Tradewinds Hotel East Fremantle to celebrate his 40 years of service to the museum.

Peter commenced his volunteer association in the Dilhorn days.



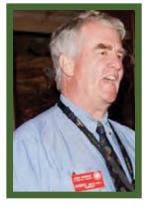
Presentation of Museum 40th Anniversary Book

To the Governor Her Excellency Kerry Sanderson AC

On 27 March 2018, Capt. Wayne Gardiner and the Chair Lloyd Halvorson attended the farewell reception in Government House Ballroom where the Governor thanked patronage organisations.

At this reception, Chair Lloyd Halvorson presented Her Excellency with her personal copy of the Army Museum 40th Anniversary Book.

From the Curator



CURATORIAL HAPPENINGS NEAR AND FAR

Although as usual there has been considerable curatorial activity, both in front and behind counter, since the last issue of The Magazine, this report will focus on one near-in activity and one further-out in the future.

The most obvious happening has been the opening of the Centenary of Armistice Victoria Cross Exhibition. The Exhibit is of national significance because it brings together the largest display of original Victoria Crosses in Australia outside of the Australian War Memorial. It has been a real team effort with the Australian Army History Unit (AAHU) providing display case infrastructure, the Department of Veterans' Affairs providing funding for presentation and public programs through the Army Museum of WA Foundation, in kind support from local suppliers, research and exhibit preparation by curatorial volunteers and excellent introduction and commentary

by gallery hosts and attendants. The exhibition highlights five years of activities centred around the centennials of World War One.

The further out activity involves the finalisation of the Army Museum Interpretation Plan report. Complied by our consultant team, the report included input from the AAHU, museum military staff, museum departments and individual volunteers, the report has achieved its final clearance. The Interpretation plan looks forward 10 years in plans and 20 years in concept. It lays out an plan of actions which could be but not necessarily must be. All involved with the Interpretation Plan agree that it must be a dynamic document. Actions and opportunities not foreseen at the time of compilation will arise. Implementation will be dependent on funding scale and funding timing. The Interpretation Plan will however provide a planning framework to allow the Army Museum to evolve to meet the needs and expectations of Defence, the Museum, the communities and public we serve while maintaining the strong linkage with volunteer skills and enthusiasm. Details of priorities and implementation will follow in future issues after they are finalized in the 2019 Strategic Directive currently being developed.



The Chair presents flowers to Pauline Steele on her farewell.



Col. Bruce Sword

Col. John Bruce was presented with this sword by Western Australian Governor Kennedy in 1862 in appreciation for his services to the Enrolled Pensioner Force at Perth Barracks.

Col. Bruce was subsequently appointed Colonel Commandant of the Volunteer Military Force in Western Australia on 10th November 1863 by Governor Hampton.



From the Curator

HIDDEN ROOM TO DOCUMENTED TREASURE

Once upon a time, not so long ago, there was a hidden room at the Army Museum. If you were in the know, you could find this room by going down a brick canyon, turning left and entering an unmarked door. The door led to a windowless room, about 3 metres by 4 metres with a blocked door at the far end. The room was filled with a compactus of unknown age, boxes of documents randomly stacked and an overflow of miscellaneous folders and files. Fortunately rats and other vermin were not a problem because weekly the room was filled with carbon monoxide fumes from the heritage vehicles starting up in the garage space behind the blocked door. Every week, two brave ladies entered this space to undertake the archival equivalent of spinning flax into gold – documenting, indexing and filing the archival collection of the Australian Army Museum of Western Australia.

Moving ahead five years to the present, the changes are breathtaking. The Archives are now housed in fit for purpose units. The space is climate controlled, well lit, and accessible with multiple workspaces. Every unit and personal folio within the Archives has been individually examined, recorded and systematically filed to contemporary conservation standards. Previously hidden or unknown archival treasures relating to the mission of the Museum and the Australian Army History Unit have been brought fully into the collection and made available for research. The skills and numbers of the Archive team volunteers have been expanded to keep pace with the work program.

The benefit of this largely unseen accomplishment

has been fully demonstrated over the course of the Centenary of World War One. Numerous researchers have praised the Museum for its collection of diaries, ephemera and correspondence as well as unit documentation. Access to these materials has benefited scholarship and public understanding of both the Army in Western Australia and Western Australians in the Army. The range of book launches hosted at the Museum over the past several years and the praise and appreciation recorded at these events is apt recognition of the contribution of the Archives team.

The path of progress is planned to continue with further upgrades in electronic documentation and access. This will permit identification of connections within the collection and a more comprehensive response to pubic queries. A program of progressive digitization of key documents will protect originals while sustaining expanded research access. Space is being made available for the records of units and unit associations relating the World War Two to ensure preservation and systematic access for the centenary of that conflict which is rapidly approaching.

With all of the work ongoing, it is indeed sad to say farewell to Pauline Steele, who over 10 years ago was one of the brave ladies entering the hidden room. Pauline has played a key role in the evolution of the Archives and its current state of effectiveness and efficiency. Always a team player, Pauline has worked diligently without fuss or bother but with quiet dedication to progress the Archives and to promote an effective team. She leaves an ongoing and progressing enterprise which has benefited from her personal commitment and expertise. The Australian Army Museum of Western Australia sincerely acknowledges her contribution and wishes her well in her future endeavours.



2018 Sunset Concert Spectacular

The Australian Army Museum presented a Sunset Concert at Artillery Barracks on 25 February 2018.

With the enthusiasm of the Museum Manager, Major Henry Fijolek and the support of Captain O'Keefe of the Australian Army Band Perth, an excellent program of music through the war years and to more recent times, was presented to a large gathering of visitors. In addition to the Army Band, also participating in the spectacular concert was the Royal Australian Navy Band WA, 51 ACU Swan Regiment Pipes and Drums, Presbyterian Ladies' College Pipes and the Highland Dancers.

This concert was an absolute sell out with in excess of 1,200 guests in attendance with many taking the opportunity to visit the museum galleries.

Besides providing funds for the museum's activities, the concert increased the public's understanding of the role that our Museum plays in displaying the fantastic heritage of the Australian Army's military history in addition to providing the visitors an enjoyable range of music.

As the concert was so warmly received by the public, it is planned to become an annual event on the Museum's calendar of activities.



ESPERANCE ENTRENCHMENT PROJECT



Maj. Fijolek and Neil Dailey (Deputy Head AAHU) together with Graham McEwan, Bruce Hamling and Mary Tomshin visited Esperance in August for the Esperance Centenary Commemoration Program. The primary purpose of the visit was to launch the Army Museum's World War II App by Neil Dailey and also

to deliver Australian military history talks to town and regional schools, community groups and two cadet units (Navy & Army) were visited and 4 radio interviews were conducted.

It was a very successful event with 1200 visitors and 1200 students attending the main events in the Civic Centre (where the Army Museum had a stand) with Graham McEwan visiting a number of outlying schools and presenting military history talks to 1275 students.

Many organisations participated, including Defence Recruiting, Army 13th Brigade, Esperance Museum, Re-Enactment Groups, Rotary, Lions and Apex Clubs, ABC Goldfields and was the largest outreach program that the Army Museum has undertaken.

The "Entrenchment Project" was the culmination of a range of projects that the Esperance RSL and the community of Esperance has presented during the WW1 Australian Centenary commemorations which commenced in 2014.

Nungarin Heritage Machinery and Army Museum

Visit by Graeme Smith

The writer recently visited the Nungarin Museum about a 3 hours' drive from Perth in the wheat belt north of Merredin along the Great Eastern Highway.

The museum is managed by Bill Cornish and a small band of volunteers and is located at the old World War 2 number Base Ordnance Depot (5 BOD) workshop building.

The military vehicles are under cover in the and all vehicles can be fired into life. Within the museum there is a great display of very old farm tractors. Positioned inside the Museum shed is a WW2 military search light, which was built by Bill Cornish himself and it actually works.



Due to fears of a Japanese invasion of Western Australia in the early war years, 5 BOD was located at Nungarin to be out of range of carrier borne enemy aircraft and developed as a supply depot for fuel and ammunition.

In September 1942 the Army acquired 1720 acres (700ha) of land, which included some town sites as well as parts of adjoining agriculture land.

Construction of the major depot buildings began in October 1942 and continued until as late as 1946.

If you have an opportunity venture out to Nungarin and you will not be disappointed.

No Front Line

An account of action in Afghanistan by journalist Chris Masters.

Book review by Graeme Smith

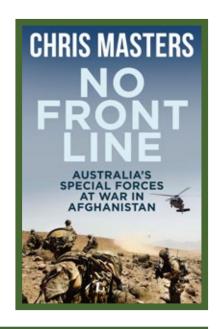
This is the first book I have read on the subject of the War in Afghanistan and the problems that occurred with Australian troops who were deployed there. Chris Masters covers this conflict in great detail, though at a distance.

The author covers the way in which 40 other nations deployed their troops to Afghanistan, the rotation of the

Australians in detail and details of the conflict between our special forces namely the SAS and the Commandos.

During the conflict Australia lost 41 KIA and 261 WIA and Chris Masters explains the untold problems a lot of deployed soldiers had when they came home and were discharged.

The book also contains some pictures and a very handy list of abbreviations and acronyms to assist the reader. All in this entire book will open your eyes to this terrible conflict.



My Educational Visit to Scotland to Attend Open Palace Programme

by Kalindi Hopping of Curatorial



This British summer I had the pleasure of attending the Open Palace Programme. This is an educational tour which is designed for young emerging heritage and museum professionals, allowing them privileged access to some of the best heritage sites in Britain. What

makes it so special is its emphasis on engagement with consummate professionals in the field, which allows one a real chance to learn new skills and information which is directly applicable in current museum and heritage environments. The program also provides a great chance to meet like-minded individuals from around the globe.

Although the Programme is now in its fifth year in England, this year saw a Scottish tour run for the first time. I arrived in Edinburgh at the end of April, just managing to catch the last of the cherry blossoms – as well as some surprisingly good weather! It was here that I met the other participants - nineteen young people from around the world, many at different stages of their

heritage career, whether that be already employed, volunteering, or still studying.

The tour began with several days in the capital with a couple of historic tours – and plenty of sightseeing! Our time in Edinburgh included a couple of days visiting Holyrood Palace, as well as a daytrip to Falkland Palace. Thereafter, we continued on coach to other castles and grand homes across Scotland, sticking mostly to the Borders region and even dipping into Northern England on a couple of occasions. These sites included Traquair House, Abbotsford - the home of Sir Walter Scott, Alnwick Castle, Vindolanda, Mount Stuart, and Inverary Castle.

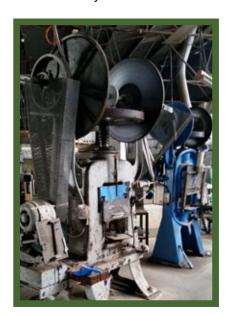
At each place we were introduced to and worked under various curators, archivists, and conservators. We were given a specific task wherever we went, which included brainstorming ideas for future undertakings, a textile workshop, label writing, conservation dilemmas, issues of authenticity, and ethical considerations. These activities gave us an insight into real life museum and heritage issues, while the feedback we received helped us understand what really happens at these institutions.

My favourite site was Traquair House, the oldest continually lived-in house in Scotland. It dates back to 1107 and has been visited by 27 kings and queens in its illustrious and troubles history. I was given the opportunity to stay in one of the historic bedrooms which was only accessible by a narrow winding medieval staircase.

What I take away with me is how fantastic it was to meet so many other people with the same interests as me and who were at a similar stage of their professional path. It truly was a wonderful, one-in-a-lifetime adventure to be part of.

Big Bertha

Story by Lloyd Halvorson from a book on the Sheridan Family business.



As previously reported,
Deputy Curator
Richard Bennett
secured the donation
a 75 ton stamping
press named "Big
Bertha" for a display in
the museum.

"Big Bertha" was the name given to the Power Driven Screw Press used by SHERIDAN'S ENGRAVING &

METAL STAMPING COMPANY to manufacture military cap badges during World War 1.

Sheridan's secured a contract to supply military cap badges. Orders were usually small and a series of eleven small sheds behind the residence in Florence Street West Perth was adequate for manufacturing.

Every job was unique and badges were made from copper or brass that was stamped using a hardened steel die with the most arduous task being the colouring of the designs.

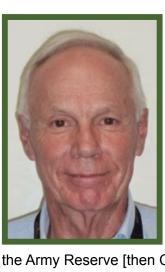


Making badges was very labour intensive and the military contracts were difficult to keep up with however the war years provided experience and funds to expand and so a large friction screw embossing press was purchased, affectionately known as "Big Bertha" which could apply 80 ton of pressure per square inch. The press was made by John Heine & Son Limited, Sydney NSW.

The company could now offer a range of products, with medallions, common seals, embossed licence plates, car registration plates, metal ashtrays and bottle openers to name a few.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service came to Sheridan's for the first set of gold plated cap badges.





My military
background
commenced in 1961
when I joined the
school cadet corps
reaching the rank
of Cadet Under
Officer. After leaving
school I commenced
my accountancy
studies and during
this period I joined

the Army Reserve [then CMF] with the University Regiment and served for a period of just under four years.

I have three adult children and eight grandchildren the oldest being 16 years and youngest 21 months. I am a keen hockey player and play twice a week. Thankful at my age [70] to still be able run around.

I have always been interested in the military and after retiring looked for a volunteer position that would maintain that interest. I think The Army Museum of WA is a wonderful showcase for Army history and was happy to serve in any capacity; as it turned out my accountancy background has been utilised to assist in the administration of Treasury matters.

Bruce Hamling



In 1959 he missed the National service call up, as his birthday was not drawn in the ballot. In the early 60's, when teaching in Northam, he joined the CMF, 15 Psychology Unit which was a haven for teachers. Within a very short time his

unit members were travelling east to test and process the intakes of National Service recruits, doing this for several years.

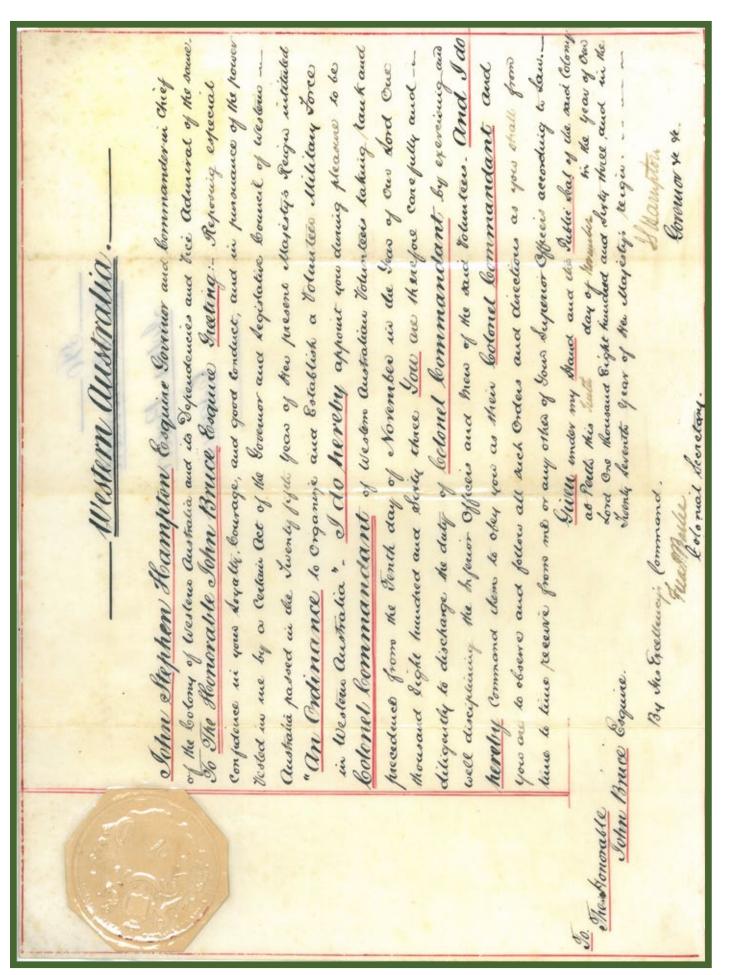
Before retirement he was with the Education Department for 49 years, and 31 as a principal. Bruce is a Board Director and Head of the Education Section within the Museum. He organizes visits to the Museum of schools and non educational organizations, the production of educational materials e.g. Gallery Guides Notes, Teacher Resources, Apps and hands on materials for clients.

KNOW YOUR DIRECTORS

He has multiple qualifications in Education and has an aviation interest having owned a de Havilland Tiger Moth and later a de Havilland Chipmunk. Flying qualifications included Class 3 Night VMC, glider towing, aerobatic, parachute dropping and is endorsed to fly 19 types of aircraft.

Bruce has been instrumental in the co-ordination of the World War 2 App and the existing World War 1 online App and see's the potential these Apps will bring.





Col. Bruce Appointment document - Colonel Commandant

Your Will - in the Digital Era

Most of us manage our personal finances online. It is very convenient for us, but how easy will it be for our executor when we pass on? People are living longer, marrying and divorcing more often and leaving very different things in their wills. Valuable household items such as jewellery, grandfather clocks, family heirlooms, coins and other valuables are still on the list to leave to beneficiaries. However, today, other assets are tied up in the digital world and should be considered in your will.

In years past, family descendants and executors could go to the home of the deceased person and search for paperwork relating to their assets and liabilities. Now most people receive their bank accounts and statements online, so there is no longer a paper trail. More importantly, many use direct debit on their bank and credit accounts and these will continue until they are stopped. Unless there is a record of and access to PINs and passwords, it can be impossible to find the documents required. A large number of people have at least one social media account they use on a regular basis. However, only 20 per cent of Australians who use social media have left instructions for a loved one on how to access their accounts.

A recent-study by the NSW Trustee & Guardian found that nine in 10 Australians have a social media account such as Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter. Four out of five people who use social media have not discussed with their loved ones what will happen to their accounts when they die. In addition, Facebook and Google require a death certificate and proof of identification before accounts of deceased persons can be closed.

Digital assets include social and financial accounts, telephone accounts but include PayPal, E-Bay, on-line shoppers, airline accounts and other frequent flyer points traders. Others include ISP domain names and cloud storage accounts for everything from emails to sentimental accounts with photographs that are stored online or on social media. In the past, photos were kept in a shoe box, or by the more organised, photo albums. Now they are kept in the cloud or on social media. A nightmare to find and recover.

When users sign up to telcos, ISPs and various other services and products, they agree to a long list of terms and conditions. Most people do not even read them. If one had the time, or inclination, to read the terms and conditions, some may not have signed up for the service. It is indicative of the litigious society of Corporate America and, more recently, Australia. Accounts such as Microsoft, Apple, Adobe, Google, Yahoo

You Tube facebook 8 fg

all have similar conditions - and these companies, and many others, all store files in the 'ICT cloud' and require passwords to access. Not forgetting Australia Government and banks - the info is all 'up there'. Many sites are difficult to navigate, even for the esoteric. The Privacy Act makes it even more difficult to manage and if you are an executor, be prepared to jump through many hoops and to navigate around, through and over the smoke screens.

No wonder the Australian Government legislated on the retention by telcos and ISPs of metadata for two years. But with the current disagreement that the US Government is having with Apple, additional legislation may be required in Australia to access those records, if required by legitimate agencies for security purposes. Metadata is another topic though.

An Australian digital asset service, eClosure, provides a service where, on the provision of a letter of authority and a death certificate, they will close down Facebook, LinkedIn, Gmail and other on-line services a deceased person may have. According to *The Huffington Post*, 30 million of Facebook's 1.3 billion registered users are dead.

How You Can Manage Your Passwords

Keep a diary, separate from your will, of your on-line accounts - record your usernames and passwords. Keep them updated (in pencil).

Advise your executor of the existence and location of the list.

Brief your executor what to do with your accounts - cancel or leave for access to family photos in lieu of photo albums - believe it, some will want to.



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Wednesday - Sunday

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