# Armistice
## 1918-2018 | South Australia Remembers

## TRAVELLING EXHIBITION KIT

*Armistice: South Australia Remembers* is a travelling exhibition curated by the History Trust of SA in collaboration with Veterans SA to commemorate the Centenary of Armistice on 11 November 1918. The Armistice was the final agreement to end the fighting of the Great War, later known as the First World War 1914-18. The exhibition offers a South Australian perspective of the closing events of the First World War from the time when peace was announced in 1918, to the bringing home of the servicemen and women, their readjustment to civilian life, and how they have been honoured and remembered over the past century.

Please find enclosed the instructions to set up your exhibition and useful aids to make it a success.

## CONTENTS

- **EXHIBITION INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

- **IDEAS FOR USING THIS EXHIBITION IN YOUR COMMUNITY**

- **EDUCATION RESOURCES**

- **INVITATION TEMPLATE TO YOUR EXHIBITION**

- **MEDIA RELEASE TEMPLATE**

- **HELP**

For further information please contact the History Trust of South Australia on (08) 8203 9888.

# EXHIBITION INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

There are 8 banners in the kit each contained in a bag numbered from 1-8. Banners should be set up in numerical order.

To decrease the risk of damage, it is a good idea to place the banners in their bags where you intend setting them up rather than moving them after they have been set up.

## SET UP IN 3 EASY STEPS:





1. Take the base & folded rod (inside long pocket) from bag. Put rod together & place one end in socket in centre of base.

2. Carefully pull up the banner.

3. Clip the top end of rod into place at the top of the banner. (It may be easier to tip base towards you as you are pulling up the banner).

## DISMANTLING THE EXHIBITION:

Reverse the process above. Take care to hold the banner carefully when taking it down - to avoid damage, do not release suddenly. Replace the banners, base, and folded rod back into their corresponding numbered bags.

## IDEAS FOR USING THIS EXHIBITION IN YOUR COMMUNITY

The banners are designed to be a stand-alone exhibition that requires no extra items. However some additional ideas for using the exhibition to create a pop-up museum are listed below.

- Display artefacts from a local history collection along with the banners.

- Have an 'Antiques Roadshow' style event where people bring Armistice and First World War related items to display. This could include also a professional valuer and/or a conservator (for example, from Artlab Australia) who can provide appropriate care and storage advice.

- Create a display about the Armistice in your community. This could include documents or photographs from the celebrations in 1918 and those over the past century.

- Identify First World War related monuments for visitors to see in your local community. If there are several, design a trail.

- Create a dossier on local war veterans, including nurses, using local community history records, or online service records from the National Archives of Australia or the Red Cross Information Bureau.

- Host a morning tea, book sale, or book launch and signing.

- Have a local winery or brewery provide a tasting & sales event.

- Hold a 'scan fest'. Ask your community to bring Armistice and First World War related photographs or documents to be scanned or items to be photographed to add to the local history records.

- Invite local school children, drama groups or local community groups to perform or to do re-enactments during the exhibition.

- Organise visits by school groups and provide an age appropriate educational component related to your community.

- Have a guest speaker attend the exhibition.

- Install a time capsule of how the Armistice was celebrated in your community for the centenary in 2018, to be opened at the bicentenary.

**EDUCATION RESOURCES**

These education resources are designed to assist in delivering the content of this exhibition to students and where possible are based around the inquiry skills recommended by the Australian Curriculum for history. Suggestions for age appropriate key inquiry questions are provided followed by general ideas for engaging students with the topic of Armistice.

## Key Inquiry Questions

### Early Years

#### Foundation year

*Show an old photograph of Armistice Day celebrations on North Terrace, Adelaide.*

Do you recognise this place?
Why do you think there are so many people there?
What are they doing?
Do you think someone from your family could have been there?

*Show a photograph of a First World War soldier or nurse arriving home on a transport ship.*

What are they wearing? Why?
Where have they come from?
Where are they going?
Do you have photographs like this at home in your family photograph album?

#### Year 1

Does anyone in your family work in the Army, Navy or Airforce now? What does the rest of the family do when they are away and is this different to when they are home?

Did someone in your family go to the First World War? What do you think their mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, wives and husbands were doing when that person was away at war?

How did people celebrate Armistice Day in the past? How do they celebrate it now?

#### Year 2

*Show a picture of a war memorial in your community or visit one.*

Do you know where this is?
Have you been there? When and why?
What things have changed since it was built?
What was the memorial built from?
Why do you think it was built?
Have you seen any other war memorials? Where? What were they like?

## Primary Years

### Year 3

What kind of people went to the First World War?

What did they do there?

Why did they go to war?

What things do we do to remember the people who went to the First World War?

If they survived the war, what did they do when they came home and how do you think they felt returning to civilian life?

### Year 4

Why did South Australians serve in the First World War? Was it right for them to serve in this war?

How were the survivors welcomed home?

How did the survivors feel when they came home and what did they do after the war?

Did everyone come home? Why not?

Is it important to remember the people who went to war? If so, how can we do this?

### Year 5

In which wars have South Australians participated?

To which countries did the participants go during the First World War?

What were the living conditions like at war?

What roles did the participants carry out during the war?

How did their experience at war affect how they contributed to society when they came home, both positively and negatively?

How did returned soldiers, nurses, and others commemorate the Armistice in years following the war? Have these celebrations changed over time?

## Middle Years

### Year 6

Why did South Australians participate in the First World War?

Do we have a global responsibility to participate in war?

How did South Australian society change after the First World War? Are these changes still evident in South Australian society today?

What schemes were introduced by Government and non-government agencies to assist returning servicemen and women?

How has the way that Armistice is commemorated changed over the past century?

**Year 7**

What types of industries were created in South Australia as a direct result of the First World War?

What kinds of resources were needed to fuel these industries?

What was the economic impact of the war on South Australian businesses, society and government? Were these positive or negative impacts?

Did the above change after Armistice? How?

**Year 8**

How did roles in society change during the First World War and after service personnel came home?

After the war, what changes can be seen in social, economic, political and religious beliefs? Which of these changes are still evident today?

What was the role of South Australian philanthropic and patriotic societies during the war? Did this change after the Armistice? (Red Cross, churches, RSL, etc.)

**Year 9**

How did this First World War change the movement of people around the globe and in South Australia after the Armistice was declared?

What technological developments contributed to life in South Australia after the Armistice?

How did the role of South Australian women change during the war and then after the Armistice?

Was South Australia's identity as a part of Australian nation the same or different after the war?

How has the Anzac legend developed since Armistice? Is it still the same today as it was a century ago? How do different cultural groups within Australia relate to this legend?

## Senior Years

**Year 10**

How were soldiers repatriated after the First World War?

What was the First World War soldier settlement program? Was it successful?

What were the main changes in South Australian society after the war?

What were some of the physical and psychological injuries that returning soldiers and nurses endured and what advances in medical technology arose out of the need to assist them? Do we treat these conditions differently today?

**Year 11 & 12**

Explain the differences between nation boundaries prior to the First World War and after the Armistice.

What agreements led to the redistribution of these boundaries?

Do these boundaries have a lasting legacy today? What conflicts have arisen from these boundaries and how has that affected the participation of South Australians in war since the Armistice?

# Ideas for Engaging Your Students with the Topic of Armistice

- Use copies of photographs and newspaper pictures to create a collage, digital PowerPoint, or slide show of Armistice celebrations in South Australia over the past century.
- Research the First World War history of one of your school's old scholars, a family member or local community identity. Use online records available at the National Archives of Australia http://www.naa.gov.au/, RSL Virtual War Memorial https://vwma.org.au/, and the South Australian Red Cross Information Bureau https://sarcib.ww1.collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/ . Paint, draw or make a digital story from this research using PowerPoint or iMovie.
- Visit the Adelaide Rifle Walkway, Anzac Centenary Memorial Walk, War Memorial on North Terrace, West Terrace AIF cemetery, Australian Light Horse Memorial and War Horse Memorial trough, and the Cross of Sacrifice in North Adelaide. Use this as a basis for discussion on various topics concerning the First World War and the Armistice such as the history of a particular South Australian battalion, the symbolism on different monuments, how Remembrance Day celebrations have changed over time, how horses were used during the war and their fate afterwards.
- Read the book or watch the movie Warhorse.
- Make poppy shaped biscuits or Anzac biscuits. Explain the significance of these items.
- Make a care pack to 'send to love ones' on the front line.
- Make poppies from craft materials.
- Choose a historical photo of South Australia's Armistice celebrations and have the students perform a tableau.
- Discuss how Armistice Day became known as Remembrance Day after the Second World War.
- Learn Remembrance Day songs or poems.
- Create a memory box which includes items such as copies of photographs, letters, diaries and artefacts from a First World War participant. Have the students try to write a biography of the person based on these primary sources. What do you know about this person from the sources? What is missing? How could we fill the gaps in our research?
- Research how South Australian school students celebrated when the Armistice was announced in 1918.
- Research what the South Australian general public did when the Armistice was announced.
- Create a First World War Memorial Scroll and Plaque (also known as Dead Man's Penny) for the families of those killed in action. Discuss why they were called Dead Man's Penny and research a soldier or nurse whose family would have received one.
- Research the typical campaign medals soldiers and nurses received as well as the gallantry medals. Draw or make them.
- Have the students re-enact a ceremony with stirring speeches or medal presentations. Various roles can be assigned such as governor, recipient, politicians, officials, speaker, widows etc.
- Make a Mothers' and Widows' badge. Research the women in your community who lost sons or husbands.
- Create miniature memorials: stained glass windows with cellophane, honour boards, statues, obelisks, gardens, memorial fundraising badges, crosses, Violet Day items, and wreaths. Discuss how these items were originally used, the symbolism used on them and why they were created.
- Learn about the South Australian Children's Patriotic Fund. Have the students do some of their tasks, such as knitting socks and sewing sandbags. Discuss why these things were necessary.
- Research the various aid schemes that South Australians participated in to rebuild parts of Belgium and France after the Armistice. Learn how Australian soldiers are still honoured in those places today on Remembrance Day or Anzac Day.
- Discuss the kind of injuries that soldiers endured. Recreate a triage and teach the children various tourniquet and first aid methods for treating wounds in the battlefield. How would families have to tend to these wounds when the soldiers came home?

- Create a war scrapbook which, in images or newspapers, chronologically portrays a few significant events during the war, the coming home parades and Armistice celebrations.
- Write a fictional diary about coming home and readjusting to life after the war.
- Write a fictional letter about looking forward to coming home after the Armistice was declared.
- Research the conditions aboard the ships when coming home, for example, food, clothing and entertainment. Letters, diaries, photographs and other items can be accessed online at the Australian National Maritime Museum http://collections.anmm.gov.au/search/WW1 and the State Library of South Australia http://guides.slsa.sa.gov.au/centenaryofanzac .
- Make a First World War nurse's veil or soldier's slouch hat.
- Research the role of South Australia's Indigenous soldiers in their communities after the war.
- Listen to oral histories. The State Library of South Australia has online versions available at https://digital.collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/ .
- Make your own propaganda poster. Topics could include recruitment, fundraising, bringing the boys home.
- Using First World War battalion diaries available online at the Australian War Memorial, research the activities undertaken by South Australian soldiers after the Armistice while they were awaiting repatriation, such as sports activities and education sessions to assist them to readjust to life at home.
- Plant a memorial garden at your school.
- Research the stories of the Barwell Boys who immigrated to South Australia after the war to replenish the male population.
- Draw or make flags of the countries who fought in the First World War.
- Research South Australian battalions and make copies of their insignia.
- Install a time capsule of how the Armistice was celebrated in your school for the centenary in 2018.
- Create a family tree with pictures and place a photograph of a family war veteran on it to provide context as to where that person fits into the family's history.
- Make a timeline with pictures, showing how a particular war memorial in your community and its backdrop has changed over the past century.
- Have the students create an artwork display, iMovie, or Power Point presentation on the Armistice in South Australia over the past century.
- Learn about soldier settlement homes. Design the layout of one. How have housing expectations changed over the past century?
- Design a 'Welcome Home' banner.
- Show the students an Armistice related object or picture of an object. Ask them to write about the object in the form of either a First World War era advertisement, an object label like you would see in a museum, or a fact sheet.

You can also borrow from the History Trust, a Dead Man's Penny and a set of replica medals including:
Examples of 2 gallantry awards (awarded for distinguished service)
- Victoria Cross
- Military Medal

3 campaign or war medals (available to all members of the British and Commonwealth armed services who saw service in WWI).
- 1914/15 Star
- British War Medal
- Victory Medal

Just ask for the *Bravest of Brave* Schools kit.

**HELP**

If you have any questions about *Armistice: South Australia Remembers* please contact the History Trust of SA on (08) 8203 9888.

Some suggestions for further information and resources about the Armistice appear below:

*Armistice Day 1918*, Adelaidia, http://adelaidia.sa.gov.au/events/armistice-day-1918

'Centenary of Anzac', State Library of South Australia, http://guides.slsa.sa.gov.au/centenaryofanzac

'Coming Home: An investigation of the Armistice and repatriation', Department of Veterans' Affairs, https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/education/activities/coming-home-investigation-armistice-and-repatriation/introduction

'First World War Centenary 'Armistice: South Australia Remembers', Veterans SA https://veteranssa.sa.gov.au/history-and-stories/first-world-war-centenary-a-time-line/

Photographs of Armistice celebrations and the First World War, State Library of South Australia, https://www.flickr.com/photos/state_library_south_australia/albums

RSL South Australia, http://rslsa.org.au/

'Shell-shocked: Australia after the Armistice', *Memento*, National Archives of Australia, http://www.naa.gov.au/naaresources/publications/memento/pdf/memento36.pdf

*Valour and Violets: South Australia in the Great War* by Robert Kearney and Sharon Cleary, Wakefield Press, 2018.

Veterans SA https://veteranssa.sa.gov.au/about/veterans-sa/

Virtual War Memorial, Australia, https://vwma.org.au/