



TOBRUK HOUSE NEWS

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE RATS OF TOBRUK ASSOCIATION



THE RATS OF TOBRUK ASSOCIATION
NEUROSCIENCE FELLOWSHIP FUND

RATS OF TOBRUK ASSOCIATION INC.

ABN 23 136 193 517

44 VICTORIA AVENUE, ALBERT PARK, VIC 3206

www.ratsoftobrukassociation.org.au

PHONE No 0432 232 502

GENERAL/SOCIAL MEETINGS START AT 10.30AM

Month / Date	Event Description
April 16	Tobruk Sunday – see information in this issue
April 25	ANZAC day at Tobruk House – see information in this issue
May 13	Open Day from 10am – volunteers required
May 26	Social Meeting - all members welcome
June 18	Open Day from 10am – volunteers required
June 23	Social Meeting – all members welcome
July 16	Open Day from 10am – volunteers required
July 28	Social Meeting – all members welcome
August 25	Social Meeting – all members welcome
September 22	Social Meeting – all members welcome
September 24	Open Day from 10am – volunteers required
October 15	Open Day – volunteers required
October 27	Social Meeting – all members welcome
November 11/12	Remembrance Day/Open Day
November 24	Social Meeting – all members welcome

Patron: Bill Gibbins

Committee of Management:

President – Bruce Bingham

Vice-President – Kelly-Ann McKinnis

Secretary – Lachlan Gaylard

Treasurer – Graeme Clifford

Other Committee Members –

Tony Smith, Ian Marr,
Karolina Sevcikova, Tony Codd,
Marlene Bingham, Ann Marr, Paul Dipnall

TOBRUK HOUSE NEWS

Editorial Deadline

NEXT ISSUE: JUNE 2023

DEADLINE: MAY 4

We welcome contributions from our community
but cannot guarantee publication.

Email is preferred with documents in Word and
pictures in jpeg format but not essential.

Articles or letters with no contact details
will not be published.

Main writers: Glenda Garde, Lachlan Gaylard

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this Association.



VALE

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

The President and ROTA Inc. members wish to extend our condolences and deepest sympathy to the families and friends of our departed comrades.

MACKENZIE-SMITH, John. Associate member. Aged 86
HOWARTH, Evelyn. Associate member. Aged 72

RATS OF TOBRUK ASSOCIATION INC.

President's Message – April 2023

Dear members and friends,

First, I would like to thank our secretary, Lachie for penning the President's Report for the February edition of THN. I have almost fully recovered and thank the committee for carrying on the good work in my absence. We have commenced 2023 in a positive and active note. On the 24th February we conducted our Annual General Meeting. It was great to see some 40 members attend. Our patron's son and ROTA member, Andrew Gibbons, was also in attendance and conducted the election of our committee. I was re-elected president for 2023 and I thank the members for this opportunity. My report for the past year is published in this newsletter. The elected 2023 committee is also advised in this newsletter.

At the AGM we were fortunate have Sue Hunt AM, CEO of the RCH Foundation and Associate Professor Mark MacKay, Director of Neurology attend. Dr MacKay spoke on the role of his department. Doctor Beth Cole is this year's recipient of the Rats of Tobruk Neurology Fellowship.

We have already had two Open Days this year, 12th February and 5th March. There does seem to be considerable interest from the local community on the role and history of the Rats. We have had a visit from our Federal member, Josh Burns, MP, and our Mayor, Cr Heather Cunsolo. Both are very impressed and have offered assistance in the future.

A meeting has been held with our sister organization, the Descendants of the Rats of Tobruk Association. Ray Heath from the organization is working on an extremely comprehensive Honor Roll which we will be able to access.

We have sent out letters to various philanthropy organisations and other prominent members of the community seeking their support and financial assistance in our endeavors to promote the Legacy of the Rats of Tobruk. Likewise, letters have been forwarded to the local primary schools inviting their year six pupils to attend and view our memorabilia and learn about the Siege of Tobruk.

Our secretary and treasurer have been invited by AWM Director Matt Anderson to attend the Australian War Memorial in Canberra on 4th April regarding archiving, presentation and security of our memorabilia.

Sincerely

Bruce Bingham
President

ROTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

In February, Tobruk House hosted our annual general meeting. It was a well-attended meeting this year and a good chance to update our members on the very positive membership and financial position of the association and other exciting plans for 2023.

Life Membership was awarded to Marilyn and Peter Waters for their continued devotion to the association over many years.

In keeping with tradition, the annual Royal Children's Hospital Rats of Tobruk Neuroscience Fellowship was announced. This year's recipient was Dr Beth Cole. Professor Mark Mackay, the RCH Director of Neurology, spoke on the importance of the connection with the Rats of Tobruk Association and how the fellowship supports the Royal Children's Hospital in making a difference in the field of child neurology, specifically epilepsy.

The meeting was followed by a buffet luncheon which had been skilfully prepared by our team of volunteers.



Professor Mark MacKay addresses the meeting



New Life Members Marylin and Peter Waters with ROTA President Bruce Bingham



*2023 Rats of Tobruk
Neurology Fellow
Dr Beth Cole*



*Dr Cole receives her ROTA Fellowship medallion
from ROTA President Bruce Bingham*

YOUR NEW COMMITTEE FOR 2023

Following the Annual General Meeting we are pleased to announce the 2023 committee members and, where relevant, their connection to the Rats of Tobruk. There is still a very strong connection to the original members and a total commitment by all of the committee to promoting the legacy of the Rats of Tobruk.



**President
Bruce
Bingham**



QX2116 Benjamin
Bingham
2/13 Fd. Coy.



**Vice-President
Kelly-Ann
McKinnis**



VX 25425
George Welsh,
2/23 Battalion



**Secretary
Lachlan
Gaylard**



**Treasurer &
Merchandise
Controller
Graeme Clifford**



VX40843 Robert James
Knox (Bob) Semple,
2/12 Field Regiment



**Marlene
Bingham**



QX2116 Benjamin
Bingham
2/13 Fd. Coy.



Tony Smith



NX16749
Robert Ernest Smith,
2/4 Fd Coy



**Karolina
Sevcikova**



VX44418
Donald George Wells,
2/4 AGH



Ian Marr



VX17749
Norman Marr
2/4 AGH.



Ann Marr



VX17749
Norman Marr
2/4 AGH.



Tony Codd



841126 (British Army)
Albert Leslie Codd,
Royal Corp Signals



Paul Dipnall



ROTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is indeed a pleasure and honor to present the Presidents Report for 2022 of the Rats of Tobruk Association (Inc.). Following the resignation of 2022 President Heather Macfarlane, I as the Vice President, was appointed by the committee to fulfill this position until the AGM.

Your committee has been very active over the past months. We have created three sub-committees to further our aims:

1. Fund-raising sub-committee
2. Education sub-committee
3. Hall maintenance sub-committee

Fund Raising Subcommittee: -The Sub-committee has prepared a letter which is being forwarded to various foundations etc. seeking funds to archive, secure and present our memorabilia in a more professional and user-friendly manner. We are awaiting results from our endeavors. In the interim we are arranging a meeting with Matt Carrol from the Australian War Memorial on how we can best achieve our aims.

Education Sub-Committee: - This sub-committee has also been very active in promoting the use of the Tobruk House. We had a visit from the Warrandyte Primary School and we now have a professional 3 -minute video as a result. This video is being sent to nearby metropolitan schools to promote the hall and the legacy of the Rats of Tobruk. It maybe that we open the hall to cater for these Schools in the future. In addition, we provide certificates and funding for two deserving students at Morwell Central School.

Hall Maintenance Sub-committee: - Our Patron, Bill Gibbons' son Andrew, is taking an active role on our committee. Both he and his brother Geoff have now become members of the Association so we look forward to working with them. Some minor repairs have been undertaken in conjunction with Bill's plumbers.

On Friday, 6th July, six members of the committee attended a Dining-In Night at the Sergeants Mess at the Army School of Transport, Tobruk Barracks at Puckapunyal.

As it is Bill's wishes that we maximize the use of the hall, we have had three Open Days and invited the locals to participate. On the weekend we opened, over 200 attended on the Saturday alone and incidentally we picked up a number of new members. We had some members of the Rats of Tobruk Memorial Pipes and Drums present to entertain our visitors. This year has commenced with an Open Day last Sunday week (12th February) with over 100 attendees.

In addition to the Open Days, Tobruk House is now being utilized by other military associations and we will continue promoting the use of the hall during 2023.

In conjunction with Andrew Gibbons, we are liaising with the state government and Port Phillip Council to waive the annual land tax and council rates that Bill has been defraying over the years. Due to the state and council elections, we have not as yet had a response. We will continue to pursue this in line with RSL sub-branches across the state who do not pay these charges.

On Sunday 28th August, I and several members attended a commemorative service at the Shrine of Remembrance commemorating the 81st anniversary of the Polish Carpathian Brigade's involvement in the siege.

On 2nd September, I accepted the Victorian Flag from my local member, Cindy McLeish MLA. This will form part of our flag party on Tobruk Sunday.

At our general meeting held on 20th October, we were required to appoint three trustees for our Patriotic Building Fund. The Secretary, Treasurer and Tony Smith were duly appointed. Our local Federal Member, Josh Burns MP attended the hall. He was most impressed with Tobruk House and what we are attempting to achieve. He will assist and advise on any of our requests. In addition, we have arranged a meeting with our local State Member, Nina Taylor, MLA.

In closing, I would like to extend my thanks to our hard-working committee and the many volunteers who have helped us with the various functions we have conducted during the year.

FINANCIAL REPORT FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

Hi all, this is my first annual financial report.

Firstly, thank you to the outgoing committee of last year and Mike Kieran's advice in preparing this year's figures.

We have had a successful year of open days and events including Tobruk Sunday and Anzac Day.

Also, the Christmas party was a fun event to say goodbye to 2022. I'm sure of two things in this report. One is that we are still in a strong position, and two, that open days have increased membership at a good rate. We achieved a consolidated surplus of \$11,990, up from last year's consolidated surplus of \$9,494, which was an excellent result.

	Patriotic Building Fund (\$)	Rota Inc. (\$)	Consolidated (\$)
Receipts operational	3.88	31,378.41	31,382.29
Insurance payout	7,380.00		7,380.00
Expenditure	14,447.35	12,325.37	26,772.72
Surplus (Deficit)	(7,063.47)	19,053.04	11,990.00
Cash Reserves	47,786.30	95,587.32	

This year is starting with only two surviving Rats, both in Victoria. So we must focus on sharing information and opportunities to make sure we commemorate all the veterans and families who have gone before us.

Your committee has some ideas for this year, and we look forward to sharing these in the future. Donations given in 2022 by the Association were: Morwell Primary \$500.00, Warrandyte Primary \$500.00, Polish museum Archives \$80.00.

The annual Rats of Tobruk Memorial Pipes and Drums donation of \$1000.00 for 2022 was actually paid in February 2023, so the '23 donation of \$1000.00 will be sent after the AGM 2023.

For the coming year we will be shifting our banking accounts to Bendigo and Community banks in order to receive higher interest returns.

Our term deposits as at 31/12/2022 are held with the Bendigo Bank as follows: Patriotic fund \$45,000.00, ROTA Inc. \$40,000.00. Also held with the ANZ Bank as follows: ROTA Inc. \$40,000.00 maturing in May 2023.

After many years of poor interest, banks are now able to offer some return on our balances.

My opinion is that we will have interest payments improving all through 2023. Our cash reserves are strong (\$143,373.62), so I'm trusting our association will enjoy many events during 2023.

Graeme Clifford
Treasurer

MEDAL REQUESTS

We often receive requests from members wanting to obtain miniature sets of medals for children and grandchildren of veterans, and we are pleased to be able to advise that these can be obtained from David Hirsh, (who is also the supplier of our T Medal). For miniatures or replica medals please contact David directly.



AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

On behalf of the Committee of the Rats of Tobruk Association we would like to congratulate three of our members who were honoured in the 2023 Australia Day honours list.



Sue Hunt AM



Maureen Rush OAM



Michael Fogarty OAM

Sue Hunt AM was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia.

"For significant service to the arts, particularly live performance, and to community health."

Maureen Rush OAM (niece of siege veteran Bruce Tinlin SX5063, 2/43rd Battalion, KIA) was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia.

"For service to veterans and their families."

Michael Fogarty OAM was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia. Michael's father was Brigadier Thomas Fogarty. Although not a Rat, his history spurred his son's interest in veterans.

"For service to veterans and their families."

TOBRUK SUNDAY 2023

COMMEMORATING THE 82ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMENCEMENT
OF THE SIEGE OF TOBRUK

SUNDAY APRIL 16TH 2023

COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE WILL BE HELD AT 2PM IN MOUBRAY ST
(AROUND THE CORNER FROM TOBRUK HOUSE).

GUEST SPEAKER COMMANDER TERRY MAKINGS AM RAN (RETD)
WILL TALK ABOUT THE NAVAL SUPPORT FOR THE SIEGE

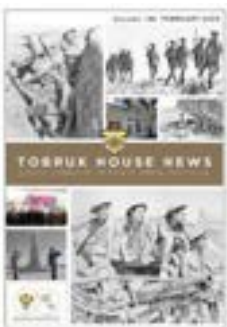
FOLLOWED BY LIGHT REFRESHMENTS IN THE HALL

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL OCCASION.

ANZAC DAY 2023

**TOBRUK HOUSE
44 VICTORIA AVENUE
WILL BE OPEN ON ANZAC DAY
FROM 8AM TO 3PM
PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTEREST
VIA GRAEME CLIFFORD
0418 882 323**

POSITION VACANT



ROTA is looking for a new editor for the Tobruk House News.

The Tobruk House News is currently a bi-monthly publication and fills a very important role in the Rats of Tobruk Association as it is distributed to members all over Australia.

Experience with newsletters or graphic layout would be an advantage but is not critical.

If you are interested in helping to ensure the future of this historic journal, or for more information, please contact the ROTA Secretary on 0426 242 754.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:

**Catherine Fletcher Penny Ewer Ian Weller Judy Watts
Robert Dixon Neil Lauritzen Tom Walsh Michele Robertson
Denis O'Bryan Mark McKay Elizabeth Cole**



Your membership helps to ensure the legacy of the Rats of Tobruk

WORLD WAR II DESERT RATS VETERAN CELEBRATES HIS 108TH BIRTHDAY

By Stewart Carr For Mailonline 10 January 2023

A Second World War veteran has celebrated his 108th birthday surrounded by more than 160 cards from complete strangers following an appeal from a care home.

Donald Rose said he felt 'overwhelmed' by the kindness of well-wishers after people from across the whole of the UK sent him a greeting card to mark his milestone.

The Royal British Legion launched an appeal on Facebook to encourage people to send the widower a card to celebrate the occasion and also his achievements during the war. War hero Mr Rose, a former sniper and Desert Rat who also served with the Queen's Royal Regiment, was awarded a number of medals during his service.



Second World War veteran Donald Rose celebrated his 108th birthday at his care home in Ilkeston, Derbyshire, surrounded by 160 cards from well-wishers - including one from the King

Well-wishers from across the UK sent birthday cards to Mr Rose following a Facebook appeal by the Royal British Legion

These include the Legion D'Honneur - France's highest honour and one of the most famous in the world.



The appeal was supported by the care home in Ilkeston, Derbyshire, where Mr Rose lives, and on December 24, he awoke to find 50 cards from generous strangers. But over the next seven days, cards continued to arrive addressed to the pensioner and by the end of the week, he had received over 160 - including one from King Charles III.

David Rose, 74, Mr Rose's only child, said he got a 'lump in his throat' when he saw how many cards his dad had received for his 108th birthday. The former NHS hospital technician from West Hallam, Derbyshire, said: 'My father went through a lot in the war and saw a lot of things we couldn't even imagine. He is the gentlest man you will ever meet and would do anything for anyone.'

The card Donald Rose received from the King and Queen Consort for his birthday

'Me and my wife Sue, and Donald were so overwhelmed. We didn't know it was going ahead until the day. It was very unexpected and brought a lump to my throat because the gesture was so thoughtful. People sent him cards and they didn't even know him. Even the local pub sent him a card all signed. He also had one from a commander of the Desert Rats.'

My dad has always been a hard-working man. He always worked to put food on the table and keep a roof over our heads. I remember this was especially hard during food rationing in the 1950s where he used to work 24/7. He is just a gentleman really and deserves this.'

Sprightly Mr Rose has lived at the care home since 2020 and has one grandchild and three great-grandchildren. He had lived in Westcott, Surrey with his late wife Jeannette of 55 years before moving to Derbyshire in 2000 when she passed away.

Surrey-born Mr Rose was born on Christmas Eve 1914 and signed up to the British Army in 1939, aged 25. He served in the Queen's Royal Regiment, in Guilford, with the 7th Armoured Brigade and fought on the front-line during World War Two.

During the conflict, Mr Rose also joined the Eighth Army as a 'Desert Rat' under Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery in Africa and as part of the liberation of Italy and France. He also trained to become a sniper and served in North Africa, Italy, France, Normandy, Belgium, Holland and Germany. After the war ended, Mr Rose was awarded the Legion D'Honneur - France's highest honour medal for his services.

Natalie Summerfield, the activities co-ordinator at Canal Vue care home, described Mr Rose as 'one of a kind'. She said: 'He's a fantastic, marvellous man and really one of a kind. We were all in shock when the cards started flooding in. Donald was completely overwhelmed by the support and number of cards he received. They came from all over the UK and were coming in so quick and fast.'



On his birthday, Mr Rose's family, members of the Ilkeston Royal British Legion, the Mayor John Sewell, local councillor James Dawson, and members from the Long Eaton Sea Cadets joined in the celebrations at the care home.

On Facebook the Royal British Legion branch in Ilkeston said: 'Happy Birthday Donald Rose - 108-years-old today. 'What a great man - he deserves all that heads his way. An extremely brave and caring man throughout his life.'

7th Armoured Division "Desert Rats" insignia featuring a jerboa

THE RATS OF TOBRUK NEUROSCIENCE FELLOWSHIP

Each year in Australia, over 250,000 people are diagnosed with epilepsy. Yet, for around half of those, including around 35 per cent of children, the cause of the epilepsy is unknown. Thanks to the Rats of Tobruk Neuroscience Fellowship, supported by the Rats of Tobruk Association, teams across the RCH are hoping to change that.



This fellowship was established by the Rats themselves to be their legacy and has provided opportunities for twelve young doctors to advance their studies and knowledge of child epilepsy since it began in 2010.

These doctors are now contributing to the efforts to discover the cause and find treatments for child epilepsy in hospitals around Australia and the world.

To learn more about how you can contribute to this most worthy cause by adding a gift in your will, or most importantly, to let the Foundation know of your intention, please contact

Kathryn Sell, Planned Giving, RCH Foundation
(03 9345 6389 or email: kathryn.sell@rch.org.au)

A MOVING SUNDAY AFTERNOON EXPERIENCE

If you find yourself looking for something to do in Melbourne on a quiet Sunday afternoon, a visit to the Shrine may be an option worth exploring.

Every Sunday, a 15-minute service takes place on the Second World War Forecourt at 4:45pm and includes bugle calls and piper, Shrine Guard in historic uniform, a wreath-laying, recital of the Ode, and lowering of the flags.



This family-friendly event is the perfect way to end a day at the Shrine or perhaps a day out in Melbourne, and even if you can't make it in person, the event is livestreamed.

Each service commemorates a different event from Australia's military history and back in January, one such service was devoted to commemorating the surrender of Tobruk to the 6th Australian Division on 22 January 1941. ROTA member Glenda Garde's father, who served with 2/5th Field Ambulance, would refer to this as "the first time we were in Tobruk" and was, of course, before Tobruk was later besieged by the German African Korps in April.

This Last Post service on 22 January 2023 was compered by Shrine Governor, Peter Meehan, whose voice will be familiar to anyone who has attended, or listened to, Anzac Day dawn services. It is pleasing to note that many people stopped to pay tribute.



January 22, 1941- Australian troops advance upon an Italian gun position along the inner circle of the Tobruk defences. AWM Collection



January 23, 1941, Australians tear down the Italian flag after they have penetrated the Italian defences. AWM collection

In December 1940, the 6th Australian Division was moved forward from training camps around Alexandria to relieve British troops around Bardia and at the end of December they were ordered to prepare to attack. On 3 January 1941, the 2nd AIF took part in the first major Australian battle of World War II at Bardia, Libya, when battalions of the 6th Australian Division penetrated the defences of the Italian stronghold. Despite some heavy resistance the town fell to the Australians just two days later. On 22 January 1941, the Italian held Tobruk fell to the AIF and 25,000 Italians became prisoners.

DVA (Department of Veterans' Affairs) (2019), Bardia, DVA Anzac Portal

WHEN VISITING CANBERRA DON'T MISS ANZAC PARADE

It is probably no surprise to learn that the Australian War Memorial is number one on the list of things to do in Canberra for most visitors. Even with the massive demolition/construction project now under way there is still plenty to see. But also allocate some time to stroll up Anzac Parade and back, to take in the very moving memorials that line this grand street. If you start at the Parliament House end, you will see the two sculptures, one on each side, commemorating the Australian New Zealand friendship and military cooperation in so many parts of the world. (1)



Moving up the left side we come to the Boer War memorial with its incredibly lifelike four mounted horsemen galloping down the slope(2).

Next is the Desert Mounted Corps (1916 – 1918) Memorial, again featuring an Australian Light Horseman defending a New Zealander who stands beside his wounded horse. This is a copy of the original which stood in Port Said but was destroyed during the 1956 Suez Crisis (3).

Then we have the Vietnam memorial, dedicated to all those who served in Vietnam and one wall features quotes from some of them. It makes special note of the new and critical part played by helicopters in that war. The names of all who died are recorded in the stone halo suspended above(4).



Continuing up towards the AWM we encounter the Korean War memorial. The stainless-steel poles represent the soldiers who were killed and there are three statues, one for each of the armed forces (5).



Next on the Parade is the larger-than-life memorial to the members of the Australian Army and a series of plaques around the edge mentions every conflict where they have served (6).



Closest to the AWM is the Australian Hellenic memorial which commemorates all the Greek battles that were fought by both Australian and ANZAC forces (7).



We now cross the Parade to the only memorial to an enemy commander – the Kemal Ataturk memorial. This memorial is part of an agreement by the Australian and Turkish governments on commemorative gestures to acknowledge the 70th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing. Kemal Ataturk commanded the Turkish forces at Gallipoli and later became the founder and first president of modern Turkey. This memorial honours him, as well as the heroism and sacrifice of both the Anzac and Turkish troops who took part in the bitterly fought campaign (8).



Heading back down Anzac Parade we come to the Navy memorial which features a large fountain made of figures of sailors performing their various duties and different parts of a ship. The sounds of the water tumbling down recreate different sounds of the sea from different parts of the deck of a ship (9).



Continuing down the Parade we come to the Service Nurses memorial, a beautiful glass structure on which excerpts from nurse's diaries are etched to tell the story (10).



The Airforce memorial is next, acknowledging the service and sacrifice of members of the Royal Australian Air Force and the Australian Flying Corps. The sculpture is inspired by the wings of a plane (11).



And so we arrive at what, for many ROTA members will be the most poignant – the Rats of Tobruk memorial. Although the original 1941 memorial, built by the Royal Australian Engineers at the cemetery in Tobruk, did not survive, it was the inspiration for this memorial. The foundation stone was saved, and is centred in the base of this memorial. It was originally part of the steps of the Tobruk Post Office (12).



THIS MEMORIAL IS BASED ON ONE WHICH WAS BUILT AT TOBRUK BY AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS DURING THE SIEGE USING CAPTURED MATERIALS. THE ORIGINAL MEMORIAL WAS DESTROYED SHORTLY AFTER THE WAR. THE LANDSCAPING WITHIN THE MEMORIAL AREA SYMBOLISES THE COASTLINE AT TOBRUK AND THE DEFENSIVE POSITIONS WHICH SUCCESSFULLY HELD THE FORTRESS AGAINST THE ENEMY.

THE PERIMETER WAS NEARLY FIFTY KILOMETRES LONG. ON 31 JULY 1941, THE GARRISON'S STRENGTH WAS ABOUT 22,000 INCLUDING ABOUT 14,000 AUSTRALIANS.

THIS IS HALLOWED GROUND FOR HERE LIE THOSE WHO DIED FOR THEIR COUNTRY.

"AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN,
AND IN THE MORNING
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM."



The Peacekeeping memorial finishes our walk. It commemorates the more than 80,000 military, police and civilian peacekeepers who have represented Australia, serving in 62 peacekeeping missions since 1947 (13).

There is a wonderful guide to this walk available on-line here:

<https://www.nca.gov.au/attractions/take-tour/anzac#>

It is suggested you allow about 80 minutes.



ROTA MERCHANDISE

See Order Form on page 19 for postage costs and other details.



LADIES SUMMER POPPY SCARF
Light Blue, Dark Blue, White,
Grey, Black
\$15



SIEGE OF TOBRUK BAR MAT
\$40



SIEGE OF TOBRUK 'ROLL-UP'
STUBBIE COOLER
\$10



ROTA POLO SHIRT
Sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL
XXXL, XXXXL, XXXXL
\$50



ROTA 'BASEBALL' CAP
One size fits all
\$20



ROTA RUGBY TOP
Sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL
XXXL, XXXXL, XXXXL
\$60



ROTA BADGE CAR
WINDOW STICKER
7cm x 8.5cm approx
Sticks to inside of window
\$10



TWO-UP SET
Includes kip and two 1941 pennies
\$20



ROTA FACEMASK
Small or large
Special offer **\$7**



80TH ANNIVERSARY SIEGE
MEDAL
(Limited Stock remaining)
\$50



'RATS OF TOBRUK' CD
INCLUDES 'NO SURRENDER'
Written and sung by
John Turner
\$15



RATS OF TOBRUK 1941
LAPEL BADGE
\$15



RATS OF TOBRUK ASSOCIATION INC - 2023 SUBSCRIPTION

Please forward this form together with payment of \$30 to:
The Secretary of ROTA, Tobruk House, 44 Victoria Ave, Albert Park, Vic, 3206.

Contact Email: ratsoftobruk41@gmail.com

Contact Phone No: 0432 232 502

Membership No: _____

Name: _____
Title Given Name (s) Surname

Contact Details (Only complete if details have changed):

Address: _____
Suburb / State Post Code

Email: _____ @ _____ Contact Phone No: _____
Please Print Clearly

The 2023 Annual Membership Subscription is \$30 and is due and payable on 1 January 2023.

Please note that if payment is not received by 31 March 2023, your membership will be suspended. It is also pointed out that the Association's rules state that a member is taken to have resigned if the member's subscription is more than twelve months in arrears.

Payment: Payment by electronic funds transfer (EFT) is our preferred method of payment. Payment can also be made by credit card.

EFT Payment: If you are paying by EFT, it is important that you include a unique reference so that the payment can be matched to the members register. A suggested reference is your membership no and surname.

Bank Account Details: Account Name: Rats of Tobruk Association BSB: 013 223 Account No: 2102 51748

Credit Card Payment: Please provide the following details:

Name on Card: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Card No: |_|_|_|_|_| |_|_|_|_|_| |_|_|_|_|_| |_|_|_|_|_|

CVC: |_|_|_|_|_| (3-digit number on the back of Visa / MC, 4 digit on front of AMEX) Expiry Date: __ __ : __ __

If you pay by EFT or credit card, you can scan this form and email it to: ratsoftobruk41@gmail.com

Privacy Clause:

Information requested in this form is necessary for the association to maintain the members register and to keep you informed about the association, its activities, and products. It will not be provided to third parties for direct marketing purposes. As a member you have the right to inspect the members' register.

Promotional Photos:

At the Association's functions, photo's may be taken for promotional purposes and publication in the Tobruk House News. By attending any of these functions you give permission for the use of your image in the manner described above.

Association Rules:

As a member of the Association, you agree to abide by the Association Rules and policies approved by the Committee of Management from time to time. These are available on the Association's website www.ratsoftobrukassociation.org.au

Member's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____



RATS OF TOBRUK ASSOCIATION INC MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

Item	Cost per Item	Quantity	Size (Refer page 17)	Postage Yes/No	Postage (Ordinary Mail*)	Total	Comments
Rats of Tobruk, 1941, Lapel Badge – butterfly /clutch fitting	\$15				Inc postage		
Rats of Tobruk, 1941, Lapel Badge – stick pin fitting	\$15				Inc postage		
80 th Anniversary Medal	\$50				\$6		Postage for up to 2 medals to same address.
ROTA Rugby Top	\$60				\$12		
ROTA Polo Shirt (New look navy blue with yellow stripes)	\$50				\$12		
Two-Up Set	\$20				Inc postage		
ROTA “baseball” style cap	\$20				\$12		
ROTA Bar Mat (New design)	\$40				\$12		
ROTA ‘roll-up’ Stubbie cooler	\$10				\$6		
Badge Car Window Sticker <small>(Sticks to inside of window)</small>	\$10				Inc postage		20% discount for more than one sticker.
ROTA Face Mask	\$7				nil		\$6 Postage for 2 – 5 masks
‘THE RATS OF TOBRUK’ CD	\$15				\$4		
			Colour				
Ladies Poppy Scarf (light weight)	\$15				\$6		
\$12 postage* for orders of multiple items to the same address *Postage amounts only for Australian addresses				Total amount to be paid:		\$	

Payment is required before the items are sent. Delivery time can vary depending on stock availability and could be up to 6 weeks. Payment by electronic funds transfer (EFT) is our preferred method of payment. Payment can also be made by card, cheque, or money order.

EFT Payment: If you are paying by EFT, it is important that you include a unique reference so that the payment can be matched to the members register. A suggested reference is the abbreviation ‘MERCH’ followed by your surname.

Bank Account Name: Rats of Tobruk Association BSB: 013 223 Account No: 2102 51748

Payment can also be made by Credit or Debit Card.

To arrange this please ring our Merchandising Officer, Graeme Clifford: 0418 882 323

Purchaser’s Name: _____ **Contact Phone No:** _____

(Please Print)

Email Address: _____ @ _____

Delivery Address: _____

Suburb: _____ **State:** _____ **Postcode:** _____

Please forward completed form to:

‘Merchandise Officer, ROTA, 44 Victoria Av, Albert Park, Vic, 3206.’

If you pay by EFT or card, you can scan this form and email to: **ratsoftobruk41@gmail.com**

All enquiries including o/s postage costs to the Merchandise Officer (Graeme Clifford)

email: ratsoftobruk41@gmail.com **Phone:** 0418 882 323

What's on at The Shrine



FOR KIN AND COUNTRY



This special exhibition explores the extraordinary history of First Peoples' service in the Australian Defence Force. First Peoples service personnel felt a strong sense of continuing ancient traditions of protecting Country, and hoped their example of service would help improve conditions for their families and communities. Veterans, however, returned to the same discrimination they had previously known.

TOURS DE FORCE



Since the Vietnam War, Australian entertainers have performed for troops on the front line in war and peacekeeping operations. This exhibition tells their stories and that of the special military unit that was created to recruit, prepare and protect them in war zones.

DEFENDING WITH PRIDE



This special exhibition is the first of its kind for an Australian war memorial. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people have been proudly defending Australia through their military service since the formation of the armed forces. Today, anyone identifying as LGBTQ+ can serve openly in the Australian Defence Force: diversity and inclusion are values that our contemporary military actively champions and supports. It has not always been this way.

LAST POST – Every Sunday at 4.45PM



The Last Post Service is another reason to make a family visit to the Shrine on Sunday afternoons. This new moving ceremony features a piper, bugler and Shrine Guard in historic uniform.