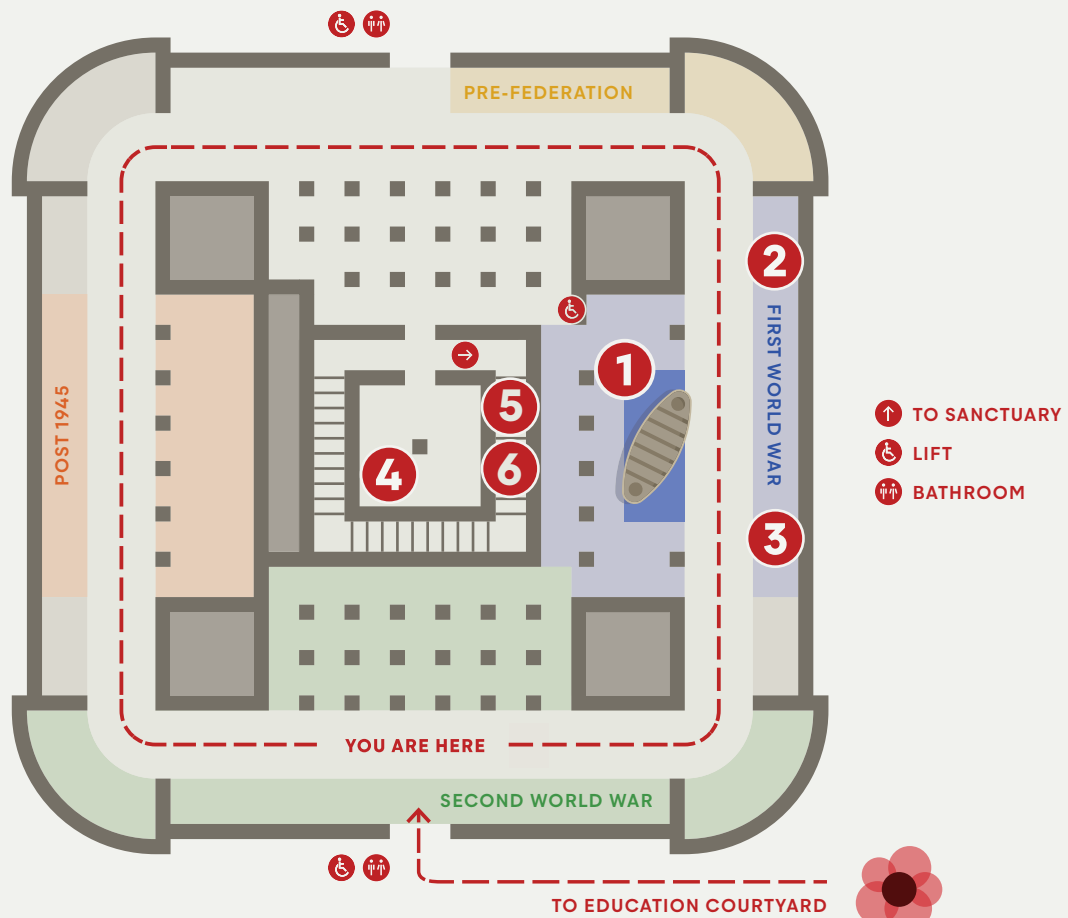


# FIRST WORLD WAR

VICTORIAN SERVICE AND SACRIFICE IN THE GREAT WAR



## INSTRUCTIONS

Lead your students through the Galleries of Remembrance, and upstairs to the heart of the Shrine: the Sanctuary. You can visit the numbered stops in any order. Use the prompts to lead a discussion on the Australian experience of the First World War.

### STOP ONE

S.S Devanha Lifeboat



### STOP TWO

V.A.D Uniform, 1916



### STOP THREE

Private Cyril T Leishman



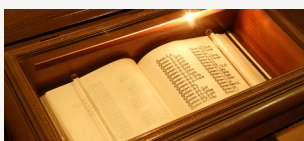
### STOP FOUR

The Crypt



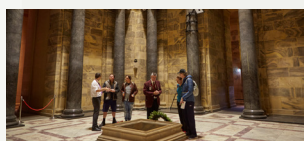
### STOP FIVE

Books of Remembrance



### STOP SIX

The Sanctuary



**BEFORE YOU START:**

Ask students to think about how their life experience is different, or similar, to the experience of the generation that lived through the Great War.

### 1 STOP ONE S.S Devanha Lifeboat

In peacetime SS Devanha carried passengers from England to Hong Kong. When war broke out she became a troopship. At dawn on 25th April 1915, her lifeboats landed Australian soldiers on the beach at Anzac Cove.

After the war this boat was preserved as a memorial to the men who fought at Gallipoli.

Over 100 years later, why do we still remember April 25th, 1915?

Is it important for museums to collect objects like this?

What does the story of this boat tell us about the people it once carried?

### 3 STOP THREE Private Cyril T Leishman

A moving example of a private memorial that held pride of place in the family home. Cyril Leishman grew up in St Kilda and served with the 5th Field Ambulance at Gallipoli, where he died of disease, aged 20, in 1915.

His grieving mother commissioned this portrait, based on old photographs and Cyril's sister, who sat for the artist.

Why do you think the family wanted this painting, instead of a framed photograph?

What other ways did families commemorate their loved ones?

### 5 STOP FIVE Books of Remembrance

Honour rolls recognise the service of veterans. It took 11 calligraphers three years to inscribe the names of 89,000 Victorians who served overseas in the First World War. 19,000 of these did not return.

Over 100 years after the war, families still come to the Shrine to read the name of a loved one and pay homage to their memory.

Why do you think the names are listed in alphabetical order? Why are there numbers next to some names?

Can you see any women listed in the books?

Is there an honour roll in your community? It might be outside a town hall, in a park or even in your school.

### 2 STOP TWO V.A.D Uniform, 1916

In the First World War roles for women were restricted. Around 2,500 nurses served overseas. In Australia thousands of women also enlisted as Voluntary Aid Detachments, a type of nurses' aid. They cared for wounded and returned soldiers in convalescent homes and military hospitals. Some travelled overseas to serve closer to the front line.

Why do you think V.A.D.s volunteered for work that was tiring, menial and unpaid?

The woman who once wore this uniform kept it, long after the war had ended. Why?

### 4 STOP FOUR The Crypt

The Crypt is located directly beneath the Stone of Remembrance in the Sanctuary. It is dedicated primarily to commemorating service in the First World War. The Battalion and Sovereign Colours on display represent disbanded Victorian regiments, each with its own history of service. At the heart of the space is a bronze casket, which holds the names of community members who contributed to the building of the Shrine. The Father and Son statue, added later, honours two generations who served in the two world wars.

By naming this room the Crypt, what emotions were the architects trying to evoke?

Why was this room important to the generation who lived through the First World War?

### 6 STOP SIX Sanctuary

This is the most important commemorative space in the Shrine, and the site of over 150 commemorative services annually. Each year on November 11, at 11am, a Ray of Light crosses the Stone of Remembrance in the centre of the floor.

Ask Shrine staff or volunteers to help you explore the history, symbolism and rituals of the Sanctuary.

What is a sanctuary? Name another type of sanctuary you have visited or heard of.

When you entered this space how did it make you feel? Does the architecture change your behaviour in any way?