



AUSTRALIA
AT WAR
JOSEF LEBOVIC GALLERY

CL508

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Located in Kensington, Sydney, we welcome visitors by appointment - or by chance if the door is open. Experience the works in person.

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Australia At War

The Art of Urgency - Lest We Forget

This catalogue brings together a concentrated view of Australia at war, seen not from a single vantage point but through a chorus of printed voices, images, and objects produced across decades of conflict. What unites these works is not style, nor even medium, but purpose: each was made to act. To persuade, to recruit, to reassure, to instruct.

The language is direct and often urgent. Appeals to pride, duty, family, and nation are rendered in bold typography and carefully staged imagery. Posters call young men to enlist, promise dignity in service, and frame participation as both personal and collective necessity. Others extend the reach of war into the civilian sphere, urging thrift, silence, and endurance. Together, they form a visual economy of persuasion, where every image carries weight beyond its surface.



Australia at War

Yet within this clarity of intent lies a more complex picture. These works reveal how identity was constructed and communicated in moments of uncertainty. The soldier, the mother, the worker, the citizen are all cast in roles that feel both immediate and idealised. The distance between lived experience and projected image is part of their power, and part of their tension.

Materially, these are objects that have endured. Creases, repairs, and signs of handling speak to their original function as tools rather than treasures. They were made to be seen quickly, often in passing, and just as quickly replaced. That they survive now allows them to be read differently, not as instructions, but as evidence. Evidence of how a nation saw itself, and how it wished to be seen.



This catalogue invites a slower look. Not to resolve the contradictions within these works, but to sit with them. To recognise both their clarity and their ambiguity, and to understand them as artefacts of communication in a time when communication mattered profoundly.



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Advance

Frank Hinder (Aust., 1906-1992).

1947. Lithograph, monogrammed in image lower centre, dated (twice), signed, titled and editioned 8/12 in pencil below image, 36.5 x 25cm. Repaired tear to lower edge, slight foxing and cockling.

Held in AGNSW. Illustrated in Bloomfield, Frank Hinder: Lithographs, 1978, #46, p148.

\$2,950

CL192-62



HMS “Talbot”

c1916. Oil on canvas, titled lower centre, 44 x 58cm. Minor surface loss to centre of image, slight soiling and crazing overall. Original frame.

HMS Talbot was a cruiser built for the British Royal Navy in the mid-1890s. During WWI Talbot participated in the Battle of Gallipoli. The cruiser was initially attached to the First Battle Squadron of the fleet and supported the landings at the tip of the Peninsula. On 26 April she assisted the battleship HMS Goliath during attempts to support the landing on “Y Beach.” Talbot remained at Gallipoli throughout the campaign, and covered the evacuation of Anzac beach in December 1915 and of Helles in January 1916. Ref: Wiki.

\$2,200

CL174-98



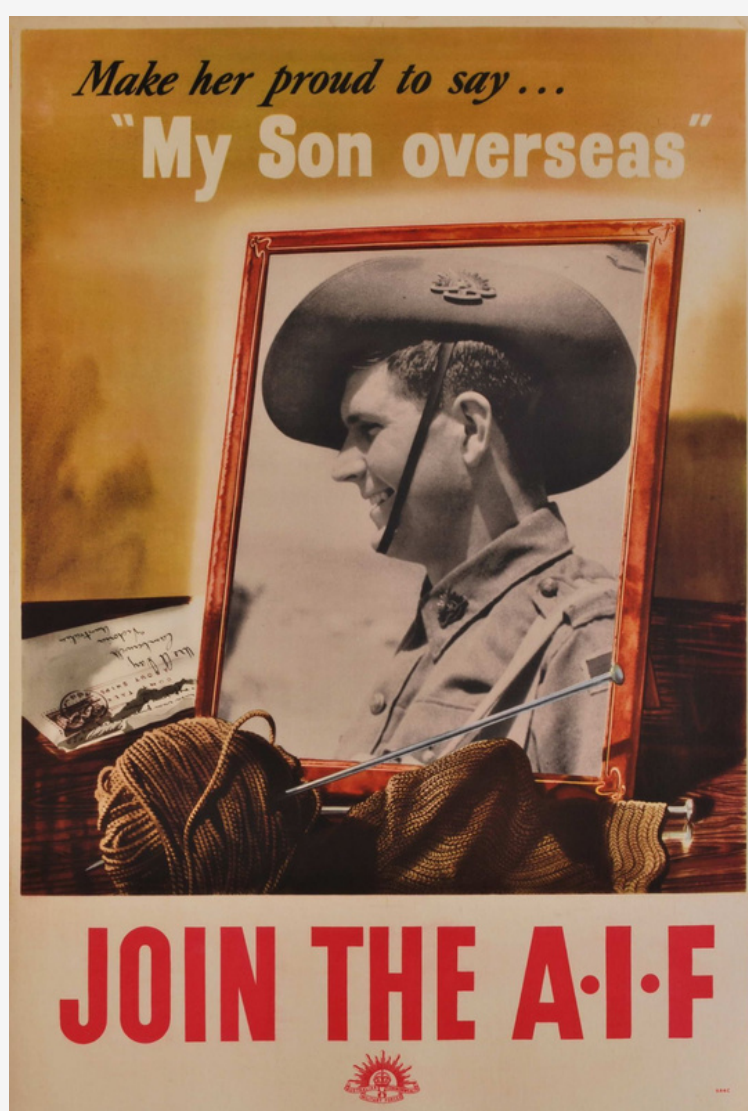
Make Dad Proud To Say "My Boy - In The East." Join The AIF

c1943. Colour and process lithograph, 74.3 x 49cm. Linen-backed.

Held in AWM, with the comments "The photograph featured was taken for the Department of Information by photographer George Silk in 1941. It is of three Australian servicemen in Alexandria after their evacuation from Crete along with 15,000 other Allied troops."

\$1,950

CL177-61



Make Her Proud To Say "My Son Overseas." Join The AIF

1943. Colour process lithograph, 75.5 x 50cm. Linen-backed.

Text continues "SR4.C" with the Australian Commonwealth Military Forces badge. The photograph shows Lieutenant William Patrick Ryan, 2/2nd IFN BN. A smaller format in different colours is held in AWM.

\$1,950

CL177-63



Make Them Proud Of You.

Join The AIF

c1945. Colour and process lithograph, 100.6 x 64.7cm. Repaired tears to lower portion. Linen-backed.

Text continues "Never been so fit – I wouldn't have missed it for worlds! SR 7C." Held in Imperial War Museum, UK.

\$1,950

CL177-75



Join The AIF Now!

c1942. Colour process lithograph, 74 x 46.9cm. Old folds, perforations, stains and repaired tears to lower portion. Linen-backed. [Large Version].

Text continues "They'll be proud of you in this." Held in AWM. Depicts an Australian soldier walking arm-in-arm with his girlfriend and mother, who is holding his .303 rifle.

\$1,950

CL197-47



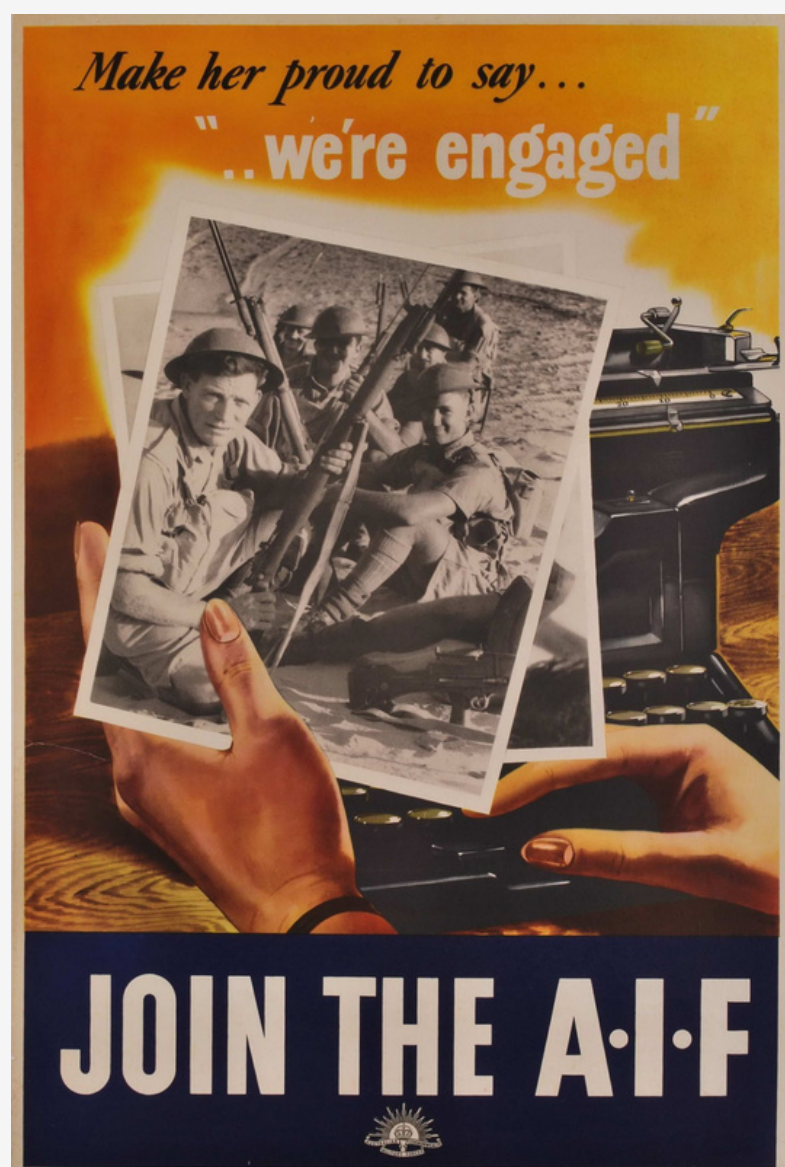
We're Coming! **Join The AIF Now!**

1940. Colour lithograph, 73.5 x 50.2cm. Repaired tears and creases, minor soiling. Linen-backed.

Text includes "Spirit of AIF to win again. AIF-19." Held in AWM.

\$1,950

CL177-51



Make Her Proud To Say "We're Engaged." **Join The AIF**

c1943. Colour process lithograph, 75.5 x 49.7cm. Repaired tears, slight foxing. Linen-backed.

Text continues "SR6.C."

\$1,950

CL177-62



Eclipse

Will Mahony (Aust., 1905-1989).

c1940s-1950s. Ink and wash, signed lower right, titled in pencil with various publishing annotations in lower margin, 38.7 x 26.5cm.

Caption in lower portion of image reads "Australia", cancelled caption in upper portion of image reads "Russian Successes." This work was most likely published in either the Daily News or the Daily Telegraph during the 1940s to 1950s.

\$1,650

CL174-137



The Air Force Needs Men! An Invitation To You

Claude Wade (NZ, 1891-1956).

c1941. Colour process lithograph, signed in image lower right, 76 x 50.2cm. Linen-backed.

Text continues "For full particulars, apply to Air Secretary, private bag, Wellington, C.I." Image shows a self-portrait of the artist as a pilot. Held in Museum of New Zealand.

\$1,650

CL177-60



You Love Them, Fight For Them! Join The AIF Now!

c1939–1945. Colour and process lithograph, 76.2 x 49.1cm. Repaired major missing portions to left edge. Linen-backed.

[Large Format]

Held in AWM, SLNSW.

\$1,450

CL197-41



You Love Them – Fight For Them! Join The AIF Now

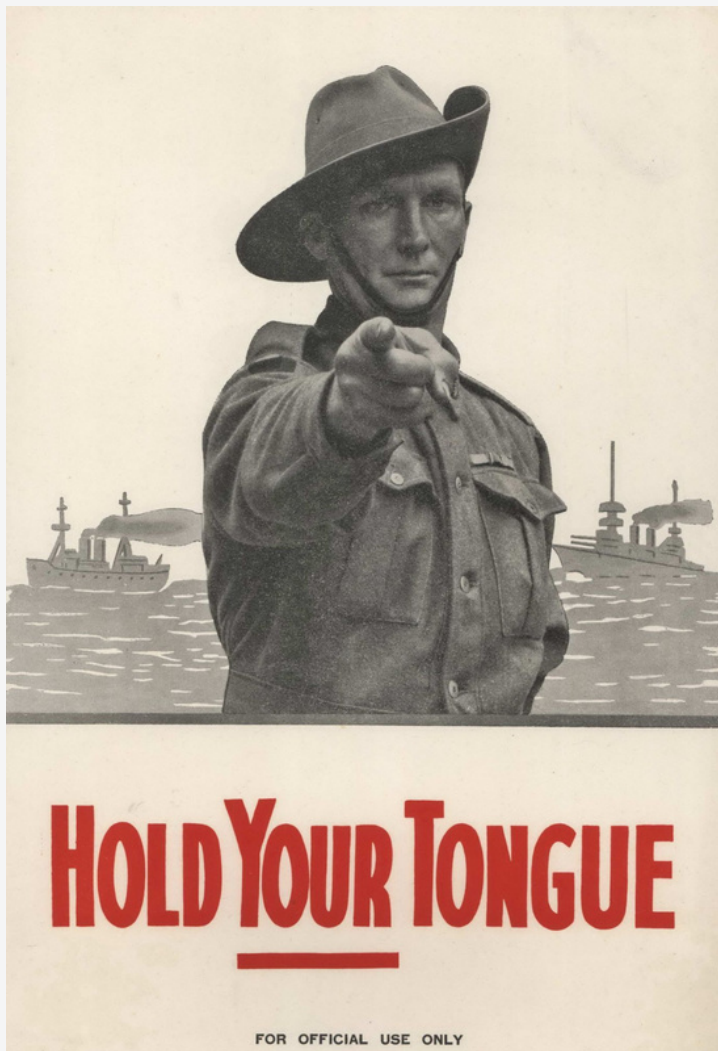
c1945. Colour process lithograph, 28.1 x 20cm. Foxing, repaired minor perforations. Linen-backed.

[Small format]

Held in AWM.

\$880

CL177-71



Hold Your Tongue

1945. Process lithograph with letterpress, 31.8 x 21.6cm. Linen-backed.

Text continues "For official use only."
Held in Imperial War Museum, UK.

\$1,350

CL182-74



"Britannia's Muster", Royal Naval & Military Tournament, Olympia

1910. Colour lithograph, signed "Ernest Ibbetson" in image lower left, 76.2 x 50.8cm. Linen-backed.

Text includes "Patron His Most Gracious Majesty the King. June 20th to July 6th. Twice daily 2:30 and 8pm. Admission 1/-, early doors 1/6.

\$1,350

CL171-3



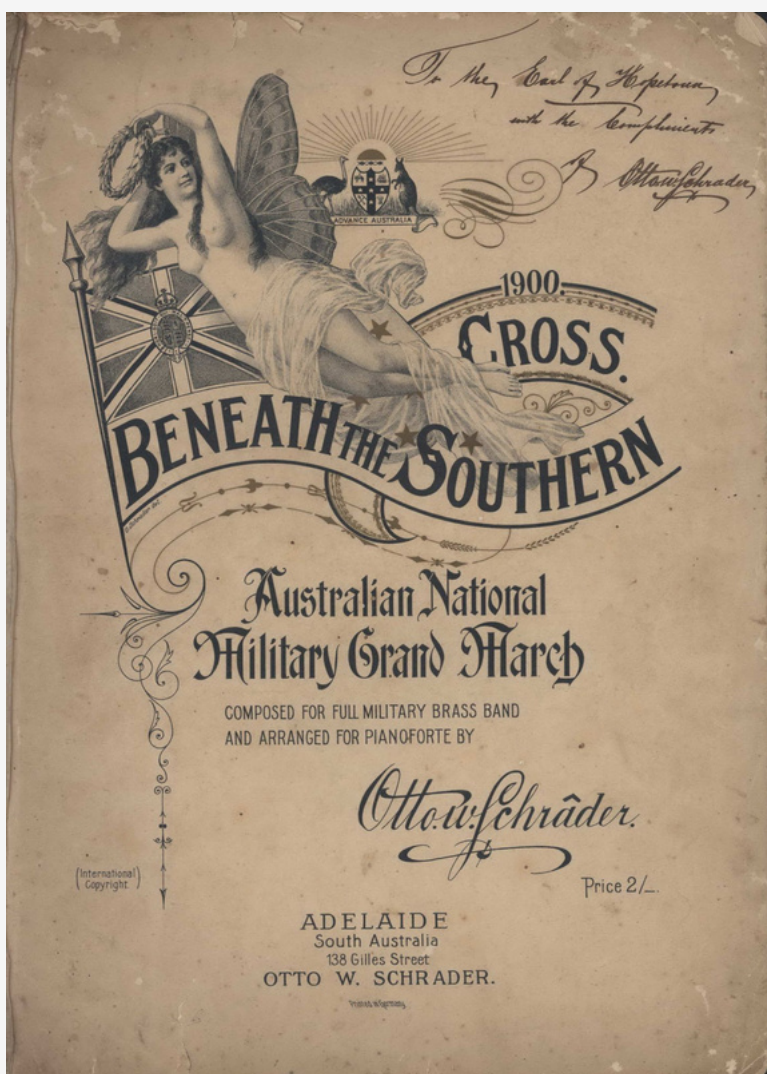
ACF Gives And Can Keep On Giving! If You Give To The Australian Comforts Fund

c1945. Colour lithograph, 101.9 x 76.8cm. Missing portions to margins, repaired tears, slight foxing. Linen-backed.

The Australian Comforts Fund raised money for parcels for Australian service personnel, including clothing, the provision of meals and accommodation for personnel on leave. Held in AWM.

\$1,250

CL177-74



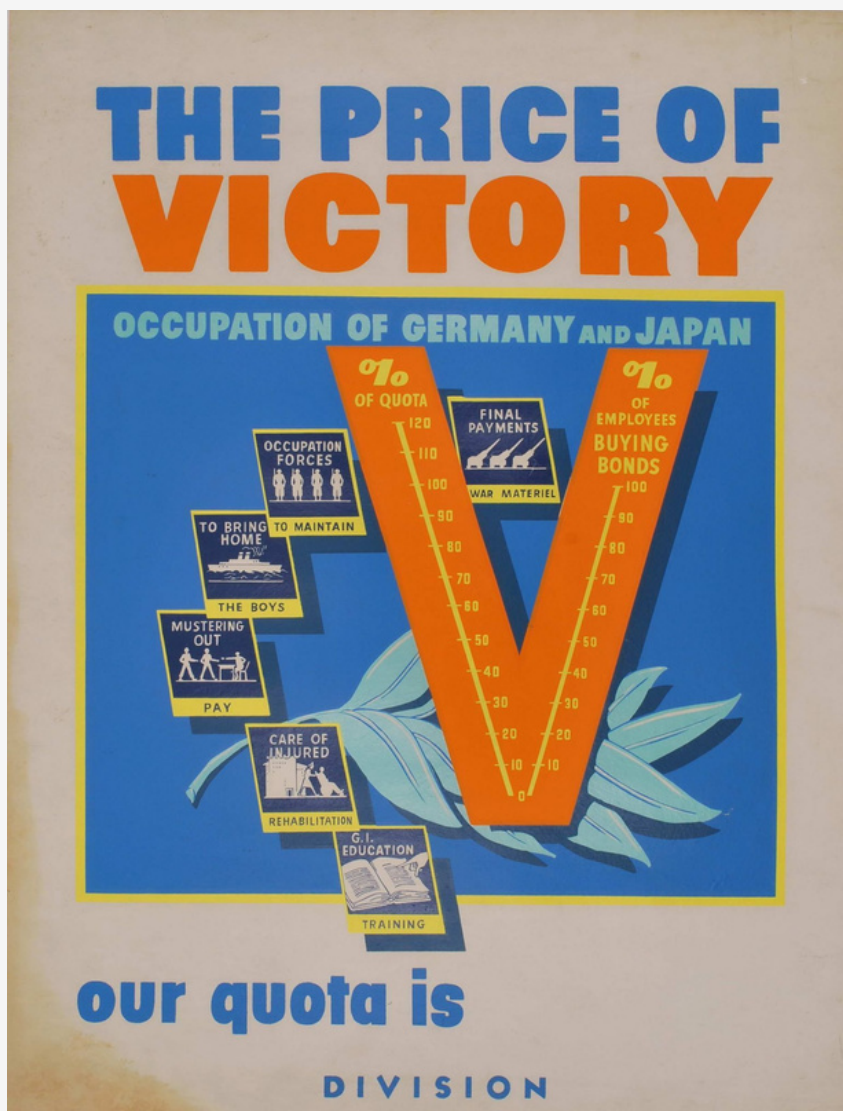
'Beneath The Southern Cross.' Australian National Military Grand March

1900. Sheet music, lithograph cover, inscribed and autographed by composer, artist and publisher "Otto W. Schrader" in ink upper right, signed. 36 x 26.2cm.

The patriotic genre of music changed to reflect an independent Australia rather than a collection of British colonies

\$1,250

CL194-86



The Price Of Victory

c1945. Colour screenprint, 71.5 x 54.3cm. Slight stains, repaired tears overall. Linen-backed.

Text continues "Occupation of Germany and Japan. Our quota is division."
Captions include "Final payments, war materiel [sic]; Occupation forces to maintain; To bring home the boys; Mustering out pay; Care of injured rehabilitation; GI education training."

\$1,150

CL189-63



"Keep It Under Your Hat!"

c1940-1945. Colour lithograph, 38.2 x 25.3cm. Linen-backed.

Text continues "Thoughtless talk takes toll of troops. Printed by AHQ Cartographic Company, Melbourne."
Held in Imperial War Museum, UK.

\$1,100

CL182-67



Tongue Tied

Will Mahony (Aust., 1905-1989).

c1940s. Ink and watercolour with white gouache, signed lower left, titled in pencil in lower margin, 24.7 x 33.8cm. Slight soiling and foxing overall.

Captions read "Australia. Unbridled censorship."

\$990

CL169-136



Too Soon To Crow [Solomon Islands And New Guinea Campaign, WWII]

Will Mahony (Aust., 1905-1989).

c1942-1945. Ink and brush with crayon, signed upper left, titled in pencil in lower margin, publishing annotations in right margin, 34.7 x 38.3cm.

Captions in image read "Solomons" and "Port Moresby", referencing USA and Japan.

\$990

CL181-156



Toe Hold [Solomon Islands And New Guinea Campaign, WWII]

Will Mahony (Aust., 1905-1989).

1942-1945. Ink and brush with crayon and white highlight, signed upper left, titled in pencil in lower margin, publishing annotations in margins, 34.6 x 38.3cm. Soiling, slight crinkles.

\$990

CL181-157



Fighting Men From Overseas: Portraits From Life Of Men In The Forces From The Dominions And Colonies [WWII]

1944. Colour process lithograph, 47 x 63.9cm. Old folds. Linen-backed.

Text reads "Pictorial Education Quarterly, June 1944." Includes portraits of soldiers from Jamaica, S. Rhodesia, S. Africa, Canada, India, British Honduras, (French) Canada, Australia, British Guiana, New Zealand (Maori), Malta, Newfoundland, and Gold Coast [West Africa].

\$990

CL197-49



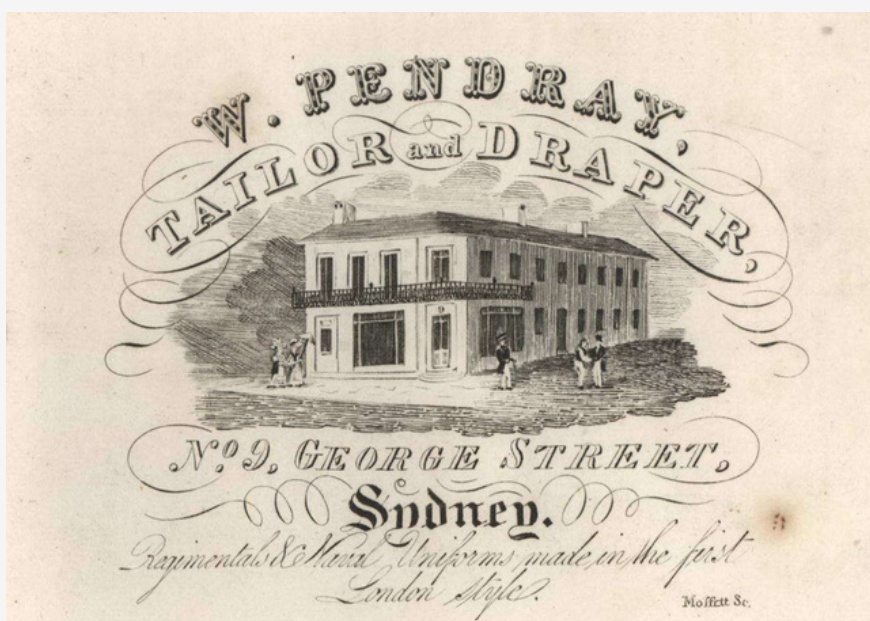
Enlist As A Tradesman In The Regular Army

c1950s. Colour screenprint, 63.4 x 50.6cm. Pinholes and repaired portions to margins, slight crazing, discolouration. Linen-backed.

Text continues "Apply to any army establishment or recruiting centre. AHQ Adv. Prod A63." Held in AWM.

\$990

CL189-87



W. Pendray, Tailor And Draper

1838. Engraving, title and artist in plate above and below image, 7.8 x 11.2cm. Foxing lower right.

Text reads "No. 9, George Street, Sydney. Regimental & naval uniforms made in the first London style." Held in NGA. This advertisement appeared in an early Sydney directory.

\$990

CL181-31



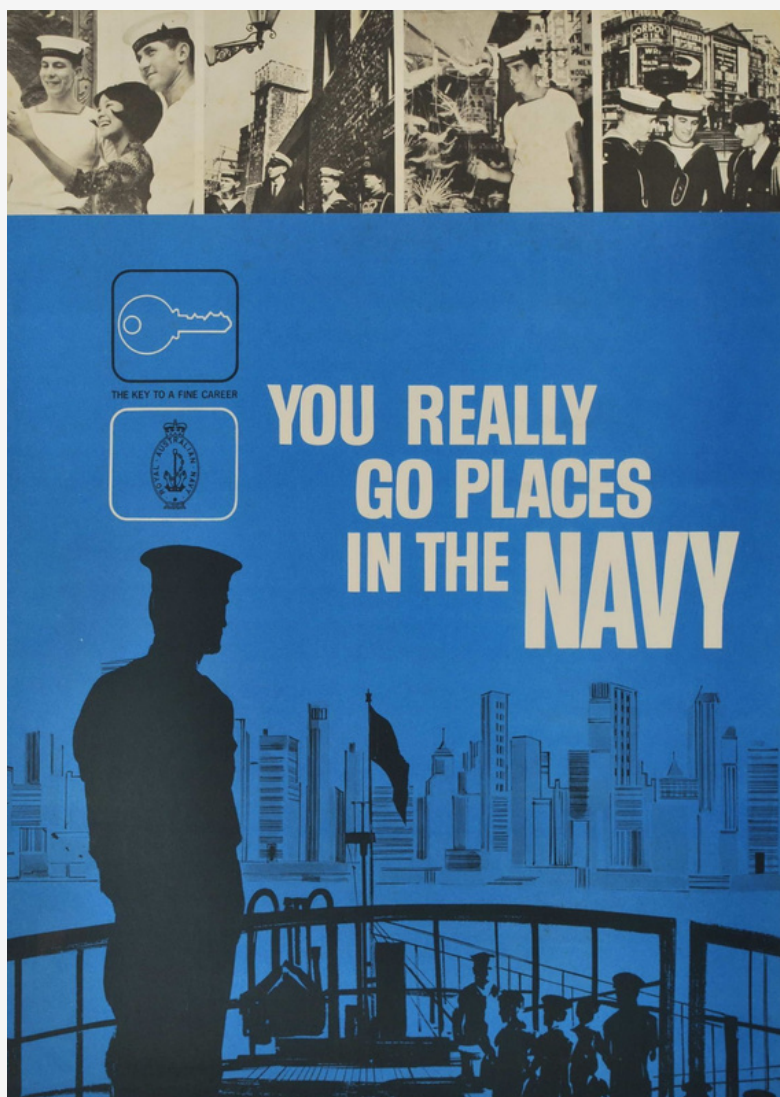
Join The Australian Navy.

c1964. Colour process lithograph, 61.3 x 48.7cm. Slight foxing. Linen-backed.

Text continues "Sailors discovered, founded; and protect Australia." The HMAS Derwent, captioned on the sailor's hat, was commissioned into the Royal Australian Navy in 1964. Ref: Wiki.

\$990

CL189-116



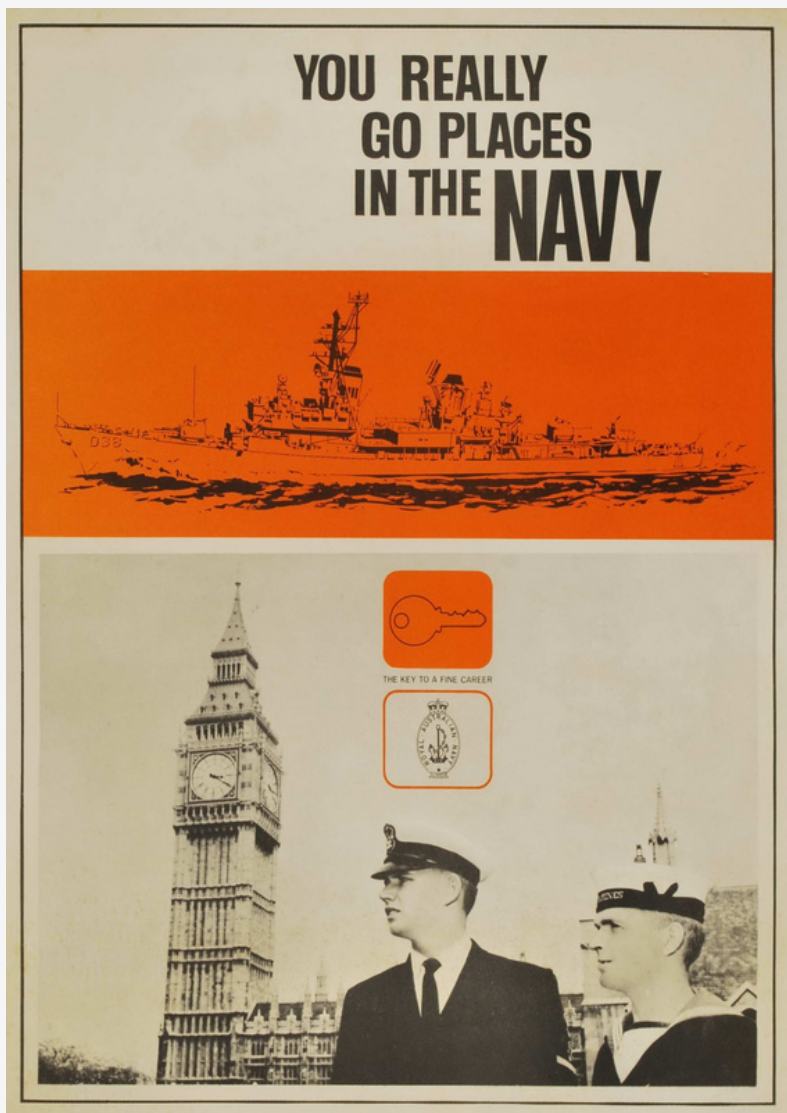
You Really Go Places In The Navy.

c1965. Colour and process lithograph, 48 x 35.7cm. Minor foxing. Linen-backed.

Text continues "The key to a fine career. Royal Australian Navy."

\$990

CL189-117



You Really Go Places In The Navy.

c1965. Colour and process lithograph, 48 x 35.7cm. Slight foxing overall, minor crazing to lower portion. Linen-backed.

Text continues "The key to a fine career. Royal Australian Navy." Poster features the HMAS Perth, the lead ship of the Perth class guided missile destroyers operated by the Royal Australian Navy. Built in the USA, the ship entered Australian service in 1965, and was decommissioned in 1999. Ref: Wiki.

\$990

CL189-118



Enlist As A Tradesman In The Regular Army.

c1950s. Colour screenprint, 63.4 x 50.6cm. Pinholes and repaired portions to margins, slight crazing, discolouration. Linen-backed.

Text continues "Apply to any army establishment or recruiting centre. AHQ Adv. Prod A63." Held in AWM.

\$990

CL189-87



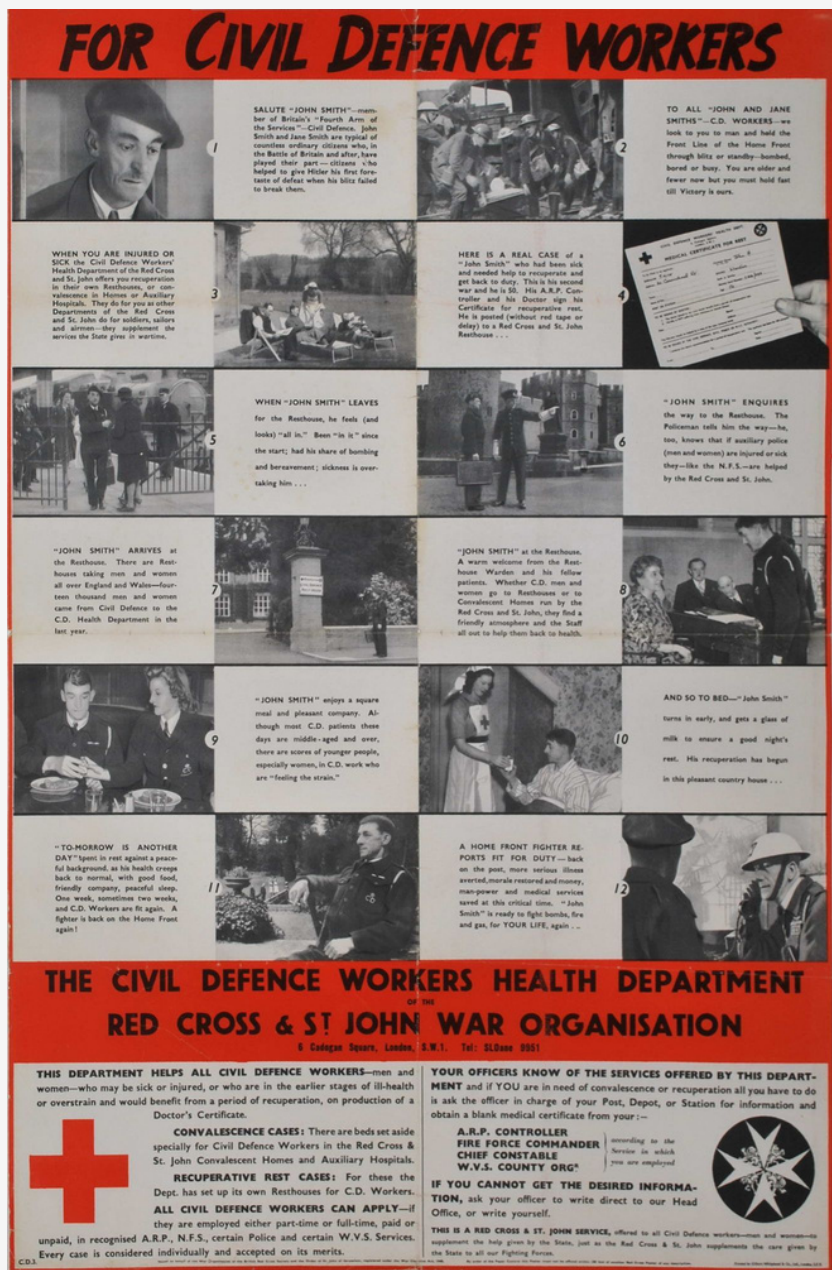
Fitters And Mechanics Wanted. Join The RAAF

Walter Jardine (Aust., 1884-1970).

1941. Colour process lithograph, signed in image centre right, 26.5 x 32.8cm. Old vertical fold, repaired minor tears to edges. Linen-backed. [Small Format - large available for \$2,200]

\$880

CL177-59



For Civil Defence Workers [WWII]

1940. Colour lithograph and process screen, 76.7 x 50.7cm. Linen-backed.

This department helps all civil defence workers – men and women – who may be sick or injured, or who are in the early stages of ill-health.

\$880

CL193-33



So Here I Am, In The RAAF!

c1945. Colour process lithograph, 28.5 x 21.7cm. Slight scuffing. Linen-backed.

Text continues "I asked myself: Would I prefer to live with British Freedom or under German tyranny? Who should fight for this Freedom? Him, me, or both of us? The RAAF Recruiting Drive Committee."

\$880

CL177-72



Building A Pontoon Bridge [WWII]

Harold B. Herbert (Aust., 1891-1945).
c1940s. Pencil drawing, titled and
signed centre left, 20.7 x 26.4cm.

Ballarat-born Melbourne painter,
printmaker, cartoonist, art critic and
teacher, Harold Herbert was the first
official WWII artist to be appointed,
serving with the AIF in Egypt and the
Middle East.

\$880

CL192-59



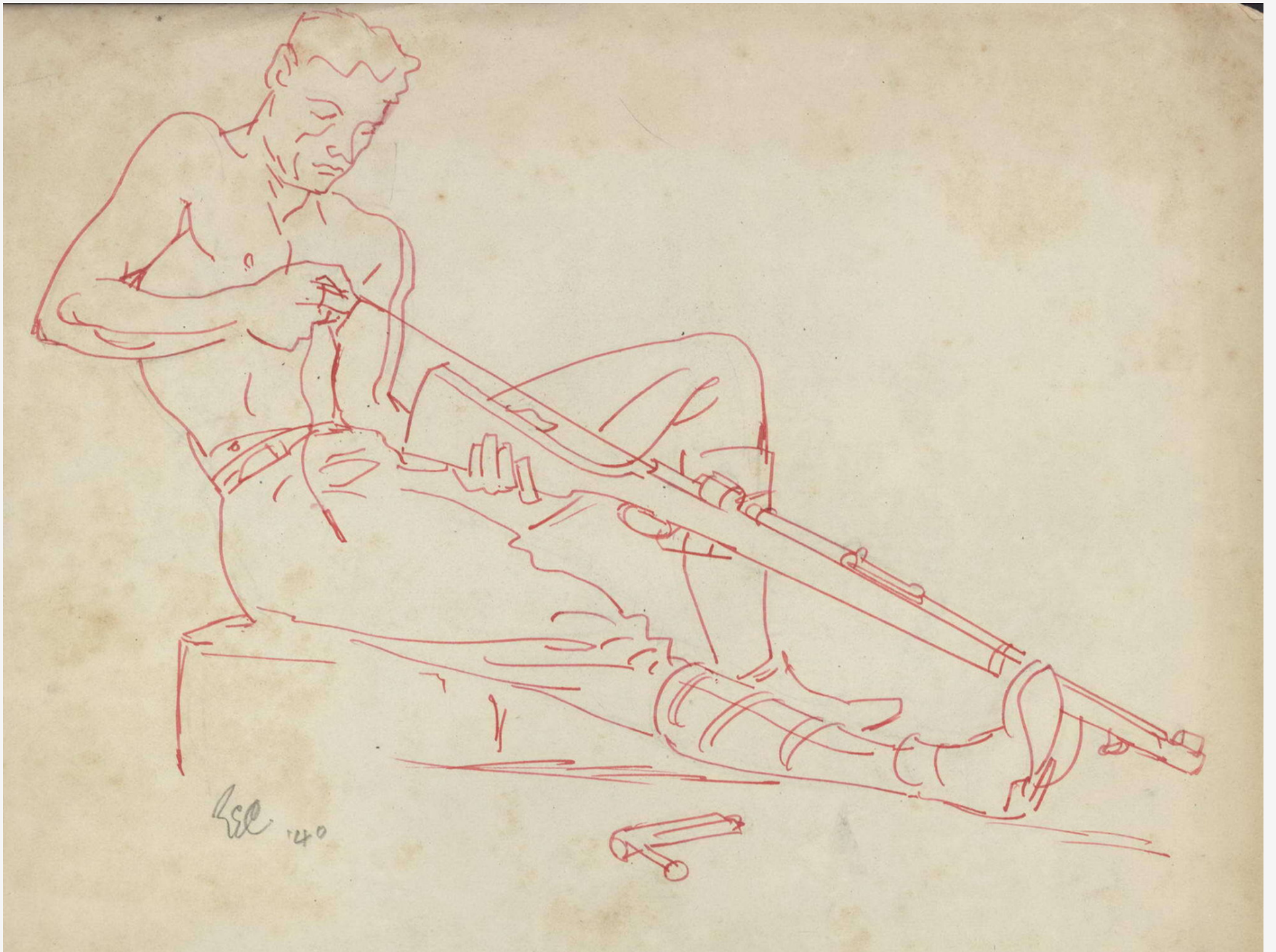
They'll Be Proud Of You In This. **Join The AIF Now**

c1941. Colour process lithograph, 27.5 x
20.3cm. Slight foxing, scuffs and
repaired creases to edges of image.
Linen-backed. [Small version]

Held in AWM.

\$770

CL177-54



[WWI Soldier Cleaning His Lee-Enfield .303 Rifle]

Robert Emerson Curtis (Aust., 1898–1996).

1940. Pen and ink, initialled and dated in pencil lower left, 18 x 23cm.

The Lee-Enfield is a bolt-action, magazine-fed, repeating rifle that served as the main firearm used by the military forces of the British Empire and Commonwealth during the first half of the 20th century. It was the British Army's standard rifle from its official adoption in 1895 until 1957. Ref: Wiki.



Souvenir In Commemoration Of The First Anniversary Of The Anzac Landing In Gallipoli

1916. Colour line block and letterpress
on tissue, 31.7 x 31.7cm.

Title continues "Memorial service at
Westminster Abbey, attended by the
King and the Queen. April 25th 1916."
Shows vignettes of King George and
Queen Mary with Lt. Gen. Birdwood in
centre.

\$770

CL174-95



Mister, Here's Your Hat! Join The AIF Now

R.H. James.

1941. Colour process lithograph, 27.5 x
20.3cm. Linen-backed.

Australian Commonwealth Military
Forces recruitment poster which is one
of a series titled "Join the AIF." Held in
AWM.

\$770

CL177-57



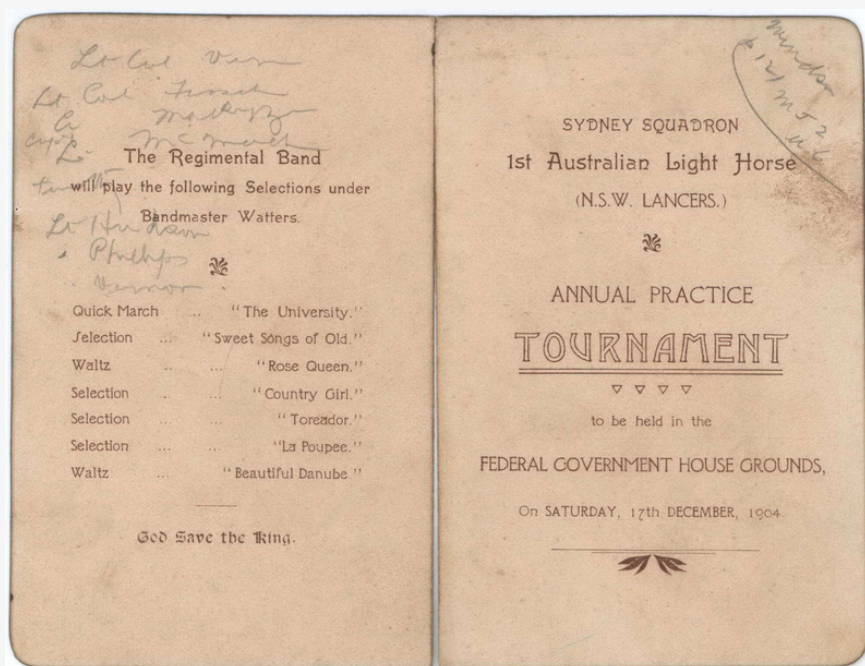
Air Crews Wanted For RAAF

1939-1945. Colour process lithograph, 24.8 x 33cm. Slight foxing. Linen-backed.

Text continues "Apply now! The need is urgent. AF13." Held in Imperial War Museum, London.

\$770

CL177-45



Sydney Squadron, 1st Australian Light Horse (NSW Lancers)

1904. Letterpress invitation and programme card, annotated in pencil and ink, 12.7 x 16.3cm. Split to original fold, soiling.

Text includes "to be held in the Federal Government House Grounds on Saturday, 17th December, 1904." Invitation is addressed to the editor of the Evening News.

\$770

CL181-98

The Josef Lebovic Gallery

Established in 1977, the Josef Lebovic Gallery in Kensington, Sydney, specialises in Australian and international vintage works on paper and photographs dating from the 15th to 20th century.

Josef Lebovic is one of Australia's most well known and respected figures in the field of original prints and photography. Josef is a member the Australian Art & Antique Dealers Association (AAADA), Australian and New Zealand Association of Antiquarian Book Dealers (ANZAAB),

Association of International Photography Art Dealers (AIPAD-USA) and the International Vintage Poster Dealers Association (IVPAD-USA).



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