

**Jump TO Article**



The article on the pages below is reprinted by permission from *United Service* (the journal of the Royal United Services Institute of New South Wales), which seeks to inform the defence and security debate in Australia and to bring an Australian perspective to that debate internationally.

The Royal United Services Institute of New South Wales (RUSI NSW) has been promoting informed debate on defence and security issues since 1888. To receive quarterly copies of *United Service* and to obtain other significant benefits of RUSI NSW membership, please see our online Membership page:

[www.rusinsw.org.au/Membership](http://www.rusinsw.org.au/Membership)



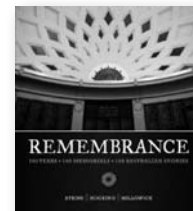
**Jump TO Article**

## BOOK REVIEWS:

# ***Remembrance: 100 years, 100 memorials, 100 Australian stories***

by Geoff Hocking with Christopher Atkins and Julie Millowick

*The Five Mile Press: Scoresby, VIC; 2014; 272 pp.; ISBN 9781743467503; RRP \$49.95 (hardcover)*



At first glance, *Remembrance* appears to be a picture book about memorials – but it is significantly more than that. The 100 stories associated with the 100 memorials are well researched and told; and the present is linked with the past. Each story covers one or two pages and so the collection is able to be enjoyed in short sittings.

In a distinctively original and captivating way, *Remembrance* shows how the terrible sacrifice of young Australians in World War I reverberated across the country at the time; and how the memories continue to resonate in so many different ways.

Selected for their unique design, their grandeur or their simplicity, the 100 memorials have been arranged alphabetically and represent the diversity of memorials from each state and territory across Australia. Australian memorials in Turkey, France and Belgium have also been included.

Geoff Hocking is an Australian author, artist and graphic designer who has written, illustrated or designed more than 30 books for both adults and children. He has written extensively on Australian themes: bushrangers; Catholic rebels; gold-diggers; and the story of the Australian flag. Hocking's books are always lavishly illustrated with hundreds of old engravings, paintings, artworks and ephemera and have become definitive collections of visual representations of his themes.

Hocking produced *Remembrance* in conjunction with Christopher Atkins and Julie Millowick – fellow lecturers at La Trobe University. Atkins was a contributing photographer and writer. Millowick managed the many contributing photographers studying photojournalism at La Trobe University.

*Remembrance* begins with a useful introductory section titled 'In Memoriam' and an introduction by Derek Guile. While the book's images are first rate and of a good size, the text for the stories and the captions is a bit small and some older readers may struggle. *Remembrance* includes a bibliography and notes section, but the index seems a little shorter than I would expect for such a significant work with so many stories.

As a book about memorials and memory, perhaps it may have been more appropriate for *Remembrance* to have been published in 2018 or 2019 on the centenary of when the memorials were mostly constructed – but then again, a casual reader may well take the next four years to work through the 100 stories.

In all, *Remembrance* is a well-researched, well-presented and entirely readable coffee table style book that is a fitting tribute both to the memorials that were created to honour World War I's fallen and to the men and women themselves.

**Marcus Fielding**