

RUSI Defence and Security Studies NSW
Animals in War Reading List
From the Ursula Davidson Library

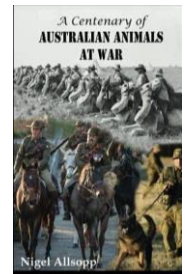


To celebrate and acknowledge the huge contribution of animals across centuries of warfare, we have created this reading list to coincide with The National Day for War Animals on 24 February 2025.

A centenary of Australian animals at war by Nigel Allsopp

Sadly one thing they had in common, whether a Waler horse or a carrier pigeon, was that all but a few never returned home. This book tells the untold history of Australia's animal warriors 100 years ago, their continued use in warfare in present day operations, and the fight to get their deeds officially recognised; a struggle that still goes on today. Published: [Helensvale, Qld.] : 2015. Underwood : InHouse Publishing.

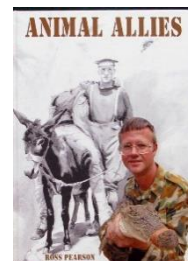
Call no: 837 ALLS 2015



Animal allies by Ross Pearson

A history of the use of animals in wars over the centuries unveiling a strange assortment of animals, birds and other creatures that helped men to fight. The scope flows from Simpson and his donkey, to the charge at Beersheba, to porpoises used in the Gulf War and many other battles and campaigns. Published: Loftus, NSW : Australian Military History Publications , 2005.

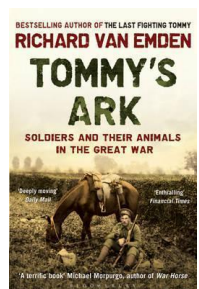
Call no: 837.3 PEAR 2005



Tommy's ark : soldiers and their animals in the Great War by Richard Van Emden

Looks at the Great War through the eyes of the soldiers who were there, and examines their relationship with a strange and unexpected range of animal life, from horses, dogs and cats to monkeys and birds - even in one case a golden eagle. Richard van Emden explores his subject far more radically than previous attempts, revealing how, for example, a lemur was taken on combat missions whilst this title is illustrated with more than sixty previously unseen or rarely published photographs. Published: London : Bloomsbury , 2010.

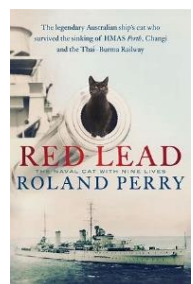
Call no: 570.12 VANE 2010



Red Lead : the naval cat with nine lives by Roland Perry.

The legendary Australian ship's cat who survived the sinking of HMAS *Perth* and the Thai-Burma Railway. Beloved by the crew, her name was Red Lead, and she was the ship's cat and she shared the terrible ordeals from Java to Changi and then on the Thai-Burma Railway with the surviving crew. Red Lead acted as a companion, mascot and occasional protector for these small group of sailors who made it their mission to keep her alive in some of the most hellish prison camps on earth. Published: Sydney, NSW : Allen & Unwin, 2020

Call no: 588.14 PERR 2020



In dogs we trust : we are the war dog team and this is our story by George Hulse

Covering first-hand experiences of military working dog handlers in both the Australian Army and the Royal Australian Air Force. Be amazed, informed and captivated by the accounts of this special asset in the ADF with accounts of RAAF dog teams on overseas operational duty and with our infantry units in combat zones. Published: [St Lucia, Queensland] : George Hulse, 2019.

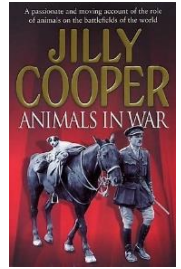
Call no: 503.2 HULS 2019



Animals in war by Jilly Cooper

From pigeons carrying vital messages to and from the beleaguered city during the Siege of Paris; horses and mules struggling through miles of fetid mud to bring ammunition to the front in the Great War; dogs sniffing out mines for the British invasion force in the Second World War - countless brave animals have played their part in the long, cruel history of war. This book is a tribute to the role of animals in wartime - an astonishing story of courage, intelligence, devotion, and resilience. Published: London : Heinemann, 1983.

Call no: 837.2 COOP 1983

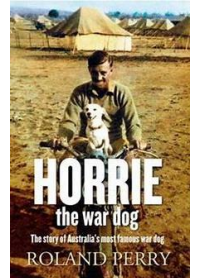


Horrie the war dog : the story of Australia's most famous dog by Roland Perry

In the harsh Libyan desert in the middle of the WWII, Private Jim Moody, a signaller with the First Australian Machine Gun Battalion, found a starving puppy on a sand dune. Moody called the dog Horrie. He became more than a mascot - Horrie's exceptional hearing picked up the whine of enemy aircraft two minutes before his human counterparts and repeatedly saved the lives of the thousand-strong contingent. He became the Battalion's much-loved mascot and saviour. This is an extraordinarily moving and fascinating story of bravery and mateship.

Published: Sydney : Allen & Unwin, 2013.

Call no: 580.2 PERR 2013

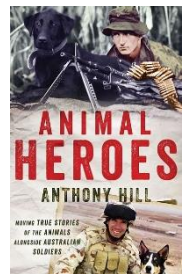


Animal heroes by Anthony Hill

Animal Heroes is a collection of 29 short stories in which Anthony Hill remembers just a few of the many gallant dogs, horses, pigeons, donkeys, pets and mascots who have served with Australia's armed services from The Sudan contingent of 1885 to the present day.

Published: Camberwell, Vic. : Penguin Group (Australia) , 2005.

Call no: 837.2 HILL 2005

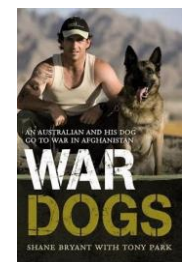


War dogs by Shane Bryant with Toby Park

Bryant 's story of his 10 years spent in Afghanistan, as an Australian Army dog handler, working with elite American special forces. A fascinating tale of handlers and their dogs in combat showcasing their work searching for improvised explosive devices or hidden weapons out on patrol with combat troops, making them high priority targets for the Taliban insurgents.

Published:[Australia] : AJP, 2020.

Call no: 543.4 BRYA 2020

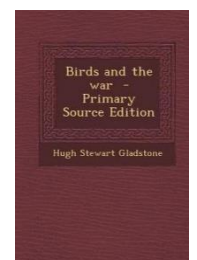


Birds and the war by Hugh S. Gladstone

Written in 1919, just as the First World War came to a close, this extensive study provides information on the role that birds of many types played during the conflict, from the tremendous destruction that the war had on wild bird populations, up to the heroics of Homing Pigeons whose service as winged messengers saved thousands of lives.

Published: London : Skeffington & Son , 1919.

Call no: 837.2 GLAD 1919



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Compiled by **Theodora Fox and Carrol Miller** Catalogue: <http://rusi.slimlib.com.au>

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