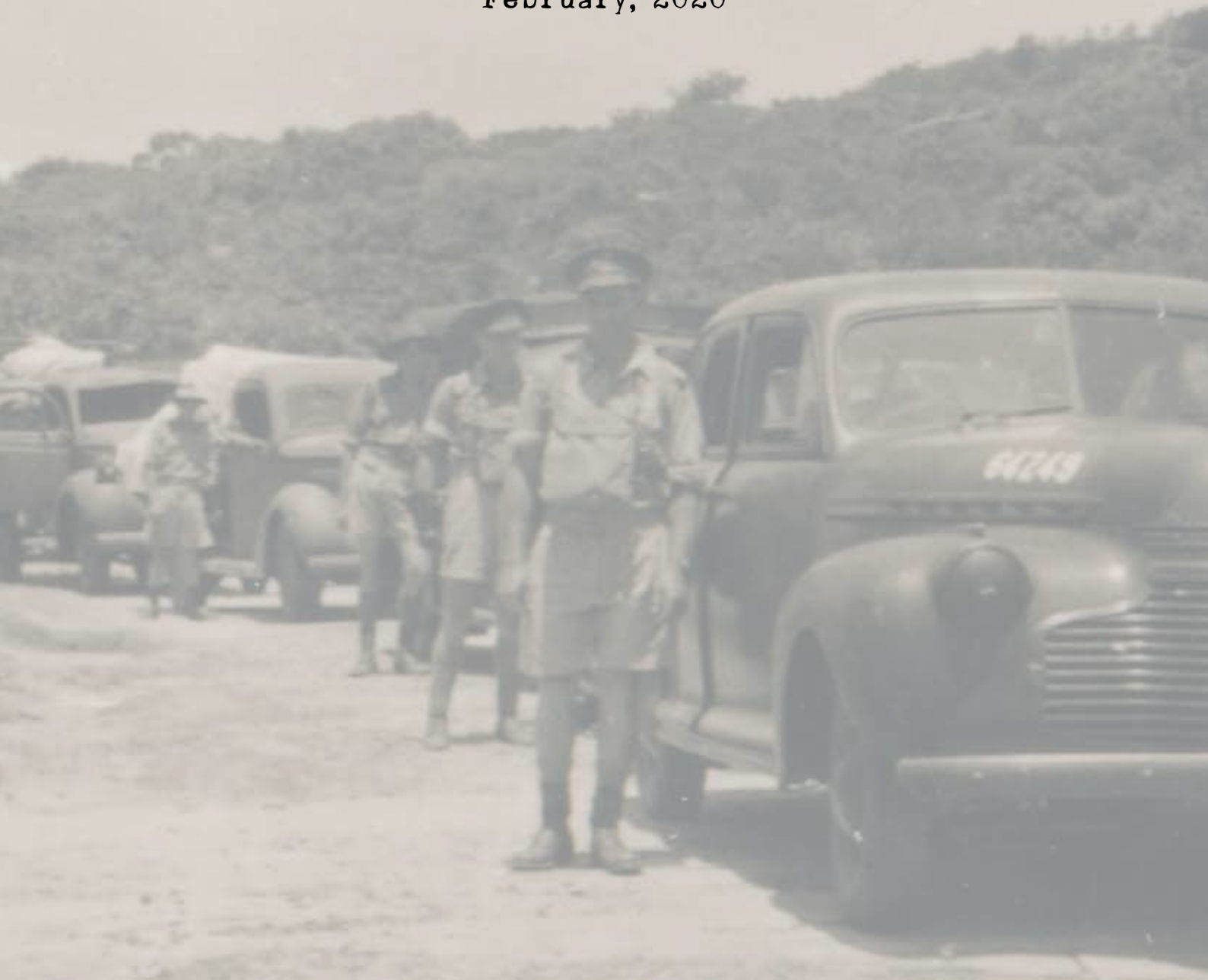


**These Untold Stories  
A Story Told is a Life Lived**

**The Australian Golf Club**

**Prepared by Dr Michael James Bendon  
February, 2020**



# 1. Executive Summary



Australians and sport are inextricably entwined. Stories and photographs from the front lines show, so often, that even in the midst of carnage, opportunity for sport and competition was found.

Once opportunity is provided to relate a story of service to Australia, the anecdote gains personality, significance and a more tangible context. These stories will link directly back to the heritage and the very fabric of **The Australian Golf Club**, that is, its members and patrons.

The project, entitled *These Untold Stories*, outlined in this proposal constructs, and thus supplies the means to:

- \* Allow commemoration of all aspects of Australia's service personnel's lives in a way that can involve the community of the Club as a whole. No story is unimportant or too insignificant to be told, with each and every contribution to be viewed as just that, a contribution.

- \* Better understand the experiences of service personnel associated with **The Australian Golf Club** as well as the work they did, and continue to do, for Australia as a nation. A photo, a letter, a set of medals or even a postcard can be better appreciated when placed within the framework of a story.

- \* Gather as yet unknown information about the personal experiences, and personalities of Australia's wartime heritage.

- \* Piece together materials from the Club archives supplementing these with official sources such as War Diaries and contributions from members and their guests.

- \* Display and pass on this information in a chosen variety of formats deemed suitable for the stated aims of **The Australian Golf Club** and in keeping with the atmosphere felt necessary by Club members.

2.

# Lieutenant Harold Montague Sandy

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

## Military Cross 1918

## Club President 1935-36

# AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

### Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.



Name SANDY HAROLD MONTAGUE  
 Unit A. I. F.  
 Joined on 6 January 1915

out to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

- Sandy Harold Montague
- In the Parish of Summer Hill in or near the Town of ..... in the County of N.S.W.
- Leo
- 25 St
- Secretary Company
- Single

### Lieutenant HAROLD MONTAGUE SANDY, 12th Battalion.

Near Lihons, on 11th August, 1918, he led his company with splendid dash and determination throughout the whole operation. Noticing a gap existed between our left flank and the right of the unit on the left, he led his company, which was in support, into it. The enemy had also perceived this gap, and was endeavouring to rush through. With fine judgment, he at once attacked, and placed his company across the gap, encountering determined opposition in doing so. This action undoubtedly prevented a serious situation arising. Throughout the operation he displayed great judgment and skill.

NB. The information provided here on H.M. Sandy is correct but access to archives of The Australian Golf Club is required to confirm his association with the Club itself.

\*And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife three-fifths wife and children

Date 6/1/15

Harold M. Sandy  
 Signature of person enlisted.

\* This clause to be amended where necessary and should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age.

### 3. Initial Timeline - Dr Michael Bendon

#### Step 1:

Two full days spent examining particular archives of the club, most likely looking at the minutes of all board meetings. This would isolate any reference to Military Service and personnel along with activities of the Club during times of conflict.

A written report will then be presented to the Club detailing the findings of the initial examination and a set of recommendations.

#### Step 2:

Should there be sufficient material uncovered during the initial searches, prepare an announcement of an evening to gauge member & guest interest.

**On the evening chosen:** Small display & consultation with members & guests followed by a presentation/talk '*An Untold Story - The Forgotten Flotilla.*'

#### Step 3:

If there proves to be sufficient contribution and interest from members & their guests, in consultation with Club executives complete drafting of DVA grant application detailing requirements and expenditure envisaged.

#### Step 4:

Submission of Application for DVA '*Saluting Their Service*' grant.

Design content for display - timing dependent on amount of material and scope decided.

### 4. Initial Budget

<b>Archival Research</b>	(Two full days @ \$375 per day)	\$750
<b>Presentation &amp; Consultation Evening</b>		<u>\$325</u>
	<b>Total (no GST)</b>	\$1075

NB: The above payments can be included in DVA grant application as 'research assistant costs' and may be recouped if awarded.

## 5. Moving Forward

Once the level of interest coming from members and their guests is assessed, there are a few options suggested below to best display and acknowledge any contributions made to the project. These can be done in any combination. Also there exists the possibility to incorporate other suggestions should they be considered viable.

One of the main underpinnings of the entire project must be maintained though, that of CONTEXT. Without creating and situating any material or information within an appropriate framework significance may be lost to an audience.

- LED screens placed in prominent positions that while not impeding foot traffic allow the space for time to be spent exploring. For example, one screen with specific content from the club archives and another with a more general approach. *Possibility of being \*cloud-based thus programmed and scheduled to avoid any continuous upkeep or updating by the club.*

- A larger screen set back out of reach with connected smaller screen with search functions enabled (local content?). Perhaps positioned in centre of display cabinet.

- Curated, rotating display of memorabilia on say a monthly/two monthly basis then repeated the following year. Perhaps following a schedule of conflicts in which Australia has been involved. Could be organised ahead of time (boxed, labelled and linked) which would then only require suitable 'window dressing' at changeover.

- The above could be combined with a screen detailing (but in brief) the whys and wherefores lasting for a year then being repeated though updated with new stories, contributions and film clips. *Possibility of being \*cloud-based thus programmed and scheduled to avoid any continuous upkeep or updating by the club.*

- A digital honour board.

- Situation of marble plaque donated by Hellenic Village Sydney (see photo & explanation attached separately)

*These Untold Stories* needs to be looked at as an on-going initiative where the database can be continually expanded while being preserved and safeguarded.

\*Cloud-based storage, programming and scheduling is on the basis of subscription per screen number but one of the great advantages is a simple central single management system that allows. The subscription cost can also be built into any grant application to be submitted.

## 6. Conclusions

The majority of decisions concerning both the scope and what is to be included in the final display will be determined by the level of interest of members and their guests.

Dependent on the reactions and 'materials' gathered, the application to DVA for financial assistance in the form of a Saluting Their Service grant can then be completed and submitted.

The final decision regarding any display, actual participation of club members and, ultimately, in what format or formats collected information will be displayed rests entirely in the hands of **The Australian Golf Club** board members.

## 7. Principal Researcher Dr Michael James Bendon

Dr Michael James Bendon holds post-graduate qualifications in Archaeology, History, Education, Linguistics, Maritime Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Management.

Dr Bendon first started as a field archaeologist in Israel before moving briefly onto Portugal and then on to directing a Medieval church and cemetery excavation in Northern Germany. More recently, he has been assisting a colleague in investigations on Phalasarna, a large Classical/Hellenistic maritime city in Western Crete, while also working on the excavation of the first Minoan shipwreck to be discovered. His most recent research has revolved around two British WWII wrecks he located off shore from the ancient Phalasarna site. This particular avenue of investigation resulted in the publication of a book entitled, *The Forgotten Flotilla: Craft of Heroes. Greece, Crete & North Africa*.

Michael's research interests are varied but, at present, as well as continuing to work at Phalasarna, he is looking into the Mediterranean campaigns of WWII and the connections between the islands of Imbros, Lemnos & Tenedos with the Gallipoli campaign of 1915.

