

# FAST FACT



A veteran is a person who was enrolled in the Australian Defence Force (ADF), which includes the Navy, Army and Air Force. To be a veteran, they must have completed at least one day of service and no longer be serving in the ADF. As at 30 June 2018, DVA estimated that there were around 641,000 living Australian veterans.

## WHAT IS A NOMINAL ROLL?

A Nominal Roll commemorates service and sacrifice. It provides a snapshot of each veteran who served in a war or conflict that Australia has participated in. People are often surprised to learn that the rolls managed by DVA include thousands of separate entries.

DVA manages the Nominal Rolls for:

- Second World War – 1939 to 1945
- Korean War – 1950 to 1956
- Vietnam War – 1962 to 1975
- First Gulf War – 1990 to 1991

You can use the Nominal Rolls to look up the records of famous people, friends and family, and print out a certificate that commemorates their military service.

When a veteran has done something very brave or commendable in their service to the nation, they are sometimes given an award or an honour. These awards and honours are included in the Nominal Roll records.

Awards and honours include the Victoria Cross, the Distinguished Service Cross and the Nursing Service Cross. You can find the full list on the Department of Defence website.



Look at the image of a RAAF member being greeted by his family members to welcome him home from the Second World War on 8th December 1944. He is one of almost a million Australians, both men and women, who served in the Second World War.



This is Major General A J H Cassels awarding the Military Medal to Corporal L E Taylor for outstanding bravery under fire during Operation Blaze (Korean War) in July 1952.

# QUESTIONS



Remembering what you have read and heard so far, write your answers below:

1. What is a veteran?

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2. What is a Nominal Roll?

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3. Name three (3) special awards that can be given to a veteran?

A

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B

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C

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## DID YOU KNOW?

The Second World War Nominal Roll honours and commemorates some one million people who served in Australia's defence forces.

The Nominal Roll of Australian Veterans of the Korean War honours and commemorates over 18,000 veterans who served.

The Nominal Roll of Vietnam Veterans honours and commemorates approximately 61,000 people who served.

The Preliminary Gulf War Nominal Roll lists 1,871 ADF personnel involved in that conflict.

That is a total of more than 1,080,871 people.




You may have also seen Rolls of Honour in towns and museums. This image is of Sapper Les Dawes painting the company honour roll in 1941. This listed all members of the 2/3rd Field Company, Royal Australian Engineers.

# HOW CAN I SEE THE NOMINAL ROLLS?



You can go to the Nominal Rolls website that is managed by the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

1. **OPEN** your internet browser (e.g. Safari, Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Firefox, etc.).
2. **OPEN** your internet search engine (e.g. Google, Yahoo, Bing, etc.).
3. **TYPE** the words DVA Nominal Rolls into the search bar.
4. **CLICK** to open the link that reads DVA's Nominal Rolls.
5. If you prefer, you can **TYPE** this address in the URL – <https://nominal-rolls.dva.gov.au>
6. This opens the home page of the website, where you can **START TO SEARCH** for people.

 Australian Government  
Department of Veterans' Affairs

Home **WW2** Korean War Vietnam War First Gulf War

## Welcome

### DVA's Nominal Rolls

One of DVA's key roles is acknowledging and commemorating the service and sacrifice of all those who served Australia and its allies in wars, conflicts and peace operations through commemorations, memorials, war graves and research. As one part of this commemoration, DVA has published four nominal rolls. These nominal rolls list members of Australia's defence forces who served during World War Two, Korean War, Vietnam War and First Gulf War.

You can start with the Search tool or you can select a conflict from the top menu for more detailed searches.

#### Search

**Conflict**  
World War Two

**Service Number**  
Service Number

Or

**Surname**  
Surname

**First Name**  
First Name

**Second Name**  
Second Name

Search  Clear

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[DVA Website](#) [Australian War Memorial](#) [Department of Defence](#) [Boer War Nominal Roll](#) [WW1 Nominal Roll](#)

Site last updated: 24/04/2020

From this home screen, you can look for veterans who were involved in each conflict, and you can also link to other interesting and useful sites including the Australian War Memorial and the Department of Defence.



## SPOTLIGHTING SOME FAMOUS AUSTRALIANS

Let's learn about two of Australia's well known World War veterans before we search for them.



**Sister Vivian Bullwinkel** was an Australian Army nurse during World War Two. She was a victim of a war atrocity as the sole survivor when a group of nurses were machine-gunned by their Japanese captors, and was later a prisoner of war.

Throughout her life, Bullwinkel received honours and awards, including the Florence Nightingale Medal, Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE), and Albert Medal (AM).

**Sir Ernest Edward 'Weary' Dunlop** was a doctor in the Australian Army Medical Corps. He was captured and held in the Changi Prisoner of War Camp, where Australian prisoners were forced to work on the Burma-Thailand Railway.

Throughout his life, Dunlop received many honours and awards including the Order of the British Empire (OBE), Knight Bachelor, Companion of the Order of Australia (AC), Knight Grand Cross, Order of St John of Jerusalem, and Knight Grand Cross of the Most Noble Order of the Royal Crown of Thailand.



### DID YOU KNOW?

The construction of the 420 kilometre railway between Thailand and Burma led to the deaths of 2,700 Australians.

# COMPLETING YOUR FIRST SEARCH



Let's search for the Nominal Roll record for Sister Vivian Bullwinkel.

1. From the Home screen, go to Search box on the right-hand side.
2. Click on the Conflict dropdown box and click to select World War Two.

**Search**

Conflict

- ✓ World War Two
- Korean War
- Vietnam War

3. Use your other available search criteria to enter more detail.
4. In this example, we do not have a Service Number, so leave this box empty.
5. In the Surname box enter Bullwinkel (remember to be careful with correct spelling).
6. In the First Name box enter Vivian.
7. Your completed Search box should now look like the one below.

**Search**

Conflict

World War Two

Service Number

Service Number

Or

Surname



Surname

First Name

First Name

Second Name

Second Name

Search  Clear 

8. Click on the Search button to continue.





# LOOKING AT THE RESULTS OF YOUR SEARCH

The Veteran Details for Vivian Bullwinkel are displayed on your screen.

Home / Service Record

## World War Two Service

Help ⓘ About Fields ⓘ

### Veteran Details

Name	BULLWINKEL, VIVIAN
Service	Australian Army
Service Number	F31029 (V12997, VFX61330)
Date of Birth	18 Dec 1915
Place of Birth	KAPUNDA, SA
Date of Enlistment	20 May 1941
Locality on Enlistment	BURWOOD
Place of Enlistment	A A M C DRILL HALL, VIC
Next of Kin	BULLWINKEL, EVA
Date of Discharge	30 Sep 1947
Rank	Captain
Posting at Discharge	13 Australian General Hospital
Prisoner of War	Yes
Honours	Royal Red Cross (2nd Class)

**Print Certificate** 🖨️  
Generate a certificate for this Service Record that can be printed for display

**Submit Feedback** 💬  
Submit feedback regarding this Service Record

**Permission to Use Service Badge** 📄  
Get information on using a badge for commemorative purposes, and generate a permission letter for this Service Record

From here you can print a certificate for the service record, clicking on Print Certificate on the right hand side of the screen. This will generate a PDF that can be saved on your computer and sent to your printer.

## QUESTION

Review the screen above:

1. What Honour did Sister Vivian Bullwinkel receive?

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# COMPLETING YOUR SECOND SEARCH

Click on the Home tab at the top of the screen to start a new search.

Repeat the instructions from page 5, but using Sir Ernest Edward 'Weary' Dunlop.

[How did you go?](#)

Did you use Ernest as the First Name and Edward as the Second Name?

Home / Service Record

## World War Two Service

Help ⓘ About Fields ⓘ

### Veteran Details

Name	DUNLOP, ERNEST EDWARD
Service	Australian Army
Service Number	VX259
Date of Birth	12 Jul 1907
Place of Birth	WANGARATTA, VIC
Date of Enlistment	28 Dec 1939
Locality on Enlistment	BENALLA, VIC
Place of Enlistment	LONDON, ENGLAND
Next of Kin	DUNLOP, JAMES
Date of Discharge	01 Feb 1946
Rank	Lieutenant Colonel
Posting at Discharge	2/2 AUSTRALIAN CASUALTY CLEARING STATION
Prisoner of War	Yes
Honours	Officer of the Order of the British Empire

[Print Certificate](#) 🖨️  
Generate a certificate for this Service Record that can be printed for display

[Submit Feedback](#) 💬  
Submit feedback regarding this Service Record

[Permission to Use Service Badge](#) 🏅  
Get information on using a badge for commemorative purposes, and generate a permission letter for this Service Record

## QUESTION

Review the screen above:

1. What was the Date of Discharge for Sir Ernest Edward 'Weary' Dunlop?

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This is Sir Ernest Edward 'Weary' Dunlop and Sister Vivian Bullwinkel at a memorial service in 1993.



## PEOPLE YOU KNOW

Do you know anyone who is a veteran?

Why don't you use their details and search for them in the Nominal Rolls?

Try to find someone who was involved in the Second World War, Korean War, Vietnam War or the First Gulf War so that you can look them up.

If you don't know a veteran, maybe you could talk to your family members so see whether there was a veteran in your family. If your parents or guardian aren't sure, then maybe you could phone a grandparent.

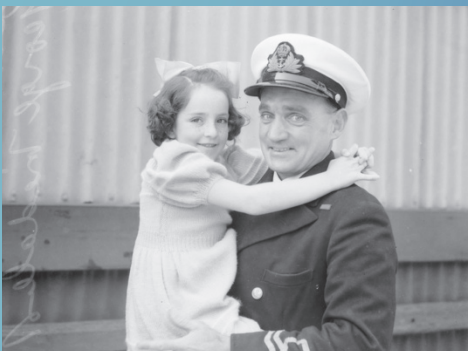
## TALKING WITH SENSITIVITY

When we think about veterans, we often imagine a man or woman from the First or Second World War, but the veteran community is very diverse.

Some of the experiences they have had can be quite traumatic and difficult to talk about. Talking to them about their veteran story may be difficult for them.

You need to remember to be sensitive to how the veteran is feeling about your desire to know about their military service.

If you sense that the veteran you are trying to talk to is uncomfortable, then it is very important to stop the conversation.



There is a common theme in all of these photos, regardless of conflicts and generations and that is connections with family and friends. From Lieutenant K S Upton in 1944 (Second World War), to the Galvin and Lyons families in 1952 (Korean War), to Lance Corporal Kevin Sloan in 1971 (Vietnam War) and finally, an unidentified Navy sailor in 1991 (First Gulf War).