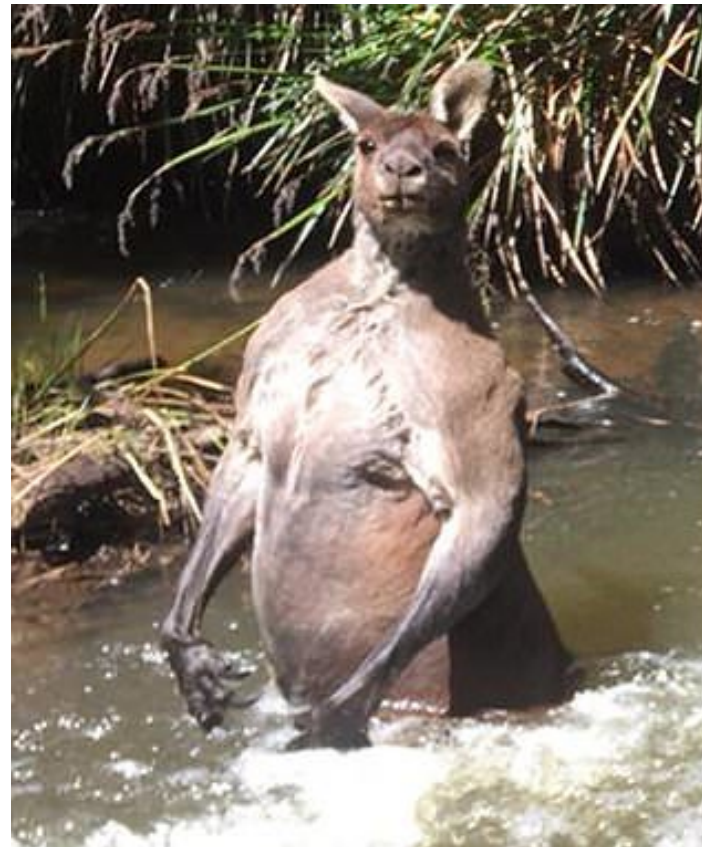


# DIGGERS

## SWIMMING, BATHING

PHOTO STUDY – Boer War (1899), WW1

**KANGAROO  
TAKES A BATH IN  
AUSTRALIA**



Relieving the  
1st Scots Guard.  
South Africa  
1899



**1899, (Boer War) SOUTH AFRICA  
MEMBERS OF THE 1ST SCOTS  
GUARDS SWIMMING IN A RIVER.**



**A member of the 7th Australian Light Horse Regiment (7ALH) having a bath in the desert preparatory to revisiting Gallipoli. The naked soldier has wet his hair from the contents of a canvas water bag. In late 1918, members of 7ALH were chosen to represent the regiment on a tour of the old battlefields of Gallipoli. The group, predominantly made up of Gallipoli veterans, disembarked on the peninsula on 4 December 1918.**

15b

**Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey. 1915. AIF troops bathing  
at Anzac Beach with Allied shipping in the  
background.**





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P02934.002

Anzac beach, Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey. 1915. Soldiers bathing at the beach as others stand on the sand. The arms of the soldiers are sunburnt compared to their rest of their bodies. Note the boats pulled up to the beach with men unloading supplies.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

A00962

**Australian soldiers bathing naked.**

**British Commander of the Australian and NZ troops, Lieutenant General William Birdwood, Anzac Cove, May 1915.**



*"General Birdwood enjoyed a swim when possible. In the water, naked like everyone else, he was sometimes mistaken for a lowly private. Journalist Phillip Schuler wrote that one day a canvas pipe from a water-barge fell into the sea. The barge-man, not recognising the general, yelled at him: 'Well lend a \*&^%\* hand to get the \*&^%\$^ thing up.' Birdwood did not punish the barge-man for his rudeness. Rather, he helped out and later delighted in re-telling the story."* Patrick Carlyon, Penguin 2003.

**GALLIPOLI, 1915. A BEACH SCENE AT ANZAC COVE, SHOWING SOLDIERS BATHING, RELAXING ON THE FORESHORE.**





**GALLIPOLI,  
1915. A  
VIEW OF  
ANZAC  
COVE, WITH  
SOLDIERS  
SWIMMING  
FROM THE  
BARGES  
AND  
WALKING  
ALONG THE  
SHORE PAST  
THE HIGH  
STACKS OF  
SUPPLIES**





**MEMBERS OF  
THE 3RD  
A.L.H. FIELD  
AMBULANCE,  
SWIMMING  
THEIR  
HORSES IN  
THE SUEZ  
CANAL AT  
1916.**

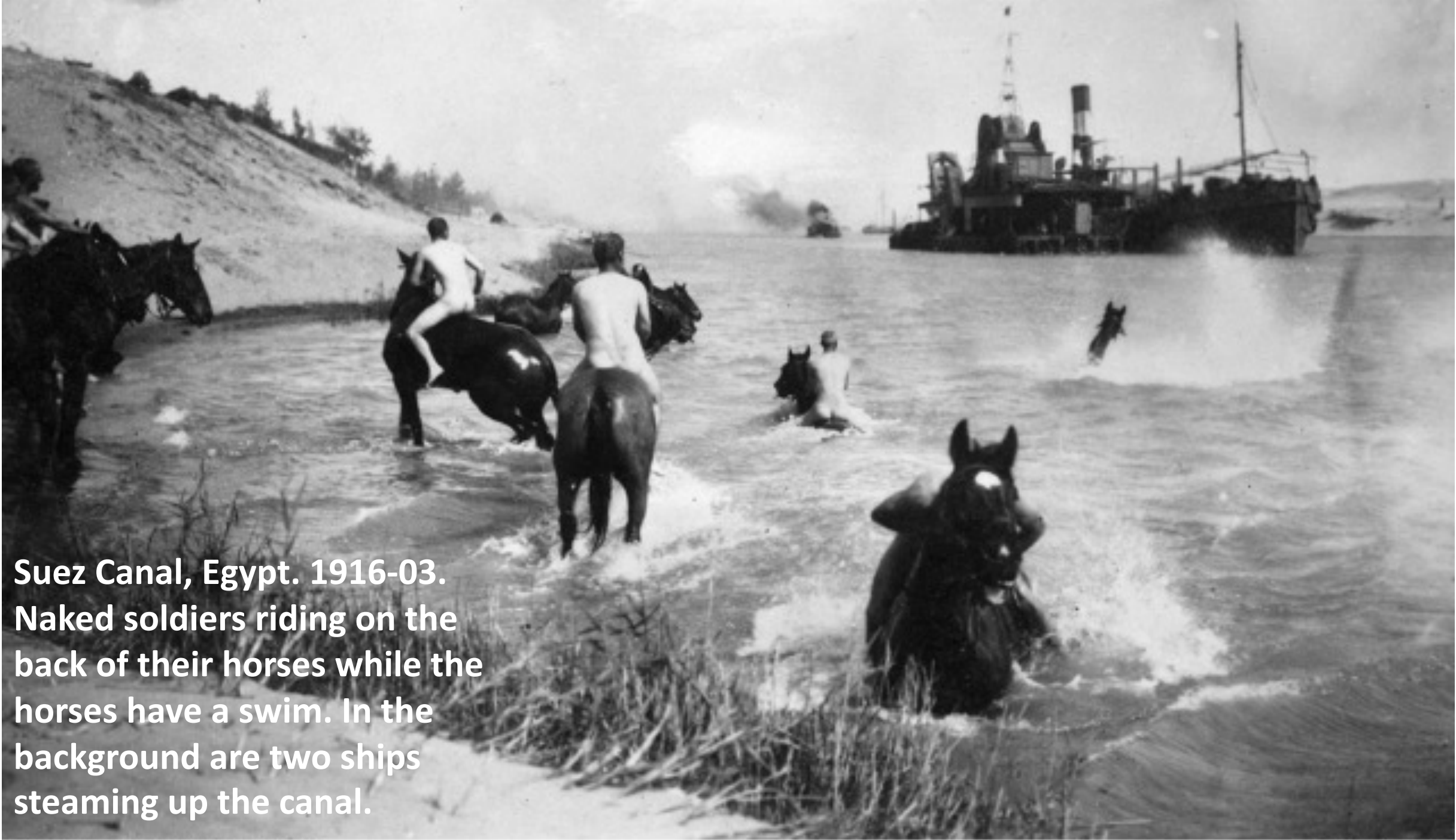


**MEN OF THE  
15TH  
AUSTRALIAN  
LIGHT HORSE  
REGIMENT  
SWIMMING  
THEIR HORSES  
AT JAFFA,  
PALESTINE.**



**The Barrage near the Suez Canal. Members of the 1st Australian Light Horse Regiment wait on shore for horses to be led across the canal. The horses were tied to a rope and swam for exercise and to ascertain which horses could swim. One of a series of images relating to the service of Lieutenant Fred Harold Tomlins, 1st Australian light Horse Regiment. Signaller Tomlins embarked on 20 October 1914 from Sydney, NSW, aboard HMAT Star of Victoria (A16). In May 1916 Tomlins was promoted to Signalling Sergeant, then Lieutenant (Lt) in October 1917. Lt Tomlins returned to Australia in November 1918 on 1914 Leave (granted to servicemen and women who had enlisted in 1914 and were eligible for early return to Australia).**





**Suez Canal, Egypt. 1916-03.  
Naked soldiers riding on the  
back of their horses while the  
horses have a swim. In the  
background are two ships  
steaming up the canal.**

**Two Light Horsemen take a horse into the surf while swimming at Mohamidiya, four miles from camp at Romani. 1916.**





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

C03391

**Watson's Pier at Anzac Cove, showing the supply depot on the beach, and barges off the shore crowded with bathers.**



**AUSTRALIAN  
LIGHT  
HORSEMEN  
SURFING  
THEIR HORSES  
IN THE SEA  
NEAR  
MARAKEB,  
BETWEEN  
RAFA AND EL  
ARISH, SINAI,  
IN 1917-01.**





**Mena,  
Egypt. c.  
1915.  
Members of  
the 8th  
Australian  
Light Horse  
Regiment  
relaxing in a  
swimming  
pool.**



**AUSTRALIAN  
TROOPS ENJOY A  
BATHE IN THE  
HARBOUR OF  
BARDIA.**

## **IN THE NEXT PHOTO, BELOW**

**A view of Anzac Cove. Original inscription reads: "Anzacs enjoying a dip whilst out of the line". Men are in the water, swimming from the piers and a sunken barge. In the middle distance a water-barge is moored against a pier. One of a collection of photographs thought to be taken by 440 Trooper (Tpr) Arthur Lovett, 3rd Light Horse Regiment. Tpr Lovett enlisted as a 20 year old bank clerk from Hobart, Tasmania. He served at Gallipoli until August 1915, when he was evacuated sick to England. In December 1915 he was granted a commission in the British Army.**



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P11232.004

**Bombay, India. ?1917. Informal group portrait of troops, possibly a reinforcement for the 1st Wireless Signal Squadron, Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force, relaxing in the water. They were at Elephanta Island which was famous for its ancient carved caves. Note the topees worn by the men even in the water. These pith helmets were issued to replace the customary felt hats on the arrival of the troops in India.**





**Sahiliyeh, Mesopotamia. 1918-03. Informal portrait of members of No. 3 Station, 1st Wireless Signal Squadron, Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force, enjoying an afternoon swim in the Euphrates River.**



**JORDAN RIVER, PALESTINE. C.1918. A FLOATING PONTOON BRIDGE OVER THE JORDAN RIVER WITH NAKED AUSTRALIAN TROOPS BATHING. BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES COX IS STANDING ON THE BRIDGE (WITH BALD WHITE HEAD) WAITING TO SWIM.**





**Soldiers, most of them stark naked, dive from lifeboats or landing boats into the waters of the Mediterranean for a swim in Mudros Harbour. The boats are tethered to the side of a troopship (left). 1915.**