



Media Release

On the Homefront

For immediate release: 28 April 2015

They say that history repeats. It also fades, tears and crumbles. The State Library is determined to prevent this happening and has identified a comprehensive list of documents relating to the World War I period and beyond, that it is aiming to digitize and make accessible online for families, students and researchers.

The material includes metropolitan and country newspapers, diaries, letters, photographs and journals covering the period 1914-1918. These articles contain a wealth of fascinating information giving personal insights into life on the battlefields and how those left behind were coping on the homefront.

To undertake this important work, the State Library Foundation is conducting a special campaign, entitled "On the Homefront" to raise the funds necessary to ensure that these documents are not lost and continue to provide the information that helps us to understand the rigours of life during wartime.

"These priceless mirrors of our past tell the living stories of West Australians – from the ANZAC battlefields, to the day to day lives of people at home across the State. As such we have valuable insights into how our ancestors lived, worked and survived." said Jane King, Executive Director of the State Library of Western Australia Foundation. "You can help us to help you connect with your important past!"

The list of local newspapers, diaries and personal correspondence in the *On the Homefront* appeal is accessible by visiting statelibraryfoundation.org.au/homefront. You just might find a connection with your family's past.

Donations can be made online at www.statelibraryfoundation.org.au.

Donations of \$2 and above are tax-deductible.

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Background Information:

ABOUT THE STATE LIBRARY OF WA FOUNDATION

The State Library of Western Australia Foundation (the Foundation) was established by the State Library as the development arm in 2009. It is a Public Ancillary Fund and holds Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status.

The Foundation exists to financially support the initiatives of the State Library of Western Australia to empower and transform the lives of the Western Australian community.

The Foundation's goals are to:

- Assist the Library to gain, maintain, improve and develop its collection of literary and historical treasures,
- Encourage a universal regard for literacy and a literate State,
- Raise finance for the acquisition and preservation of objects of historical, educational and/or social interest,
- Attract and retain for the Library the continuing interest and financial support of the community.