



# Virtual War Memorial Australia

## Finding photographs

This Research Guide will show you how to find photographs of Australians in war. Not every person will have an individual photograph. But you should at least be able to find relevant photographs of their unit, ships they were on, places they trained or fought etc.

### SEARCH TERMS

When searching for an individual, try their name in a variety of formats. For instance, for James Holmes Fleming, 3107 of the 57<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, search for:

- Fleming 3107
- James Fleming
- James Holmes Fleming
- J. H. Fleming
- Fleming 57<sup>th</sup>

*The titles below are hyperlinked.  
Click to go to the website*

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### [Australian War Memorial](#)

The AWM is your best source with over 300,000 photos in its collection. You can filter and browse through relevant photos. The left-hand column allows you to **filter by Conflict, by Unit, and by Place**. Filtering for (e.g.) "First World War" and "10<sup>th</sup> Australian Infantry Battalion" gives you about 260 photos. You will probably be able to find something relevant to your person's service.



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### [Trove](#)

Refine your search to 'Newspapers and Gazettes' and your serviceperson's home state. Many local newspapers published articles about the men and women who went away to war. You may even find articles referencing your serviceperson before and after they went to war. Search with different variations of your serviceperson's name and initials enclosed in inverted commas. Try their first and last name; use their initials only with their last name and try including their rank. For example: "Private Hewitt Henry Bell", or "H. H. Bell" or "H. Williams", or "Pte Hewitt Henry Bell", or "Pte H.H. Williams", or "Pte H. Williams".

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### [VWMA Flickr](#)

See the VWMA photo collection on Flickr.

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### [National Library of Australia](#)

Enter your search terms. Limit the format to "Picture". Set the date published between to e.g., 1914 and 1918 for contemporary photos.

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### [Imperial War Museum](#)

The IWM in the UK has its own massive collection of photographs: nearly 11 million. These cover Australian troops as well as British. If your searches bring up too many results, add "Australian" or "AIF"



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### State Library of South Australia (SLSA) / State Records of South Australia (SRSA)

Both organisations have put most of their photo collections online. However, they are loaded as albums, so it is difficult to search for specific names or terms.

Try the SRSA collection of *World War 1 Soldier, Sailor, and Nurse Photographs*. Look for your serviceperson's name in the [Special List](#) and if they are listed, go to the [State Records Flickr](#) page to find the photograph in the album.

Part of the SLSA WW1 collection, can be found here: [collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/find/world+war+1914](http://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/find/world+war+1914).

Other SLSA WWI albums: [www.flickr.com/photos/state\\_library\\_south\\_australia/albums](http://www.flickr.com/photos/state_library_south_australia/albums).

You can also search the SLSA and SRSA collections from anywhere in [Flickr](#) by adding SLSA or SRSA to your search terms. This works well when searching for units rather than individuals, for example: '10<sup>th</sup> Battalion SLSA' or '10<sup>th</sup> Battalion SRSA'.

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### Other State Libraries

#### NSW State Library of NSW / NSW State Archives and Records

The [State Library of NSW](#) has some photographs. Limit the search to 'Pictures' by clicking on the format dropdown menu.

The NSW State Archives and Records has a [NSW and Anzac Centenary](#) collection, which includes many photos.

#### State Library of Queensland

The State Library of Queensland has an extensive soldier portrait collection: Use the [One Search](#) option and search with the 'soldiers surname' and the word 'soldiers' to limit the search to the correct collection (e.g., Tunney soldiers)

#### Libraries Tasmania

Libraries Tasmania has a [World War 1 Soldiers Collection](#) of over 10,000 soldiers and nurses from First World War, including many portraits taken from newspapers. It's best to search by surname only:

#### State Library of Victoria

Search the [State Library of Victoria](#)'s main page and in the search bar, change the type to "pictures & photographs". You can also filter the searches by date range (select e.g., 1910 - 1950) and restrict the results to online-only.

#### Western Australia

The [State Library of Western Australia](#) also many photographs, complete a catalogue search and limit the search to 'keyword' and 'State Library Pictures'. You will only be able to access the results that are online.

### Upload to VWMA

Load relevant photographs to the person's VWMA profile (4. Photos). Further instructions regarding how to upload the photos are available on the upload page.