

Women and the War

Thousands of Australian women volunteered their time to the war effort at home and abroad.

Two thousand Australian women served overseas in the Australian Army Nursing Service as nurses, ward assistants and masseuses. The Red Cross also sent 30 women overseas as part of Voluntary Aid Detachments.

Women took on many paid roles that had been mainly performed by men, such as working on farms, in factories and as bank clerks.

Thousands were also active political campaigners and fundraisers. Through the Red Cross and other organisations, local women spent countless hours baking, knitting and creating comfort parcels of items such as food and socks for soldiers. Women also sent thousands of letters to those serving overseas to keep up the soldiers' morale.

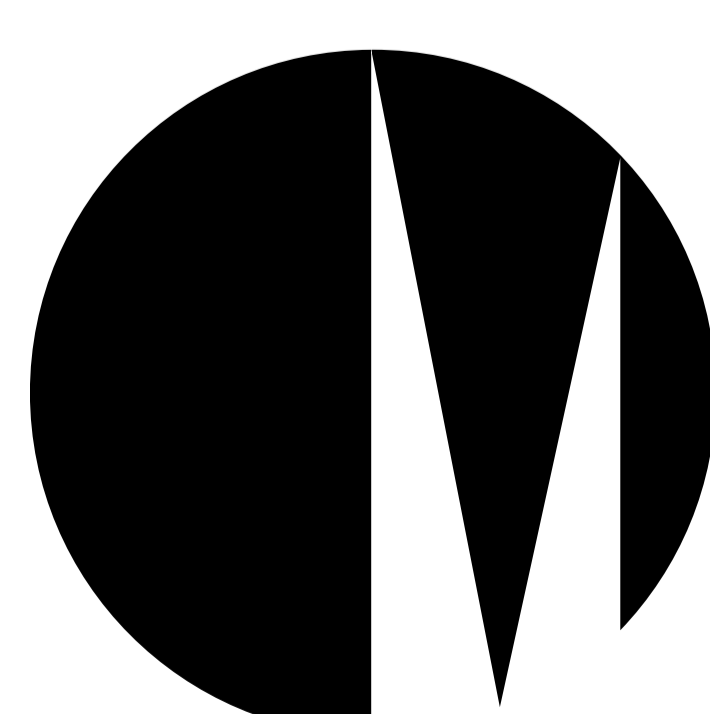
As the ones who often bore the brunt of the terrible news that their husband or son had been killed, women showed enormous courage in keeping their families and communities together during wartime.



Moreland Remembers World War I



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs



Moreland City Council



For full exhibition and more information, visit www.moreland.vic.gov.au

Image 1.
Women at the Melbourne Town Hall sewing for Australian Comforts Fund.
Source: Australian War Memorial, J00360

Image 2.
Women packing items for troops. Red Cross State headquarters,
Government House, Melbourne.
Source: Australian War Memorial, J00346

Image 3.
Volunteer war workers marching on Red Cross Day.
Source: Australian War Memorial, H02386