



## MEDIA ALERT

### Last week to register for *War Wounds* conference

Registrations will close next **Monday 14 September** for the Australian War Memorial's international conference *War wounds: medicine and the trauma of conflict*, which will explore the close links between war and medicine.

The Memorial is bringing together eminent historians, medical practitioners, veterans and researchers from Australia and abroad for two days, to explore the impact of war, wounds and trauma through the historical record and personal experiences.

The conference will feature internationally renowned historian Professor Jay Winter, delivering the keynote address on shell shock in the First World War and its enduring impact. Australian War Memorial Head of Military History Ashley Ekins will continue the First World War theme when he explores the way soldiers inflicted wounds on themselves in order to avoid battle. Other speakers will cover Nazi experimentation and concentration camps, and the long-term effects of war service on Australian veterans from the Korean War and Afghanistan.

The Vietnam War, Australia's longest and most divisive war, will be well covered. Vietnam veterans' representative Graham Walker will argue the veterans' case for the effects of Agent Orange on veterans' health, with a response by Dr Peter Edwards, the official historian of the Vietnam War. Vietnam army doctors David Bradford and Tony White will present their very personal and moving accounts of treating soldiers on and off the battlefield. And former MP Graham Edwards will describe how, with determination and the love of family and friends, he has been able to triumph over the effects of disabling wounds he received in Vietnam.

The support of the Australian Government through the Department of Veterans' Affairs is gratefully acknowledged.

**Media are not expected to register, but expressions of interest in attending would be greatly appreciated. Memorial speakers are available for interview prior to the conference.**

<b>What:</b>	<i>War wounds: medicine and the trauma of conflict</i>
<b>Where:</b>	Australian War Memorial Treloar Crescent, Campbell ACT
<b>When:</b>	24 – 25 September 2009.
<b>Interviews:</b>	Now available with Memorial historians

#### Further information:

<http://www.awm.gov.au/events/conference/2009/index.asp>

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