

**SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS**

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8	07/06/2023	AWM Internal Documents	Refused	s22(1)(a)(ii), s47C & s47F	1 (Attachment) 1	Refused
10	09/06/2023	AWM Internal Documents	Refused	s22(1)(a)(ii), s47C & s47F	1-2	Refused
12	13/06/2023	AWM Internal Documents	Refused	s22(1)(a)(ii), s47C & s47F	1-2 (Attachment) 1	Refused
13	21/06/2023	AWM Internal Documents	Refused	s47C	1	Refused
16	20/07/2023	AWM Internal Documents	Partial Release	s47C	1-2	Partial Release




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**From:** Matt Anderson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 November 2022 4:05 PM  
**To:** Brian Dawson  
**Cc:** Sarah Hitchcock; Anne Bennie; Leanne Patterson; Director.Office; Steve Gudgeon; Robyn Van-Dyk; Nick Fletcher; Laura Webster; Blake Singley; Gerard Pratt; Melinda Coen; Stephanie McLachlan; David Fitzgerald; Helen Petrovski  
**Subject:** RE: Risk Strategy to protect National Collection Items in the event of a protest

s47C



**Matt Anderson, PSM** s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F  
Director  
[matt.anderson@awm.gov.au](mailto:matt.anderson@awm.gov.au) | t +61 (0)2 6243 4262 |   
Australian War Memorial | GPO Box 345 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au)

*“Here is their spirit, in the heart of the land they loved; and here we guard the record which they themselves made.”*

---

**From:** Brian Dawson <Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 November 2022 2:47 PM  
**To:** Matt Anderson <Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Sarah Hitchcock <Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au>; Anne Bennie <Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au>; Leanne Patterson <Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au>; Director.Office <director.office@awm.gov.au>; Steve Gudgeon <Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au>; Robyn Van-Dyk <Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au>; Nick Fletcher <Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au>; Laura Webster <Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au>; Blake Singley <Blake.Singley@awm.gov.au>; Gerard Pratt <Gerard.Pratt@awm.gov.au>; Melinda Coen <Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au>; Stephanie McLachlan <Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au>; David Fitzgerald <David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au>; Helen Petrovski <Helen.Petrovski@awm.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Risk Strategy to protect National Collection Items in the event of a protest

s47C



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**Brian Dawson**

Assistant Director National Collection

Australian War Memorial

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**From:** Brian Dawson

**Sent:** Monday, 21 November 2022 2:12 PM

**To:** Matt Anderson <[Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Sarah Hitchcock <[Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au](mailto:Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au)>; Anne Bennie <[Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au)>; Leanne Patterson <[Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au)>; Director.Office <[director.office@awm.gov.au](mailto:director.office@awm.gov.au)>; Steve Gudgeon <[Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au](mailto:Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au)>; Robyn Van-Dyk <[Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au](mailto:Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au)>; Nick Fletcher <[Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au](mailto:Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au)>; Laura Webster <[Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au](mailto:Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au)>; Blake Singley <[Blake.Singley@awm.gov.au](mailto:Blake.Singley@awm.gov.au)>; Gerard Pratt <[Gerard.Pratt@awm.gov.au](mailto:Gerard.Pratt@awm.gov.au)>; Melinda Coen <[Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au](mailto:Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au)>; Stephanie McLachlan <[Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au](mailto:Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au)>; David Fitzgerald <[David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au](mailto:David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au)>; Helen Petrovski <[Helen.Petrovski@awm.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Petrovski@awm.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Risk Strategy to protect National Collection Items in the event of a protest

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**Brian Dawson**

Assistant Director National Collection

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**From:** Brian Dawson

**Sent:** Tuesday, 15 November 2022 5:43 PM

**To:** Matt Anderson <[Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Sarah Hitchcock <[Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au](mailto:Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au)>; Anne Bennie <[Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au)>; Leanne Patterson <[Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au)>; Director.Office <[director.office@awm.gov.au](mailto:director.office@awm.gov.au)>; Steve Gudgeon <[Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au](mailto:Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au)>; Ann Wynn <[Ann.Wynn@awm.gov.au](mailto:Ann.Wynn@awm.gov.au)>; Nelson, Brendan J <[brendan.j.nelson@boeing.com](mailto:brendan.j.nelson@boeing.com)>; Robyn Van-Dyk <[Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au](mailto:Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au)>; Nick Fletcher <[Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au](mailto:Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au)>; Laura Webster <[Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au](mailto:Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au)>; Lauren Hewitt <[Lauren.Hewitt@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lauren.Hewitt@awm.gov.au)>; Gerard Pratt <[Gerard.Pratt@awm.gov.au](mailto:Gerard.Pratt@awm.gov.au)>; Melinda Coen <[Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au](mailto:Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au)>; Stephanie McLachlan <[Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au](mailto:Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au)>; David Fitzgerald <[David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au](mailto:David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au)>; Helen Petrovski <[Helen.Petrovski@awm.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Petrovski@awm.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Risk Strategy to protect National Collection Items in the event of a protest

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**Brian Dawson**

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**From:** Sarah Hitchcock <[Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au](mailto:Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 14 November 2022 5:51 PM

**To:** Brian Dawson <[Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au)>; Anne Bennie <[Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au)>; Leanne Patterson <[Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au)>; Director.Office <[director.office@awm.gov.au](mailto:director.office@awm.gov.au)>; Steve Gudgeon <[Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au](mailto:Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au)>; Ann Wynn <[Ann.Wynn@awm.gov.au](mailto:Ann.Wynn@awm.gov.au)>; Nelson, Brendan J <[brendan.j.nelson@boeing.com](mailto:brendan.j.nelson@boeing.com)>; Robyn Van-Dyk <[Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au](mailto:Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au)>; Nick Fletcher <[Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au](mailto:Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au)>; Laura Webster <[Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au](mailto:Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au)>; Lauren Hewitt <[Lauren.Hewitt@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lauren.Hewitt@awm.gov.au)>; Gerard Pratt <[Gerard.Pratt@awm.gov.au](mailto:Gerard.Pratt@awm.gov.au)>; Melinda Coen <[Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au](mailto:Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au)>; Stephanie McLachlan <[Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au](mailto:Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au)>; David Fitzgerald <[David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au](mailto:David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au)>; Helen Petrovski <[Helen.Petrovski@awm.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Petrovski@awm.gov.au)>; Matt Anderson

<[Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Risk Strategy to protect National Collection Items in the event of a protest

s47C



Kind regards

S.

**Sarah Hitchcock PSM**

Head | Commemoration and Visitor Engagement

[sarah.hitchcock@awm.gov.au](mailto:sarah.hitchcock@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4206 |

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**From:** Brian Dawson <[Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 14 November 2022 4:01 PM  
**To:** Sarah Hitchcock <[Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au](mailto:Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Anne Bennie <[Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au)>; Leanne Patterson <[Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au)>; Director.Office <[director.office@awm.gov.au](mailto:director.office@awm.gov.au)>; Steve Gudgeon <[Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au](mailto:Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au)>; Ann Wynn <[Ann.Wynn@awm.gov.au](mailto:Ann.Wynn@awm.gov.au)>; Nelson, Brendan J <[brendan.j.nelson@boeing.com](mailto:brendan.j.nelson@boeing.com)>; Robyn Van-Dyk <[Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au](mailto:Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au)>; Nick Fletcher <[Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au](mailto:Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au)>; Laura Webster <[Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au](mailto:Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au)>; Lauren Hewitt <[Lauren.Hewitt@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lauren.Hewitt@awm.gov.au)>; Gerard Pratt <[Gerard.Pratt@awm.gov.au](mailto:Gerard.Pratt@awm.gov.au)>; Melinda Coen <[Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au](mailto:Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au)>; Stephanie McLachlan <[Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au](mailto:Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au)>; David Fitzgerald <[David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au](mailto:David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au)>; Helen Petrovski <[Helen.Petrovski@awm.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Petrovski@awm.gov.au)>; Matt Anderson <[Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Risk Strategy to protect National Collection Items in the event of a protest

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**Brian Dawson**  
Assistant Director National Collection  
Australian War Memorial  
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**From:** Sarah Hitchcock <[Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au](mailto:Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 14 November 2022 3:09 PM  
**To:** Brian Dawson <[Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au)>; Matt Anderson <[Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Anne Bennie <[Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au)>; Leanne Patterson <[Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au)>; Director.Office <[director.office@awm.gov.au](mailto:director.office@awm.gov.au)>; Steve Gudgeon <[Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au](mailto:Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au)>; Ann Wynn <[Ann.Wynn@awm.gov.au](mailto:Ann.Wynn@awm.gov.au)>; Nelson, Brendan J <[brendan.j.nelson@boeing.com](mailto:brendan.j.nelson@boeing.com)>; Robyn Van-Dyk <[Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au](mailto:Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au)>; Nick Fletcher <[Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au](mailto:Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au)>; Laura Webster <[Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au](mailto:Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au)>; Lauren Hewitt <[Lauren.Hewitt@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lauren.Hewitt@awm.gov.au)>; Gerard Pratt <[Gerard.Pratt@awm.gov.au](mailto:Gerard.Pratt@awm.gov.au)>; Melinda Coen <[Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au](mailto:Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au)>; Stephanie McLachlan <[Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au](mailto:Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au)>; David Fitzgerald <[David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au](mailto:David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au)>; Helen Petrovski <[Helen.Petrovski@awm.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Petrovski@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Risk Strategy to protect National Collection Items in the event of a protest

s47C

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**From:** Brian Dawson <[Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 11 November 2022 4:11 PM  
**To:** Matt Anderson <[Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Anne Bennie <[Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au)>; Leanne Patterson <[Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au)>; Director.Office <[director.office@awm.gov.au](mailto:director.office@awm.gov.au)>; Steve Gudgeon <[Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au](mailto:Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au)>; Ann Wynn <[Ann.Wynn@awm.gov.au](mailto:Ann.Wynn@awm.gov.au)>; Nelson, Brendan J <[brendan.j.nelson@boeing.com](mailto:brendan.j.nelson@boeing.com)>; Robyn Van-Dyk <[Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au](mailto:Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au)>; Nick Fletcher <[Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au](mailto:Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au)>; Laura Webster <[Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au](mailto:Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au)>; Lauren Hewitt <[Lauren.Hewitt@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lauren.Hewitt@awm.gov.au)>; Sarah Hitchcock <[Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au](mailto:Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au)>; Gerard Pratt <[Gerard.Pratt@awm.gov.au](mailto:Gerard.Pratt@awm.gov.au)>; Melinda Coen <[Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au](mailto:Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au)>; Stephanie McLachlan <[Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au](mailto:Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au)>; David Fitzgerald <[David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au](mailto:David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au)>; Helen Petrovski <[Helen.Petrovski@awm.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Petrovski@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Risk Strategy to protect National Collection Items in the event of a protest

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**Brian Dawson**

Assistant Director National Collection

Australian War Memorial

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**From:** Matt Anderson <[Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Friday, 11 November 2022 9:33 AM

**To:** Brian Dawson <[Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au)>; Robyn Van-Dyk <[Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au](mailto:Robyn.Van-Dyk@awm.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Anne Bennie <[Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au)>; Leanne Patterson <[Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au)>; Director.Office <[director.office@awm.gov.au](mailto:director.office@awm.gov.au)>; Steve Gudgeon <[Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au](mailto:Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au)>; Ann Wynn <[Ann.Wynn@awm.gov.au](mailto:Ann.Wynn@awm.gov.au)>; Nelson, Brendan J <[brendan.j.nelson@boeing.com](mailto:brendan.j.nelson@boeing.com)>

**Subject:** Risk Strategy to protect National Collection Items in the event of a protest

s47C



**Matt Anderson, PSM**

Director

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s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

*"Here is their spirit, in the heart of the land they loved; and here we guard the record which they themselves made."*



## Daniel Martynow

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**From:** Ben Roberts-Smith [REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 December 2022 11:19 AM  
**To:** loans  
**Subject:** Re: Victoria Cross medal group on loan to the Australian War Memorial

Hi Robert,

Thank you for the update and I understand the requirement to wait on the mounting of these medals.

Appreciate you coming back to me.

Regards

BRS

On 16 Dec 2022, at 10:14, loans <loans@awm.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Ben

Rhiannah is on leave and will be returning to the Memorial in another role in January. Until my new loans officer starts, I'll be your point of contact for now.

IAS delivered your Queen's Platinum Jubilee medal yesterday and is now in temporary storage at our facility in Mitchell.

Attached is a counter-signed loan agreement for your records.

As previously discussed, we will wait to mount it with your existing medal group in Hall of Valour just in case you want to loan a likely coronation medal next year.

We also suspect the same medal/s may end up being offered for loan from Mark, Daniel and Keith as well. If that all lines up, we'll look at remounting them all at once.

Regards

**Robert Fisher**

A/g Registrar | Collection Services

[robert.fisher@awm.gov.au](mailto:robert.fisher@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6206 9862

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**From:** loans  
**Sent:** Thursday, 1 December 2022 12:23 PM s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F  
**To:** 'Ben Roberts-Smith' [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Victoria Cross medal group on loan to the Australian War Memorial

No worries Ben, I'll get in touch with them early next week to see if they can pick it up. I'll be in touch with the loan agreement next week as well.

Thanks again for reaching out.

Talk soon,  
Rhi

**Rhiannah McIntyre**

Senior Registration Officer, Loans | Collection Services

[rhiannah.mcintyre@awm.gov.au](mailto:rhiannah.mcintyre@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4221

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*I acknowledge and pay my respect to the Traditional Custodians of the land on which I work and live, the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples and I acknowledge their Elders past, present and emerging.*

---

**From:** Ben Roberts-Smith [REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F  
**Sent:** Thursday, 1 December 2022 9:54 AM  
**To:** loans <[loans@awm.gov.au](mailto:loans@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Victoria Cross medal group on loan to the Australian War Memorial

Thanks Rhiannah,

I'm happy for the loan agreement to run over the same duration.

In regards to a new Coronation medal I'm not aware at this stage however once you have my Queens Platinum Jubilee medal I'm happy for you to hold it until you establish the best time to add it/them to the group.

In relation to getting the medal to you I'm comfortable with an IAS transfer as I don't think I'll be in Canberra in the near future but I'll take your advice on best means.

Thanks again

Regards

BRS

On 1 Dec 2022, at 08:39, loans <[loans@awm.gov.au](mailto:loans@awm.gov.au)> wrote:

Hi Ben,

Thanks for your email, this is definitely the right place to start the process. We would be very excited to add this to your Medal Group.

I would be happy to start discussions for Matt or Brian to receive the Medal personally from you in QLD, or if you have plans to visit Canberra we would support a Memorial stopover to receive the Medal. Alternatively I can organise safe transport through IAS who specialise in artwork and collection transport.

I will be in touch shortly with a loan agreement. Would you be agreeable if I make the loan agreement the same length as the existing medal group? Which would expire in November 2027.

I have also been informed by our curators that there is also the likelihood of adding a new Kind Charles III Coronation Medal mid next year? If this is the case I can also organise for these to be mounted at the same time.

Kind regards,  
Rhiannah

**Rhiannah McIntyre**

Senior Registration Officer, Loans | Collection Services

[rhiannah.mcintyre@awm.gov.au](mailto:rhiannah.mcintyre@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4221

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*I acknowledge and pay my respect to the Traditional Custodians of the land on which I work and live, the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples and I acknowledge their Elders past, present and emerging.*

---

**From:** Ben Roberts-Smith [REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F  
**Sent:** Thursday, 1 December 2022 8:51 AM  
**To:** loans <[loans@awm.gov.au](mailto:loans@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Victoria Cross medal group on loan to the Australian War Memorial

Hello Rhiannah,

I'm not sure if you are the right person to assist me however I have just been invested with the Queens Platinum Jubilee Medal and need to have it mounted with my originals.

Is there someone particular I need to speak with or can I post the medal to yourself to have added to the group already on loan?

Thanks

Regards

BRS

On 12 Oct 2022, at 13:05, loans <[loans@awm.gov.au](mailto:loans@awm.gov.au)> wrote:

Hi Ben,

Thank you for confirming and for your prompt response. I am pleased to hear/read that the medals will be renewed and we can continue to display them!

I will add this information to our records and the letter will be on its way to you shortly.

Kind regards,  
Rhiannah

**Rhiannah McIntyre**

Senior Registration Officer, Loans | Collection Services

[rhiannah.mcintyre@awm.gov.au](mailto:rhiannah.mcintyre@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4221

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*I acknowledge and pay my respect to the Traditional Custodians of the land on which I work and live, the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples and their Elders past and present and emerging.*

---

**From:** Ben Roberts-Smith [REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

**Sent:** Wednesday, 12 October 2022 1:51 PM

**To:** loans <[loans@awm.gov.au](mailto:loans@awm.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Re: Victoria Cross medal group on loan to the Australian War Memorial

Dear Rhiannah,

Thank you for your email.

I confirm that I consent to the extension of our current loan agreement. I will be happy to sign an updated agreement in due course.

My postal address is:

[REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

I would also note for your records that this is my preferred email address and the [REDACTED] email is now defunct.

Warm Regards s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

Ben

On 12 Oct 2022, at 11:17, loans <[loans@awm.gov.au](mailto:loans@awm.gov.au)> wrote:

Dear Mr Roberts-Smith,

My name is Rhiannah and I am the Loans Officer for the Memorial. I am contacting you on behalf of our Director, Matt Anderson, with regards to the renewal of your loaned Victoria Cross and medal group.

The Memorial would be very grateful to renew the loan for a further five years, the current loan is due to expire on 21 November. If you are accepting of the renewal, would you mind please confirming

with me your best mailing address for Matt to post the loan agreement?

With thanks,  
Rhiannah

**Rhiannah McIntyre**

Senior Registration Officer, Loans | Collection Services

[rhiannah.mcintyre@awm.gov.au](mailto:rhiannah.mcintyre@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4221

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*I acknowledge and pay my respect to the Traditional Custodians of the land on which I work and live, the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples and their Elders past and present and emerging.*



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<ROBERTS\_SMITH Ben - L2022\_1821 - signed.pdf>





foi

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**From:** Steve Gudgeon  
**Sent:** Thursday, 1 June 2023 3:14 PM  
**To:** Anne Bennie; Sarah Hitchcock  
**Cc:** Leanne Patterson; David Fitzgerald; Brian Dawson; Lea Barnett; Director.Office  
**Subject:** RE: Post 45 and HoV - diligence in galleries

Thanks Anne

Understood and I'll make sure security maintain gallery presence and work in with VS as required.

Regards

**Steve Gudgeon**

Manager (ASA) | Security

e: [steve.gudgeon@awm.gov.au](mailto:steve.gudgeon@awm.gov.au) | t: 02 6263 6691 |

s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

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\*For files exceeding 3Mb please [click here](#) to send.

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**From:** Anne Bennie <Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 1 June 2023 3:07 PM  
**To:** Sarah Hitchcock <Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au>; Steve Gudgeon <Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Leanne Patterson <Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au>; David Fitzgerald <David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au>; Brian Dawson <Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au>; Lea Barnett <Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au>; Director.Office <director.office@awm.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Post 45 and HoV - diligence in galleries

Dear Sarah and Steve,

With this afternoon's news re: defamation case, can I ask that diligence occurs in the lower galleries and HoV around VC displays.

For information, the Memorial's position is below. Note: no comment will be made to media in the immediate term.

- *Collection items relating to Ben Roberts-Smith VC including his uniform, equipment, medals and associated art works are on display in the Memorial's galleries. These items relate to his actions, in Tizak, Afghanistan on 11 June 2010 that led to him being awarded of the Victoria Cross for Australia.*
- *The portrait of Ben Roberts-Smith, his uniform and other items are on display.*
- *Ben Roberts-Smith VC has not been found guilty of any criminal offence.*
- *The Memorial understands the need for due legal process in response to these allegations.*
- *No decisions have been made to remove these items from public display.*

Thanks,

Anne

**Anne Bennie**

Assistant Director, Branch Head Public Programs







## Meeting Details

**MEETING:** AWM Council meeting 181  
**LOCATION:** Australian War Memorial, ACT  
**DATE:** 2 June 2023  
**START:** 0900hrs  
**END:** 1500hrs

## Attendance

Name	Attending		Apologies
	Physical	Remote	
Kim Beazley AO - Chair	X		
Dan Keighran VC	X		
Tony Abbott AC		X	
Wing Commander Sharon Bown (Ret'd)	X		
Glenn Keys AO	X		
James McMahon DSC AM DSM		X	
Major General Greg Melick AO RFD FANZCN SC (Ret'd)	X		
Susan Neuhaus AM CSC	X		
Josephine Stone AM	X		
Rhondda Vanzella OAM	X		
Vice Admiral Mark Hammond AM RAN	X		
Lieutenant General Simon Stuart AO DSC	X		
Air Marshal Robert Chipman AM CSC	X		
Matt Anderson PSM – Director	X		
Major General Brian Dawson AM CSC (Ret'd) – Assistant Director, National Collections	X		
Leanne Patterson – Assistant Director, Corporate Services	X		
Anne Bennie – Assistant Director, Public Programs	X		
Sarah Hawkins – Executive Officer, Director	X		

## Agenda Items

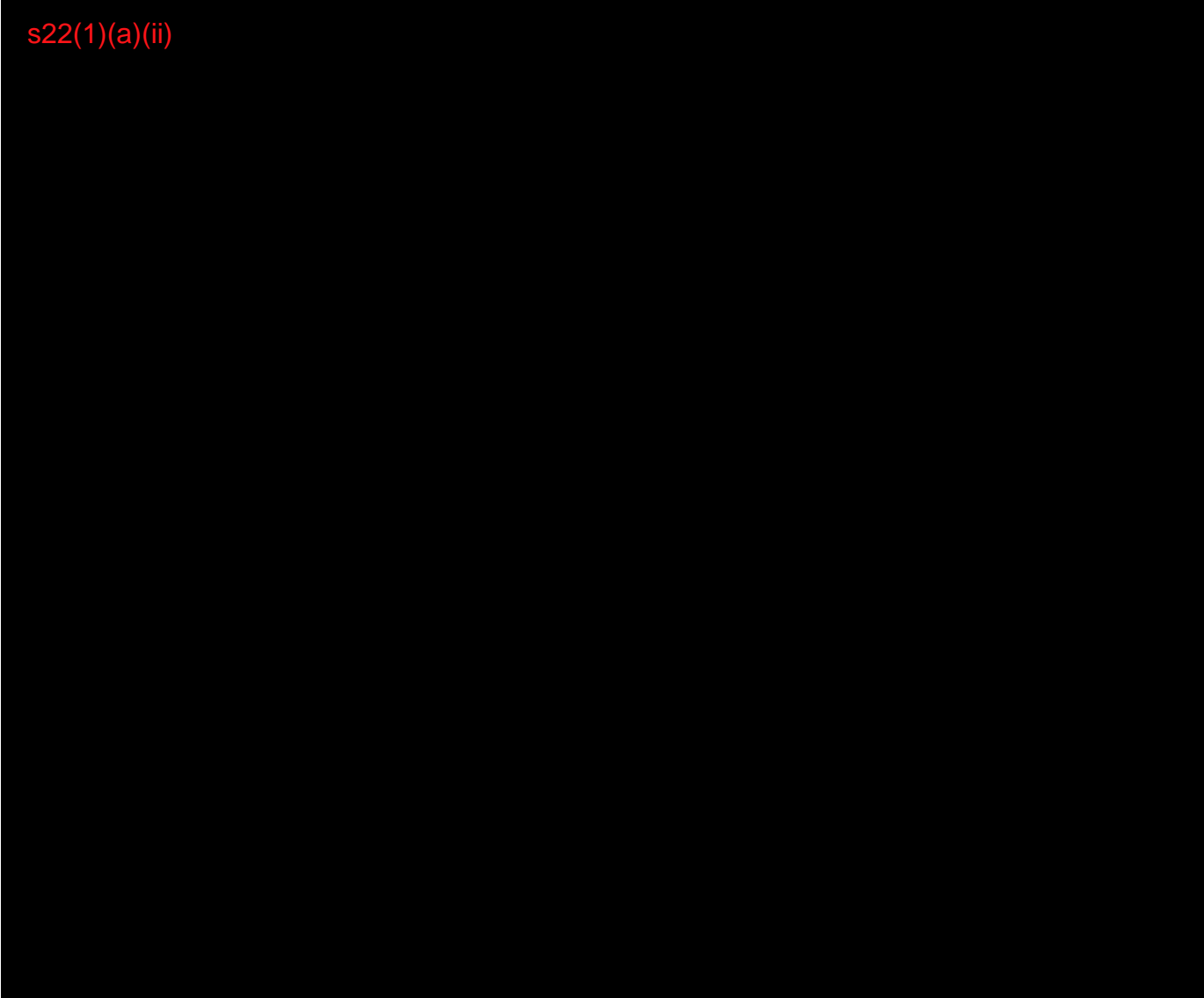
## Actions

### 1 Opening of the meeting

The meeting opened at 0910hrs.

### 2 Welcome, Apologies and declarations of any conflicts of interest

s22(1)(a)(ii)



s47C



- The portrait of BRS is due to be taken down in late August as part of the scheduled Afghanistan Gallery Development changes.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)



foi

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**From:** content  
**Sent:** Friday, 2 June 2023 4:22 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F  
**Cc:** content  
**Subject:** RE: Please take down Ben Roberts-Smith's painting

Dear [REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

Thank you for your email.

The Australian War Memorial Chair, the Hon Kim Beazley AC, acknowledges the gravity of the decision in the Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG defamation case and its broader impact on all involved in the Australian community.

Please visit our website to read the full statement: [Statement from Australian War Memorial Chair, the Hon Kim Beazley AC, on behalf of Australian War Memorial Council.](#)

Thank you for taking the time to write to the Australian War Memorial.

Kind regards,  
Terri-Anne

---

**From:** [REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F  
**Sent:** Thursday, 1 June 2023 5:11 PM  
**To:** content <content@awm.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Please take down Ben Roberts-Smith's painting

Hello,

Visiting the Australian War Memorial the last two times, including relatively recently I was very confronted by the pride of place Ben Roberts-Smith's 'Bond' painting had.

It's well past time to take it down, if you haven't already: <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/jun/01/ben-roberts-smith-loses-defamation-case-with-judge-saying-newspapers-established-truth-of-some-murders>. As a Canberran, I was embarrassed to take visitors there.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

Sent from my iPhone



foi

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**From:** Leanne Patterson  
**Sent:** Monday, 5 June 2023 6:50 PM  
**To:** David Fitzgerald; Shaynee Collett  
**Cc:** Steve Gudgeon  
**Subject:** RE: Security arrangements following Ben Roberts-Smith defamation case outcome

Thanks for the update Shaynee and Dave, please let me know if anything changes,

regards  
Leanne

---

**From:** David Fitzgerald <[David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au](mailto:David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 5 June 2023 6:37 PM  
**To:** Shaynee Collett <[Shayne.Collett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Shayne.Collett@awm.gov.au)>; Leanne Patterson <[Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Steve Gudgeon <[Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au](mailto:Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Security arrangements following Ben Roberts-Smith defamation case outcome

Thanks Shaynee.

---

**From:** Shaynee Collett <[Shayne.Collett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Shayne.Collett@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 5 June 2023 1:20 PM  
**To:** David Fitzgerald <[David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au](mailto:David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au)>; Leanne Patterson <[Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Steve Gudgeon <[Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au](mailto:Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Security arrangements following Ben Roberts-Smith defamation case outcome

Hi Dave and Leanne,

I can confirm after speaking with Gerard and the security staff on shift over the weekend that there were no additional incidents concerning Ben Roberts-Smith that were not submitted as incident reports. Security have cameras positioned to keep an eye on all displays relating to BRS. VSO staff are also positioning themselves in areas that are not visible on camera. If any incidents arise we will handle them appropriately and will keep you informed.

Kind regards

**Shayne Collett**

Assistant Security Manager | Buildings and Services s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F  
[shayne.collett@awm.gov.au](mailto:shayne.collett@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6206 9804 | [REDACTED]  
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**From:** David Fitzgerald <[David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au](mailto:David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 5 June 2023 1:02 PM  
**To:** Leanne Patterson <[Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au)>; Shaynee Collett <[Shayne.Collett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Shayne.Collett@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Steve Gudgeon <[Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au](mailto:Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Security arrangements following Ben Roberts-Smith defamation case outcome

Hi Leanne

Steve is sick today but I got a call on the weekend from Anne requesting extra patrols on lower level in Main Building because IA's were short. I followed up with Steve and Security were already doing extra patrols and focussed CCTV on the Ben Robert Smith displays to monitor more closely. I just asked Shaynee who hadn't heard of any issues on site other than the phone calls that were put through as incidents.

Hi Shaynee

In Steve's absence, can you please double check with Gerard and the Security team for an update on any other issues that hasn't been reported officially via an Incident Report?

Thanks

**Dave Fitzgerald**

Head | Buildings and Services

[david.fitzgerald@awm.gov.au](mailto:david.fitzgerald@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4497 | [REDACTED] | f 02 6243 4325

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<https://filetransfer.awm.gov.au/filedrop/david.fitzgerald@awm.gov.au>

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**From:** Leanne Patterson <[Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.Patterson@awm.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 5 June 2023 9:14 AM

**To:** Steve Gudgeon <[Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au](mailto:Steve.Gudgeon@awm.gov.au)>

**Cc:** David Fitzgerald <[David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au](mailto:David.Fitzgerald@awm.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Security arrangements following Ben Roberts-Smith defamation case outcome

Hi Steve,

Could you give me an update on any issues coming out of Friday's Council decision to leave the BRS items on display in the galleries please? I saw a few incident reports come in from VSOs but wondered whether there were any security issues?

thanks

Leanne

---

**From:** Matt Anderson <[Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Friday, 2 June 2023 6:15 PM

**To:** Australian War Memorial <[AustralianWarMemorial@awm.gov.au](mailto:AustralianWarMemorial@awm.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Statement by Council following the decision in the Ben Roberts-Smith Defamation Case

Dear Colleagues,

With apologies for a late afternoon/end of week message, I wanted to share the Council media statement (text and link below) following today's Council meeting and the decision in the Ben Roberts-Smith defamation case.

Yesterday's decision was the first step in what will likely be a long process.

I want to express my sincere gratitude for your professionalism and dedication during this time. By approaching this situation with empathy for all involved, we can navigate the challenges while upholding the values we hold dear.

Please feel free to reach out to your manager, or to me, if you have any further concerns or suggestions.

And if you are affected by this in any way, the Memorial's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provider is Converge International. They provide a free and completely confidential counselling service for staff, volunteers and immediate family members who may be experiencing personal or work related difficulties.

Converge can be contacted via [Converge International](#) web portal or phone 1300 OUR EAP (1300 687 327).

Please continue to look after yourselves and each other.

Sincerely,



Matt

**Matt Anderson, PSM**

Director

[matt.anderson@awm.gov.au](mailto:matt.anderson@awm.gov.au) | t +61 (0)2 6243 4262 | [REDACTED]  
Australian War Memorial | GPO Box 345 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au)

s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

*"Here is their spirit, in the heart of the land they loved; and here we guard the record which they themselves made."*

<https://www.awm.gov.au/media/on-the-record/statement>

[Begins]

## Statement from Australian War Memorial Chair, The Hon Kim Beazley AC, on behalf of the Australian War Memorial Council

"The Memorial assists in remembering, interpreting and understanding Australia's experience of war and its enduring impact. This includes the causes, conduct and consequences of war.

The Memorial acknowledges the gravity of the decision in the Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG defamation case and its broader impact on all involved in the Australian community.

This is the outcome of a civil legal case, and one step in a longer process.

Collection items relating to Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG, including his uniform, equipment, medals and associated art works, are on display in the Memorial's galleries. We are considering carefully the additional content and context to be included in these displays.

The Memorial acknowledges Afghanistan veterans and their families who may be affected at this time."



[Original]

**Corporal Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG [109 words]**

Corporal Ben Roberts-Smith, at 2 metres or 6 feet 6½ inches tall, was an imposing figure on the battlefield. He wore this uniform during the assault into the Afghan village of Tizak in 2010, for which he was awarded the Victoria Cross. Roberts-Smith's patrol was inserted by helicopter under heavy fire, and the rapid deployment forced him to leave his body armour behind on the aircraft.

Later, when his patrol was pinned down, Roberts-Smith exposed his position to draw the insurgents' fire as he moved toward the enemy compound. He stormed two machine-gun posts and was instrumental in inflicting a significant defeat upon a determined and well-trenched enemy.

[Suggested draft]

s47C



KJ

6 June 2023



## Daniel Martynow

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**From:** Duncan Beard  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 7 June 2023 12:06 PM  
**To:** Lea Barnett  
**Cc:** Karl James  
**Subject:** RE: BRS label suggestion  
**Attachments:** 17537 AWM GR-101 300x750\_20230607 (ED).pdf

s47C



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**From:** Lea Barnett <Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 7 June 2023 11:25 AM  
**To:** Duncan Beard <Duncan.Beard@awm.gov.au>  
**Subject:** BRS label suggestion

s47C



**Lea Barnett**  
Head of Exhibitions | Public Programs |  s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F  
[Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4574 |   
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<https://filetransfer.awm.gov.au/filedrop/Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au>









foi

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**From:** Elliot Woods  
**Sent:** Friday, 9 June 2023 12:29 PM  
**To:** Anne Bennie  
**Subject:** FW: Re P45 Decant information  
**Attachments:** PP Branch meeting 070623\_EXH.pptx

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**From:** Elliot Woods  
**Sent:** Friday, 9 June 2023 12:19 PM  
**To:** Rachel Curtis <Rachel.Curtis@awm.gov.au>; Rory Holloway <Rory.Holloway@awm.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: Re P45 Decant information

Hi team,

One for next week – Council have asked for a comms strategy of the post45 decant.

The strategy needs to include direction for the BRS portrait as well as engagement and info sharing with Vets of relevant conflicts. I would suggest some targeted comms to ADF pubs (Wings etc) and to also loop in our colleagues at DVA.

RC – realise you are considering Pistol Grip in existing BRS strat – non need to reinvent the wheel but please ensure that detail is also reflected in decant comms.

Can we aim to have a draft to look at by the end of next week please?

Thanks

---

**From:** Anne Bennie <[Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 9 June 2023 11:58 AM  
**To:** Lea Barnett <[Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au)>; Holly Pritchard <[Holly.Pritchard@awm.gov.au](mailto:Holly.Pritchard@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Elliot Woods <[Elliot.Woods@awm.gov.au](mailto:Elliot.Woods@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Re P45 Decant information

Thanks Lea - no problem. Dates will become important as we get closer. CAM will be actioning comms strategy around these changes and collection coming off display.

Holly, would you mind seeking Internal Comms to perhaps communicate this via a correction/teaser post as to when these works are to occur and to stay tuned for further details...?

Regards,

Anne

---

**From:** Lea Barnett <[Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 9 June 2023 11:54 AM  
**To:** Anne Bennie <[Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Holly Pritchard <[Holly.Pritchard@awm.gov.au](mailto:Holly.Pritchard@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re P45 Decant information  
**Importance:** High

Hello Anne,

My deepest apologies, I noticed an error in the decant dates of the presentation this morning. Just sharing the accurate dates for your information and in case it is required for other documents.

I had the LTO decant in August where it is actually September as attached.

Lea

**Lea Barnett**

Head of Exhibitions | Public Programs

[Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4574 |

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s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

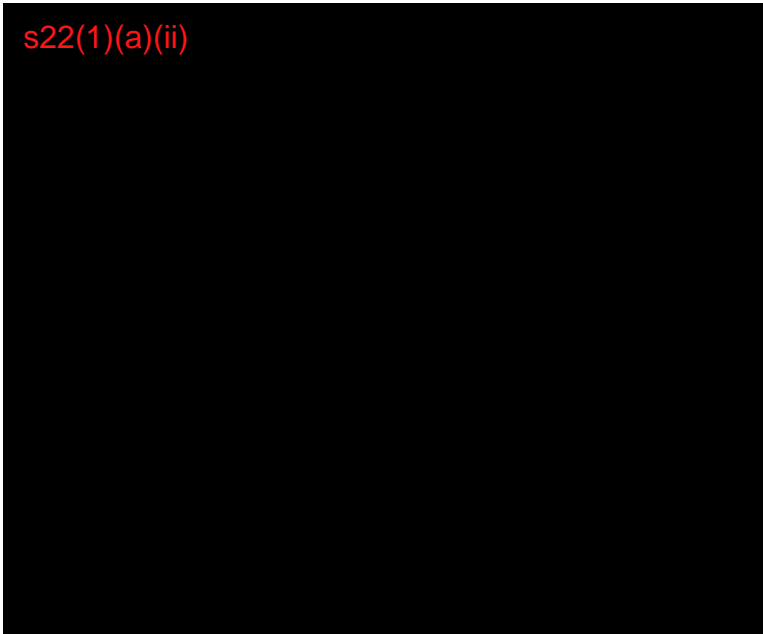
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<https://filetransfer.awm.gov.au/filedrop/Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au>





s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)





s22(1)(a)(ii)



foi

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**From:** Anne Bennie  
**Sent:** Friday, 9 June 2023 6:06 PM  
**To:** Sarah Hitchcock  
**Cc:** Lea Barnett; Elliot Woods  
**Subject:** RE: BRS revised label with changes

s47C

---

**From:** Sarah Hitchcock <[Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au](mailto:Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 9 June 2023 3:46 PM  
**To:** Anne Bennie <[Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Lea Barnett <[Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: BRS revised label with changes

s47C

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**From:** Lea Barnett <[Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 9 June 2023 3:44 PM  
**To:** Sarah Hitchcock <[Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au](mailto:Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: BRS revised label with changes

s47C

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**From:** Karl James <[Karl.James@awm.gov.au](mailto:Karl.James@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 9 June 2023 2:05 PM  
**To:** Lea Barnett <[Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au)>; Nick Fletcher <[Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au](mailto:Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au)>; Anne Bennie <[Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Sarah Hitchcock <[Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au](mailto:Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: BRS revised label with changes

s47C

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**From:** Lea Barnett <[Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 9 June 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** Karl James <[Karl.James@awm.gov.au](mailto:Karl.James@awm.gov.au)>; Nick Fletcher <[Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au](mailto:Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au)>; Anne Bennie <[Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Sarah Hitchcock <[Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au](mailto:Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: BRS revised label with changes

s47C

s47C

---

**From:** Karl James <[Karl.James@awm.gov.au](mailto:Karl.James@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 9 June 2023 1:56 PM  
**To:** Lea Barnett <[Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au)>; Nick Fletcher <[Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au](mailto:Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au)>; Anne Bennie <[Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Sarah Hitchcock <[Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au](mailto:Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: BRS revised label with changes

s47C

**Dr Karl James FRHistS**

Head, Military History Section

[karl.james@awm.gov.au](mailto:karl.james@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6263 6601 | @KarlJames\_1945

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Send any large attachments to me [here](#).



---

**From:** Lea Barnett <[Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 7 June 2023 5:20 PM  
**To:** Karl James <[Karl.James@awm.gov.au](mailto:Karl.James@awm.gov.au)>; Nick Fletcher <[Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au](mailto:Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Laura Webster <[Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au](mailto:Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** BRS revised label with changes

s47C

**Lea Barnett**

Head of Exhibitions | Public Programs

[Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4574

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## Daniel Martynow

---

**From:** Pippa Thorogood McLennan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 14 June 2023 4:07 PM  
**To:** Brian Dawson  
**Cc:** Melinda Coen; Robert Fisher; Director.Office; Stephanie McLachlan; loans  
**Subject:** RE: Mona | Artwork Loan Request | [REDACTED] s47G

Hi Brian,

Thank you for the advisement. Loans will prepare a letter for the Director.

Kind regards  
Pippa

---

**From:** Brian Dawson <Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 14 June 2023 3:52 PM  
**To:** Pippa Thorogood McLennan <Pippa.ThorogoodMcLennan@awm.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Melinda Coen <Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au>; Robert Fisher <Robert.Fisher@awm.gov.au>; Director.Office <director.office@awm.gov.au>; Stephanie McLachlan <Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au>; loans <loans@awm.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Mona | Artwork Loan Request | [REDACTED] s47G

Pippa,

Thanks for the additional context (which is attached) on the proposed MONA exhibition and loan of Michael Zavros's *Pistol Grip (Ben Roberts-Smith VC)*, 2014. We will not proceed with the loan request. Please draft a response for the Director's signature. The reason for the decline is the continuing pause of the loans program.

Regards

**Brian Dawson**

Assistant Director National Collection  
Australian War Memorial  
[brian.dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:brian.dawson@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4297  
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---

**From:** Brian Dawson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 24 May 2023 3:02 PM  
**To:** Pippa Thorogood McLennan <[Pippa.ThorogoodMcLennan@awm.gov.au](mailto:Pippa.ThorogoodMcLennan@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Mona | Artwork Loan Request | [REDACTED] s47G

Pippa, thanks

**Brian Dawson**

Assistant Director National Collection  
Australian War Memorial  
[brian.dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:brian.dawson@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4297  
Australian War Memorial | GPO Box 345 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au)

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**From:** Pippa Thorogood McLennan <[Pippa.ThorogoodMcLennan@awm.gov.au](mailto:Pippa.ThorogoodMcLennan@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 24 May 2023 2:22 PM  
**To:** Brian Dawson <[Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** loans <[loans@awm.gov.au](mailto:loans@awm.gov.au)>; Melinda Coen <[Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au](mailto:Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au)>; Laura Webster <[Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au](mailto:Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Mona | Artwork Loan Request | [REDACTED] s47G

Hi Brian,

Thank you. I will update status of this loan request at the next Acquisitions/Loans meeting.

Kind regards  
Pippa

---

**From:** Brian Dawson <[Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 24 May 2023 11:50 AM  
**To:** Pippa Thorogood McLennan <[Pippa.ThorogoodMcLennan@awm.gov.au](mailto:Pippa.ThorogoodMcLennan@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** loans <[loans@awm.gov.au](mailto:loans@awm.gov.au)>; Melinda Coen <[Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au](mailto:Melinda.Coen@awm.gov.au)>; Laura Webster <[Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au](mailto:Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Mona | Artwork Loan Request | [REDACTED] s47G

Pippa,  
Letter from MONA requesting loan of Pistol Grip artwork. As discussed, please contact MONA for a bit more context regarding the proposed exhibition.  
Regards

**Brian Dawson**  
Assistant Director National Collection  
Australian War Memorial  
[brian.dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:brian.dawson@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4297  
Australian War Memorial | GPO Box 345 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au)

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**From:** Director.Office <[director.office@awm.gov.au](mailto:director.office@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 May 2023 1:38 PM  
**To:** Brian Dawson <[Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Stephanie McLachlan <[Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au](mailto:Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Mona | Artwork Loan Request | [REDACTED] s47G

Sorry Brian, I hadn't realised it had dropped of the email chain.

Kind regards

Sarah

**Sarah Harvey**  
Executive Assistant to the Director  
[Director.Office@awm.gov.au](mailto:Director.Office@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4262  
Australian War Memorial | GPO Box 345 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au)

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**From:** Brian Dawson <[Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 May 2023 1:32 PM  
**To:** Director.Office <[director.office@awm.gov.au](mailto:director.office@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Stephanie McLachlan <[Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au](mailto:Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Mona | Artwork Loan Request | [REDACTED] s47G

Sarah Harvey, please forward the loan request letter which appears to have been attached to the email from Mona.  
Regards

**Brian Dawson**  
Assistant Director National Collection  
Australian War Memorial  
[brian.dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:brian.dawson@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4297  
Australian War Memorial | GPO Box 345 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au)

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**From:** Director.Office <[director.office@awm.gov.au](mailto:director.office@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 May 2023 11:17 AM  
**To:** Brian Dawson <[Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Brian.Dawson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Stephanie McLachlan <[Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au](mailto:Stephanie.McLachlan@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Mona | Artwork Loan Request | [REDACTED] s47G

Hi Brian

Please see the email request below.

Kind regards

Sarah

**Sarah Harvey**

Executive Assistant to the Director

[Director.Office@awm.gov.au](mailto:Director.Office@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4262

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**From:** Matt Anderson <[Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 May 2023 11:16 AM  
**To:** Director.Office <[director.office@awm.gov.au](mailto:director.office@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR ACTION: Mona | Artwork Loan Request | [REDACTED] s47G

Yes pls

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**From:** Director.Office <[director.office@awm.gov.au](mailto:director.office@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 May 2023 8:43 AM  
**To:** Matt Anderson <[Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au](mailto:Matt.Anderson@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FOR ACTION: Mona | Artwork Loan Request | [REDACTED] s47G

Hi Matt

Please see the email below, happy for me to forward this to ADNC?

Kind regards

Sarah

**Sarah Harvey**

Executive Assistant to the Director

[Director.Office@awm.gov.au](mailto:Director.Office@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4262

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**From:** Sarah Wallace [REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F  
**Sent:** Monday, 15 May 2023 5:07 PM  
**To:** Director.Office <[director.office@awm.gov.au](mailto:director.office@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Mona | Artwork Loan Request | [REDACTED] s47G

Dear Mr Anderson,

I hope this email finds you well.

s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

On behalf of [REDACTED] and the Mona [REDACTED] team, I would like to enquire about the possibility of loaning the artwork *Pistol grip [Ben Roberts-Smith VC]* (2014) by Michael Zavros for an upcoming



exhibition, **s47G** [redacted] We understand that the Australian War Memorial has currently paused its loan program until 2026. However, we would be most grateful for your consideration of this single loan request for mid next year.

I have attached the formal loan request letter for your review.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the artwork or require further information.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Kind regards,

**s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F**

**MONA**

**s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F**

[redacted]

**s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F**

**s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F**

[mona.net.au](http://mona.net.au)

Museum of Old and New Art



[The Museum of Old and New Art](http://The Museum of Old and New Art)



# MONA

655 Main Road  
BERRIEDALE TAS 7011  
AUSTRALIA  
PO BOX 1185  
GLENORCHY TAS 7010  
Tel: +61 3 6277 9978  
ABN: 83 812 406 611  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Web: [www.mona.net.au](http://www.mona.net.au)

s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

15 May 2023

Mr Matt Anderson PSM  
The Australian War Memorial  
Treloar Crescent  
Campbell ACT 2612  
Australia

Dear Mr Anderson,

s47G

## ARTWORK LOAN REQUEST, [REDACTED]

I write on behalf of the Museum of Old and New Art (Mona) in Hobart, Tasmania, to enquire about the possibility of borrowing the painting by Michael Zavros, *Pistol grip [Ben Roberts-Smith VC]*, in the Australian War Memorial's collection.

I understand that Mona's [REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F has had preliminary discussions about this loan with the [REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F and that the Australian War Memorial has currently paused its loan program until 2026. However, I would be most grateful for your consideration of this single loan request for mid next year. Naturally, Mona will meet all costs associated with condition reporting, packing, collection, return and insurance of this important artwork.

As you may know, Mona is a private museum with a mission, amongst much and probably above all, to make people think—not only about art but about being human and being in the world. [REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F continues Mona's exploration of human nature, and the deep biological foundations of creativity. It will be the museum's key exhibition project for 2024, following on from the internationally acclaimed *On the Origin of Art* presented at Mona in 2016–17. This new exhibition is the work of Mona's entire curatorium, led by [REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F [REDACTED] There will be a comprehensive, scholarly but accessible publication to accompany the exhibition, in which this portrait will be treated with sensitivity and nuance.

The exhibition will ask, [REDACTED] s47G

s47G

[REDACTED]

Shown across the museum's three temporary exhibition galleries, this exhibition and its fully illustrated catalogue will pose these and further questions through objects of artistic and cultural significance across centuries and continents.

s47G

[REDACTED]

Loans are currently being sought from the national Australian and state galleries, as well as major public and private collections internationally. Several new commissions are also planned. Artworks included will range from antiquities and 19th-century statuary, to

s47G

[REDACTED] Expected to run from 8 June 2024 to 21 April 2025, we believe this will not only be a thought-provoking and original exhibition, but very beautiful as well.

I do hope that this loan will prove possible and that the AWM can be part of this exhibition. Should you or your staff have any queries about the project, or about Mona in general, the exhibition team and I would be happy to discuss any aspects further.

Yours sincerely,

s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

[REDACTED]

s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

Museum of Old and New Art

Australian War Memorial

LOAN REQUEST FROM MONA, HOBART, JUNE 2024 to APRIL 2025



**Michael Zavros**

b.1974, lives and works Brisbane, Australia

*Pistol grip [Ben Roberts-Smith VC]*, 2014

Oil on canvas

162 x 222 cm

(ART96546)



foi

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**From:** Sarah Hitchcock  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 June 2023 10:02 AM  
**To:** Matt Anderson  
**Cc:** Brian Dawson; Leanne Patterson  
**Subject:** FW: BRS revised label with changes  
**Attachments:** Corporal Ben Roberts (V4).docx

s47C

---

**From:** Karl James <Karl.James@awm.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 9 June 2023 1:56 PM  
**To:** Lea Barnett <Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au>; Nick Fletcher <Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au>; Anne Bennie <Anne.Bennie@awm.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Sarah Hitchcock <Sarah.Hitchcock@awm.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: BRS revised label with changes

s47C

**Dr Karl James FRHistS**  
Head, Military History Section  
[karl.james@awm.gov.au](mailto:karl.james@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6263 6601 | @KarlJames\_1945  
Australian War Memorial | GPO Box 345 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au)

Send any large attachments to me [here](#).



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**From:** Lea Barnett <[Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 7 June 2023 5:20 PM  
**To:** Karl James <[Karl.James@awm.gov.au](mailto:Karl.James@awm.gov.au)>; Nick Fletcher <[Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au](mailto:Nick.Fletcher@awm.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Laura Webster <[Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au](mailto:Laura.Webster@awm.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** BRS revised label with changes

s47C

**Lea Barnett**

Head of Exhibitions | Public Programs

[Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au](mailto:Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4574 |

Australian War Memorial | GPO Box 345 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au)

s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F

For attachments over 5MB please use the AWM file transfer utility

<https://filetransfer.awm.gov.au/filedrop/Lea.Barnett@awm.gov.au>





s47C



**foi**

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**From:** Brian Dawson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 21 June 2023 4:34 PM  
**To:** Nick Fletcher  
**Cc:** Stephanie McLachlan  
**Subject:** Provenance of Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG display uniform and equipment

s47C



**Brian Dawson**

Assistant Director National Collection

Australian War Memorial

[brian.dawson@awm.gov.au](mailto:brian.dawson@awm.gov.au) | t 02 6243 4297

Australian War Memorial | GPO Box 345 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au)





## COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

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Project Title: Conflicts 1945 to Today gallery decant

Prepared by: CAM

June 26, 2023

## Introduction

From August 2023 visitor access to the Conflicts 1945 to Today gallery, located on the Lower Level of the Memorial, will be changing to allow for scheduled construction works as we work to expand our galleries.

The Conflicts 1945 to Today gallery, including the Korean War, Malayan Emergency and Indonesian Confrontation, Vietnam War, Peacekeeping Operations since 1947, and Middle East region exhibitions, will be fully closed to the public from **21 to 23 August 2023**; reopening on 24 August 2023.

The below exhibitions and key items will unavailable to view from 21 August 2023 until the new galleries open in 2025:

- The Peacekeeping Operations since 1947 exhibition.
- Middle East exhibits
- UN Land Rover
- Long range patrol vehicle

Find out more about our new galleries, including Peacekeeping and recent Middle East region conflicts.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

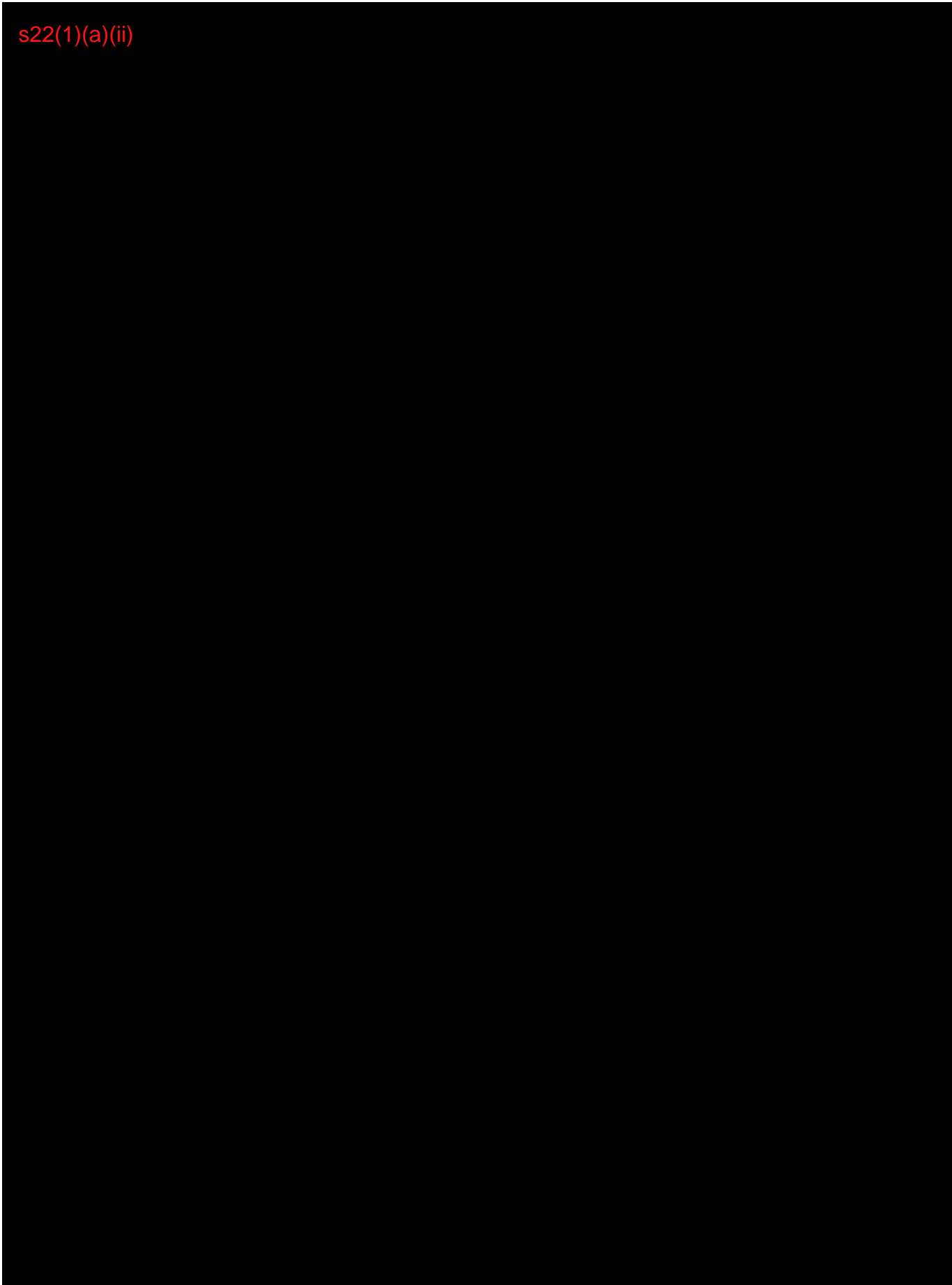
### Q&A

- Will BRS portrait come down? Will BRS portrait come back? Will BRS portrait context be added before?

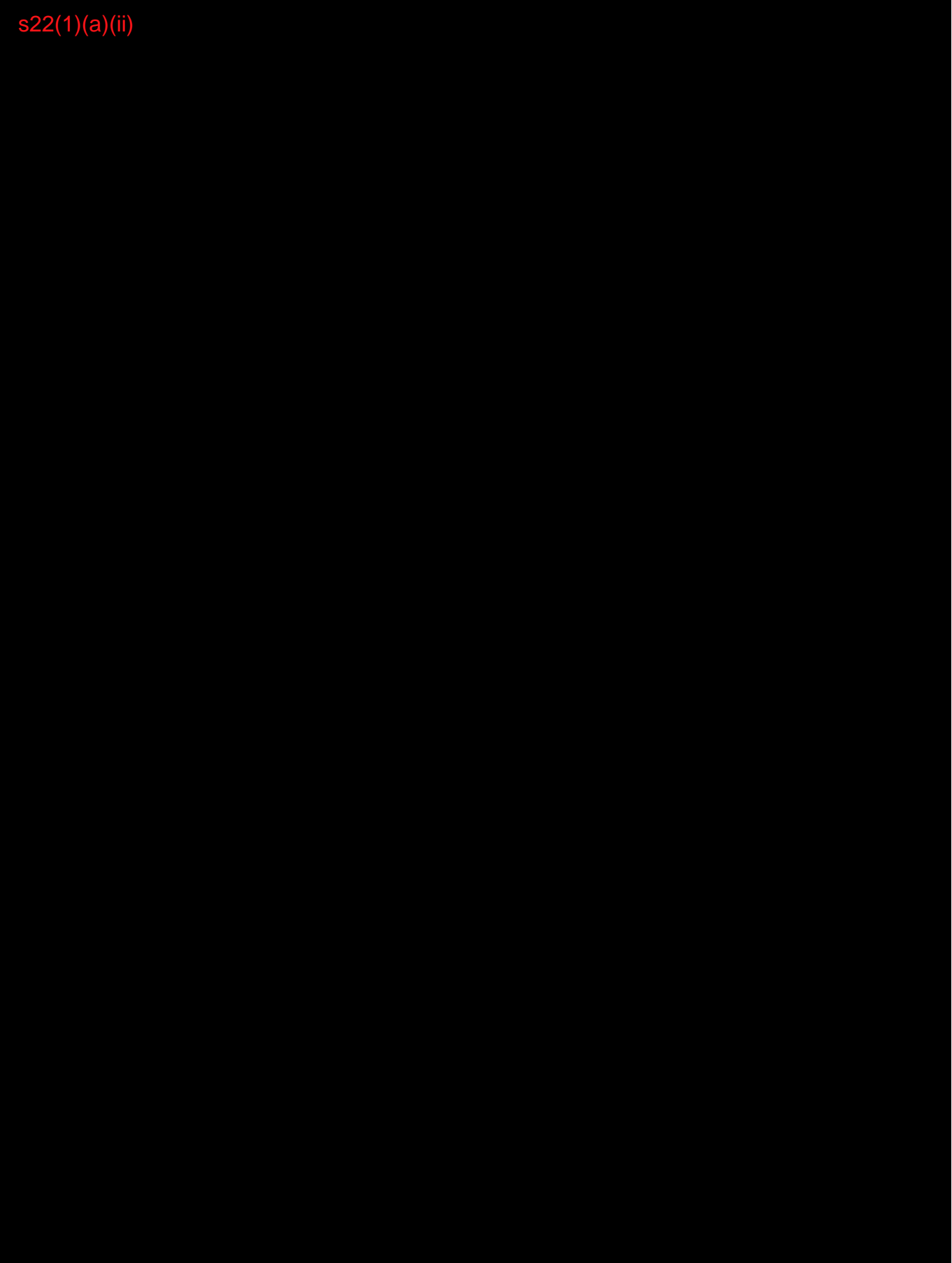
s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)

### Contact Point

Contact Name: Rachel Curtis

Position: Media Relations Manager

Email: [rachel.curtis@awm.gov.au](mailto:rachel.curtis@awm.gov.au)

Phone: t 02 6263 6628 | [REDACTED] s22(1)(a)(ii) & s47F





## Meeting Details

**GROUP:** Corporate Management Group

**MEETING:** CMG

**LOCATION:** Australian War Memorial, ACT

**DATE:** 7 July 2022

**START:** 1400 AEDT

**END:** 1600 AEDT

## Attendance

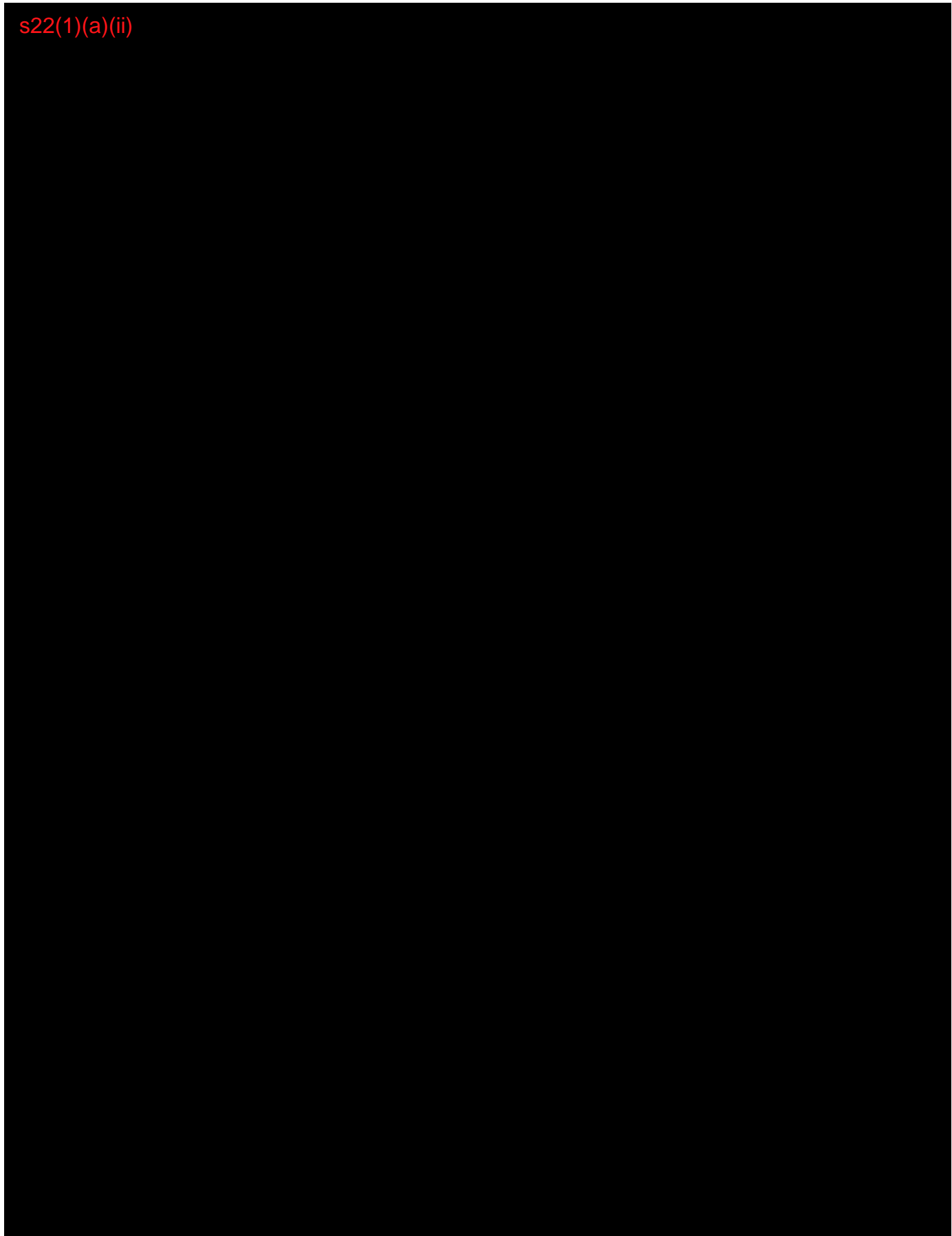
Name	Attending		Apologies	Absent
	Physical	Remote		
Matt Anderson, Director	X			
Leanne Patterson, ADCS	X			
Brian Dawson, ADNC	X			
Anne Bennie, ADPP			X	
Sarah Hitchcock, A/ADPP	X			
Wayne Hitches, EPD	X			
Sarah Hawkins, EO Director	X			

## Agenda Items

## Actions

### 1 Welcome / Apologies

s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

However noted the BRS mannequin in the same showcase does not have hands.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

CMG

requested

consideration of gloves for the BRS mannequin.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)



s47c

## BACKGROUND

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July, the Memorial installed a revised label endorsed by Council, on existing exhibits referencing Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG. The displays occur in the HoV mannequin showcase and the Lower Galleries next to the painting *Pistol Grip*.

This label added additional context regarding the Defamation Trial raised by Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG. A label was not located next to the VC medals because of the proximity to the mannequin showcase and because of a lack of installation space. **Attachment A, B.**

During the week of 10<sup>th</sup> July, Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG appealed the outcome of the defamation case. s47c

## REPORT

On 21 August 2023, as part of the Development works, three galleries currently located in the Post 45 area will be closed for removal and conservation of some 300 objects for inclusion in the new galleries. Alternate displays have been approved by CMG for the revised footprint of the Peacekeeping and Middle East Conflicts galleries, the latter of which includes two paintings of Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG, including *Pistol Grip*. From this date audiences will no longer have access to these paintings. Therefore a revised label is not required for this location.

As noted above, labelling in the HoV is recommended for the mannequin showcase display only, due to proximity of the medal showcase and because of a lack of installation space.

s47c

- **Resource and Financial Implications:** impact on resources and budget are minimal. The labels will be produced through ongoing exhibition fit-out cost centres.
- **Risk & WHS:** a risk assessment has not been prepared for this activity.
- **Values and Behaviours:** Authentic, Forward looking, Resourceful.

## ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A	2023 Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG Briefing Note
Attachment B	Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG Council Statement
Attachment C	AWM Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG Caption Revision

## EXH Briefing Notes on Ben Roberts-Smith additional label

23/06/2023

Lea Barnett, EXH

- Please see attached recommendation for placement and inclusion of an additional interpretive panel for the Ben Roberts-Smith installations in the galleries.
- Label text and layout:

**Statement from Australian War Memorial Chair, The Hon Kim Beazley AC,  
on behalf of the Australian War Memorial Council**

"The Memorial assists in remembering, interpreting and understanding Australia's experience of war and its enduring impact. This includes the causes, conduct and consequences of war.

The Memorial acknowledges the gravity of the decision in the Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG defamation case and its broader impact on all involved in the Australian community. This is the outcome of a civil legal case, and one step in a longer process.

Collection items relating to Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG, including his uniform, equipment, medals and associated art works, are on display in the Memorial's galleries.

We are considering carefully the additional content and context to be included in these displays. The Memorial acknowledges Afghanistan veterans and their families who may be affected at this time."

- There are three (3) installations - Recommend that labels only appear for the painting and the uniform. (See notes on VC below)
  - Paintings – Recommend a similar size label be placed below the existing





- Uniform – Placed below existing label, similar label finish so that it is sympathetic to the installation. Will allow for changeovers of messaging if required.



- VC Medals – Recommend no additional signage.
- A label for the VC medals cannot be integrated well into the installation, which is in proximity of the additional caption placed next to the uniform in the HoV.



## **Statement from Australian War Memorial Chair, The Hon Kim Beazley AC, on behalf of the Australian War Memorial Council**

“The Memorial assists in remembering, interpreting and understanding Australia’s experience of war and its enduring impact. This includes the causes, conduct and consequences of war.

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We are considering carefully the additional content and context to be included in these displays. The Memorial acknowledges Afghanistan veterans and their families who may be affected at this time.”

## **Corporal Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG**

Corporal Ben Roberts-Smith, at 2 metres or 6 feet 6½ inches tall, was an imposing figure on the battlefield. He wore this uniform during the assault into the Afghan village of Tizak in 2010, for which he was awarded the Victoria Cross. Roberts-Smith's patrol was inserted by helicopter under heavy fire, and the rapid deployment forced him to leave his body armour behind on the aircraft.

Later, when his patrol was pinned down, Roberts-Smith exposed his position to draw the insurgents' fire as he moved toward the enemy compound. He stormed two machine-gun posts and was instrumental in inflicting a significant defeat upon a determined and well entrenched enemy.

With six deployments to Afghanistan, Roberts-Smith is Australia's most highly decorated combat soldier from the conflict.

Accounts of alleged misconduct by a small number of Australian Special Forces soldiers in Afghanistan began appearing in the media from late 2016.

Claims were later heard in a civil defamation case unsuccessfully brought by Roberts-Smith against news agencies and journalists. In June 2023 a Federal Court Judge determined on the balance of probabilities that there was "substantial truth" to the allegations that Roberts-Smith was involved and complicit in unlawful killings in Afghanistan.