



# Busting Beersheba: Australians in the Campaign to defeat the Ottoman Empire

One-Day Conference Saturday 18 November 2017  
Pompey Elliott Memorial Hall, 403 Camberwell Road, Camberwell

**Keynote Speaker – David W. Cameron**  
author of *The Charge: The Australian Light Horse victory at Beersheba*



## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

8.30 – 9.00 am

**Registration and Coffee**

### SESSION ONE

9.00 – 9.15 am

Outline plan for the day; administrative details (Convenor, Lieutenant Colonel Michael Buckridge)  
Formal welcome on behalf of MHHV (The President, Colonel Marcus Fielding)

9.15 – 10.00 am

**Dr David Cameron – Here comes the cavalry** A general outline of the campaign placing it in the context of the overall Allied strategy, its strategic aims; tracing its narrative from the beginning to the ultimate victory. Identify the key engagements and tell their stories; highlight Beersheba.

10.00 – 10.45 am

**Colonel Marcus Fielding - The Ottoman Empire's campaign in the Sinai Peninsula, Palestine and Syria.**

**10.45 – 11.15 am**

**MORNING TEA**

### SESSION TWO

11.15 – 12.00 pm

**Dr David Holloway** – The Australian Light Horse. Selected stories of troopers and their experiences.

12.00 – 12.45 pm

**Dr Honor Auchinleck - Sir Harry, his horses and the quiet Lady Chauvel** - Recollections of General Sir Harry Chauvel's life, his love of horses and horsemanship and the influence of Lady Chauvel.

**12.45 – 1.30 pm**

**LUNCH**

### SESSION THREE

1.30 – 2.15 am

**Dr Richard Chauvel** - General Chauvel's understanding of the campaign from family correspondence; comparison of contemporary recollections and later accounts; memorialisation; how the campaign has been remembered and commemorated.

2.15 – 3.00 pm

**Alan Smith – Allenby's Gunners** The artillery in support; who they were and their importance to the campaign.

**3.00 – 3.30 pm**

**AFTERNOON TEA**

3.30 – 4.15 pm

**Dr Andrew Kilsby - Armoured Cars to Armed Cars - Model T Fords and the desert campaign**  
The 1<sup>st</sup> Armoured Car Section's role in the campaign

4.15 – 5.00 pm

**Brent Taylor – The logistics of hell:** getting food, forage, fuel, ammunition....and especially water to a mass army in the desert.

5.00 – 5.15 pm

Final questions and discussion.

**Thanks and Close.**