



FOUNDED
IN 1916

THE RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

ABN 63 008 488 097

From: Major General Bill Crews AO (Retd)
National President

20 August 2009

Journey of a Story

The Returned and Services League of Australia has been made aware of a film being produced by *Earthwire Productions* featuring a New Zealand Serviceman returning from imprisonment as a POW in World War II and an Australian friend whom he met whilst imprisoned in Europe and with whom he escaped. While the people in the story are fictitious, there is some element of actual war time events and correspondence used in its development and many veterans of World War II will relate to the experiences of 'William' and his friend 'Jack' as they try to adjust to life back in their communities.

The ANZAC bonds are very strong. Australians and New Zealanders have served together since the landing at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915. Our nations share a common heritage and work closely together in nearly all dimensions of public life. It is therefore fitting to see a film which portrays at a personal level a New Zealander and an Australian Serviceman and their shared experiences.

While we have not yet seen the shape of this particular production, we believe it has the makings of an excellent film, as appropriate in New Zealand as it would be in Australia, to celebrate and commemorate the strong military bonds between our two nations.

We in the Returned and Services League are pleased to offer our endorsement for the work being undertaken in the development of this film and we look forward to its eventual release in time for ANZAC Day 2011.

Bill Crews
National President

LEST WE FORGET

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