

## **MEDIA RELEASE:**

By Geoffrey Weymouth

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# **Heroes of Australia The Wall of Fame**

A defining moment for Australia. Don't let Aussies go the way of Neanderthals?

- **WHAT IS IT?** Heroes of Australia is a Legacy Project to preserve the memories of "Australian Heroes" by name, for posterity, for our children's children.
- **WHERE WILL IT BE?** Each plaque on the Australian Wall of Fame will be a personal digital profile of an Aussie hero, a standout Australian, significant contributor or person with unique talents.
- **HOW WILL IT HAPPEN?** Written in the first person, by peers or by legatees the plaques will be the personal accounts of an Aussie; complete with photos, videos, documents and links.
- **WHO IS ELIGIBLE?** It's about, "Dob in your Dad" ... ordinary Aussies who have done and are doing extra ordinary or significant things for the benefit of others.
- **THE SOCIAL PILLARS.** The Wall of Fame is a place for entrepreneurs and visionaries, public dignitaries, and the micro, small and medium businesses that are synonymous with the Australian business landscape.
- **SPECIAL AUSSIES.** The Wall of Fame is for talented sports people, journalists, media celebrities, medical professionals, "special" teachers, academics, models, entertainers, actors, authors, chefs, tradies with class - Aussies that go the extra 'yard'.
- **THE MEMORIES.** A salute to the true pathfinders and trailblazers. The pioneers who hacked out tracks that became highways and cleared virgin forest to build "homes" with little more than brute strength, a saw and hammer to pave the way for today's cities. Only locals know other locals like locals know locals.
- **THE QUIET ACHIEVERS.** Deservedly, the Wall of Fame will be a showcase of the selflessness and personal sacrifices of our police, fire and emergency services personnel, both voluntary and salaried, the life guards; and, the untiring compassion and benevolence of the huge number of rarely recognised guardians and community group volunteers.
- **THE BRAVE!** In recognition of the bravery and heroics of our active and past armed service personnel who have served, suffered and given their lives for Australia this past 130 years. The heroics and bravery written in their own words, and memorials in the words and pictures of legatees. An ethereal resting place for perpetual remembrance 24/7/365.
- **WHY?** Because we all know all Aussies are Australian, but (unfortunately) we also know that not every Australian is an Aussie. So what is an Aussie, what does it mean to be "true blue" and is it important that we protect and preserve the Aussie ethos?

Australia is country with a genuine rags to riches history, and we need to be as brutally honest about our future as we have been about our past. It is true, we made mistakes in the past, intentionally and otherwise, but we have matured and now stand at a cultural crossroad. We need to think and act with a rationale that goes beyond the pleasantries of political correctness and ethnic "sensitivities".

Albeit, many a more recent arrival should like us to redefine Australian society to be inclusive of their culture and religious dogma by creating microcosms of semi-autonomous, multicultural communities across Australia. The question should not be why we should abandon our ideals and principals, culture and traditions, to appease those who have chosen Australia as their new home because it is much better than their last; but, rather, why shouldn't they seek to understand what Australia means to Aussies.

After all, our predominate and core culture is Anglo-Saxon-Celtic, our common language is English, our government is guided by the Westminster System and our Rule of Law is premised solely on British Common Law. In short, our principles and practices which have proved so highly successful, are all rooted in our British legacy.

Rather than debate the merits of secular vs. non-secular we need to establish the reasons why every new Australian should aspire to be an Aussie, be that a Moslem, Hindu or heretic. Many Australians blither on about how new arrivals must accept our dress standards, our language and social values, but they are just the facade and window dressings. Before we can say be like us, we have to establish who "us" is: What is an Aussie? What does it mean to be an Aussie.

The evolution of the Aussie character harks back to an era long bygone when mateship, a "fair go", the soapbox in the park and a common on which to graze our horse were all an inherent part of the Aussie community; it was a time when a handshake was the yardstick by which we measured a man's integrity. It was a time before door locks when we trusted our neighbours.

Our forebears didn't dwardle, dither and procrastinate, they got on with it, daylight to dark they worked till they dropped ... and they never considered their blood, sweat and tears a sacrifice. Is it little wonder that "true blue" Australian's have an attachment to the land that is deeply emotional, it is the living home of family spirit's past, steeped as it is in the tradition of "Sunday Dinner", the joys of birth, the distress of wars and grief of death. There was a time when social networking meant word of mouth and a community spirit that saw us stand together in times of adversity. From this and the ANZAC tradition was born the concept of "Mateship", and from this sharing and caring and trials of hardship and the carnage of war evolved what we now recognise as the **Aussie ethos**.

So next time a newcomer asks: "OK, what do I need to do to be like an Aussie?"

## Heroes of Australia The Wall of Fame

... a Swan Song project by Geoffrey Weymouth, a 70-year old age pensioner of Hope Island, Queensland.

The result can be found at: <http://www.heroz.com.au>

For more information:

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