

Places of Interest in Caloundra

Caloundra Memorial Walkway

Victoria Parade, Wickham Point, Caloundra

Take a walk along the Caloundra Memorial Walkway which is lined with hundreds of individual plaques dedicated to service personnel who have served their country.

The walkway is approximately 600m in length and extends around the Caloundra Headland. It is a perfect walk to reflect, learn and share stories, experiences, and thoughts for those who have served our country.



ANZAC Park is located at the northern end of the Memorial Walkway.

To experience the walkway, it is best to park or drop off students near the Surf Club and pool at the Kings Beach/southern end of the walkway.

Discussion Points for Students

- 1 Look at the plaques along the walkway, are there any names that are familiar to you? E.g. this could be someone with the same surname from either parent, grandparents or just a name the student is familiar with.
- 2 Write the name of one of the service personnel honoured, once back at school, research this person using the Australian War Memorial website to find out more about their life and share with the class.

AHS Centaur Memorial

Victoria Parade, Wickham Point, Caloundra

Along the Caloundra Memorial Walkway is the AHS Centaur Memorial. The Memorial is dedicated to the Australian Army Nurses and merchant crew who perished when the hospital ship was sunk by a torpedo from a Japanese Submarine. The AHS Centaur was sunk 100km South East from where the memorial stands off the coast of Cape Moreton, in the early hours of May 14th 1943. At the time there were 332 people on board and only 64 survived.



The AHS Centaur Memorial with the shipping channel in the background.

Discussion Points for Students

- 1 How do you think the local community would have felt knowing that the Japanese were so close to the Australian Coastline in 1943?
- 2 How do you feel knowing that the Japanese forces came so close to invading Australia?
- 3 The sinking of a hospital ship is considered a war crime. How do you think the sinking of the AHS Centaur would have been perceived by the Australian Government and society at the time?
- 4 How do you feel about the collateral damage of war and its impact on civilians?

Caloundra Military Jetty Memorial

The Esplanade, Golden Beach, Caloundra

The Caloundra Military Jetty Memorial was erected to commemorate the defences built on Bribie Island in December 1941. Caloundra and Bribie Island played important roles in the defence of Brisbane after Japan's entry into the Second World War.

Discussion Points for Students

- 1 What role do you think Caloundra may have played in the defence of Brisbane in World War II?
- 2 How do you think supplies and troops were transported to Bribie Island during World War II?
- 3 What benefits were there to having defences in Caloundra and Bribie Island during World War II? Geographical considerations should also be considered in the discussion.

Caloundra Lighthouse Hill USA and Australian Forces Stone

Bulcock Street, Caloundra

During World War II, Caloundra was home to both US and Australian Defence Personnel. Caloundra was a significant area for training service personnel and the lighthouse grounds became Caloundra's first Naval Base. The stone is located next to the Lighthouses and in the Lions Club of Caloundra Memorial Park.

Discussion Points for Students

- 1 What training do you think service personnel may have undertaken in the area during World War II?
- 2 Do you think the relationship between the US and Australian Forces was amicable?
- 3 Do you think the lighthouses may have been used during World War II? If so, what purpose do you think they would have served?

