

History of the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway – how it came about

- An initiative by Concord Hospital under the Australia Remembers 1945-1995 program
- The memorial walkway would connect Concord hospital to the nearest railway station at Rhodes with a number of objectives:-
 - to provide a memorial solely dedicated to WWII with a focus on New Guinea campaign
 - to provide an educational focus for the younger generation
 - to improve access to the hospital
- Steering committee set up in 1995 following launch of plans
- First lot of funding from DEET scheme \$1.3M
- Hospital took carriage of its construction and management

**Construction of
The Kokoda Track Memorial:
*A visual journey***



The site before the memorial was constructed



DEET program – providing skills to the unemployed under the funding













Unveiling of Memorial Centrepiece 1997

Early design of stations (which rep a village where significant events occurred) There are 22 stations in total.
The stainless steel plate had to be changed due to spate of vandalism



Later design of stations made of reinforced glass



Board of Kokoda Track Memorial

- Steering committee wound up following the official opening of Memorial in 1997
- The Board of the Kokoda Track Memorial was formed in March 1998
- Membership (Key stakeholders)
 - Concord Hospital
 - Concord Council now City of Canada Bay
 - Veteran Representation
 - Rotary Club of Concord

Highlight in year 2000

Veterans from each theatre of war carrying torch through memorial







KOKODA DAY



VP DAY

School Excursion



Ralph Honner Education Centre



STATISTICS

- TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS:
158,000 ANNUALLY
- TOTAL NUMBER OF SCHOOL STUDENTS
3.500 – 4000 ANNUALLY
- ATTENDEES TO COMMEMORATIONS
500- 600

SPECIAL DAWN SERVICE - 3000

New Project : Virtual and Augmented Reality to capture veterans' stories



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