



Support for Veterans - Grant Funding for Soccer Ashes Research

This initiative provides \$95,000 in a one-off grant to continue research into the Soccer Ashes, missing since 1954.

Why is this important?

The Soccer Ashes was the trophy awarded for historical international soccer matches played between Australia and New Zealand between the First and Second World Wars. The trophy itself was a silver razor tin containing cigar ash that was carried by Private W.A. Fisher during the Gallipoli campaign. Private Fisher subsequently became the Secretary of Queensland Soccer Association, where to honour the ANZAC memory, the razor tin was chosen as a symbolic trophy inspired by the cricket Ashes trophy. The early soccer matches between Australia and New Zealand helped forge the sporting rivalry between the two nations whilst acknowledging the bond of our ANZAC heritage.

Missing since the 1954 match, completing the research into the Soccer Ashes will raise awareness of the links between Military and Sporting history and will acknowledge and commemorate the service and sacrifice of Australian service personnel.

Who will benefit?

The families and descendants of Veterans of the First World War will continue to benefit from the recognition and commemoration of the service of their relatives. Those who competed for the Soccer Ashes (many of whom were service personnel) will be acknowledged, and fans of soccer and sports more broadly will be reminded of Australia's sporting and military tradition.

Date of effect?

1 November 2022.

How much will this cost?

\$95,000 provided through a one-off grant.