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Victoria Cross Medals In Darwin For The First Time

Arts and Museums Minister Gerry McCarthy today viewed the complete set of Gallipoli Victoria Cross medals that are currently on display at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.

Mr McCarthy encouraged Territorians and tourists to view the medals which are part of the Australian War Memorial’s touring exhibition *This company of brave men: the Gallipoli VCs*.

“The Victoria Cross is an integral part of Australia’s identity as a nation as it represents the remarkable acts of courage and sacrifice our soldiers have made in armed conflict,” Mr McCarthy said.

“The battle at Gallipoli and the bravery of the ANZACs during World War I has united our nation to value unselfish courage in the service of others.

“The nine Victoria Cross medals on display were awarded to soldiers who landed at Gallipoli in World War I, seven of which were awarded for bravery during the battle of Lone Pine.”

The exhibition features the medals of:

- Corporal Alexander Burton;
- Corporal William Dunstan;
- Private John Hamilton;
- Lance Corporal Albert Jacka;
- Lance Corporal Leonard Keysor;
- Captain Alfred Shout;
- Lieutenant William Symons;
- Second Lieutenant Hugo Throssell; and
- Lieutenant Frederick Tubb.

“This is the first time these rare medals have been part of a national touring exhibition which provides people visiting MAGNT over the coming weeks with a valuable opportunity to learn about these ANZACs,” Mr McCarthy said.

“I thank the Australian War Memorial and the generous support of Mr Kerry Stokes AC and the Seven Network Limited for making this unique exhibition possible.

*This company of brave men: the Gallipoli VCs* exhibition will be at MAGNT from tomorrow until 20 June 2010.

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