

Letter to the Editor

WAR MEMORIAL OVAL

To the Editor, "Naracoorte Herald."

Sir,—We should be grateful if you would allow us space in your publication to remind the people of Naracoorte and District of the true position concerning the War Memorial Oval and Park.

On the area there has already been established a well-grassed oval which is being used by local football teams, and the committee is now considering the layout of the environs of the oval. Roads, pathways and suitable trees appropriately placed are at present their main concern.

The Memorial Park commemorating the sacrifices made in World War II by the District's servicemen and women will eventually be a fitting memorial, beautiful yet useful to the present citizens and to those generations kept free by their efforts. This ground belongs to the citizens of the town and district, but must of course be administered by a committee, elected annually in accordance with its articles of Association, by members of the public who subscribe the nominal minimum sum of 5/ per year. To this annual meeting, held in the month of July or August each year, the general public is invited, but only financial members may vote for the election of the committee.

It was seen early by the first committee that building blocks facing the Park would rise in value; so that the Park itself would benefit from their monetary appreciation eleven generous donors gave the necessary money to the War Memorial Fund to buy the eleven blocks fronting the oval from First Avenue southwards. When they are eventually sold the benefit will become solely that of the Park itself. Besides these blocks the committee has bought, from the Savings Bank and others, all available blocks along Price Avenue, making a total of 28 acres for recreational purposes.

From the area for the oval, large gum trees had to be removed, and thousands of tons of earth had to be transported. The money from public subscriptions became exhausted before the work was finished, and it was only by the extremely generous donation of £400 by Mr. L. R. DeGaris that this section of the programme could be completed.

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We, as past and present secretaries, know that the members of your War Memorial Committee are striving unselfishly to provide a beautiful park which will be a credit to the town and district. Greater interest in the project would be heartening to those actively engaged in its development and it is hoped that the next annual meeting, which will be held shortly, will be attended not only by numerous financial members, but also by members of sporting bodies and the general public. The notice of this meeting will shortly appear in the "Herald."

Yours, etc.,

A. O. McPHERSON, C. HEARD,
Past and Present Secretaries.