



NEWSLETTER

ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE – HOBART BRANCH

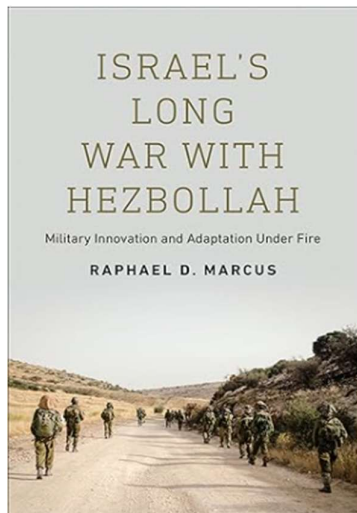
January, 2025

From the Librarian

The library is open every Tuesday from 10.00am or by request. The committee finalised a total audit of the collection. We are now working on spine labels for all books.

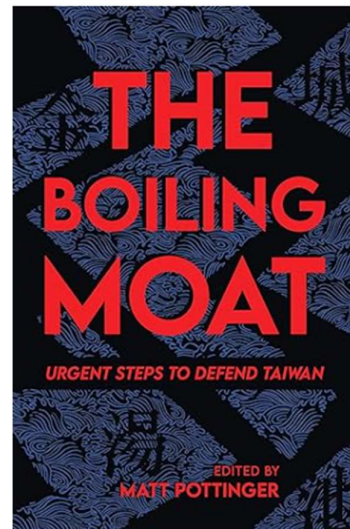
We continue to buy **new books** on contemporary issues and in response to member's requests. Particular emphasis has been given to current conflicts. Profiles of recent purchases are below.

We also continue to collect **digital papers on current issues**: developing capabilities, Ukraine and Gaza. Available by email from LTCOL Peter Hodge (pandjhodge@bigpond.com).



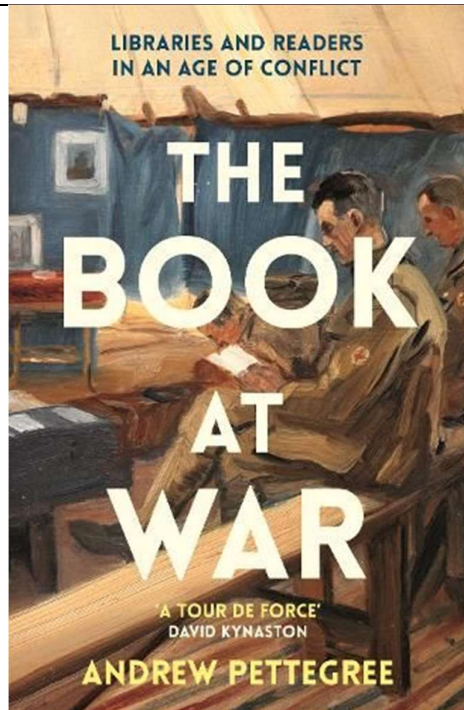
Raphael D. Marcus examines this conflict since the formation of Hezbollah during Israel's occupation of Lebanon in the early 1980s. He critically evaluates events including Israel's long counter-guerrilla campaign throughout the 1990s, the Israeli withdrawal in 2000, the 2006 summer war, and concludes with an assessment of current tensions on the border between Israel and Lebanon related to the Syrian civil war.

His conclusions illuminate the dynamics of the ongoing conflict and illustrate the complexity of military adaptation under fire. With Hezbollah playing an ongoing role in the civil war in Syria and the simmering hostilities on the Israel-Lebanon border. Military practitioners with an interest in Middle Eastern security issues, Israeli military history, and military innovation and adaptation can ill afford to neglect this book.



Chinese leader Xi Jinping has openly expressed his intention to annex Taiwan to mainland China. An invasion or blockade of Taiwan by Chinese forces would be catastrophic, with severe consequences for democracies worldwide. The authors stress that preventing a war is more affordable than waging one and emphasize the importance of learning from recent failures in deterrence, such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Pottinger and his team map out a workable military strategy for Taiwan, the United States, Japan and Australia to pursue collectively, urging quick adoption to avert a devastating war. The significance of Taiwan to the world economy, semiconductor supply, and Indo-Pacific security is underscored.



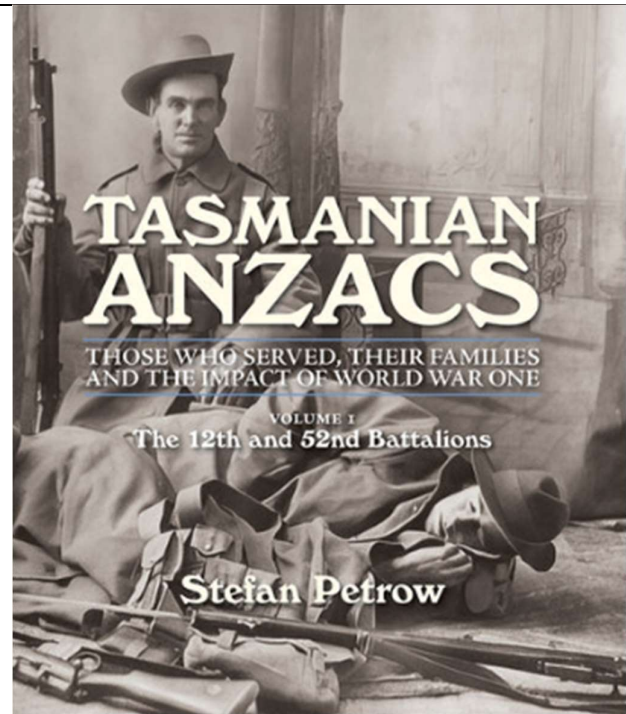
Propaganda, pulp fiction, spies and censorship: the fascinating and action-packed story of books in wartime

'Rich, authoritative, and highly readable ... [a] tour de force' David Kynaston

Chairman Mao was a librarian. Stalin was a published poet. Evelyn Waugh served as a commando - before leaving to write *Brideshead Revisited*. Since the advent of modern warfare, books have all too often found themselves on the frontline.

In *The Book at War*, acclaimed historian Andrew Pettegree traces the surprising ways in which written culture - from travel guides and scientific papers to *Biggles* and Anne Frank - has shaped, and been shaped, by the vast conflicts of the modern age.

From the American Civil War to the invasion of Ukraine, books, authors and readers have gone to war - and in the process become both deadly weapons and our most persuasive arguments for peace.



Much has been written about the Anzac experience in World War One, but the unique contribution of Tasmanian soldiers has been largely overlooked. *Tasmanian Anzacs* expands our understanding of the Great War by drawing on previously unexamined private letters, diaries and thousands of service records of Tasmanian soldiers who served in the 12th and 52nd Battalions of the Australian Imperial Force and their brothers and sisters who enlisted in other units. Also given prominence are the families who supported their loved ones with parcels and messages from home to help them cope with the horrors of many critical battles at Gallipoli and the Western Front.

Recounting acts of great courage, physical and mental hardships, capture by the enemy and death on the battlefield, *Tasmanian Anzacs* commemorates the varied experience of Tasmanian soldiers and their grieving families endured in this richly detailed history of war's human impact.