

# Armidale WW2 Living History Tactical Weekend

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## Location

Armidale NSW is situated in the New England Region, 465 km south of Brisbane ( approx 6 hours) and 534 km north of Sydney ( approx 7 hours) on the New England Highway.

The event will be held on the same ground used by NEMAS for its Dark Ages Events.

The exact location will be the ARMIDALE STATE FOREST.

From Armidale drive down MARSH STREET. You will cross Dumaresq Creek over the Steven's Bridge.

Drive down Marsh Street 1.1 km to an Ampol Service Station.

The road now becomes Rockvale Road continue on 5.2 km past new housing estates to the gate to the State Forest on your right.

The gate on the right after the bridge over Tilbuster Creek (it will be marked Day and Night). Look out for it after crossing the creek.

Follow the markers over the hill to the camp ground and site of the Long House.

**A map of the area is available through CMA outlets. DUMARESQ 9227-3-S 1..25000 NSW.**

The ground is plantation pine with sandy tracks and low hills opening onto a flat plain. There is little or no undergrowth.

At night, the forest near the camp area is pitch black.

Individuals moving after dark are urged to carry a light source.

## What is it all about.

The weekend is all about WW2 reenacting.

Practice weapons handling, safety, tactical formations / drills, and blank ammunition usage in a pleasant environment away from gum trees and the public.

## EXAMPLE ACTIVITIES:

**SATURDAY:** Morning - patrol/recce technique, personal cammo, formation and tactical doctrine - total 3 hours  
Sat. Afternoon - recce exercise, stalking exercise. Saturday night will be non tactical with a chance to meet reenactors from around the country.

**SUNDAY:** Units will have the opportunity to practice your skills in tactical scenarios against your historically correct opponents. Tacticals - ambush, assault on prepared defence, sniper/partisan sweep - to be planned and flexible according to troops available.

*All troops must be prepared for military discipline during the nominated daylight hours.*

## Who can attend

Any WW2 Axis or Allied Reenactment group. Individuals are welcome and efforts will be made to hook you up with a unit. **Registration is required.**

## **Cost**

There is a cost to attend this event, please check the website

## **Vehicles.**

Military vehicles appropriate to your unit are most welcome.

Vehicles must remain on the designated tracks due to the new plantings of pines.

Please notify the organisers if you intend to bring a vehicle.

## **Vehicle Movement**

Drivers are requested to keep speeds down to 15km an hour in the camp area due to the risk of tentage or people sleeping on the ground.

It is also urged that anyone moving at night do so with a light source due to the darkness of the forest.

## **Camp Areas**

Period camping will be in allocated areas.

The Camp areas are to be kept in period to allow for photos etc.

## **Weather**

Weatherzone Seven Day Forecast:

<http://www.weatherzone.com.au/nsw/northern-tablelands/university-of-new-england>

Bureau of Meteorology Four Day Forecast: <http://www.bom.gov.au/products/IDN10060.shtml#NT>

Temperature can be expected to range from -0 to 17 degrees

Bring your woolens and your COLD WEATHER GEAR.

Ensure you have sufficient warm clothing and that includes scarves, gloves, cap comforters etc.

## **Forest Visitors**

State Forests advises the Pines is a state recreation area and we may expect other forest visitors. These may include dog walkers, horses, joggers, and picnickers.

If visitors wander through your scenario or training, cease your activity until it is safe to proceed.

## **On Arrival**

You will be directed to your camping area -This will be by your impression if period or modern.

Once you settle in, present your self to the Event Control Centre (marked by the RED CROSS flag).

Here you can finalise registration and complete your paper work. Shooters are required to bring your licence and firearm to be registered for the event.

## **Weapons**

**It is expected that units will have completed weapons training prior to the event.**

## **CARRY YOUR FIREARMS LICENCE !**

Firearms carrying participants are reminded to have their Shooters Licence with them in anticipation of a police visit over the weekend.

## **Ammunition**

Naturally no ball ammunition is allowed on site. Budget on about bringing 100 rounds of blank per participant. Drill rounds used in weapon training are to be inspected by the safety officer.

## **Fires**

Camp fires may only be lit in a clear area and the fire pit surrounded by rocks.

Fire buckets should be brought and placed behind all tents. The creek water is suitable for this purpose.

Fires can only be lit in designated areas. Please ensure that the area is clear around your fire pit and no fire is lit beside a stump.

Tents should have a fire bucket (filled with creek water) behind tents. In the event of fire, State Forests requests that all participants make reasonable efforts to contain the fire. If you detect a fire raise the alarm by shouting "**FIRE !**".

Due to fire restrictions no pyrotechnics will be used in the event.

## **Smoking**

It is a State Forest regulation that no lighted match or smoking material be dropped on the forest floor.

## **Medical**

Units and vehicles should carry basic first aid requirements.

A large first aid kit is kept in the base camp.

This will also be the event admin point and will be marked with a RED CROSS flag.

This area is out of the exercise area. Units are urged to carry first aid kits. In the need of medical evacuations, this is to be organised by the event coordinators.

All participants will be provided with first aid supplies as a matter of course.

Please let it be known who your unit's medics are.

## **Safety**

A full safety brief will be given on Saturday morning.

Unit safety officers are to be nominated and the Armidale organisers informed ASAP.

Any participant on observing an unsafe action can stop the event by Shouting "**STOP STOP STOP !**".

## **Night Fighting**

Whilst there will be some extended tactical sessions leading into the night, there will be no prolonged night fighting at this event.

## **Control of your weapon**

At no stage of this event is any firearm to be pointed at another person. Be aware of your muzzle at all times.

Please remember that safety catches are not a substitute for safe handling practises.

## **Blank ammunition**

Blank ammunition will not be discharged within 30 meters of any person and in a 30 degree arc each side of the target.

This can be judged using the three knuckle rule. If in doubt of the safety distance do not fire.

In the case of a misfire, unit NCO's are to supervise unloading. Whilst your firearm is being cleared you are not to be considered part of the exercise.

## **Close Quarter combat**

Bayonets are not to be fixed and hand to hand fighting is prohibited unless pre-approved by the Organiser

## **Firearm Security**

Firearms to be secured at the end of activities. We advise the use of trigger locks and locking firearms out of site in vehicles.

Alcohol is not to be consumed by anyone in control of a firearm. This is a criminal offence in NSW.  
If you are captured you are to retain possession of your firearm and carry it slung, muzzle down.

**Drug/alcohol policy**

NSW Regulations apply. Blood alcohol is to zero when handling firearms.  
Alcohol is only to be consumed when weapons have been secured.  
Prohibited substances are just that. Prohibited.

**Facilities**

The facilities are primitive. There is no power on site. There are no showers on site.  
Porta-loos will be available on site  
Hand washing facilities are set up near the toilet area.  
Garbage bags are available to all units for rubbish collection.

**Water**

A creek runs through the site and the water is undrinkable.  
Attendees should bring a water container ( suggest 20 L) with a water run being made into town as necessary.  
Water will be provided for hygiene purposes and for the kitchen.  
Campers can fill fire buckets from the on site creek.

**Communications**

There are restrictions for mobile phones due to the geography of the area - Vodaphone mobiles appear to work better in some cases.

**Organisers' Mobile Number (to be advised)**

The organisers will be on site from Wednesday/ Thursday.

**Food**

Units are responsible for arranging their own rations

**Security and Parking**

Vehicles will be parked in a secure area close by the main camp. Camping is available on site.  
We would hope that non accurate tentage is placed behind the parking area to allow sites for historical shelters around the long house.  
(this will assist living history photo opportunities.) The camp will be occupied at all times  
The Car park will be on the road coming in at the top of the hill on the right hand side. Modern camping is situated here.

**Garbage removal.**

Garbage bags will be provided to remove all waste from the site

For further details, contact Army Group South  
Postal Address : PO Box 12325 George Street Brisbane QLD 4003 AUSTRALIA  
Email : [Army Group South](#)

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