In 2018, Australia and the United States celebrate a centenary of mateship — a friendship formed in the trenches of World War I when Australian and American troops first fought side-by-side at the Battle of Hamel on 4 July 1918.

Since that day, Australian and American soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen and women have served alongside one another in every major conflict. This is symbolic of the deep and enduring bond, mutual respect and close co-operation that exists between Australia and the United States.

The relationship between Australia and the United States is unique in its breadth, depth and length, and is characterised by genuine cultural affinity and a spirit of collaboration. The two countries’ contemporary relationship encompasses many shared fields of endeavour, including defence and security cooperation, extensive trade and investment links creating jobs for Australians and Americans, cultural exchanges, sporting rivalry, education participation, research and development, and tourism.

There is no doubt that the mateship between Australia and the United States will further develop and strengthen over the next hundred years.
GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

There are close relations at all levels of government between Australia and the United States. Prime Ministers and Presidents frequently travel to each other’s shores for discussions on important matters of state. This is supplemented with regular discussions and standing arrangements between Ministers and their counterparts on areas such as defence and security, immigration and trade.

These relations are further supported by state Premiers and territory Chief Ministers visiting their US state counterparts, often with accompanying business delegations.

A key development in this area was the attendance in March 2018 of the Prime Minister of Australia Malcolm Turnbull, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, the Hon Steven Ciobo MP; and state Premiers and Chief Ministers at the National Governors Association (NGA) Winter Meeting. The invitation to partner with the NGA reflected the close bilateral relationship between Australia and the United States, and allowed for extensive discussions across levels of government. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed at the event to further co-operation between Australian state and territory governments with their US counterparts, laying the foundation for further activity at the state level in both countries.

ECONOMY, TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Australia and the United States conduct US$65 billion in two way trade and have an investment relationship valued at US$1.1 trillion, making the United States Australia’s largest economic partner.

Some key indicators are:

- US trade with Australia supports over 300,000 US jobs. Australian companies employ 180,000 people in the US, including over 18,000 in Texas alone.
- Australia has a diverse economy which is reflected in our economic relationship with the United States. In California for example, there are Australian companies operating in 83 different industries.
- Australia is the biggest beef exporter to the United States. Australia also exports aircraft, spacecraft and parts, and pharmaceutical products (excluding medicaments).
- The US invests more in Australia than in any other country in the Asia-Pacific. Australia’s investment in the US totals almost half a trillion US dollars.

Over 10,000 Australian companies sell to or operate in the United States

Australian companies employ an estimated 180,000 people in the United States

Australian companies invested an estimated US $20.9 billion on new capital projects in the US between January 2003 and February 2017
Over 1.3 million Australian tourists visit the United States each year.

Australian visitors spend over US$8.7 billion in the US, supporting thousands of jobs across all 50 states.

**TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY**

Currently, there are record levels of Americans travelling to Australia, driven by favourable exchange rates, increased aviation capacity and highly competitive air fares.

At the 2018 Super Bowl, the most watched television broadcast in the United States, Tourism Australia launched an AUS36 million marketing push aimed at supercharging American tourism Down Under. Supported by Qantas, American Airlines and Wine Australia, and featuring appearances from some of Australia’s biggest celebrities, it is the largest campaign Tourism Australia has run in the United States since Paul Hogan’s famous “Come Say G’Day” ads more than 30 years ago. It also builds on the successful Restaurant Australia campaign which promotes Australia as a world-class food and wine destination.

To convert interest into bookings, Tourism Australia has also published tailored travel itineraries and inspiring destination information. It is supported with a dedicated marketplace on Australia.com which includes airfare and special vacation offers carefully chosen by our key distribution partners. All of Australia’s states and territories are featured with locations, products and experiences carefully chosen to resonate most strongly with American travellers looking to experience Australia.

Over 1.3 million Australians visit the US each year, with Australia being the third largest source of international tourists to California alone.

South Australia’s Kangaroo Island is regarded as one of the world’s greatest wildlife destinations, making it a popular choice for locals and tourists alike.

THE TWELVE APOSTLES IS A COLLECTION OF LIMESTONE STACKS OFF THE SHORE OF THE PORT CAMPBELL NATIONAL PARK, BY THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD IN VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.
The alliance between Australia and the United States was formalised through the ANZUS Treaty in 1951. More than 60 years later, the Treaty remains the foundation of our security relationship with the United States. The mutual defence clause of the ANZUS Treaty was invoked by Australia for the first time in 2001, after the terrorist attacks in New York and Virginia. Australia remains a strong ally and coalition partner with the United States in the global coalition to defeat ISIS and in global efforts to counter terrorism and violent extremism.

The alliance increases Australia’s ability to protect itself and its interests by providing access to world-leading defence hardware and technologies, training and combined exercises, as well as vital intelligence capabilities. Both countries are committed to working together to help shape international norms to advance shared interests in the domains of land, sea, air, space, and cyberspace.
A large crowd gathers to commemorate ANZAC Day at the Washington National Cathedral in Washington, DC.

For Australia, continued American engagement supports the development of our defence capabilities and plays a critical role in maintaining strategic stability in the Indo-Pacific region. For the United States, Australia is a key ally in regional and global security efforts. Australia is one of the largest importers of American arms in the world and this will continue to grow in coming years with a number of large commitments. Australian and US defence industries continue to strengthen our defence relationship, including through investment and partnerships.

Australian defence personnel stationed in the United States are improving the interoperability and integration of Australian and US forces, maximising training and exercise opportunities with the United States, and ensuring access to the best technology.

The majority are embedded in the United States military — effectively filling the role as if they were a member of the American military — in American units or working alongside American partners on combined project teams, covering issues including operational planning and intelligence, capability development, military education, and legal support.

A clear example of the strength of the alliance is Talisman Saber, Australia’s largest exercise conducted jointly with the United States, involving more than 33,000 Australian and United States personnel. The unique training opportunities on offer in Northern Australia under the US Force Posture Initiatives make an important contribution to the capabilities of both our militaries — strengthening our interoperability and our ability to respond to regional contingencies, such as humanitarian aid and disaster relief.

**INNOVATION, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH**

Australia’s ingenuity and thirst for innovation has been forged through its enterprising spirit — the resilience, creativity and unquenchable desire to solve a problem. Australian innovations like the bionic ear, the original electronic pacemaker, the black box recorder, cervical cancer vaccine and Wi-Fi have improved the lives of billions.

Australia has a longstanding innovation, science and research relationship with the US. The relationship is underpinned by an Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation between our countries and has seen us work together to put a man on the moon, protect ships from missiles using decoy rockets, and improve in vitro fertilization technology.

Australia’s strengths include strong education and research sectors, world leading public research agencies, cutting edge research infrastructure and a strong trade and investment base for international companies.

In the space sector, Australia and the US have cooperated for over 50 years, with the pictures of man walking on the Moon broadcast to the world from NASA tracking stations in Australia. This partnership will continue long into the future, with other areas to be supported through initiatives such as Australia’s Global Innovation Strategy. Initiatives such as these will support our two countries to continue collaborations in areas such as on mental health, cancer research, quantum technologies, and the expansion of the Landing Pads program to help Australian entrepreneurs get a foothold in Silicon Valley and elsewhere in the US.

Australia produces almost 4% of new knowledge worldwide, with only 0.3% of the population.

Nearly 40,000 joint scientific publications between Australia and the US were published between 2010 – 2014.

The US is Australia’s largest research collaborator.

Australia and United States collaborations lead to breakthroughs in science and medical technology.
Australia and the United States have long standing ties to promote their respective world class higher education systems. There are nearly 1,000 formal collaborations between Australian and American universities. This is testament to the deep relationship between Australia and the US in innovation, science and education and our joint pursuit of new and exciting ideas that will change the world.

Linked closely with each successful collaboration is a joint and longstanding commitment to world-class education. Our collaborations have also been supported by several other programs, including:

- The Fulbright Program, which is approaching its 70th anniversary in Australia. Since its beginning, the Program has facilitated the exchange of more than 5000 Australians and Americans.
- The Endeavour Leadership Program, which provides opportunities for high-achieving Australians and international tertiary students to increase their knowledge and expertise in their field.

Australia is also working on piloting the P-TECH model – a world leading educational model which originated in Brooklyn, New York and has since expanded globally. Other types of education and training relationships will continue to prosper, including facilitation of exchanges and co-operation between vocational education and training providers in both countries.
COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Australia has a long standing commitment to serving the US community and hosts a range of charity events featuring the Australian Ambassador and other prominent Australians to assist a number of notable organisations and causes. The inaugural Mateship Charity Golf Day in 2017 raised over US $200,000 with future events set to be even bigger.

The Embassy and Consulates General are actively involved in community and charity events including engagements with schools. These activities promote Australia and contribute to the local communities.

The Embassy also works with significant Australia-United States business affiliated organisations such as the American Australian Association. These organisations partner with the Embassy to deliver important events including ANZAC Day commemorations, wine and food nights, gala and charity balls, and seminars on topical issues.

Australia has representation in:
- Washington, DC
- New York
- Los Angeles
- Houston
- Chicago
- Honolulu
- San Francisco
- Florida
- Colorado

Australia’s Monster Croc Wrangler Matt Wright visits the Embassy to educate on the importance of crocodile conservation.
From Nov 2017 – Jan 2018, the Embassy of Australia showcased ‘Genesis’, the first major international exhibition from one of Australia’s most acclaimed artists — William Robinson. Curated by QUT Art Museum, the exhibition included award winning paintings alongside rarely seen works on paper.

Screen Australia’s support for the film industry has resulted in many overseas successes and Australian actors such as Cate Blanchett, Chris Hemsworth, Hugh Jackman, Nicole Kidman, Guy Pearce, Rebel Wilson, Margot Robbie and Naomi Watts continue to receive international acclaim.

Australia’s talented visual effects companies have worked on some of the world’s biggest and most high-profile movies including The LEGO Movie, Gravity, Iron Man 3, Prometheus, the Avengers, Thor: Ragnarok, Harry Potter and The Deathly Hallows parts 1 and 2, and the Matrix trilogy.

Now in its 15th year, G’Day USA celebrates the strength and diversity of the Australia-United States bilateral relationship, and showcases the very best of Australia across a range of sectors including innovation and technology, defence industries, food and wine, film, fashion and music. The pinnacle event is the annual G’Day USA gala which offers an immersive Australian experience, showcasing Australian food, wine and entertainment.
Australia has a strong track record of hosting major sporting events including: 2000 Olympics, the Rugby World Cup, the ICC Cricket World Cup, the Asian Football Cup and Netball World Cup.

Washington Capitals ice hockey player Nathan Walker is the first Australian in history to play in the National Hockey League.

Australians are increasingly making their presence felt across professional and college sports leagues in the United States, notably in baseball, American football, and basketball. Many of these sports stars give up their time to promote Australia with their fans, the general public, community organisations and schools.

Australians are also becoming increasingly well regarded on the sidelines. Australian sport scientists, fitness trainers and health professionals are in demand across the world to share their expertise.

The United States hosts many major events with significant participation by Australians including the Rugby World Cup Sevens in 2018 and the summer Olympics in Los Angeles in 2028.

Washington Capitals ice hockey player Nathan Walker is the first Australian in history to play in the National Hockey League.

Australia plays the United States at the Rio Olympics.

MILWAUKEE BUCKS SUPERSTAR MATTHEW DELLA VEDOVA IS ONE OF THE RECORD NUMBER OF AUSTRALIANS PLAYING IN THE NBA.

PHOTO BY GARY DINEEN / MILWAUKEE BUCKS.
MATESHIP
AUSTRALIA & UNITED STATES
THE NEXT 100 YEARS

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