

On 16 May 1940 a military Avro Anson aircraft (serial number A4-4) crashed into the north-east face of Mount Torbreck, 300 m below the summit. Mount Torbreck is located in Central Victoria, not far from the townships of Eildon and Snobs Creek. All four airmen on board were killed.

The aircraft was one of three Avro Anson training aircraft that had flown from Pearce Air Force Base in Western Australia, and were on route to the Central Flying School at Camden in NSW. They had all successfully refuelled at Point Cook in Victoria before continuing their flight at 11.45 am.

Poor weather conditions caused their plans to



be altered. After flying over Yea and making a transmission, two of the planes decided to return to Point Cook in Victoria, with the third successfully plotting a path to Cootamundra in NSW. One of the planes bound for Point Cook disappeared!

On 23 January 1941 eight months after the aircraft disappeared, two local men (Messrs Stan Sawers and John Fry) discovered the lost military plane approximately 300 m below the summit of Mount Torbreck on the north-east face. At 3.15 am the next day (Friday 24 January) a recovery party left for the crash site in order to bring the bodies of the four men back to Alexandra.

#### **CASUALTIES**

Flight Officer Anthony Ashby Daniel (Age 22)
Corporal Ivan Lapen Stowdor (Age 25)
Corporal Francis Ettiene Hyland (Age 27)
Corporal Herman Fred Sass (Age 23)
(Wireless Operator)

On 23 January 2016 the memorial site and track were re-opened to the public after substantial restoration works were conducted.

If you are travelling to the site, be aware of snakes and spiders and ensure you have correct footwear, clothing and safety equipment. Conditions on the mountain can change quickly. Always let someone know of your travel plans. There is Telstra mobile phone service on most of this side of the mountain, so carrying a phone with a charged battery is recommended.

### ARTWORKZ TOURISM WEBSITE www.esplash.me

Visit our website for local Visitor Information Centres.

Brochures have been produced by passionate volunteers to help promote our District.

Disclaimer: The authors have taken care to ensure this publication is correct, though please be aware that errors and omissions do occur.

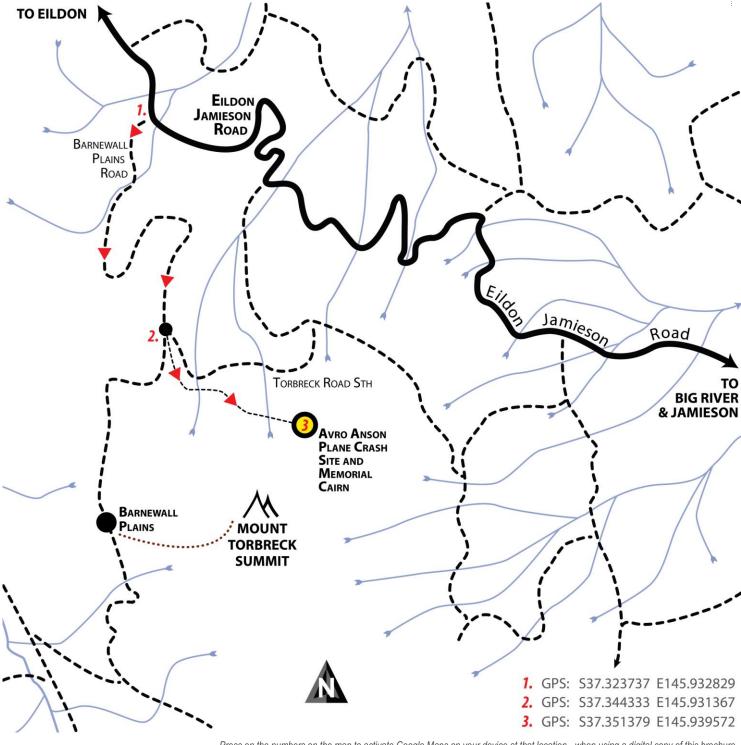
Brochure 159

## EILDON

# AVRO ANSON CRASH SITE MEMORIAL



Shadowed by over 30 Mountains and on the banks of the beautiful Goulburn River and Lake Eildon. This is our playground!





### FROM EILDON

- Travel 2.9 km from Eildon to the intersection of Eildon Jamieson Rd and Goulburn Valley Hwy.
- 2. Travel 10.7 km to the intersection of Eildon Jamieson Rd and Barnewall Plains Road.
- 3. Travel 4 km to the intersection of Barnewall Plains Rd and Torbreck Road Sth. This is the Avro Anson Memorial Site carpark.
- 4. Walk along the established walking track for 2.4 km to the memorial site which has an uphill gradient.

Note: Barnewall Plains camping area is a further 2.2 km from The Avro Anson memorial carpark, though is subject to seasonal road closure.

The map is not to scale, and is only meant for basic guidance. The directions and GPS coordinates are correct to the best of our knowledge, though are not meant to be precise indicators and should not be solely relied upon. Always carry professional detailed maps when walking in this area. It is recommended that you take someone who knows the area with you.