Rosemary Tribute

The Rosemary Tribute was introduced to the War Nurses ANZAC Day Service in 2013

A pot containing a young Rosemary plant was placed near the flagpole close to where the wreaths and tributes were laid. This tribute is in remembrance of the Nursing Sisters who lost their lives in war.

The young plant was struck from a cutting taken from an aged bush believed to have been planted by the family of Sr. Pearl Mittelheuser from Bundaberg. Sr. Mittelheuser is named inside the War Nurses Pavilion.

- Pearl Beatrice Mittelheuser QFX 19068
- Served WWII AIF 2/10 AGH Malacca, AANS Malaya 1941
- Survived the bombing of ‘Vyner Brooke’ and taken Prisoner of War by the Japanese
- Died of illness whilst POW, 18 Aug 1945—3 days after VP Day—at Loebecch Linggau, Sumatra
- Buried in the Jakarta War Cemetery, Indonesia.

Clones of the mother plant are being cared for by Patricia Pearson and members of the Bundaberg Ex Servicewomen’s Association. Two are also in the care of the Bundaberg Regional Council Parks & Gardens.

This Australian War Memorial photo was obtained from Central Army Records and was the photograph in Pearl’s pay book.

The Rosemary Tribute will continue to be a part of the annual service organised by the Bundaberg Ex Servicewomen’s Association. The service is held at 1015 Hrs on ANZAC Day in the War Nurses Memorial Park, cnr Bourbong & Takalvan Street, Bundaberg.