

Outcomes relevant to the Netherlands — context & next steps

Why this matters (context)

- **City-led positioning:** The Lord Mayor of Brisbane has signalled an intent to position Brisbane **as Australia's Allied Capital in WWII** at national and international level. Because the Netherlands was **one of the four Allies** active from Brisbane, the Dutch story is **naturally included** in this city narrative; we can align with (and benefit from) the broader Brisbane push.
- **National framing (AWM):** With the support of **The Hon. Milton Dick MP**, a focus on Brisbane's wartime role is being advanced with the **Australian War Memorial (AWM)**—a framing that, by definition, **includes the Dutch strand** (NEI government-in-exile, merchant marine, navy, air force, ceremonial sword).
- **Public presence :** Opportunities around **Talisman Sabre 2027** are part of Brisbane's overall Allied focus (not a Netherlands-only platform), ensuring the Dutch story is **represented within** a four-Allies public program.
- **Tourism window:** Towards **Brisbane 2032 (Olympic Games)**, heritage and visitor offerings built around the Allied Capital story provide a mainstream channel where the Dutch element is **embedded rather than standalone**.

Tangible outcomes tied to Camp Columbia, Allied partners & the NEI government-in-exile

- **Camp Columbia (Pooh Corner):** Renewed site interpretation momentum; council collaboration; post-symposium bus tour; conservation/landscape planning underway.
- **NEI government-in-exile:** Consolidated historical narrative linking Brisbane to Dutch wartime governance and Allied coordination.
- **Key artefact:** A **19th-century ceremonial sword**—linked to a senior NEI figure—draws public attention to the Dutch connection (potential for future curatorial collaboration, subject to owner/curatorial conditions).
- **Allied partners:** Content and programming framed across **Australia–USA–Netherlands–UK**, with the Dutch component included throughout (talks, archives, museums, site visits).

Publications & knowledge-building

- **Symposium papers e-book interest from Cambridge Scholars Publishing.**
- **Reissue of Jack Ford's *Allies in a Bind*** (Superscript/Marcus Fielding).
- **New research materials** on Camp Columbia to be integrated into CCHA's web and education work (NL/EN where relevant).
- Ongoing inclusion of **Indonesian perspectives** and decolonisation context to handle the history responsibly.

Capacity, partnerships & funding

- **\$20,000 Federal grant** confirmed; broadened volunteer base; strengthening of management/research teams.

- Active bridges with **BCC Heritage, UQ** (archaeology link, student project prospects), and museum/archival partners; lines opened toward **AWM** via Milton Dick.

Near-term priorities (low cost, high signal)

1. **Expanded web story “NEI in Brisbane” (NL/EN)** aligned to the Lord Mayor’s Allied Capital narrative—so the Dutch chapter is **clearly included** in public-facing materials.
2. **Heritage-trail concept at Camp Columbia** (signage/QR) embedding NEI content within a broader Allied interpretation.
3. **Schools kit / slide deck** (AU–NL lens) for talks, commemorations, and classroom use.

Medium-term opportunities within the Brisbane focus

- **Talisman Sabre 2027:** explore a Dutch-inclusive strand in the wider public program (subject to partners).
- **AWM collaboration (option):** consider a small, curated focus that includes the ceremonial sword and the NEI-in-Brisbane story (ownership/conservation/curatorial criteria apply).
- **Brisbane 2032 (Olympics):** evolve tour/trail into a **high-quality Allied Capital visitor experience** in which the Dutch story is an **integral component**.

Bottom line: By anchoring the Dutch narrative **inside** Brisbane’s Allied Capital positioning—city-led, nationally framed, and publicly visible—we gain durable inclusion for the Netherlands in Australia’s WWII memory, education, and tourism, with realistic steps from now through 2027 and into the 2032 Olympic window.