

Charles Kingsford Smith

Records about Australian pioneer aviator Sir Charles Kingsford Smith (1897–1935) in the collection of the National Archives relate mainly to his historic flights – the loss and recovery of his aircraft, the *Southern Cross*, in late 1929 (including the loss of the search aircraft, *Kookaburra*), the establishment of the Australian National Airways in 1930 and the loss of the *Southern Cloud* in 1931. Records about his defence service and the honours and recognition he received are also held.

Records relating to Charles Kingsford Smith held in Canberra

Selected records held by the National Archives in Canberra are listed in the table below.

Historic flights

Title or description of record	Date range	Series, item number
<u>Kingsford Smith and Ulm – Trans-Pacific flight</u>	1925–29	A458, M314/4
<u>Kingsford Smith and Ulm – Trans-Pacific flight – Publicity arrangements</u>	1928	A458, M314/4 attachment 1
<u>Kingsford Smith and Ulm – Trans-Pacific flight – Spares</u>	1927–28	A458, M314/4 attachment 2
<u>Kingsford Smith and Pond – flight from America to Australia</u>	1927	A1 , 1927/19970
<u>Flight round Australia – Captain Kingsford Smith and Mr Ulm</u>	1927	A458, W314/4
<u>Flights – Australia to New Zealand – Kingsford Smith</u>	1928–35	A458, AD314/4
<u>Flights from Australia to England – Kingsford Smith and Ulm</u>	1929–30	A458, AH314/4
<u>Flight of Captain Kingsford Smith and Mr Ulm from Australia to England</u>	1929–33	A2910, 406/1/121
<u>Kingsford Smith – Ireland to America</u>	1930–31	A458, AQ314/4
<u>Kingsford Smith – England to Australia – solo</u>	1930	A458, AR314/4
<u>Kingsford Smith – Flight to England and return</u>	1931–33	A458, BN314/4
<u>Flight – Australia to London and return – September 1931 – Air Commodore Kingsford Smith</u>	1931–33	A2910, 406/1/152
<u>Sir Charles Kingsford Smith – flight to the East</u>	1932–33	A458, CE314/4
<u>Sir Charles Kingsford Smith – passenger flight round Australia</u>	1933	A458, CL314/4

<u>Flights – Sir Charles Kingsford Smith – England-Australia</u>	1933	A458, CO314/4
<u>Kingsford Smith, Sir Charles – Trans-Pacific flight 1934</u>	1934–35	A461, B314/1/7
<u>Kingsford Smith – flight to New Zealand 1935</u>	1935	A461, C314/1/7
<u>Sir Charles Kingsford Smith – England-Australia flight, 1935</u>	1935–39	A461, D314/1/7

Personal information, honours and recognition

Title or description of record	Date range	Series, item number
<u>First AIF service record – Charles Kingsford Smith</u>	1915–36	B2455, Kingsford Smith Charles Edward
<u>Charles Kingsford Smith – application for pilot's licence</u>	1919–21	A8793, 1
<u>Honour for Captain Kingsford Smith – awarded 18 June 1928</u>	1928	A2926, A6
<u>Visit of Kingsford Smith and crew of Southern Cross to Canberra – reception and general</u>	1928	A6266, G1928/3855
<u>Recognition of achievements of Kingsford Smith</u>	1930–37	A461, U314/1/1
<u>Birthday honours 1932 – Publication of</u>	1932	A2924, 1932/1
<u>Birthday Honours 1932 – Proposed recipients sounded as to acceptability or otherwise</u>	1932	A2924, 1932/2
<u>Birthday Honours 1932 – The Honourable John Alfred Northmore (Chief Justice Western Australia) recommended for Honour of Knighthood 1932</u>	1932	A2924, 1932/3
<u>Birthday Honours 1932 – State recommendations</u>	1932	A2924, 1932/4
<u>Birthday Honours 1932 – Commonwealth recommendations</u>	1932	A2924, 1932/5
<u>Birthday Honours 1932 – Correspondence with Secretary of State</u>	1932	A2924, 1932/6
<u>Aviation – Sir C Kingsford Smith</u>	1934–37	A981, AVI 26
<u>Kingsford Smith (in papers of RG Menzies as Attorney-General)</u>	1935–36	CP450/7, 232
<u>Extracts from the records of the Parliament of Australia – resolutions and speeches relating to the death of Air Commodore Sir Charles Kingsford Smith and Mr John Thompson Pethybridge</u>	1935	A461, D314/1/7 attachment
<u>Sir Charles Kingsford Smith – trophies and presentations</u>	1936–46	A461, G370/1/6

The Kookaburra incident

Title or description of record	Date range	Series, item number
<u>Appointment of Committee – Terms of Reference – 1929 Committee of Enquiry – Southern Cross and Kookaburra aeroplanes</u>	1929	A460, A5/38
<u>Financial – 1929–30 Committee of Enquiry – Southern Cross and Kookaburra aeroplanes</u>	1929–30	A460, B5/38
<u>1929 Committee of Enquiry – Southern Cross and Kookaburra aeroplanes</u>	1929	A460, C5/38
<u>Evidence – 1929 Committee of Enquiry – Southern Cross and Kookaburra aeroplanes</u>	1929	A460, D5/38

<u>Air Enquiry Committee – Legal and witnesses expenses – Southern Cross and Kookaburra aeroplanes</u>	1929	A460, E5/38
<u>Report – Committee of Enquiry – Southern Cross and Kookburra aeroplanes</u>	1929	A460, G5/38
<u>Southern Cross and Kookaburra</u>	1935–36	A664, 415/401/62

Southern Cross and Southern Cloud

Title or description of record	Date range	Series, item number
<u>Southern Cloud</u>	1931	A458, AG314/1
<u>Southern Cross</u>	1932	A458, AN314/1
<u>Purchase of monoplane 'Southern Cross' from Sir Charles Kingsford Smith</u>	1935–44	A432, 1935/1295
<u>The Southern Cross – acquisition of for National Museum</u>	1935–48	A461, C370/1/2

Australian National Airways

Title or description of record	Date range	Series, item number
<u>Australian National Airways – subsidy</u>	1931–32	A458, AE314/1
<u>Australian National Airways – experimental air mail flight – Australia-England-Australia</u>	1931–32	A458, V314/3
<u>Agreement with Australian National Airways in conveyance of mail between Melbourne and Hobart</u>	1931	A432, 1931/1084
<u>Request for financial assistance by Australian National Airways</u>	1931	A6006, 1931/06/24

Other sources

Title or description of record	Date range	Series, item number
<u>Geraldton-Derby route – maintenance file</u>	1922–23	A705, 7/54/119
<u>The Story of the Southern Cross Trans Pacific Flight 1928 by Charles Edward Kingsford Smith and Charles Thomas Philippe Ulm (registration for copyright)</u>	1928	A1336, 18119
<u>Log Books of the Southern Cross by Charles Edward Kingsford Smith and Charles Thomas Philippe Ulm (registration for copyright)</u>	1931	A1336, 21651
<u>Sir Charles Kingsford Smith desirous of using name 'Anzac' for centenary race aeroplane</u>	1934	A664, 507/401/401
<u>MacRobertson International Air Race part I</u>	1933–34	A461, G314/1/7 part 1
<u>MacRobertson International Air Race part II</u>	1934–35	A461, G314/1/7 part 2

Other sources of information relating to Charles Kingsford Smith

- *Fact Sheet 197 - Photographs relating to Sir Charles Kingsford Smith*

Personal records and other memorabilia of Kingsford Smith are held by a number of collecting institutions, including:

- [National Library of Australia](#)
- [Australian War Memorial](#)
- [Queensland Museum](#)