

They Crossed the Ocean

**The names on the Port Macquarie War Memorial
from the Great War 1914 - 1918**



Preface

This publication has been created as a research aid for anyone who has an interest in the people behind the names inscribed on the Port Macquarie War Memorial who served in World War One. It is not intended to be a definitive personal history of each person, nor a biographical profile. For each person listed there are eleven fields of information giving place of birth, occupation at time of enlistment, next of kin, as well as service number, embarkation details and whether returned to Australia or killed in action. Any significant or interesting facts are included in a general notes field.

The names on the original memorial were inscribed after a public appeal for people to request the inclusion of family or friends names who saw service. For personal reasons some people preferred not to be listed. Not all names are exclusive to the Hastings region either as residents could nominate relatives or friends from nearby , or in some cases, more distant locations.

In the year 2000 names of service personnel who enlisted in World War One, but whose names were not on the original memorial, were inscribed on plaques beside the main memorial. These names have not been included in this publication as their identity, in some cases, has been difficult to prove and some are believed to be variant names of names already on the main memorial. A list of these year 2000 names is included as an appendix to the main work.

Researchers seeking further information on any individual can use the information provided here to access service details at the Australian War Memorial or view full service dossiers at the National Archives of Australia.

Cover: The War Memorial on Town Green at Port Macquarie. It was originally erected at the intersection of Clarence and Horton Streets Port Macquarie but was removed to its present location in 1969 due to heavy traffic movements and the limited seating space available to accommodate the growing numbers of people who gathered on ceremonial occasions. The title of this publication is taken from the inscription on the globe atop the memorial

A note on sources

The following sources have been used to compile this publication:

- Australian War Memorial (website)
- National Archives of Australia (website)
- Mapping our ANZACS (website)
- Port Macquarie News
- Wauchope Gazette
- Macleay Argus
- Macleay Chronicle
- Macleay Valley Volunteers by Rod and Wendy Gow (2005)
- North Coast ANZACS Vols. 1 & 2 by Rod and Wendy Gow and Val Birch (2000)
- Port Macquarie News Index 1903 - 1920 (3 vols.) by Rod and Wendy Gow (2007)
- Commonwealth and New South Wales Electoral Rolls
- Ancestry.com (online database)
- Find My Past Australasia (online database)

Acknowledgements

This publication was made possible by the research efforts of Port Macquarie Hastings library staff members Sue O'Brien, Karen Rowan Hodges and Jeff Stonehouse. Some additional material has been made available by family members of those named on the memorial. The library also acknowledges the assistance of staff from the Port Macquarie Historical Museum in identifying some names.

Abbreviations Used



Died whilst on military service

DCM

Distinguished Conduct medal

DOW

Died of wounds

HMAT

His/Her Majesty's Australian Transport

Private

Private

KIA

Killed in action

MM

Military Medal

RTA

Returned to Australia

SS

Steam Ship

Introduction

On a wet Canberra morning, the 11th November 1993, the Prime Minister of Australia The Hon. P.J. Keating MP, delivered a eulogy at the funeral service of the Unknown Australian Soldier. In part he said:

"He may have been one of those who believed that the Great War would be an adventure too grand to miss. He may have felt that he would never live down the shame of not going. But the chances are he went for no other reason than that he believed it was his duty - the duty he owed his country and his King."

Prior to August 1914 no conflict or war had involved so many nations, involved so many men and women, cost so many lives or maimed so many bodies. What we now call World War One came to be known then as the Great War by the generations who suffered or died over more than four years of unprecedented horror from 1914 to 1918. Those who enlisted saw it as an adventure, as the Prime Minister said, or felt that they were defending the Empire against German led aggressors.

The Commonwealth of Australia had only been proclaimed some thirteen years earlier and many Australians still considered themselves British. A considerable number had in fact been born in Britain or were first generation. As Trooper Les Pountney of Port Macquarie wrote to his parents on the 1st May 1915 from Egypt:

"...one can't help but feel proud to be a Britisher, under the proud old Union jack"

This from someone born and raised in New South Wales. Les Pountney was badly wounded at the Dardanelles and died on 08 July 1915 aged 26.

Conflict was no longer limited to standing armies on set battlefields. The civilian population became caught up in the war, either through direct assault or through the heavy propaganda of the recruitment processes and conscription campaigns. The war that was to be over in three months was becoming bogged down in the mud of France and the toll of dead and wounded exhausted the ranks of the regular armies.

The numbers of early volunteers soon proved insufficient to replace the thinning ranks of the armies and so recruitment campaigns were stepped up. Propaganda became a powerful tool in recruitment and the pressure on men to enlist became more intense as the war dragged on. The new recruits came from all walks of life - lawyers, teachers, printers, clerks, railway men, farmers, labourers, students - even veterans of earlier

conflicts such as Arthur Douglas Woodlands of Wauchope who had previously served in the Boer war with the Royal Engineers. They were single or married, young or old, from the cities, towns and country areas all across Australia.

Women too became involved, usually in nursing capacities, like Jean Davidson of Port Macquarie who enlisted in the Australian Army Nursing Service and served in the Middle east from 1917 to 1919. Jean also had three brothers who enlisted. Her father Robert, a prominent Presbyterian minister in Port Macquarie and later State member for the electorate of Hastings-Macleay from 1901 to 1910, was one of the original organisers of the North Coasters recruitment march. He led off the march from Grafton and spoke at most of the stops on the way down the coast.

In February 1916 the North Coasters recruitment march entered the Hastings. It was one of a number of marches that originated in country areas and recruited men from towns and villages before terminating at a military barracks for official enlistment and training.



Arrival of the "North Coasters" in Port Macquarie 1916

Arriving at Cooperabung by car from Kempsey, the North Coasters received an enthusiastic welcome from the residents of Telegraph Point, Rollands Plains and The Hatch. Two welcome arches had been erected, one proclaiming "Welcome from the Railway". The Taree to Wauchope and Wauchope to Kempsey sections of the North Coast railway line were being constructed at this time and many of the workers enlisted locally. This explains why men from other districts have Telegraph Point as their place of enlistment with no other local connection.

Arriving the next afternoon in Port Macquarie the marchers proceeded to the Town Hall where they were addressed by the Mayor, Mr. D. Stewart and the local member Mr. H.D. Morton M.L.A.. Looking dusty and tired in their blue dungarees the men received a warm welcome from the townspeople.

After speeches the men marched off to the Agricultural Grounds where they were billeted for the night. Saturday evening was devoted to speeches and a musical programme and during the evening many appeals were made for local young men to come forward. Many of the North Coasters fastened on to the men watching and urged them to enlist. The pressure would have been enormous.



Watermelons at the Old Gaol grounds

On the Monday morning the North Coasters marched out from the Agricultural Grounds on their way to Wauchope where they camped at the recreational ground and enjoyed a swim in the river. As well as the usual speeches and entreaties to the local men to join-up an evening open air picture show screening was held featuring a film called "Heroes of the Dardanelles". After parading at 6:30 am on Tuesday and breakfasting at 8:00 am the North Coasters marched off towards Kew and ultimately Maitland camp. After that the reality of war would soon become evident.



North Coasters at Kew

While only a relatively small number of men enlisted during the recruitment marches many more enlisted at the outbreak of war and during the ensuing four years. The enlistment requirements in August 1914 were 18–35 years, height of 5ft 6in (167cm) and chest measurement of 34 in (86cm). In June 1915 the age range and minimum height requirements were changed to 18–45 years and 5ft 2in [157cm), with the minimum height being lowered again to 5ft (152cm) in April 1917.

Commonwealth of Australia.
STATE OF NEW SOUTH WALES.
DIVISION OF COWPER.
REFERENDUM, 1916.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that a Referendum will be taken under the provisions of the Military Service Referendum Act, 1916, on Saturday, the 28th day of October, 1916, on the following question, viz. : —

Are you in favour of the Government having, in this grave emergency, the same compulsory powers over citizens in regard to requiring their military service, for the term of this war, outside the Commonwealth, as it now has in regard to military service within the Commonwealth!

The Poll will open at eight o'clock in the morning, and will not close until all Electors present in the Polling Booth at eight o'clock in the evening, and desiring to vote, have voted.

The Polling Places appointed for this Division which are prescribed for the Sub-division of Port Macquarie are as follow :—

SUBDIVISION OF PORT MACQUARIE.
 Dick's Mount (Post Office), Fernbank Creek (Post Office, Blackman's Point), Port Macquarie (Court House), Rollands Plains (Public School), Smith's Creek (A. Rosenbaum's Residence), Telegraph Point (Public School), The Hatch (Public School).

NOTE.—A list of all the Polling Places appointed for the Division is advertised in the Kempsey "Argus" of the 13th instant. Dated at Grafton this ninth day of October, 1916.

THOMAS HERBERT WALL,
 Returning Officer
 For the Electoral Division of Cowper.

Port Macquarie News 14th Oct. 1916

During the first year of the war approximately 33 percent of all volunteers were rejected. However, with relaxation of physical standards of age and height, as well as dental and ophthalmic fitness, previously ineligible men were now eligible for enlistment.

The failure of the conscription referendums in 1916 and 1917 caused recruiting officers to be less cautious in applying the official standards. At the outbreak of war Aboriginal people were excluded from military service as all recruits had to of "substantially European origin". By 1917 these standards were altered to allow "half-castes" to enlist.

A number of local men enlisted early on in the war such as Francis Gannon who at one time drove the mail coach between Port Macquarie and Wauchope. Born in Bathurst, Gannon had only lived in Port Macquarie for a few years prior to the war and, being an excellent horseman, he joined the 7th Light Horse in December 1914. He served in the Dardanelles where he was critically wounded and died aboard a hospital ship. He was buried at sea in July 1915.

Donald Miller Dennis from Kempsey enlisted on the 11th August 1914 and embarked with the Naval and Military Expeditionary Force to German New Guinea. He was discharged on the 4th March 1915 and subsequently re-enlisted

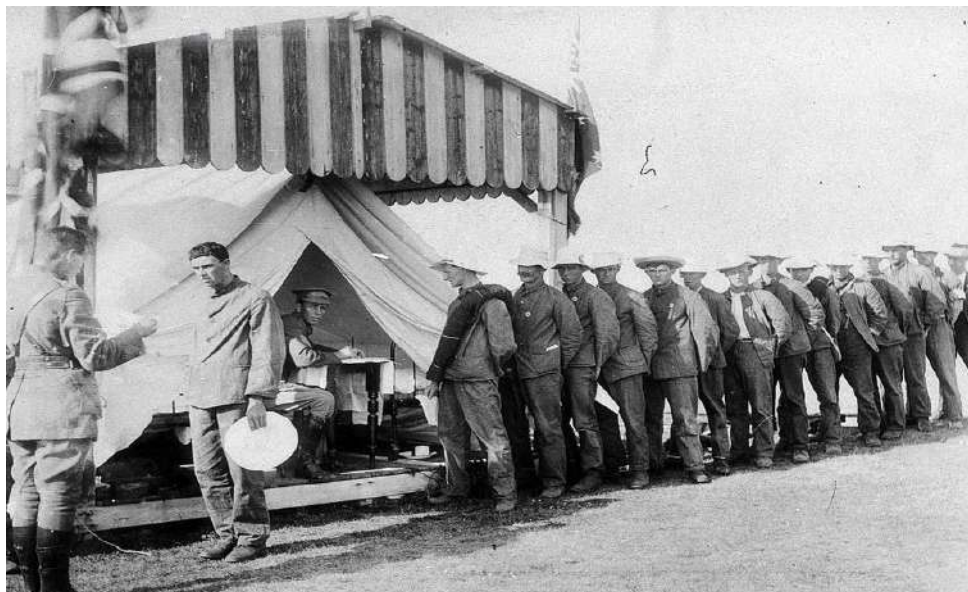
on the 18th March 1915 serving with the 7th Light Horse. He returned to Australia in November 1918.

Other men who enlisted never got to see active service. Private Firman Gale Judd, a nephew of Mr. A. Judd of Pappinbarra Creek, enlisted on the 11th March 1915. He died in the Liverpool Military Camp hospital of pneumonia on the 13th April, 1915. His body was brought to Wauchope by train and he was buried at Beechwood. He was aged 22.

Percival Ernest Lyon enlisted on the 3rd July 1916 into the 7th Light Horse but died on the 29th August 1916 of measles at the "Coast Hospital" Little Bay in Sydney aged 24.

Alberto Dias Mc Iver (Mc Ivor) enlisted on the 19th June 1917 aged 30. He was returning home by train on final leave before embarkation when he was taken seriously ill. Dr. Begg of Wauchope diagnosed the illness as meningitis. He died in Kempsey Hospital on 24th August 1917.

Another to die of meningitis before seeing overseas service was Reuben Redman. He enlisted on the 19th June 1915 but tragically died at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Sydney, while based at Liverpool Army Camp, on the 11th July 1915. He was buried in the Presbyterian Cemetery at Rookwood.



North Coasters being sworn in at Port Macquarie Showground January 1916

Reuben Redman's brother Donald was one of the few known local men who served in the Navy. Donald received his initial training at TS "Tingira" in Sydney before being posted to HMAS Sydney and was on board when the German High Seas Fleet surrendered in the North Sea. He was welcomed home at a Peace Celebration on 16th August, 1919.

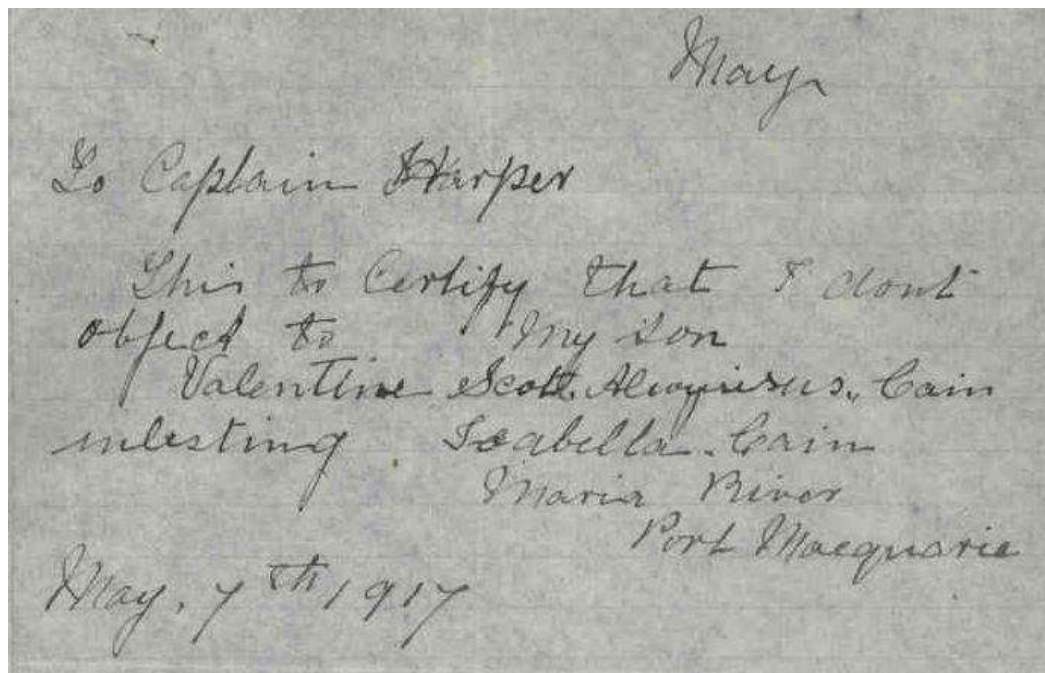
Other young men did not make it overseas for far better reasons. Clive Kingsford, a 20 year old Bank Clerk from Port Macquarie, enlisted on the 7th November 1918 but his troopship

was recalled mid Pacific Ocean as the Armistice had been signed. He disembarked around the 28th November 1918 and was officially discharged on the 12th December 1918.

A similar thing happened to Private Leslie Hastings Staples. Whether they were disappointed or not we do not know. However, it is likely their families were not disappointed that the troopships were turned back to home.

With the minimum enlistment age being eighteen, there were numerous instances of underage boys trying to enlist. Some were discovered immediately and sent home, while others managed to escape detection and went off to serve at the front. Underage boys could enlist if permission was granted in writing by one of their parents.

This was the case for Valentine Aloysius Scott Cain of Maria River. Originally enlisting under the assumed name of James Morgan, Cain was rejected as being under age but was allowed to re-enlist under his proper name with parental permission. Having an older brother in the services was often an encouragement for younger brothers to try to join. The pressure to allow underage boys to join would have been an incredibly emotional burden for a parent. In Cain's case his mother gave permission.



The image shows a handwritten letter on aged paper. At the top right, the word 'Mayer' is written in cursive. The main body of the letter is addressed to 'To Captain Harper' and reads: 'This to Certify that I don't object to my son Valentine Scott Aloysius Cain enlisting. Seabella Cain Maria River Port Macquarie'. The date 'May, 7th, 1917' is written at the bottom left.

National Archives of Australia Service Dossier

One can only imagine the pain and grief of a loving mother who gave this permission only to receive word that your son was killed less than twelve months later.

The great majority of the men that went to France and the Middle East had never travelled overseas before. Many would never have even travelled far from their places of birth. The excitement of seeing England and Europe for the first time would have been an added incentive to enlist. Most would have had no other opportunity in their lifetimes to travel

that far. Some of the letters sent home read like travelogues. Les Pountney described a three day trip down the Nile River as "a very nice holiday". He gave his parents a detailed view of the agriculture and irrigation systems in use in Egypt.

Private W. Fage, writing to his brother at Telegraph Point in May 1918, describes his eight days leave in Paris as anyone else would describe a holiday event:

"..I saw some of the principal sights of the city. The trip only cost me 600 francs, about £20 in our money, but I didn't mind how much it cost me, for it is heaven - on earth to get away from this for a while, and be free to go and come, as you please .I would like you to see the city and some of the country in summer time, as part of it is very pretty.."

Private Robert Colin Graham, son of Mr. Duncan Graham, of Koree Island, Beechwood wrote a detailed letter to his father on July 17th 1916 to relate his Paris experiences:

'Since last writing, some things have happened unexpectedly. I have had a visit to Paris, and was very lucky indeed. Five out of each battalion were chosen to represent the Australians at a review in Paris. The 5th Division— that is our division— is supposed to be the best behaved and trained that has yet arrived in France, so five out of each of our battalions were chosen to go on this tour. Well, I was one of the lucky ones, and consider it an honour to be one of the chosen ones out of about 20,000 men. On our arrival in Paris we were accorded a grand welcome. The streets were lined with crowds of people from the time we left the station till we reached the Pepiniere Barracks. Every nation fighting in France was represented — British, Canadians, Anzacs, Indians, Belgians, French, Russians, New Foundlanders, and South Africans. I think the Anzacs and Canadians were more cheered and got the best reception of any. On the Friday we were marched from the barracks to Napoleon's Square, where all the troops were formed up, and medals were handed out by the President to the widows whose husbands had fallen in the present war. After this a procession was held through all the main streets of Paris, and it ended up by us all being taken back to the barracks again in motor cars. The procession proved a great success, and the French were very pleased indeed with their Allied soldiers. Probably Paris had never seen such a day as this before, being represented by all the Allied nations on her great day of July 14th— the day France was declared a republic. On Saturday we were granted general leave, and were taken about to many of Paris' beauty spots by kind friends. It is indeed a very pretty place, and one could spend a nice little holiday there. We visited the Eiffel Tower, which is now used as a big wireless station. Messages can be sent to all parts of the world from here. Also saw Joan d'Arc's statue, Napoleon's tomb, and a great number of other important places; but, really, we couldn't have the whole history explained to us, as our time was so limited. We were treated exceptionally well in the French barracks, and didn't like having to leave again. We gave our Allied friends three hearty cheers, to which they as heartily responded. We were cheered from the time we left the barracks until we reached the station, and could scarcely march along for the crowds who wanted to kiss us and shake hands as a token of their esteem.' . . .

Writing to his Aunt Bess on July 22nd, he says:

'Last letter I gave an account of my Paris trip, but in this one there is very little to tell. We have been in action now for a while, and have had a pretty rough time, but we have given our friends the Germans a much rougher one. We were up against some of the enemy's best soldiers — the Prussian Guards, but they seemed very pleased when they were taken prisoners by our men. Some of the German machine gunners were tied to their guns, and could not get away from us. I saw a few chaps I knew wounded on the field. One was Colin Bain, and the other Gus Lawrence, from Port Macquarie. Lawrence was wounded rather badly. I myself never even got a scratch. You could scarcely believe a chap could come out so lucky. Once I got hit with a great big lump of mud in the neck, which resulted from a shell which landed a few yards away.'

Private Graham was killed in action 16 days later, on the 7th August 1916, and was buried at Croix-du-bac British Cemetery, Steenwerck, France.



CROIX-DU-BAC BRITISH CEMETERY, STEENWERCK, FRANCE

Robert Graham's brother William was also killed in action on the 4th August, 1916 at the Battle of Romani, Suez, Egypt. He was buried at Kantara War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt.

Repatriation of bodies to Australia was impossible. So, Duncan Graham, a dairyman and father of Robert Colin Graham, aged 21, and William James Graham, aged 24, would probably have never seen his sons' graves. This was the same for most parents and relatives of men killed overseas.

Often grieving parents requested the Army to send them a photograph of their son's grave. These makeshift graves, with their simple wooden crosses, were later to be replaced by the haunting military cemeteries we now see dotted across the countryside of France and Belgium with their rows and rows of stark white headstones.

In far too many instances however, there was no body found to bury. The clawing mud and the torrents of high explosive shells that rained down upon both sides in this conflict resulted in men literally disappearing. Their names would be later inscribed on one of the various memorials to the fallen but parents and relatives would have no grave to mourn over.

This was the case after the Battle of Fromelles on the night of July 19, 1916 where Australia suffered 5,533 casualties in just 24 hours; among them brothers Eric Robert Wilson and Samuel Charles Wilson of Hibbard, Port Macquarie. A third brother James was wounded and returned home. There were so many casualties on both sides that the German soldiers interred the bodies in mass graves. Ashley Elkins of the Australian War Memorial continues the story of Fromelles and the later discovery of the "missing Diggers":

Over two years after the battle, on the day of the Armistice of 11 November 1918 when the guns of the Western Front finally ceased firing, Australian official war correspondent, Charles Bean, wandered over the battlefield of Fromelles and observed the grisly aftermath of the battle: "We found the old No-Man's-Land simply full of our dead", he recorded, "the skulls and bones and torn uniforms were lying about everywhere". Soon after the war these remains were gathered to construct VC Corner Cemetery, the only solely Australian war cemetery in France. It is also the only cemetery without headstones. There are no epitaphs to individual soldiers, simply a stone wall inscribed with the names of 1,299 Australians who died in battle nearby and who have no known graves. The unidentified remains of 410 are buried in mass graves under two grass plots in the cemetery.

For nearly 80 years this sombre monument remained the only conspicuous reminder of the tragic events of Fromelles until, in July 1998, a new Australian Memorial Park was dedicated there. Situated close to VC Corner Cemetery on a part of the old German front line which was briefly captured and held overnight by the 14th Australian Brigade on 19/20 July, the park includes the stark remains of four German block-houses. A bronze statue, titled 'Cobbers', by Australian sculptor Peter Corlett, depicts Sergeant Simon Fraser of the 57th Battalion in an enduring image of the aftermath of the battle, the rescue of the wounded.

Until recent years, 1,335 Australian soldiers remained 'missing' from the Fromelles battle, having no known grave. Then in 2007, following persistent research by retired Melbourne teacher, Lambis Englezos, archaeological investigations began to uncover the remains of some 200 Australian and 50 British soldiers who were buried in a mass grave at Pheasant Wood by German troops in 1916. Between 30 January and 19 February 2010, the remains of 249 soldiers were reinterred with full military honours in Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery, newly constructed by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Over 90 Australian soldiers were identified by name and more may still be identified.

On 19 July 2010, the 94th Anniversary of the Battle of Fromelles, the last of 203 Australian soldiers recovered from the excavation were buried in a solemn ceremony

with full military honours. Later that day, a private ceremony was held for families of identified soldiers to dedicate the named headstones within the cemetery.

Ashley Elkins, Head, Military History Section, Australian War Memorial
<https://www.awm.gov.au/encyclopedia/fromelles/?query=fromelles>

The Wilson brothers were to be amongst those men whose remains were identified in 2010 using DNA techniques. Their remains lay in an unknown mass grave pit for over ninety years with almost 250 other Australian and British soldiers who died at the Battle of Fromelles.



Samuel Wilson



Eric Wilson

While many of the young men that went away to war did not return, the majority did return but with broken bodies or shattered minds to forever remind them of their inhuman experiences. But for some, like 22 year old Private Stanley Latham of Port Macquarie, the war brought joy as well as suffering.

Stanley left Port Macquarie in 1916 as a 22 year old blacksmith, working in the Bellinger Valley, and returned in December 1919 a battle weary but married young man. Stanley met Doris Bottomley in England and married four months prior to returning to Australia.

Private Oswald Dykes, a horse trainer from the Macleay Valley, whose father lived at Rollands Plains, embarked for Europe in May 1916. He was invalided to England in 1918 and also received the Military medal. The details of his meeting with Alma Aldhons, aged 26 of Swaffam Prior, Cambridgeshire are not known, but her father was a veterinary surgeon and

Swaffam Prior is close to the horse breeding centre of Newmarket. An active imagination can see Oswald, with his interest in horses, visiting the area and meeting Frederick Aldhons, Alma's father, and through him, Alma. They married on the 9th April, 1919.

Twenty-two year old policeman Edgar Miller Dennis embarked in March 1916 for the front. His two younger brothers embarked either side of him in February and April 1916. In August 1919 he married 23 year old Daisy Stephens of Newbury, Berkshire. Edgar and Daisy, together with their son, sailed for Australia in 1920 after having to wait for a family ship. Others too married overseas and returned to their families in Australia with new brides.

CERTIFIED EXTRACT OF A MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE RELATING TO:-			
6651	Dvr.	DENNIS	14th POB. A.I.F.
BRIDEGROOM		BRIDE	
Surname	DENNIS	Maiden Surname	STEPHENS
Christian Names	Edgar Miller	Christian Names	Daisy
Address (at time of Marriage)		Address (at time of Marriage)	
North Villa, King's Road, Newbury		Same	
Occupation	Civil Servant and Soldier in A.I.F.	Occupation	Nil
Age	26	Age	23
Condition	Bachelor	Condition	Spinster
Name, Address and Occupation of Father		Name, Address and Occupation of Mother	
Josephine Dennis (Dec) Store-keeper		Joseph William James Stephens Oil Merchant	

Marriage Certificate of Edgar Miller Dennis and Daisy Stephens

The experiences of the local men and boys who enlisted and served in Europe or the Middle East, and the impact of their absence and, tragically in some cases, their non-return to Australia, was mirrored in many hundreds of towns and villages across the country. Indeed across large parts of the European Empires. Life in 1914 in the Hastings Valley and surrounding districts was quiet and relatively isolated with major population centres being accessible only by a long road trip or, usually, by sea. The railway was coming but was not yet a mass transport option.

The issues and concerns for most people were similar to today: the fortunes and fluctuations of the agricultural cycles, finding a job, somewhere to live and establishing a family. But the Hastings in 1914 was a world without radio, television, the Internet and

instant news from around the world. News travelled slowly and it was only the imagination that translated cabled reports of European tensions into some sense of reality.

For many young men the pay offered by the Army was more than they were earning as labourers or farm workers. The chance to travel to Europe, the Middle East or "the old country" was alluring as most would never be able to go otherwise. So many of these young men had never experienced life away from home, or much of life itself for that matter, and to be thrust into exotic Middle-Eastern towns or European cities that were so culturally different to Beechwood, Wauchope, Rollands Plains, Laurieton, Kendall or Port Macquarie was "the experience of a lifetime". After all, the war was expected to be over in a few months and they could return home as heroes.

The Great War was a major turning point in world history. It involved more nations, in a vaster and more deadly conflict, than the world had ever seen before. The map of Europe was radically changed, monarchies tumbled, and social barriers and class systems were challenged. The war also ushered in significant social changes that may have taken many more decades to achieve.

Australia as a nation had never experienced armed warfare on such a scale before. Contingents from the colonial states had been previously despatched to the Maori Wars, the Boer war and the Boxer Rebellion. And, of course, there were the armed clashes between the traditional owners of the land and the European settlers. Never before, however, had the European population of Australia been subjected to such widespread and personal losses as families experienced due to the Great War.

The scars of war, and the loss of a significant number of men of that generation, would profoundly impact upon the national psyche. It's impacts would similarly affect the people of the Hastings Valley.

ANDERSON, Thomas Leslie

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 1993

Rank: Private.

Age at Embarkation: 31

Occupation: Compositor

Next of Kin: Mrs Elizabeth Anderson (mother), 309 Glenmore Road, Paddington, N.S.W.

Roll title: 1 Pioneer Battalion - 2 to 5 Reinforcements (April-August 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 14 April 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ceramic

Status: RTA 12 Nov 1916

ARNESON, Richard Martin

Place of Birth: Ballina N.S.W. Born 15th January, 1900

Service number: DEPOT N94365

Rank: Private.

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Plumber

Next of Kin: Anthon Edward Arneson (father), Duntroon, via Queanbeyan.

Father born Norway. Mother Kathleen McBean, born England.

Roll title:

Date of Embarkation: N/A

Place of embarkation: N/A

Ship embarked on: N/A

Status: Enlisted 27th August, 1918. Discharged March 1919 at termination of period of enlistment.

Notes: Family resident in Port Macquarie prior to outbreak of war. Father was a tinsmith, plumber and gas-fitter.

ATKINS, Arthur John

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie. Born 26th August, 1899

Service number: DEPOT N91365

Rank: Private.

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Fisherman

Next of Kin: Arthur John Atkins (Father), Port Macquarie. Mother Mary Ann Atkins

Roll title:

Date of Embarkation: N/A

Place of embarkation: N/A

Ship embarked on: N/A

Status: Enlisted 19th June 1918 at Kempsey, demobilised 19th Nov 1918 at termination of period of enlistment.

ATKINS, Charles Edward

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 2115

Rank: Private.

Age at Embarkation: 28

Occupation: Fisherman

Next of Kin: Edward Atkins (father), Taree N.S.W.

Roll title: 31 Infantry Battalion - 2 to 12 Reinforcements (January-December 1916)

Date of embarkation: 18 February 1916

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ballarat

Status: RTA 8th April 1919

BAIRD, David Murray.

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie
Service number: 527
Rank: Private
Age at Embarkation: 21
Occupation: Clerk
Next of Kin: John Baird of Port Macquarie
Roll title: 6 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] (December 1914)
Date of Embarkation: 21st December, 1914
Place of embarkation: Sydney
Ship embarked on: HMAT Suevic
Status: RTA 15th February 1918 (Sgt.)
Notes: Awarded Military Medal

BAIRD, John Robert

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie
Service number: 6229
Rank: Acting Corporal
Age at Embarkation: 23
Occupation: Telegraphist
Next of Kin: Elsa Helen Baird (wife) of Suva Fiji
Roll title: 3rd Battalion
Date of Embarkation: 9th September, 1916
Place of embarkation: Sydney
Ship embarked on: Euripides
Status: Went to live in Canada.
Notes: Received the Military Cross 3rd June, 1919. Demobilized from the A.I.F. (Lieut.) in London 6th July 1919. Relocated to British Columbia, Canada. See War Service record at National Archives of Australia.

BALDWIN, Charles

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie
Service number: 317
Rank: Private
Age at Embarkation: 20 Infantry Battalion (June 1915)
Occupation: Labourer
Next of Kin: James Baldwin (father) of Port Macquarie
Roll title: 20 Infantry Battalion (June 1915)
Date of Embarkation: 25 June 1915
Place of embarkation: Sydney
Ship embarked on: HMAT Berrima
Status: RTA 16th March 1918

BALE, William Henry

Place of Birth: Grafton

Service number: 9878

Rank: Gunner

Age at Embarkation: 20

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: William David Bale (father) of Ballengarra, Wilson River

Roll title: 1 FAB [Field Artillery Brigade] - 12 to 16 Reinforcements (November 1915 - April 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 17th December, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Berrima

Status: RTA 27th June, 1917

*BALSDON, James



Place of Birth: Blyth, England

Service number: 2274

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 26

Occupation: Miner

Next of Kin: Mrs Margaret Balsdon (mother) Weston (Hunter Valley) N.S.W.

Roll title: 30 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (November 1915 - April 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 11 March 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Orsova A67

Status: K.I.A. 19th/20th July, 1916 at battle of Fromelles. Buried in a mass grave. Commemorated Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France

Notes: Name identified by Port Macquarie Historical Museum staff. Private Balsdon's death reported in Cessnock newspaper 17 Nov 1916 regarding a service. Margaret Balsdon died around this time and place after losing two sons. *Ancestry.com* lists a Joseph Balsdon and Mrs M. Balsdon arriving on the Orama 2 Jul 1914. James, Joseph, George and a sister [Mrs B M Yeoman of Mayfield] lived in Newcastle area. Four sons joined up [one in England] 2 killed, 1 invalided. Joe and James Balsdon enlisted at West Maitland 15 & 27 Sept 1915. Both brothers embarked on HMAT Orsova A67 Sydney 11 March 1916, Joseph Wootton Balsdon 5330 on same ship.

*BANKIER, Samuel



Place of Birth: Kilsyth, near Glasgow, Scotland

Service number: 260

Rank: Private (later promoted to Lieut.)

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Dentist

Next of Kin: Mrs Margaret Bankier (mother) Kilsyth, near Glasgow, Scotland

Roll title: 4 Field Ambulance - 1 to 16 Reinforcements (December 1914 - March 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 22 December 1914

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAT Berrima

Status: K.I.A. 16th April 1918. Buried near Nord Helf Wood, Strazeele. Listed on Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France

Note: Roll of Honour circular states that Port Macquarie was the town or place he was most associated with. Worked with Mr. G. C. Orr in Port Macquarie prior to the war. See PM News

BARTHOLOMEW, William Harry

Place of Birth: London, England

Service number: 28946

Rank: Gunner

Age at Embarkation: 32

Occupation: Cook

Next of Kin: Delta Gladys Bartholomew (wife) of Telegraph Point

Roll title: Medium Trench Mortar Batteries - 1 to 7 Reinforcements (September 1916 - May 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 17th October, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda

Status: RTA 16th June 1919

Note: At time of enlistment wife resident at Telegraph Point.

BARTRIM, Harry Lisle.

Place of Birth: Beechwood

Service number: 2458

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Blacksmith

Next of Kin: Mrs Nancy Bartrim (mother) of Beechwood

Roll title: 1 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 15 to 20 Reinforcements (March-July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 26th April, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Port Macquarie

Status: RTA 13th March, 1919

BEATON, Angus Hamilton

Place of Birth: Barrington, N.S.W.

Service number: 4238

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation:

Occupation: Dairyman

Next of Kin: Angus Beaton (father), Palmers Island, Clarence River. Requested change of NOK to Marion Beaton (wife) of War Chest Hostel, Victoria Street, Darlinghurst N.S.W. 5th January 1920

Roll title: 26 Infantry Battalion - 9 to 12 Reinforcements (January-April 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 28th March, 1916

Place of embarkation: Brisbane. Enlisted at Lismore.

Ship embarked on: HMAT Commonwealth A73

Status: RTA 8th November, 1919

Notes: Name identified by Port Macquarie Historical Museum staff

BENNETT, Henry Evans (alias *Harry Evans*)

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 2769

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 28

Occupation: Blacksmith

Next of Kin: Mrs Marjorie Bennett (wife) "Urunga" Bellinger River. Son of Cr. & Mrs. G.E. Bennett , Port Macquarie.

Roll title: Camel Corps, May 1916 to August 1917 - Reinforcements (May 1916 - November 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 9 May 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Port Sydney

Status: RTA 29th April, 1919

Notes: Enlisted in the Light Horse while working at Tamworth. Later transferred to the camel corps achieving rank of Farrier-Sergeant. Prior to enlisting he was engaged in the blacksmithing trade and served his time with Mr. O.C. Ochs at Port Macquarie.

BERRIMAN, James

Place of Birth: Wangaratta, Vic.

Service number: 46

Rank: Sapper

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs Annie Berriman (mother), Great Northern, Rutherglen, Vic.

Roll title: No 1 Mining Corps [Nos 1-1291] (February 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 20th February 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ulysses A38

Status: RTA 1st April, 1919

Notes: Name identified by Port Macquarie Historical Museum staff. Mentioned in Port Macquarie News 8th January, 1916 as being on final furlough at Telegraph Point. Listed on 1916 electoral roll for Port Macquarie as a labourer of Telegraph Point.

BIGNELL, Cecil Cyrus Allan

Place of Birth: Cundletown

Service number: 4148

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Robert Bignell (father) Lower Lansdowne, Manning River

Roll title: 4 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 20th December, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Aeneas

Status: RTA 10th June, 1919

Notes: Married in England 26th August, 1918 to Kathleen Templeman.

BLAIR, Alan Austin

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 2539

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Motor driver

Next of Kin: James Blair (father) of Port Macquarie

Roll title: 35 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements
(May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 25th October, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAAT "Ascanius"

Status: RTA 2nd June, 1919

BRANDSON, Frederick McGregor

Place of Birth: Rollands Plains

Service number: 3492

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: William Brandson (father) of Port Macquarie

Roll title: 3 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 12 Reinforcements
(December 1914 - December 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd November, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAAT Euripides

Status: RTA 8th March, 1919



Private FREDERICK MCGREGOR BRANDSON.

Private Frederick McGregor Brandson (3492), son of Agnes and William Brandson, of Lord-street, Port Macquarie, was born at Rollands Plains, and educated at Maitland. He is 24 years of age, and enlisted in August, 1915, and sailed from Sydney on 15th October, 1915. After six months' training in Egypt he sailed for France, and was wounded and taken prisoner of war in the battle of the Somme. He is now at Senne Lager, Germany.

*BRANDSON, John Rolland



Place of Birth: Rollands Plains

Service number: 7449

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation:

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: W.H. Brandson (father) of Rollands Plains

Roll title: 2 Infantry Battalion - 24 to 26 Reinforcements (February-December 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 14th June 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Hororata

Status: K.I.A. 23rd August 1918. Buried Heath Cemetery, Harbonnieres, France

BRIEN, Alfred John

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 65712

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Fisherman

Next of Kin: John A. Brien (father) Redfern N.S.W.

Roll title: 16 to 27 (NSW) Reinforcements (September-November 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 4th September, 1918

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Bakara

Status: RTA 23rd July, 1919 per transport "Suevic"

BROWN, J. *[No further information known]*

Place of Birth: Taree? J Brown military call up Dept of Defence Taree 21 Oct 1916.

***BROWN, George Joseph**



Place of Birth: Rollands Plains

Service number: 3072

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Teamster

Next of Kin: George Brown (father) Rollands Plains

Roll title: 1 Pnr Bn [Pioneer Battalion] - 6 to 10 Reinforcements (October 1916 - January 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 17th October, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda

Status: K.I.A. 19th October, 1917. Buried Potijze Chateau Grounds Cemetery, Belgium

BUDGE, James George

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 2576

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 24

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Jane Budge (mother) 29 Rofe Street Leichhardt

Roll title: 19 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (May 1915 - July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd November, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAAT Euripides

Status: RTA 20th April, 1919

Notes: Awarded Distinguished Conduct Medal 1919

***CAIN, Aloysius Scott Valentine**



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 7459

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs Isabella Cain (mother) Maria River, Port Macquarie

Roll title: 4 Infantry Battalion - 24 to 26 Reinforcements (April 1917 - February 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 31st October, 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Euripides

Status: K.I.A. 4th October, 1918. Buried St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, France.

Notes: Originally enlisted under the name **James Morgan**.



CAIN, Donald

Place of Birth: Newtown N.S.W.

Service number: 2319

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 26

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs Isabella Cain (mother), Dicks Mount, Port Macquarie N.S.W.

Roll title: 7 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 14 to 20 Reinforcements (March-July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 18th April, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Palermo A56

Status: RTA 29th September, 1919

CAIN, T.D.M. *see* CAIN, Donald

***CAMPBELL, Bruce Wilkins**



Place of Birth: Rollands Plains, N.S.W.

Service number: 4747

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Mrs Rebecca Campbell (mother), Rocklands, Tweed Heads N.S.W.

Roll title: 9 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (January-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 28th March, 1916

Place of embarkation: Brisbane

Ship embarked on: HMAT Commonwealth A73

Status: D.O.W. 18th June, 1917. Buried Brookwood Military Cemetery, United Kingdom.

Notes: Cousin Lieut. R. A. Campbell (D.C.M.)

Bruce Wilkins Campbell



Bruce was the 13th and youngest child of William Campbell (1848-1930), born in his second marriage, to Rebecca Mary Wilkins (1850-1939). Bruce was Rebecca's seventh son. He moved to Tweed Heads with the family circa 1903, and attended Tweed Heads Public School.

Private Bruce Wilkins Campbell #4747 enlisted in Brisbane on 3 November 1915. he was joined by two of his brothers - Henry John Campbell #4748 on 21st October 1915 and Sidney Frederick Campbell #4749 on 3 November. He proceeded to France on 19 November 1916 and was taken on strength of 9th Battalion on 17 January 1917. He was wounded in action during the second battle at Bullecourt on 6 May 1917. Bruce was admitted to the 6th Field Ambulance, and was transferred to England per the hospital ship "St Andrew".

He was admitted to the National Hospital, Queens Square, London on 18 Mat 1917 and died there a month later. He is buried in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Brookwood (near London), Plot 11, Row C, grave 16. A lectern in his honour was presented to the Church of England in Tweed Heads, which was located next to the home he left at 115 Wharf Street.

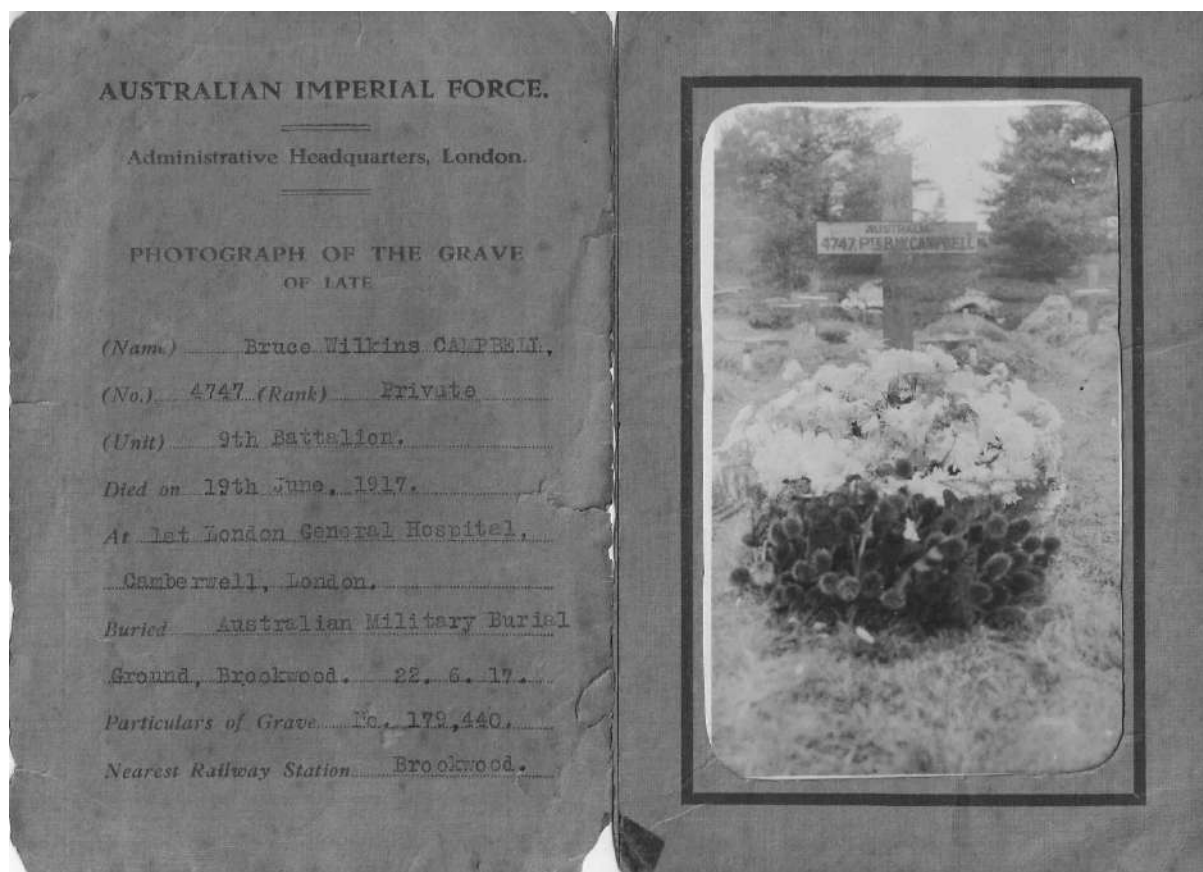
Source: Debbie Campbell, great-niece of Bruce Wilkins Campbell



Bruce and his younger brother Sidney 1916



Bruce Wilkins Campbell 1916



AIF Commemorative Booklet for Bruce Wilkins Campbell

CAMPBELL, Henry John.

Place of Birth: 'Rocklands', Tweed Heads

Service number: 4748

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 29

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Mrs Rebecca Campbell (mother) 'Rocklands' Tweed Heads N.S.W.

Roll title: 9 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (January-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 28th March, 1916

Place of embarkation: Brisbane

Ship embarked on: HMAT Commonwealth

Status: RTA 13th April, 1919

CAMPBELL, Joseph Edward

Place of Birth: Rollands Plains

Service number: 58774

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 43

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Mrs Selma T. Campbell (wife) Port Macquarie N.S.W.

Roll title: 1 to 15 (NSW) Reinforcements (May-July 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 17th July, 1918

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda

Status: RTA 23rd July, 1919

Notes: Passed away 20th September, 1959 at his home in Gordon Street Port Macquarie.

*CAMPBELL, Robert Hector [MM]



Place of Birth: Green Creek, N.S.W.

Service number: 3038

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 35

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mr H. Campbell (father) "Washpool", Stroud Road N.S.W.

Roll title: 18 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (May 1915 - June 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 20th December, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Suevic A29

Status: D.O.W. 4th October, 1917. Buried Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery Belgium. At time of enlistment he was employed by the Lockton family of Blackmans Point. See obituary in Port Macquarie News 3rd November, 1917 p.4

CAMPBELL, Sidney Frederick

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 4749

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 23

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Mrs Rebecca M. Campbell (mother) 'Rocklands' Tweed Heads N.S.W.

Roll title: 9 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (January-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 28th March, 1916

Place of embarkation: Brisbane

Ship embarked on: HMAT Commonwealth

Status: RTA 19th October, 1917

Notes: Returned to Australia per 'Port Lyttleton' suffering from trench foot.

CARNEY, Innis Gordon Victor

Place of Birth: Wauchope

Service number: 7567

Rank: Gunner

Age at Embarkation: 23

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: James Athol Patrick Carney (brother) "Kindee", Hastings River, N.S.W.

Roll title: 5 FAB [Field Artillery Brigade] (November 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 18th November, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Persic

Status: RTA per "Demosthenes" 5th March, 1920 with wife and child

Notes: Married Ethel Margaret Oddie at Croyden London on 23rd August, 1919. Died Sydney 1956

CARNEY, Walter Newton

Place of Birth: Wauchope

Service number: 4383

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Selector

Next of Kin: Herbert John Carney (brother) via Wauchope

Roll title: 18 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (May 1915 - June 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 9th April, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Nestor

Status: RTA 25th January, 1919

CARROLL, Leslie Patrick

Place of Birth: Goulburn N.S.W.

Service number: 401(Discharged 17.09.15) Re-enlisted 3rd May 1916 SN. 2390

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Stockman/Labourer

Next of Kin: Peter Carroll, P.O. West Maitland, N.S.W.

Roll title: 7 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] (December 1914)/ (54th Battalion, 14th Brigade, 5th Division)

Date of Embarkation: 20th December, 1914 (30th Sept. 1916)

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ayrshire (Aeneas 1916)

Status: RTA "Indarra" 24.04.1920. Discharged 22.08.1920

Notes: Enlisted twice. Original Service No. 401 - discharged 17.09.1915. Re-enlisted Service No.2390. Entered the Navy as Officers Steward 3rd Class HMAS Centaur 06.10.20. Employed at Hamilton sawmills.

CHAPMAN, John James [MM]

Place of Birth: Kendall

Service number: 4751

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Dairyman

Next of Kin: James Singer Chapman (father) Kendall

Roll title: 2 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 8th, March 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Star of England

Status: RTA 20th July, 1919

Notes: Awarded Military Medal 16th October, 1918

*COLWELL, James (*Jim*)



[Served as DICKSON, Herbert]

Place of Birth: Torrens Creek, Wilson River

Service number: 2362

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Butcher

Next of Kin: John Colwell (father), Beechwood. Sister Mrs Jesse (Anna) Hack, Telegraph Point

Roll title: 25 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 8 Reinforcements (June 1915 - January 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 5th October, 1915

Place of embarkation: Brisbane

Ship embarked on: HMAT Warilda

Status: K.I.A. 23rd July, 1916 Pozieres. While serving in B Coy 7th Platoon he was attempting to bomb a German stronghold when he and another soldier were killed instantly by a shell and later buried at the trench. Remembered on Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France.

*COLWELL, Oliver John



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 2865

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Butcher

Next of Kin: John Colwell (father), Beechwood

Roll title: 20 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (June 1915 - July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd November 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Euripides

Status: K.I.A. 18th July, 1918 France. Adelaide Cemetery, Villers-Bretonneux, France

***COOMBES, Alfred**



Place of Birth: Forbes River

Service number: 41

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 28

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: John Coombes (father), Forbes River, Yarras P.O., via Wauchope

Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Hororata

Status: K.I.A. Messines 7th June, 1917. Remembered on Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

COOMBES, Arthur

Place of Birth: Wauchope, Hastings River

Service number: 4565

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 32

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs. D.M. Coombes (mother), Yarras P.O., Hastings River via Wauchope

Roll title: 1 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 15th January, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: RMS Osterley

Status: RTA 13th February, 1917

***COOMBES, Arthur James**



Place of Birth: Mt Seaview, Upper Hastings River

Service number: 5060

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 35

Occupation: Farmer & grazier

Next of Kin: Mrs. M Coombes (mother) "Bonny Doon" Rollands Plains, N.S.W.

Roll title: 1 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 1st April, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: SS Makarini

Status: K.I.A Pozieres, 22-25 July, 1916. Remembered on Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France

Notes: Cousin to Stanley Coombes (dec.) and Alfred Coombes (dec.)

***COOMBES, Stanley**



Place of Birth: Forbes River, near Wauchope N.S.W.

Service number: 4564

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Clerk, Works Dept.

Next of Kin: Mrs. D.M. Coombes (mother), Yarras P.O., Hastings River via Wauchope

Roll title: 1 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 15th January, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: RMS Osterley

Status: K.I.A. 12th October, 1917 Broodseinde Ridge, France. Died of wounds 17th Casualty Clearing Station, Belgium. Buried Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium.

CRAIG, Alexander [MM]

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 11939

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Coach builder

Next of Kin: Thomas Craig (father) Bellingen

Roll title: 9th Field Ambulance (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 11th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Argyllshire

Status: RTA 5th July, 1919

Notes: Awarded Military Medal on 4th November, 1918

CUMMING(S), Douglas George

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 1084

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 29

Occupation: Baker

Next of Kin: Alfred Cumming (father), Port Macquarie

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 13th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: RTA 11th May, 1919

CUTLER, Charles Cooke

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 13962 11th Depot Battalion

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 24

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Mrs Alice Cutler (mother), Fairy Hill, via Casino N.S.W.

Roll title: 9th Reinforcements, 49th Battalion

Date of Embarkation: Did not embark

Place of embarkation: Did not embark

Ship embarked on: Did not embark

Status: Joined 30th October, 1916. Discharged medically unfit 16th January, 1917

Notes: Enlisted in Queensland



CUTLER, Richard Hamilton

Place of Birth: Rollands Plains N.S.W.

Service number: 6803

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Richard Cook Cutler (father) Fairy Hill via Casino

Roll title: B Coy. Newcastle Depot Battalion

Date of Embarkation: N/A

Place of embarkation: N/A

Ship embarked on: N/A

Status: Enlisted 26th October, 1916 at Wauchope. Discharged medically unfit 2nd December, 1916.

Notes: Directed that 3 shillings per day be directed to Mrs Isabel A Hill, Arncliffe, Port Macquarie N.S.W. on or after his embarkation. Previous private address given as C/o J.H.Hill, Arncliffe, Port Macquarie N.S.W.

*CUTTRISS, Frederick William



Place of Birth: Mittagong

Service number: 1143

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 24

Occupation: Draper

Next of Kin: Johanna Cuttriss *nee Heinecke* (mother), Horton Street, Port Macquarie. Father William. Married 1889 Albury

Roll title: 18 Infantry Battalion (June 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 25th June, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ceramic

Status: K.I.A. Hill 60 Gallipoli 22nd August, 1915. Commemorated Lone Pine Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

DAVIDSON, Douglas Neil

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 938

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Station hand

Next of Kin: Robert Davidson (father) Gilmore Hill, Port Macquarie

Roll title: 6 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 1 to 10 Reinforcements (December 1914 - October 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 22nd May 1915

Place of embarkation: Newcastle

Ship embarked on: HMAT Forty-One

Status: RTA 20th November, 1916. Discharged as medically unfit 30th January, 1917.

DAVIDSON, Jean Logan Muir

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: Staff Nurse

Rank: Staff Nurse. Aust. Army Nursing Service

Age at Embarkation: 30

Occupation: Nurse

Next of Kin: Robert Davidson (father) Gilmore Hill Port Macquarie

Roll title: Nurses (July 1915 - November 1918)

Date of Embarkation: September 1917

Place of embarkation: 13th September 1917

Ship embarked on: H.T.'Runic' to Durban (Sth. Africa) then H.T. 'Caronia' for Egypt via Bombay

Status: RTA Disembarked 10th August, 1919

Notes: Joined up 5th July, 1917. Port Macquarie News, September 8th 1917, reported that Nurse Davidson had received orders to proceed abroad at short notice and that her parents hurriedly left for Sydney to farewell her. Nursed in Egypt. Returned to Australia per H.T. 'Malta'. Welcomed home 18th September, 1919. Discharged 25th September, 1919.

DAVIDSON, Robert Alexander Boyd

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 2786

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 27

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Robert Davidson (father) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 5 Field Ambulance (May-June 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 31st May, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ajana

Status: RTA 8th July, 1919

DAVIDSON, William Eric

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 2987

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Surveyor's Assistant

Next of Kin: Robert Davidson (father) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 5 Field Ambulance (May-June 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 31st May, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ajana

Status: RTA 19th February, 1919

Notes: Port Macquarie News Eric Davidson enlisted 20 March 1915, arrived Egypt 11 Sept 1915, Pte Eric Davidson Soldiers letter 3 Aug 1818, returned 22 March 1919

DENHAM, Peter Norris

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 8381

Rank: Lance Sergeant

Age at Embarkation: 44

Occupation: Clerk

Next of Kin: Louisa Denham (wife) "Mona" Orange Street, Randwick N.S.W.

Roll title: 20 ASC [Army Service Corps], Headquarters Company, 2 Divisional Train (November 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 27th November, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Uganda

Status: RTA 18th January 1919

DENHAM, William Norman

Place of Birth: Nambucca

Service number: 3233

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 20

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: John George Denham (father), Nambucca Heads

Roll title: 6 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 15 to 34 Reinforcements (March 1916 - March 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 10th May, 1917

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAT Boorara

Status: RTA 28th June, 1919

DENNIS, Donald Miller

Place of Birth: Kempsey

Service number: 714/1085

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 23

Occupation: Tram conductor

Next of Kin: Mrs. J. Dennis (mother), Hastings Road, Port Macquarie

Roll title: Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (Tropical Unit)
(1 Battalion) (August 1914)

Date of Embarkation: 19th August, 1914

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Berrima

Status: RTA 15th November, 1918

Notes: Enlisted 11th August 1914 (SN714) and embarked with Naval and Military Expeditionary Force to German New Guinea Discharged 4th March 1915 after end of period of engagement. Subsequently re-enlisted 18th March 1915 (SN1085) and served with 7th Light Horse. Discharged 15th November, 1918. See AWM and NAA under respective service numbers.

DENNIS, Edgar Miller

Place of Birth: Kempsey

Service number: 6651

Rank: Sapper

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Police constable

Next of Kin: Mrs Margaret Ann Dennis (mother) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 7 FCE [Field Company Engineers] - 1 to 5 Reinforcements (November 1915 - March 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 11th March, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Orsova

Status: RTA per "Kigoma" 17th September, 1920

Notes: Married Daisy Stephens, Newbury Berks., England 2nd August, 1919. RTA with wife and son William 17th September, 1920. Discharged upon termination of enlistment.

DENNIS, Hastings Miller

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 4473

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs Margaret Ann Dennis (mother) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 13 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 18 Reinforcements (December 1915 - May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 16th February 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ballarat

Status: RTA 25th August, 1917

DENNIS, Kenneth Miller

Place of Birth: Kempsey
Service number: 5082
Rank: Private
Age at Embarkation: 20
Occupation: Labourer
Next of Kin: Mrs Margaret Ann Dennis (mother) Port Macquarie
Roll title: 4 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)
Date of Embarkation: 1st April 1916
Place of embarkation: Sydney
Ship embarked on: SS Makarini
Status: RTA 15th April 1918

DICK, Arthur Morrison

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie
Service number: 1538
Rank: Private
Age at Embarkation: 21
Occupation: Farmer
Next of Kin: Alice Dick (mother) of Port Macquarie
Roll title: 17 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (May 1915 - June 1916)
Date of Embarkation: 12 May 1915
Place of embarkation: Sydney
Ship embarked on: HMAT Themistocles
Status: RTA 1st January, 1919

DICK, Herbert Stanley

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie
Service number: 263
Rank: Private
Age at Embarkation: 21
Occupation: Tailor
Next of Kin: William B. Dick (father) Port Macquarie
Roll title: 9 Machine Gun Company - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-December 1916)
Date of Embarkation: 16th August, 1916
Place of embarkation: Melbourne
Ship embarked on: RMS Orontes
Status: RTA 1st January, 1919
Notes: WWI service record amalgamated with WW2 records at National Archives. Later Service Number N105960

DICK, William Valentine

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie 14th February 1887

Service number: 17177

Rank: Driver

Age at Embarkation: 29

Occupation: Surveyor's chainman

Next of Kin: Mrs Theotisla Catherine Phyllisse Dick (wife) 309 Glenmore Road, Paddington, Sydney

Roll title: 1 Australian Wireless Squadron - General Reinforcements from June 1916 to October 1918 (June 1916 - October 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 20th January, 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: RMS Kashgar

Status: RTA 16th August, 1918

Notes: W.V. Dick's WWI service record has been amalgamated with his World War II service documents. The World War II service number is N102167.

DINGLE, E. *[No information known]*

DONOVAN, George Tuite

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3034

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 27

Occupation: Builder

Next of Kin: Stephen Donovan (father) of Port Macquarie

Roll title: 33 Infantry Battalion - 7 and 8 Reinforcements (n.d.)

Date of Embarkation: 24th January, 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Anchises

Status: RTA 22nd July, 1919

DONOVAN, Stephen J

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 58560

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 24

Occupation: Tram conductor

Next of Kin: Mrs D. C. Donovan (wife) George Street, St Peters N.S.W.

Roll title: 1 to 15 (NSW) Reinforcements (May-July 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 19th June 1918

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: SS Field Marshal

Status: RTA 22nd July, 1919

DOYLE, Clarence

Place of Birth: Rollands Plains

Service number: 1219

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 38

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs Charlotte Doyle (mother) Rollands Plains

Roll title: 42 Infantry Battalion (June 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 5th June 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda

Status: RTA 11th January, 1918

Notes: Living near Cairns, Qld at time of enlistment. Received a welcome home evening at Rollands Plains School of Arts Friday 15th March 1918.

Died May 16th 1933 at Cairns, QLD

DOYLE, James

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 5673

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 44

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Francis Doyle (cousin) of Hamilton Victoria

Roll title: 7 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 3rd July, 1916

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ayrshire

Status: RTA 10th July, 1917,. Discharged as being overage (stated age 51 years)

DREW, Harry

Place of Birth: Beaudesert, QLD

Service number: N92979 Depot

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18 (did not embark)

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mr Campbell Kerr (friend), Smithtown, Macleay River N.S.W.

Roll title: Recruit

Date of Embarkation: N/A

Place of embarkation: N/A

Ship embarked on: N/A

Status: N/A

Notes: Discharged 25th July 1918 at termination of his period of employment. Correspondence in Drew's service file at the National Archives of Australia indicates that his age was unable to be determined and that he was unable to produce a birth certificate. Enquiries in Queensland failed to produce any further information on his age or background. He worked for Campbell Kerr for a period of 18 months prior to enlistment.

***DUNN, Thomas Patrick**



Place of Birth: Foster

Service number: 2322

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: J. L. Dunn (father), Port Macquarie

Roll title: 30 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (November 1915 - April 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 11th March, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Orsova

Status: Died of pneumonia 6th December, 1916. Buried Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, France

DYKES, Osborne William John

Place of Birth: 1888.Mountain View via Kempsey, New South Wales, Australia. Birth Cert: 26448/1888.

Service number: 1104

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 29

Occupation: Horse trainer

Next of Kin: Robert William Dykes (father) Rollands Plains

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 13th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: RTA per "Port Napier" 12th December, 1920

Notes: Awarded Military Medal gazetted 28th January 1918. Married Alma Aldhons (age 26) of Swaffam Prior, 9th April 1919 Newmarket, Cambridge, England. Marriage Cert: ME8394. Dykes died 1974 New South Wales, Australia. Death Cert: 52847/1974.

EAGERTY, W.E. *see* HEGGARTY, Ernest William

EARLE, Alfred Chapman

Place of Birth: Nundle

Service number: 7054

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Elizabeth Joyce Earle (mother) Wilsons River

Roll title: 18 Infantry Battalion - 18 to 21 Reinforcements (November 1916 - December 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 19th December, 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ulysses

Status: RTA 9th December 1918. Medical discharge due to gunshot wound to the face.

EARLE, William Chapman

Place of Birth: Nundle

Service number: 4634

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 24

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Elizabeth Joyce Earle (mother) Rollands Plains

Roll title: 3 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 15th January, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: RMS Osterley

Status: RTA 22nd July, 1917. Medical discharge due to amputation of right arm.

EDWARDS, William John

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 207

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 27

Occupation: Tailor

Next of Kin: Mrs Annie Edwards "Kooloonbung" Port Macquarie

Roll title: 17 Infantry Battalion (May 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 12th May, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Themistocles

Status: RTA 24th December 1918

EGAN, William J.

Place of Birth: Goulburn

Service number: 1277

Rank: Gunner

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Groom - resident at Goulburn at time of enlistment

Next of Kin: Mrs Charlotte Egan (mother) Hay Street, Port Macquarie

Roll title: 1 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 1 to 10 Reinforcements (December 1914 - October 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 30th September, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Argyllshire

Status: RTA 24th January, 1919

ELFORD, Albert Edward

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 230

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 26

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Florence May Cook (sister) of Port Macquarie

Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Hororata

Status: HMAT 24th August, 1916

ELLIOTT, S. *[No further information known]*

Notes: S. Elliott enlisted Telegraph Point PM News 8th April, 1916 p.2.

Private Elliott farewelled Telegraph Point PM News 3rd June, 1916 p.5

Cpl S.A. Elliott letter PM News 19th May, 1917 p.4

Cpl S.A. Elliott active service Bullecourt PM News 22 Dec, 1917 p.5

Cpl S.A. Elliott return to Telegraph Point PM News 9th August, 1919 p.4

ELLIOTT, W.T. *[No information known]*

EMBLEM, Robert Frederick [*Alt. Robert Edward Francis Emblen*]

Place of Birth: Chatswood

Service number: Depot

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 20

Occupation: Loco cleaner

Next of Kin: Robert Emblem (father) Wilson River Telegraph Point & William Ragen[Friend] Telegraph Point

Roll title: NA

Date of Embarkation: NA

Place of embarkation: NA

Ship embarked on: NA

Status: Discharge in consequence of expiration of period of enlistment. Discharge no 64662

Note: Tried to enlist 1 Feb 1918 but was rejected as unfit due to Mitral Systolic Bruit .Next of kin listed as friend William Ragan, a storekeeper from Wauchope. He attested that his mother, Mary Ellen Christina Halliday (1872-1914) died approx. 1913 and he last heard of his father in 1907 in Cobar. He stated that he believed he was born around 3rd Aug 1899. NAA file lists Robert Edward Francis Emblem. Re-enlisted 3rd August, 1918 and accepted for service. Next of kin was father Robert Edward Francis Emblem (1866-1920) of Telegraph Point.1963 resident in Balmain. Died 22nd November, 1967 aged 67.

EVANS, Harry (*see BENNETT, Henry Evans*)

FAGE, William James

Place of Birth: Telegraph Point

Service number: 5075

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 33

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Mrs S. A. Masters (mother), Blackmans Point

Roll title: 3 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 1st April, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: SS Makarini

Status: RTA 31st May, 1919

FLYNN, Kevin Kirk

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 32951

Rank: Driver

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Grazier

Next of Kin: John E. Flynn (father) "Roto" Port Macquarie

Roll title: FAB [Field Artillery Brigade] - Monthly Reinforcements - Feb to May 1917 (May-August 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 11th May, 1917

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAT Shropshire

Status: RTA 20th June, 1919

FLYNN, Neil Andrew

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 32888

Rank: Driver

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Grazier

Next of Kin: John E. Flynn (father) "Roto" Port Macquarie

Roll title: FAB [Field Artillery Brigade] - Monthly Reinforcements - Feb to May 1917 (May-August 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 11th May, 1917

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAT Shropshire

Status: RTA 28th August, 1919

FLYNN, Ormonde Hastings

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 20786

Rank: Corporal

Age at Embarkation: 26

Occupation: Bank Clerk

Next of Kin: Jessie Louisa Flynn (mother), "Roto" Port Macquarie

Roll title: 9 FAB [Field Artillery Brigade] and 1 to 8 Reinforcements (May 1916 - February 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 11th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Argyllshire

Status: RTA 29th May, 1919

FORDHAM, Fred

Place of Birth: Moss Vale

Service number: 6527

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: School Teacher

Next of Kin: Mrs N. Fordham (wife) Miller Street North Sydney

Roll title: 2 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 9th September 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Euripides

Status: RTA 19th February, 1919

Notes: School teacher at Port Macquarie at time of enlistment.

FOSTER, John Hastings

Place of Birth: Telegraph Point, 10th August, 1896

Service number: 1115

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: John Blair Foster (father), Telegraph Point

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 13th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: RTA 16th January, 1919

FOSTER, Percy Joseph

Place of Birth: Telegraph Point

Service number: 2305

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mr. Foster (father), Telegraph Point

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 17th October, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda

Status: RTA 2nd June, 1919

*FOSTER, William George



Place of Birth: Herons Creek 28th December, 1890

Service number: 2304

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: John Blair Foster (father), Telegraph Point (later Hibbard, Port Macquarie)

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 17th October, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda

Status: K.I.A. 4th April, 1918 Villers-Bretonneux

FOWLER, Edward Vincent

Place of Birth: Wauchope

Service number: 5213

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Dairy hand

Next of Kin: William T Fowler (father), "Glen Ewan" Blackmans Point, Hastings River

Roll title: 3 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 1st April, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: SS Makarini

Status: RTA 14th January, 1919

FOWLER, Zackery Carl

Place of Birth: Rawdon Island

Service number: 1734 (1753)

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Thomas Fowler (father), Rawdon Island, Hastings River

Roll title: 1 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 8 Reinforcements (December 1914 - August 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 10th April, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Argyllshire

Status: RTA 14th December, 1918

Notes: Died 20th February, 1986

FOX, John Joseph (Jack)

Place of Birth: Manning River, Taree

Service number: 5383

Rank: Private (later Driver)

Age at Embarkation: 37

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mr. Peter Fox (father), Eumundi, QLD

Roll title: 12 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (January-December 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 20th April, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: SS Hawkes Bay

Status: RTA 20th June, 1919

Notes: Name identified by Port Macquarie Historical Museum staff. Father born in Dungog in 1856 died Atherton, QLD 7th August, 1926. Mother Anne Mary Kane born 1854, died 21st March, 1926 at her son, James' property at Rollands Plains. They married at Cundletown, Manning River 14th January 1877. John Fox served later as a driver in the 1st Mobile Veterinary Section. Married Amelia "Molly" Ehlerth 1st Dec, 1920 in Queensland. Died 26th January, 1940 in Queensland.

FREEMAN, Stanley James (James Stanley)

Place of Birth: Wauchope

Service number: 2029

Rank: Gunner

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: William Freeman (father), Pembroke via Wauchope. Later Nena Emmett (wife), see Notes

Roll title: 7 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 14 to 20 Reinforcements (March-July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 16th March, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Malakuta

Status: RTA 12th July, 1919

Notes: Married Nena Louise Emmett (nee) Holder, a widow, in England 19th November, 1918 who became new next of kin.

GAMACK, Alexander Bransdon

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 4354

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Shop Assistant

Next of Kin: James Gamack [Father] Sorrell St Parramatta, previously of Kempsey

Roll title: 11 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (January-December 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 17 January 1916

Place of embarkation: Fremantle

Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda

Status: RTA 28th October 1916

Note: Also listed under service number 3545, picture available at <http://ww1nsw.gravesecrets.net>



*GAMACK, Bruce Macquarie



Place of Birth: Rollands Plains

Service number: 2306

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 23

Occupation: Teamster

Next of Kin: Mrs Janet Christina Gamack (*nee Grahame*) [Wife] Ferry St E. Kempsey previously of Rollands Plains and Bellimbopinni Macleay River.

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 17th October 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda

Status: KIA 21 July 1917, buried at Ypres Memorial Belgium.

Note: Married Janet Grahame in Kempsey 1915. NAA WW1 papers list birth place as Rollands .Macleay Chronicle Newspaper extracts states he will be included on Memorial Monument Central Kempsey



*GAMACK, Wilton Campbell

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3806

Rank: Acting Sergeant

Age at Embarkation: 20

Occupation: Clerk

Next of Kin: James Gamack [Father] of Kempsey Macleay River previously of Sorrell St Parramatta

Roll title: 19 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (May 1915 - July 1916)

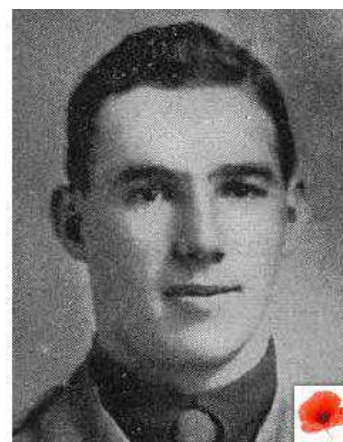
Date of Embarkation: 20th January, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Runic

Status: KIA 6th November 1917, buried at Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

Note: Photograph on ww1nsw.gravesecrets.net.



***GANNON, Francis Joseph**



Place of Birth: Bathurst, N.S.W. 1894

Service number: 166

Rank: Trooper

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mr. Michael Gannon (father) Mandurama, N.S.W.

Roll title: 7 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] (December 1914)

Date of Embarkation: 20th December, 1914

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ayrshire

Status: K.I.A 8th July, 1915

Notes: On War Memorial as Francis G Gannon. Parents Michael Gannon and Augusta Pauline Portshaw, married 1877 at Inverell. Sister, Mrs Crozier, lived at Hamilton . Francis moved to Port Macquarie several years before enlistment and was engaged in various occupations, among which was that of driver of the Wauchope-Port Macquarie mail coach. He was a splendid horseman and was amongst the first batch of recruits to leave this district. On reaching Sydney he joined the 7th Light Horse and went to the Dardanelles where he suffered critical wounds and died on board a hospital ship. He was buried at sea.

GAUL, George Douglas

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 9875

Rank: Sapper

Age at Embarkation: 30

Occupation: Boot maker

Next of Kin: Mrs Esther Gaul [sister in law] of 154 Cathedral St Sydney

Roll title: 9 FCE [Field Company Engineers] (July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 5 July 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ajana

Status: RTA 11 May 1919

GILL, William Richard

Place of Birth: Wauchope

Service number: 235

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 23

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs Charlotte Hames [Mother] Lyne of Morton's Creek, Beechwood, Hastings River

Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 2 May 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Hororata

Status: RTA 12th June 1919

GLEESON, Eric Wallace

Place of Birth: Wauchope

Service number: NA

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: NA

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: William Gleeson [Father] of Telegraph Point

Roll title: NA

Date of Embarkation: NA

Place of embarkation: NA

Ship embarked on: NA

Status: NA

Notes: Born 10 June 1900 son of William Gleeson and Margaret Louisa Webber. Enlisted 3 August 1918, under age, consent of parents given 6th August 1918, completed initial training, made a Private 17 September 1918, Discharged 31st December 1918

GLEESON, Thomas Percy

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 50320

Rank: Trooper

Age at Embarkation: 10 June 1918

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: William Gleeson [Father] of Telegraph Point Wilson River

Roll title: General Service Reinforcements, 1st GSR, NSW

Date of Embarkation: 10 June 1918

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAS Wiltshire

Status: RTA 28 August 1918

Notes: Born 21 March 1896 son of William Gleeson and Margaret Louisa Webber

GOODE, Harold Charlton

Place of Birth: Glebe Point Sydney

Service number: 91882

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: NA

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs Esther Halpin [a friend] Royal Hotel Port Macquarie

Roll title: NA

Date of Embarkation: Did not embark

Place of embarkation: NA

Ship embarked on: NA

Status: NA

Notes: Harold Charlton on NAA shows under item title an address for Port Macquarie. PM News Harold Goode, legal -PM Police Court 13 Jun 1914. PM News 13 Nov 1920 Harold Goode award Medal. Enlisted 30 August 1918. Discharged as a consequence of expiration of service (war ended).

GOULD, John Harvey

Place of Birth: Chicago, U.S.A.

Service number: 66212

Rank: Private.

Age at Embarkation: 32

Occupation: Blacksmith

Next of Kin: William John Gould (brother), Danville, California, U.S.A.

Roll title: 16 to 27 (NSW) Reinforcements (September-November 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 5th October, 1918

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: SS Zealandic

Status: RTA 6th May. 1919

Notes: Resident of Telegraph Point at time of enlistment. Residing in California in 1933.

***GRAHAM, P.C.** *see GRAHAM, Robert Colin*



***GRAHAM, Robert Colin.**



Place of Birth: Beechwood, Koree Island, Hastings River

Service number: 2680

Rank: Private.

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Mr. Duncan Graham (father), Beechwood, Hastings River

Roll title: 20 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (June 1915 - July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd November, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAAT Euripides

Status: K.I.A. 7th August, 1916. Buried Croix-du-Bac British Cemetery, Steenwerck, France.

***GRAHAM, William James**



Place of Birth: Beechwood, Koree Island, Hastings River

Service number: 2428

Rank: Private.

Age at Embarkation: 24

Occupation: Farmer/Dairyman

Next of Kin: Mr. Duncan Graham (father), Beechwood, Hastings River

Roll title: 1 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 15 to 20 Reinforcements (March-July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 12th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAAT Anglo Egyptian

Status: K.I.A. 4th August, 1916 at Battle of Romani, Suez, Egypt. Buried Kantara War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt.

GRAINGER, Edward Francis

Place of Birth: Narromine

Service number: 16539

Rank: Sapper

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Clerk

Next of Kin: Francis J. Grainger (father), Port Macquarie

Roll title: FCE [Field Company Engineers] - July to December 1916, Reinforcements (July-December 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 2 December 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Orsova

Status: RTA 7th Feb

Notes: Father was Headmaster at Port Macquarie Superior School

GRAINGER, John Keith

Place of Birth: Narromine

Service number: 4610

Rank: Gunner

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Bank Clerk

Next of Kin: Francis John Grainger (father), Port Macquarie. Later Caroline Sophie Grainger (wife) London

Roll title: 1 FAB [Field Artillery Brigade] - Reinforcements [1-11] (December 1914 - October 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 10th August, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: RMS Persia

Status: RTA 21st May 1919.

Notes: Father was Headmaster at Port Macquarie Superior School. Married Caroline Sophie Williams in England 19th September, 1917. Prior to enlisting he was in the Kyogle branch of the Bank of Australasia.

HALL, George



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: Royal Australian Navy 5911

Rank: Stoker

Age on entering service: 23

First Ship: HMAS Cerberus

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Florence Hall

Status: Remained in Navy after 1918

Notes: Eldest son of William and Penelope Hall of Maria River. Married Florence J. Redman, second daughter of Mr and Mrs. J. H. Redman "Heatherbrae" Port Macquarie, on September 13th, 1919 at Chalmer's Presbyterian Church, Redfern

HALLIDAY, Harold Garfield

Place of Birth: Rollands Plains

Service number: 778

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 24

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: George Robert Halliday (brother) Lansdowne

Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAS Horoata

Status: Missing in action 7th May, 1918. Reported POW 20th June, 1918. Arrived in England from Germany 12th January, 1919. RTA 3rd May, 1919.

HARRISON, Hilton Thornton

Place of Birth: Mulgoa

Service number: 3119

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: William Binney Harrison (father) The Hatch, Telegraph Point

Roll title: 1 Pioneer Battalion - 6 to 10 Reinforcements (October 1916 - January 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 17th October, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAS Borda

Status: RTA 5th July, 1919

HARROWER, H *see* **HARROWER, Albert**

HARROWER, Albert

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 6815

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19 years

Occupation: Dairy farm hand

Next of Kin: James Harrower (Father) Summer Island, Macleay River

Roll title: 19 Infantry Battalion - 18 to 21 Reinforcements (November 1916 - February 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 16th July, 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Port Melbourne A16

Status: RTA 4 July 1919

Note: The PM War Memorial list Harrower, *H* but Museum and Library staff believe it should be Harrower, A. Mapping our ANZACs lists Albert Harrower born in PM and enlisted in Kempsey. BDM Albert Alexander Harrower died at Kempsey son of James and Janet. James and Janet were the parents of both Albert and Peter Harrower their births were registered at PM.

HARROWER, Peter

Place of Birth: Gladstone

Service number: 5697

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: James Harrower (father) Summer Island, Macleay River

Roll title: 2 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 3rd June, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Kyarra

Status: RTA 14th December, 1918. Family moved from Rollands Plains before the war.

HAYWOOD, James Robert

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3123

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22 years

Occupation: Dairy Farmer

Next of Kin: Samuel Haywood (father), Prospect via Blacktown

Roll title: 7 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 21 to 35 Reinforcements (September 1916 - March 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 10th May 1917

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAT Boorara

Status: RTA 28 June 1919

HEGARTY, Ernest William

Place of Birth: St. Kilda, Victoria

Service number: 11483

Rank: Gunner

Age at Embarkation: 27

Occupation: Chauffeur

Next of Kin: Mrs. K. White (Aunt) PO Beaufort, Port Wakefield, South Australia

Roll title: 5 FAB [Field Artillery Brigade] - 1 to 5 Reinforcements (November 1915 - April 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 15th January 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: RMS Osterley

Status: RTA 11th May, 1919

Notes: Enlisted in Newcastle Former chauffeur to Mr.Nicholas Cain of Port Macquarie.

HERRING, Eric

Place of Birth: Wellington NSW

Service number: 3316

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18 years

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: David Roughley [Uncle] Gore Street Port Macquarie

Roll title: 3 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 12 Reinforcements (December 1914 - December 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd November 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Euripides

Status: RTA 22 August 1919

HEWITT, Percy John

Place of Birth: Oxfordshire, England

Service number: 1130

Rank: Lance Corporal

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Farm Labourer

Next of Kin: Joseph Mark Hewitt [Brother] Mynthurst, Reigate Surrey England.

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 13 May 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana A72

Status: RTA 18th October, 1917. Medical discharge 12th June, 1918

Note: 1916 electoral roll Percy John Hewitt Telegraph Point. Enlisted at Kew.

HOLLIS, V.W.

Notes: No records found to identify this serviceman. There were a number of Hollis' who served, the closest to V.W. being George Victor Hollis of Ellenborough (Service No. 92) who was awarded the Military Medal.

ISAACSON, Frederick

Place of Birth: Bottisham Lode, Cambridgeshire, England

Service number: 2583

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 27

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Mr. Chedlaower Isaacson (father) Station Road, Bottisham Lode, England

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: Sydney

Place of embarkation: 9th November, 1916

Ship embarked on: HMAT Benalla

Status: RTA 5th July, 1919

Notes: Enlisted at Newcastle

***JAMES, Arthur Lethero**



Place of Birth: Wentworth, N.S.W.

Service number: 2032

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 23

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: George James (father) Palm Avenue, Mildura

Roll title: 4 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 13 to 25 Reinforcements (January 1916 - January 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 28th January 1916

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAT Themistocles

Status: KIA (Died of wounds) 2nd February, 1917. Dernancourt Communal Cemetery Extension, France

Notes: Will made out to mother, Mary Ann James, C/o W.G. Foster, Public School, Rollands Plains, Wauchope.

***JAMES, William John**



Place of Birth: Wentworth, N.S.W.

Service number: 4452

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mary Ann James, Rollands Plains, Wauchope.

Roll title: 20 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (June 1915 - July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 9th April, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Nestor

Status: KIA 20th August, 1918. Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France.

***JENKINS, Cecil Berkeley**



Place of Birth: Wollongong

Service number: 2616

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 38

Occupation: Solicitor

Next of Kin: Mrs Kate Jenkins (wife) C/o A. M. Wright Esq., Craigie, N.S.W.

Roll title: 35 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 25th October 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ascanius

Status: KIA (Died of wounds) 5th April, 1918 sustained near Villers-Bretonneux.

Notes: Buried Picquigny British Cemetery, France. Practiced as a solicitor in Port Macquarie for several years before enlisting. Roll of Honour Circular attests that Port Macquarie was the town he was associated with. His wife, Kate Wright, died of illness a few months after he enlisted.

***JOHNSON, James Leonard**



Place of Birth: San Croix, Port Macquarie

Service number: 1385

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Coach painter

Next of Kin: Mary Ann Johnson (mother), Brickfields, Port Macquarie (later 195 Main St. Leichhardt)

Roll title: 4 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 8 Reinforcements (December 1914 - August 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 11th February, 1915

Place of embarkation: Melbourne K.I.A.

Ship embarked on: HMAT Seang Bee

Status: K.I.A. 6th May, 1915. Buried 4th Battalion Parade Ground Cemetery, Gallipoli, Turkey

Notes: Had a brother, John Oscar Johnson, SN7018, killed in France 11th April, 1917.

***JOHNSON, John Oscar**



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 7018

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Motor mechanic

Next of Kin: Mary Ann Johnson (mother), Brickfields, Port Macquarie (later 14 Belmore Street, Rozelle)

Roll title: 13 Infantry Battalion - 19 to 23 Reinforcements (August-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 25th November, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: K.I.A. Bullecourt, France 11th April, 1917. Commemorated Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France

Notes: Had a brother, James Leonard Johnson, SN1385, killed at Gallipoli 6th May, 1915.

JOYCE, Howard Leslie

Place of Birth: Rollands Plains

Service number: 92598

Rank: Not stated

Age at Embarkation: Joined 4th August, 1918 did not embark

Occupation: Dairy farmer

Next of Kin: John Edward Joyce (father), Wingham N.S.W.

Roll title: Not stated

Date of Embarkation: Joined 4th August, 1918 did not embark

Place of embarkation: Did not embark

Ship embarked on: Did not embark

Status: Discharged

***JUDD, Firman Gale**



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: Depot

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22 (did not embark)

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: William Clarence Judd (brother) of Beechwood

Roll title: Joined 11th March, 1915 into 20th battalion

Date of Embarkation: (did not embark)

Place of embarkation: (did not embark)

Ship embarked on: (did not embark)

Status: Died of bronchio-pneumonia at Liverpool Military Camp April 13th, 1915

Notes: Letter from brother dated 15th March 1923 stated that mother was deceased and father "an inmate of a mental home".

DEATH.

JUDD.—On April 13th, at the Cottage Hospital, Liverpool Military Camp, PRIVATE FIRMAN GALE JUDD, nephew of Mr. A. Judd, of Pappinbarra Creek, aged 22 years, from pneumonia.

Port Macquarie News April 1924 1915

KEAN, Raymond Thomas

Place of Birth: Kempsey

Service number: 2341

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: John Kean (father), 19 Avon Street Glebe Point Sydney

Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 17th October, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda

Status: RTA 23rd September, 1918

*KELLY, James



Place of Birth: Tyrone, Ireland

Service number: 1160

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Farmer of Kempsey, Macleay River

Next of Kin: Peter Kelly (father) Trelick P.O., County Tyrone, Ireland

Roll title: 35 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 1 May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Benalla

Status: K.I.A. 12th October, 1917. Remembered on Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

Notes: Enlisted at Wauchope. Had a brother Terence who lived at Murgon in Queensland

KENNEDY, Cyril Hastings

Place of Birth: Wauchope (Rawdon Island)

Service number: 818

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: James Clarkin Kennedy (father) of Beechwood

Roll title: 35 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 12th June, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Benalla

Status: RTA 6th May, 1915

Notes: Cyril Hastings Kennedy was born 5 January 1896 in Port Macquarie, New South Wales to James Kennedy (1873-1946) and Emily Joyce (1869-1945) and died 1 May 1962 in Port Macquarie, in New South Wales, at the age of 66 years of unspecified causes. Cyril Hastings married Lillian Anne McKinnon 1927 in Port Macquarie, New South Wales

(Source: [http://www.thefullwiki.org/Cyril_Hastings_Kennedy_\(1896-1962\)](http://www.thefullwiki.org/Cyril_Hastings_Kennedy_(1896-1962)))

KENNEDY, Edgar Roy

Place of Birth: Rollands Plains

Service number: 3153 and 2916 and 2622

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Drover

Next of Kin: James Clarkin Kennedy (father) of Beechwood

Roll title: 13 Infantry Battalion - 9 to 12 Reinforcements (September-December 1915)

Date of Embarkation: (1st embarkation) 6th September, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ballarat

Status: RTA 1st July, 1919

Notes: Enlisted SN 3153 but medically discharged. Later re-enlisted.

*KENNY, Victor Patrick



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3554

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Blacksmith

Next of Kin: William Henry Kenny (father), Port Macquarie

Roll title: 19 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (May 1915 - July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 12th December, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Berrima

Status: K.I.A. 3rd September, 1916. Buried Railway Dugouts Burial Ground, Belgium

*KEOUGH, Leo Augustine



Place of Birth: Kempsey

Service number: 1195

Rank: Lance-Corporal

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Timothy Keogh (father), Port Macquarie

Roll title: 4 Infantry Battalion (October 1914)

Date of Embarkation: 20th October, 1914

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Euripides

Status: K.I.A. 24th July, 1916 at Pozieres. Buried Serre Road Cemetery No 2, France

KERR, J. *[No further information known]*

KERR, W.P. *[No further information known]*

KINGSFORD, Ainslie St. Aubyn

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie, 11th August, 1893

Service number: 1022

Rank: Corporal

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Bank Clerk

Next of Kin: Alfred Kingsford (father), Port Macquarie

Roll title: 1 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 1 to 10 Reinforcements (December 1914 - October 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 28th June, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Clan MacEwen

Status: RTA 30th August, 1918

KINGSFORD, Clive

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie, 7th May, 1898

Service number: 67413

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 20

Occupation: Bank Clerk

Next of Kin: Emma Kingsford (mother), Port Macquarie

Roll title: 16 to 27 (NSW) Reinforcements (September-November 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 7th November, 1918

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: SS Carpentaria

Status: Troopship recalled mid-Pacific Ocean when Armistice declared. Transhipped 'Riverina' disembarked approx. 28th November, 1918. Discharged in Sydney 12th December, 1918.

Notes: Father Alfred Kingsford (deceased in 1918), mother Emma Pountney.

LANEY, Frederick Lachlan

Place of Birth: Sherwood, Kempsey

Service number: 34763

Rank: Driver

Age at Embarkation: 33

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Richard Laney (father), Kempsey *via* Wauchope

Roll title: FAB [Field Artillery Brigade] - Monthly Reinforcements - Feb to May 1917 (May-August 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 21st June, 1917

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAT Suevic

Status: RTA 6th May, 1919

LANG, J *see* LAING, James (Jim)

*LAING, James (Jim)



Place of Birth: Mareeba, Qld.

Service number: 254

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 20

Occupation: Horse driver

Next of Kin: William Laing (father) Kempsey, Macleay River. Listed as Telegraph Point on Enlistment Form

Roll title: 17 Infantry Battalion (May 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 12th May, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Themistocles

Status: KIA. Died of wounds 30th August, 1915 on hospital ship HS Maheno and buried at sea. Name on Lone Pine Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey. Mother Hannah remarried after death of father- married name Clancy and lived at Bellingen.

LATHAM, Stanley J.

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 12000

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Blacksmith

Next of Kin: William Latham (father) William Street, Port Macquarie

Roll title: 9 Field Ambulance (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 11th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Argyllshire

Status: RTA per "Orvieto" 15th December, 1919. Discharged 6th February, 1920

Notes: Prior to enlisting Stanley was working as a blacksmith in the Bellinger Valley. He came home on final leave in April 1916 accompanied by his cousin Trooper Alick Craig who was also heading for the front. He got married in England on 2nd August, 1919 to Doris Bottomley at Kensington, London. Died 18th January, 1987.

LAWRENCE, Augustus Harvey

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3516

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 20

Occupation: Barman

Next of Kin: Mrs. W. Halpin (guardian) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 3 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 12 Reinforcements (December 1914 - December 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd November, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Euripides

Status: RTA 8th April 1917

LAWRENCE, Hector

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 831

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 24

Occupation: Farrier

Next of Kin: A. Lawrence (father) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 3 Pnr Bn [Pioneer Battalion] (June 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 6th June, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Wandilla

Status: RTA 25th September, 1919

*LYON, Percival Ernest



Place of Birth: Wingham

Service number: 36201

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 24 Enlisted 3rd July, 1916. Did not embark.

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Alice Isabel Lyon (nee Johnston) (mother) Cundletown, Manning River. Father James Lyon

Roll title: 7th Light Horse

Date of Embarkation: Did not embark.

Place of embarkation: Did not embark.

Ship embarked on: Did not embark.

Status: Died at "Coast Hospital" Little Bay, Sydney 29th August 1st, 1916 of measles after 8 days in hospital. Buried at Marlee cemetery (near Wingham) 1st September, 1916.

MACKAY, Eric Rupert *(on some records the surname is spelt McKay)*

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3144

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Licensed Surveyor

Next of Kin: Robert McKay (father) Rollands Plains

Roll title: 7 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 21 to 35 Reinforcements (September 1916 - March 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 10th May, 1917

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAT Boorara

Status: RTA 28th June, 1918. Discharged 3rd September, 1919

Notes: Deceased 30th June, 1967

MACKAY, Irwin Hugh

Place of Birth: Kempsey

Service number: 94657 Depot. Enlisted 23rd September, 1918

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 24

Occupation: Student

Next of Kin: Mr Hugh Adam. Mackay (father) Upper Rollands Plains. (Mother Mrs M. C. Mackay)

Roll title: n/a

Date of Embarkation: Did not embark

Place of embarkation: Did not embark

Ship embarked on: Did not embark

Status: Demobilized 18th November, 1918 in consequence of expiration of period of enlistment.

MACKAY, Ivor Donald

Place of Birth: Kempsey

Service number: 7290

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 29

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Mr Hugh Adam Mackay (father) Upper Rollands Plains

Roll title: 2 Infantry Battalion - 24 to 26 Reinforcements (February-December 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 10th February, 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: RMS Osterley

Status: RTA 20th December, 1918

MARCHMENT, Henry John

[note: surname spelt Marchmont on War Memorial)

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3297

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 26

Occupation: Blacksmith

Next of Kin: Francis Marchment (father) Wauchope

Roll title: 20 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (June 1915 - July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 20th December, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Suevic

Status: RTA 8th April, 1919

MARCHMENT, Robert Westall

[note: surname spelt Marchmont on War Memorial)

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3295

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 24

Occupation: Telegraph Operator

Next of Kin: Francis Marchment (father) Wauchope

Roll title: 20 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (June 1915 - July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 20th December, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Suevic

Status: RTA 8th April, 1919

*MARCHMENT, Stanley Hastings

[note: surname spelt Marchmont on War Memorial)



Place of Birth: Wauchope

Service number: 3296

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Storekeeper

Next of Kin: Francis Marchment (father) Wauchope

Roll title: 20 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (June 1915 - July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 20th December, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Suevic

Status: K.I.A 27th September, 1917. Buried Belgian Battery Corner Cemetery, Belgium

***MASON, George Bernard**



Place of Birth: Barrington Tasmania

Service number: 2611

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19 years

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Sarah Jane Mason [Mother] Barrington Tasmania, father William deceased (1909)

Roll title: 40 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 9 Reinforcements (July-October 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 25th October 1916

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAS Ulysses

Status: KIA 6th October 1917. Buried Western Front: Ypres Reservoir Cemetery

Note: Soldier identified by Port Macquarie Historical Museum staff. George B Mason NAA File lists his mother as Sarah Mason. Tasmanian BDM records show George Bernard Mason born 11 Sept 1899. Father William Andrew and Mother Sarah Jane Ratcliffe married 1894.

MASTERS, George Robert

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3149

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Music teacher

Next of Kin: G. Masters (father), Port Macquarie

Roll title: 18 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (May 1915 - June 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 20th December, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAS Suevic

Status: RTA 9th December, 1918

McDONALD, W. *[No further information known]*

Possibly Walter McDonald, service number 1188, who enlisted at Macksville.

Note: 1916 Laurieton electoral roll Walter McDonald at Hannam Vale, Teamster, and William Alexander McDonald, Moorland, a dairyman.

McINTYRE, Oswald, Henry

Place of Birth: Hastings River
Service number: 8976
Rank: Gunner
Age at Embarkation: 33
Occupation: Station overseer
Next of Kin: Mr & Mrs J.W. McIntyre (parents), Telegraph Point
Roll title: 2 Divisional Ammunition Column (Nov 1915)
Date of Embarkation: 16th November, 1915
Place of embarkation: Melbourne
Ship embarked on: HMAT Port Macquarie
Status: RTA 15th May, 1919



*McIVER Alberto Dias

(note: surname spelt McIvor on War memorial)

Place of Birth: Wentworth, N.S.W.
Service number: 78670
Rank: Private
Age at Embarkation: 30 at enlistment
Occupation: Forest guard
Next of Kin: Charles McIvor (father) Rollands Plains. Ann Stewart Soares (mother).
Roll title: n/a
Date of Embarkation: Did not embark. Enlisted 19th June, 1917
Place of embarkation: Did not embark
Ship embarked on: Did not embark
Status: On returning from Liverpool Camp on final leave was taken seriously ill on the train, and Doctor Wallace with Dr. Begg of Wauchope diagnosed the trouble as meningitis. Transferred to Kempsey Hospital. Died 24 August 1917. Buried West Kempsey Cemetery, New South Wales, Australia.

McKINNON, Robert Donald

Place of Birth: Bathurst
Service number: 3157
Rank: Private
Age at Embarkation: 32
Occupation: Chainman
Next of Kin: Duncan McKinnon (father) Palmers Oakey *near* Bathurst
Roll title: 1 PnrBn [Pioneer Battalion] - 6 to 10 Reinforcements (October 1916 - January 1917)
Date of Embarkation: 17th October, 1916
Place of embarkation: Sydney
Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda
Status: RTA 22nd July, 1919
Note: Living at Telegraph Point at time of enlistment

McLAREN, Henry Thomas

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3523

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Oysterman

Next of Kin: Daniel McLaren (father), Port Macquarie

Roll title: 3 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 12 Reinforcements (December 1914 - December 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd November, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAAT Euripides

Status: RTA 27th September, 1918

Notes: See Gorter, Paul *The Dick Family History* pp206-2011

MIDDLETON, F. *[No further information known]*

MILGATE, James Charles

(note: some records record surname as *Millgate*)

Place of Birth: Manning River

Service number: 2413

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 29

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs R. Cosgrove (friend) Grafton

Roll title: 25 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 8 Reinforcements (June 1915 - January 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 5th October, 1915

Place of embarkation: Brisbane

Ship embarked on: HMAAT Warilda

Status: Transferred to 47th Battalion 9th March, 1916. Wounded Pozieres 8th August, 1916. RTA 10th April, 1917. Discharged medically unfit 16th May, 1917.

MILLER, Cecil Richard Harold

Place of Birth: Wingen

Service number: 2194

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21 years

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: John Miller (father) Telegraph Point. Later Port Macquarie.

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 24th August, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAAT Anchises

Status: Married Ada Louise Curtis, aged 24, London 17th August, 1918. RTA 12th February, 1920 with wife and child. Discharged 5th April, 1920.

MOHR, Rudolph (Herbert) Oscar

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 2845

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 30 years

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Francis Archibald Little (Friend) Rolland Plains

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 25th November 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: Disembarked at Fremantle - pneumonia. Embarked for Sydney 11th February, 1917 whence discharged medically unfit.

Note: 1916 PM Electoral roll Rudolph Herbert Oscar at 'Glencoe' Rowland's Plain (sic) Labourer. [War files do not include middle name Hebert] Address on embarkation roll Telegraph Pt Post Office. Port Macquarie News Pte Bert Mohr Medical Sydney of Telegraph Pt 21.4.1917. Pte H. Mohr award- medal Rolland's Plains 7.2.1920.

MONTAGUE, James

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 23078. Enlisted at Cooktown, Qld.

Rank: Gunner

Age at Embarkation: 28

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Mrs Johanna Montague, (mother) Rawdon Island

Roll title: 9 FAB [Field Artillery Brigade] and 1 to 8 Reinforcements (May 1916 - February 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 11th May 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Argyllshire

Status: RTA 24th August, 1918

*MURPHY, Peter Ernest



Place of Birth: 'The Gulf' Emmaville, N.S.W.

Service number: 2815

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Drover

Next of Kin: Mrs Euphemia Murphy (mother), Oliver Street, Inverell

Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 25th November, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana A72

Status: K.I.A. 6th April, 1918. Buried Crucifix Corner Cemetery, Villers-Bretonneux, France

Notes: Name identified by Port Macquarie Historical Museum staff.

***MURRAY, David Macleay**



Place of Birth: Hamilton, Newcastle

Service number:3788

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation:22

Occupation: Civil engineer

Next of Kin: William Patrick Murray "Dungoran" (father) Macksville ,Nambucca River

Roll title:1 Infantry Battalion - 9 to 12 Reinforcements (September-December 1915)

Date of Embarkation:11th December, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: RMS Mooltan

Status: KIA 5th November, 1916. Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France

Notes: Attended Rawdon Island Public School. NAA dossier includes reference to a friend in Port Macquarie receiving a field postcard from Private Murray.

***NAUGHTON, Charles William**



Place of Birth: Wauchope

Service number: 5674

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs Mary Ann Naughton (mother) Rawdon Island

Roll title: 19 Infantry Battalion - 14 to 17 Reinforcements (August-October 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 9th September, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Euripides

Status: K.I.A. 3rd May, 1917. Name on Villers-Bretonneux Memorial.

***NELSON, Arthur Leslie**



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 1196

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 23

Occupation: Chauffeur

Next of Kin: Mrs Sarah Ann Nelson (mother) Kew. Francis Nelson (father)

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 13th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: K.I.A. Polygon Wood 30th April, 1917. Trois Arbres Cemetery, Steenwerck, France

NEWBERRY, James Clement

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 1195

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 29

Occupation: Blacksmith

Next of Kin: Mrs Agnes Anne Newberry (mother), Telegraph Point. Father George Newberry

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 13th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: RTA 11th May, 1919

***NICHOLLS, Charles Henry "Harry"**



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie (6th February, 1897)

Service number: 2854

Rank: Pte

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Carpenter

Next of Kin: William Nicholls (father) Gordon St Port Macquarie

Roll title: 2 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 12 Reinforcements (December 1914 - December 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 30th September 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAS Argyle A8

Notes: Member of the Methodist Church in Port Macquarie. PM News 31st July, 1915. Under H Nicholls on memorial

Status: KIA Mont Sorrel, Ypres, Belgium 12th September 1916.

Interred at Railway Dugouts Burial Ground Belgium Plot 6 Row

2 Grave 50. Special Cross erected in above cemetery actual grave unknown believed to be buried in this cemetery.



See also Appendix Five



NOAKES, Gordon Stewart

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 2882

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 27

Occupation: Air brake attendant

Next of Kin: Margaret Jessie Noakes (wife), 67 Australia Street, Newtown. N.S.W.

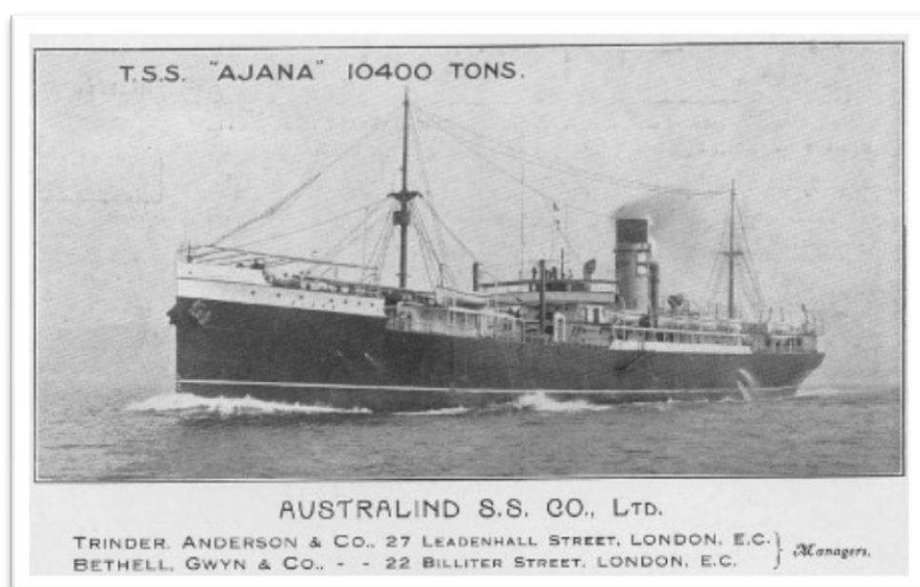
Roll title: 5 Field Ambulance (May-June 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 31st May, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ajana

Status: RTA 12th May, 1919



A31 AJANA

7,759 gross tons, 4873 net; 10400 dwt. Lb: 454' x 56'3" (138.4 x 17.1 metres). Twin screw, 2 x quadruple expansion 4 cylinder, 817 nhp. 13 knots. Passenger/cargo (refrigerated) steamship built by Russell & Co Port Glasgow for Australind SS Co Ltd, London.

***OATES, Clifford William**



Place of Birth: London

Service number: 1923

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 23

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: William Oates (father), Ballengarra, Wilson River

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 4th September, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Port Sydney

Status: K.I.A. Reported missing 21st July, 1917 after attack on German lines near Messines Ridge.. Brother Reginald Oates was with him and did not see him again after the attack commenced. Remembered on Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium.

OATES, Reginald

Place of Birth: Somerset, England

Service number: 1924

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Bush worker

Next of Kin: William Oates (father), Ballengarra, Wilson River

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 4th September, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Port Sydney

Status: RTA 6th May, 1919. Died December 23, 1963. Buried in the Methodist portion of the Port Macquarie Cemetery. Obituary and photograph Port Macquarie News 31st January 1963.



***OATES, Ronald Mervyn**



Place of Birth: London, England

Service number: 866

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 26

Occupation: Teamster

Next of Kin: William Oates (father), Ballengarra, Wilson River

Roll title: 35 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 1st May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Benalla

Status: K.I.A. Admitted to hospital 22nd February 1917. Died of wounds 25th February, 1917. Buried Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, France

A brief account of Ronald and Clifford Oates in the Great War

by Ken Oates (Great nephew)



Ronald Mervyn Oates

Ronald enlisted in the 1st AIF at Wauchope, on 8 December 1915, a little over a year after the war began. Ronald was 26 years old, and was described as being of dark complexion, 5'10" tall, with blue eyes and brown hair, and had a tattoo on his right arm. His employment was given as teamster, and he was in many ways the archetypal bushman that is such a part of the ANZAC myth.

After his enlistment, Ronald was sent to Maitland where he became a member of C Coy, 35th Battalion. In May 1916, the Battalion was sent to England on the SS Benalla, and disembarked at Plymouth on 9 July 1916. During the voyage Ronald was promoted to Lance Corporal, and trained with the Battalion in England until November 21 1916.

The 35th Battalion embarked for France at Southampton, and was sent to France through the established base port of Boulogne, in the Pas de Calais region, and Ronald found himself at the front in the early part of 1917.

Ronald was promoted to Corporal in the field on 27 January. The official reports state that on 18 February 1917 Ronald received a neck wound while in action east of Boulogne, and was initially evacuated by the 10th Field Ambulance to a Canadian Casualty Clearing Station. Ronald was soon transferred to the No 10 Ambulance train, bound for Boulogne, and was admitted to the 13th General Hospital the following day. He died from his wounds after a week, on the 25 February 1917. His body was interred in the Boulogne East Cemetery.



Clifford William Oates

Clifford joined up in Sydney at Victoria Barracks on 30 March 1917, and his records say that he was 5'5" tall, and had been working as a labourer. Initially Clifford was posted to C Coy, 3rd Battalion, who were training in Cootamundra. He was transferred to the second replacements for the 36th Battalion in June 1916 where he joined his brother Reginald.

The replacements were sent to England on H.M.A.T. A15 on 4th September 1916, and arrived in Plymouth, Devon, on 29 October 1916. The Battalion continued training in England until they were transported to Etaples, a traditional fishing port near Boulogne in northern France. The Oates brothers joined D Company of the 36th Battalion and were marched up to the field in mid-January 1917, and saw their first action.

Over the next six months, the brothers were in and out of action in northern France, and then Belgium, and in June 1917 were located in the Messines area. This was the site of a major action, when sappers tunnelled under the German position and laid mines in what was one of the biggest mine-based battles of the war.

The mines were exploded on the 7th June and over the next few days the whole front south of Ypres moved deeper into German territory. The men of D Company 36th battalion were kept in reserve during the main attack on Messines, going in to replace other troops on the front line a few days later. Then on the night of the 20/21st of July, D company went into a very difficult action as part of around 80 men who attacked some German strong points, and took two German posts. However, the Germans counter-attacked, and repelled the Australians who suffered significant losses. Clifford Oates was never seen again after going over the top of the trench just after midnight on the 21st July, and his brother Reginald was wounded.

O'BRIEN, Felix Joseph

Place of Birth: Omagh, Ireland

Service number: 468

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs Ann O'Brien, Ennis, Hastings River

Roll title: 25 Infantry Battalion (June 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 29th June 1915

Place of embarkation: Brisbane

Ship embarked on: HMAT Aeneas

Status: RTA 12th May, 1918

OCHS, Otto Oswald

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 357

Rank: Corporal

Age at Embarkation: 23

Occupation: Motor mechanic

Next of Kin: Mrs Sarah A. Ochs (mother) "Brompton", Hay Street, Port Macquarie. Later resided at "Norwood", Virginia Street, Kensington, Sydney. On 15th March 1918 N.O.K. changed to Mrs C. Ochs (wife) 122 Alexandria Avenue, Dennistoun, Glasgow, Scotland.

Roll title: No 1 Mining Corps [Nos 1-1291] (February 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 20th February, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ulysses

Status: RTA 21st June, 1916

*O'LEARY, Albert Joseph



Place of Birth: Wauchope

Service number: 1199

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Clerk

Next of Kin: William O'Leary (father) Smiths Creek, near Kempsey

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 13th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: K.I.A. 12th July, 1917. Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

OSTLER, Albert

Place of Birth: Yarmouth, England

Service number: 2133

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Fisherman

Next of Kin: Alfred Ostler (father) Rawdon Island

Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 24th August, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Anchises

Status: RTA 11th May, 1919

OSTLER, Ernest

Place of Birth: Sitapur, India

Service number: 4585

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 29

Occupation: Fisherman

Next of Kin: Alfred Ostler (father) Maldon via Wauchope

Roll title: 30 Infantry Battalion - 7 to 12 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 25th November 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: RTA 26th September, 1917. Discharged Sydney, 16 February 1918 – Medically unfit

Notes: See Appendix 3 and Appendix 4

OSTLER, G. (Alfred George)

Place of Birth: Norwich, England

Service number: 2639

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Farm labourer

Next of Kin: Alfred John Ostler (father) Rawdon Island, Wauchope

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 9 November 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Benalla

Status: RTA 12th June, 1919

Notes: See Appendix 3

PEAD(E), Alfred Hains

Place of Birth: Kempsey

Service number: 21235

Rank: Sapper

Age at Embarkation: 20 years [born 12th Nov 1897]

Occupation: Electrical Engineer

Next of Kin: Alfred Alexander Pead [Father] of “Erambi” Forth Street Kempsey

Roll title: 1 Australian Wireless Squadron - General Reinforcements from June 1916 to October 1918 (June 1916 - October 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd February 1918

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Wiltshire

Status: RTA 22 March 1919

PEAD, Oliver Stuart Macquarie

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 27287

Rank: Gunner

Age at Embarkation: 21 years

Occupation: Carpenter

Next of Kin: Eleanor Pead [Mother] of Clarence Street Port Macquarie

Roll title: 22 HB [Howitzer Brigade] - 2 to 10 Reinforcements (April 1916 - February 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 30th September 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Aeneas

Status: RTA 22 December 1918

PEAD, Stanley William Hastings

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 18917

Rank: Acting Bombardier

Age at Embarkation: 26 years

Occupation: Motor Driver

Next of Kin: James Pead [Father] of Clarence St Port Macquarie

Roll title: 7 FAB [Field Artillery Brigade] (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 11 May 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Argyllshire

Status: Not on Nominal roll. NAA Statement of Service lists RTA 22 Jan 1920

Note: Embarkation Roll listed as Stanley Hastings Pead. Attestation paper listed as S. W. H. Pead, Nominal Roll listed as Stanley William Pead.

PEAD, Walter Henry

Place of Birth: Walcha

Service number: 10

Rank: Private Pioneer

Age at Embarkation: 30

Occupation: Carpenter

Next of Kin: James Pead [Father] Clarence St., Port Macquarie

Roll title: 30 Infantry Battalion (November 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 9th November, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: RTA 27th October, 1916. Medically discharged 23rd January, 1917

Notes: In June 1919 Walter Pead visited Sydney for the purpose of having a war wound attended to. He contracted severe influenza and died in Sydney. Buried at Rookwood cemetery. Obituary in Port Macquarie News 28th June, 1919.

PEATI, J. *[No further information known]*

POOLE, Walter

Place of Birth: Sydney

Service number: 2425

Rank: Pte

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Harry Poole [Father] Cambridge St Willoughby

Roll title: Camel Corps, May 1916 to August 1917 - Reinforcements (May 1916 - November 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 17 February 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: RMS Morea

Status: RTA 22nd January, 1919

Note: Walter Poole at Glen Esk, Rolland Plains, farmer on 1916 electoral roll for PM. Port News 7 Feb 1920
Pte W Poole Award medal Rolland's Plains. 2 Oct 1920 W Poole memorial trees St John's Church Rolland's Plains. Macleay Valley Volunteers p 117 Signaller Walter Poole have been wounded while fighting in Palestine, enlisted Rolland's Plains.

***POUNTNEY, Leslie Raymond**



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 643

Rank: Driver

Age at Embarkation: 25 years

Occupation: Station hand

Next of Kin: Alfred E Pountney [Father] of Port Macquarie

Roll title: 5 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] (December 1914)

Date of Embarkation: 21st December 1914

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Persic

Status: D.O.W. 28 May 1915. NAA papers lists he died of wounds in hospital ship 8 July 1915. Wounds inflicted at Anzac Cove Gallipoli.

POUNTNEY, Rupert Keith

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 641

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Journalism

Next of Kin: Alfred Edward (father) of Port Macquarie

Roll title: 2 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 1 to 10 Reinforcements (December 1914 - October 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 20th December, 1914

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Boorara

Status: RTA 24th September, 1918

POWER, Francis (Frank)

Place of Birth: Maitland

Service number: 3168A

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 39

Occupation: Fireman

Next of Kin: Margaret Power (mother) Islington, N.S.W.

Roll title: 1 Pnr Bn [Pioneer Battalion] - 6 to 10 Reinforcements (October 1916 - January 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 17th October, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda

Status: RTA 2nd June, 1919

Notes: A letter home from France by Private A Blair mentions meeting up with Frank Power.

RAMSAY, Lyall Manning

Place of Birth: Kempsey

Service number: 3196

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Thomas Ramsay (father) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 18 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (May 1915 - June 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 20th November 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Suevic

Status: RTA 20th April, 1919

RAMSAY, Robert Henry (Bob)

Place of Birth: Kempsey

Service number: 3479

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 20

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Thomas Ramsay (father) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 1 Pnr Bn [Pioneer Battalion] - 6 to 10 Reinforcements (October 1916 - January 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 25th November, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: RTA 12th June, 1919

RAMSAY, Thomas David

Place of Birth: Kempsey

Service number: 3198

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 30

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Thomas Ramsay (father) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 18 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (May 1915 - June 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 20th November, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Suevic

Status: Suffered shell injuries 6th August 1916 with subsequent aphonia (loss of voice) and deafness. RTA 8th April, 1917. Discharged 3rd December 1917 medically unfit. Died 21st November 1920 at Randwick Hospital from pulmonary tuberculosis & pulmonary haemorrhage.

RECKLESS, Herbert Reginald

Place of Birth: Woy Woy

Service number: 1210

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 20

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Robert Henry Reckless (father) Port Macquarie. Mrs. Mary Reckless (mother) Port Macquarie.

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 13th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: RTA 26th September, 1917. Medically discharged 1st January 1918. Died 30th November, 1955.

REDMAN, Donald Allan Robert



Place of Birth: Dungog 12th August, 1902

Service number: 6200

Rank: Boy/Seaman, RAN

Age at Embarkation: 15

Occupation: Not known

Next of Kin: Joseph Redman(father) and Maria (mother) Telegraph Point

Roll title: Served on board cruiser HMAS Sydney

Date of Embarkation: Signed on 26th July, 1917 at TS Tingira.

Place of embarkation:

Ship embarked on:

Status: RTA Died 1978

Notes: Initial training at TS "Tingira". Posted to HMAS Sydney and was on board when the German fleet surrendered in the North Sea Reported in Port Macquarie News as home on leave for 28 days August 9th, 1919. Welcomed home at Peace Celebration 16th August, 1919 (PM News16.08.19)

REDMAN, Reuben Joseph

Place of Birth: Casino N.S.W.

Service number: Enlisted 19th June 1915 - no service number

Rank: Not assigned

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Electrical engineer

Next of Kin: Joseph Henry Redman (father) & Myra Cameron Redman (*nee* Gibson) (mother) Dungog

Roll title: 3 Reinforcements 18th Battalion A.I.F.

Date of Embarkation:

Place of embarkation:

Ship embarked on:

Status: Died Royal Prince Alfred Hospital while based Liverpool Army Camp 11th July 1915 of cerebro-spinal meningitis. Buried Presbyterian Cemetery Rookwood.

REID, Allen Oswald Gordon

Place of Birth: Rollands Plains

Service number: 3175

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 29

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Edward Reid (father) Ballengarra. Mother Emily.

Roll title: 7 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 21 to 35 Reinforcements (September 1916 - March 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 10th may, 1917

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAT Boorara

Status: RTA 28th June, 1919. Married Beatrice Wilson of Kempsey 1920. Died 1974

*REID, John Oliver Ambrose



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3111

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 27

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: William Reid (father) Gordon Street, Port Macquarie

Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion - 7 and 8 Reinforcements (January-July 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 24th January, 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Anchises

Status: K.I.A. 15th April, 1918. Buried St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, France

*REYNOLDS, Henry George



Place of Birth: West Port

Service number: 3193

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Butter maker

Next of Kin: F. Reynolds (father) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 18 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (May 1915 - June 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 20th November, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Suevic

Status: K.I.A. 4th August, 1916. Buried Serre Road Cemetery No 2, France



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL PICTURE 874

***RICHARDSON, Frederick Hastings**



Place of Birth: Beechwood

Service number: 2048

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 30

Occupation: Butcher

Next of Kin: Richard Richardson (father) Leeville Near casino, N.S.W.

Roll title: Camel Corps, May 1916 to August 1917 - Reinforcements (May 1916 - November 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 3rd February, 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: RMS Karmala

Status: Died of illness 9th November, 1916

Notes: Red Cross report states that Richardson was sent ahead to prepare a new camp near Damascus when he fell ill and died the next day. Probably cholera. Buried Beirut War Cemetery, Lebanese Republic.

RODGERS, J.W. *[No further information known]*

There was a John William Rogers, Service Number 254, who served in The Great War in the Mining Corps. He was born in Paddington, N.S.W. and his wife lived at Crow's Nest at the time.

ROSS, William H.

Place of Birth: Broome, W.A.

Service number: 214

Rank: Lance Corporal

Age at Embarkation: 33

Occupation: Station hand

Next of Kin: William Halpin, Port Macquarie (Proprietor Royal Hotel)

Roll title: 6 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] (December 1914)

Date of Embarkation: 21st December, 1914

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAS Suevic

Status: RTA 8th September, 1919

***ROWSELL, William Henry**



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie (Telegraph Point)

Service number: 595

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Tram conductor, North Sydney

Next of Kin: Mary Jane Rowsell (mother) Telegraph Point. Father G.H. Rowsell

Roll title: 1 Infantry Battalion (October 1914)

Date of Embarkation: 18th October, 1914

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Afric

Status: K.I.A. Died of wounds received in Dardanelles. Buried Alexandria (Chatby) Military and War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt

RYAN, Albert Victor

Place of Birth: Penrith

Service number: 1685

Rank: Trooper

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Surveyor

Next of Kin: Elizabeth Ryan (mother) Telegraph Point

Roll title: 2 Australian Remount Unit (November 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 10th November, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Orsova

Status: RTA 29th April, 1916. Discharged from A.I.F. 17th June, 1916

RYDE, Henry Morris (Remy)

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 2903

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 27

Occupation: Butcher

Next of Kin: Thomas Ryde (father) Willawarrin, Kempsey

Roll title: 1 Infantry Battalion - 9 to 12 Reinforcements (September-December 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 30th September, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Argyllshire

Status: RTA 13th April, 1919

SAMPSON, W. *see* **SAMSON, William Stephen**

SAMSON, William Stephen

Place of Birth: Bendigo, Vic

Service number: 173

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 20

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs Bertha Samson (mother), Bendigo, Victoria

Roll title: 7 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] (December 1914)

Date of Embarkation: 20 December 1914

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ayrshire A33

Status: RTA 23rd December, 1918

Notes: .Name on memorial is *Sampson* but believed to be this soldier. Enlistment shows *Samson*.

Private W. S. Sampson, wounded. This youth was engaged in the oxide mines here prior to enlistment, and had resided here for several years.

Port Macquarie News,
Saturday 21 August 1915

A VERY large and enthusiastic gathering assembled in the picture show premises, Port Macquarie, on Tuesday evening last to welcome home from the front Sergeant A. M. Dick, M.M., and Privates H. Strutt, G. Masters, and W. Edwards. It was expected that Trooper W. Sampson and Gunner O. Pead would also have been present, but the former had to return to Sydney, and the latter had not arrived home. The parents of the returned soldiers were present, and in the case of Private Strutt his wife also.

Port Macquarie News Saturday March 8th, 1919

SETH, Frederick

Place of Birth: Edinburgh, Scotland

Service number: 178

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: John Moir Seth (father) Morningside Nurseries, Edinburgh Scotland

Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Hororata

Status: RTA 19th September, 1918

SETH, James Alexander

Place of Birth: Edinburgh, Scotland

Service number: 2152

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 29

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: John Moir Seth (father) Morningside Nurseries, Edinburgh Scotland

Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 24th August, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Anchises

Status: RTA 20th November, 1918

Notes: Farming at Rollands Plains at time of enlistment.

*SEYD, Harry George



Place of Birth: London

Service number: 1421(later) 1284

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Electrician

Next of Kin: Kathleen Ellen Seyd (sister) Park Road , Rosedale Heath, Romford, Essex, England

Roll title: 1 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 8 Reinforcements (December 1914 - August 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 11th February, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Seang Bee

Status: K.I.A. 2nd May, 1915 Gallipoli Peninsular. Buried Lone Pine Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

Note: Arrived in Australia on the immigrant ship Indrapura [23 Nov 1913] which carried 270 lads from London to Melbourne: Seyd docked in Sydney. WW1 record lists him as GEORGE HARRY SEYD. William [brother] initially listed as next of kin, crossed out and Kathleen [sister] listed. The three appear together in 1911 UK census. Birth date 24 Oct 1893 given on school admission forms with mother listed as Amelia [matches 1911 census record]. Not the same birth date on WW1 Record. Occupation on 1911 census is Electrician which matches WW1 record. WW1 record, letter- public trust requests from the sister the address prior to enlistment. [no record attached to file of response].

SINCLAIR, Albert

Place of Birth: Parkes

Service number: 2118

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: J. Sinclair (father), Campsie

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 24th August, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Anchises

Status: R.T.A. 4th July, 1919

Notes: Enlisted Telegraph Point. Died 3rd November, 1954

SKIMMINGS, David William

Place of Birth: Frederickton, near Kempsey

Service number: 1236

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 24

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Imilda Mary Skimmings (wife), Telegraph Point

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 13th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: RTA 31st July, 1918

SMITH, Russell Aubrey Arthur

Place of Birth: Kendall

Service number: 1421

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: George Smith (father), Kendall

Roll title: 34th Battalion

Date of Embarkation: 2nd May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Hororata

Status: RTA 12th February, 1918. Discharged medically unfit (Gun shot wound, right thigh)

SNASHALL, Henry Edward

Place of Birth: Lewisham (England)

Service number: 3128

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 23

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Henry Edward Snashall (father), Lewisham, England

Roll title: 35 Infantry Battalion - 7 and 8 Reinforcements (January-August 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 24th January, 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Anchises

Status: RTA 19th April, 1919

Notes: Enlisted Port Macquarie

SPENCE, Hugh G.

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 1237

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 39

Occupation: Nurseryman

Next of Kin: Mrs Gertrude Spence (wife) Bulahdelah

Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Hororata

Status: RTA 1st November, 1917. Discharged medically unfit 12th February 1918. Died 25th April, 1957.

SPENCE, Norman Hastings

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 6910

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 38

Occupation: Clerk

Next of Kin: Mrs Ruby May Spence (wife) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 17 Infantry Battalion - 18 to 21 Reinforcements (November 1916 - October 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 16th June 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: RTA 10th April, 1919

SPENCE, Mervyn Macquarie

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 2400

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 35

Occupation: Wharfinger (n.b. a wharfinger is an old term for someone who owns or operates a wharf)

Next of Kin: William Andrew Spence (father) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 35 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 17th October, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda

Status: RTA 18th December, 1918

SPOKES, Frank Walter

Place of Birth: Kempsey

Service number: 3183

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 28

Occupation: Teamster

Next of Kin: John Spokes (father) Rollands Plains

Roll title: 1 Pnr Bn [Pioneer Battalion] - 6 to 10 Reinforcements (October 1916 - January 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 17th October 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda

Status: RTA 12th June, 1919

STACY, Herbert Maitland

Place of Birth: Redfern

Service number: 1100

Rank: Corporal

Age at Embarkation: 27

Occupation: Farmer (Wauchope)

Next of Kin: Fitzroy Stacy (father) Croydon, Sydney. Previously Ballengarra, Wilsons River

Roll title: 16 to 27 (NSW) Reinforcements (September-November 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 7th November, 1918

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: SS Carpentaria

Status: RTA 21st May, 1919

Notes: Enlisted 25th September, 1914. RTA 21st May 1917 and medically discharged 9th October, 1917.

Re-enlisted (SN 67469) 1st October, 1918 aged 31. Was a member of the Rollands Plains Rifle Club

***STAPLES, Charles Manning**



Place of Birth: Wauchope

Service number: 1231

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Motor driver. Listed as a baker on Roll of Honour circular.

Next of Kin: William Staples (father), Port Macquarie. At time of son's death address was Wangi Wangi , via Toronto N.S.W.

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 13th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: K.I.A. 8th June, 1917 Messines, Belgium. Buried Strand Military Cemetery, Belgium.

STAPLES, Harold Joseph

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 60534

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Motor driver

Next of Kin: Mrs Kate Irene Staples, (wife) Cedar Party, via Wingham N.S.W.

Roll title: 16 to 27 (NSW) Reinforcements (September-November 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 4th September, 1918

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Bakara

Status: RTA 7th February, 1920. Died 25th October, 1969.

STAPLES, John Henry ("Jack")

Place of Birth: Taree

Service number: 4255

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 23

Occupation: Oyster man

Next of Kin: Asa James Staples (father), Blackmans Point

Roll title: 18 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (May 1915 - June 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 8th March, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Star of England

Status: RTA 16th July, 1917 for amputation of right leg. Died 14th May, 1969

STAPLES, Leslie Hastings

Place of Birth: Hamilton, Port Macquarie
Service number: 66792
Rank: Pte
Age at Embarkation: 19
Occupation: Salesman
Next of Kin: William Hastings (father) Paddington N.S.W.
Roll title: 16 to 27 (NSW) Reinforcements (September-November 1918)
Date of Embarkation: 14th October, 1918
Place of embarkation: Sydney
Ship embarked on: SS Wyreema
Status: Troopship recalled. Disembarked approx. 21st December, 1918

STEELE, Walter Fenwick

Place of Birth: Wauchope
Service number: 559
Rank: Private
Age at Embarkation: 30
Occupation: Farmer
Next of Kin: Elizabeth Steele (mother), of Port Macquarie
Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)
Date of Embarkation: 2nd May, 1916
Place of embarkation: Sydney
Ship embarked on: HMAT Horoata
Status: RTA 11th May, 1919

STEWART, Leslie

Place of Birth: Wingham
Service number: 872
Rank: Private
Age at Embarkation: 21
Occupation: Grocer
Next of Kin: Helen Stewart (wife), D. Stewart (father) Combined Street, Wingham
Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)
Date of Embarkation: 13th May, 1916
Place of embarkation: Sydney
Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana
Status: RTA 1st June, 1918
Notes: Nephew of Mayor D. Stewart

Return of Private Stewart.

With the scars of battle upon him, but smiling and well-conditioned as of yore, Private Les. Stewart returned to Port Macquarie on Tuesday. Though his parents reside on the Manning, he has been so long domiciled here as to be a "Portito" to all intents and purposes. He reached Wingham on Saturday of last week, and received a very cordial welcome from the people of that town. Prior to enlisting he followed the peaceful occupation of a grocer in the store of his uncle, Mr. D. Stewart, answering the call to arms in January, 1916. He sailed the following May, and was sent to France in November, and then commenced his career of soldiering in earnest. He was wounded at Arras in April, 1917, and was sent to England to recover. Returning to France, he fought at Messines, and subsequently at Ypres, where he received a shrapnel wound in the left leg, which incapacitated him for further service. He still finds it necessary to use a stick to get about, but hopes to be able to dispense with this aid to locomotion shortly. Private Stewart was a Lewis machine-gunner, and his brother (Late Corporal Don. Stewart), was associated with him in the same gun team. The latter has been thrice wounded, and is at present an inmate of Bethnal Green Hospital with a smashed knee. In the course of conversation, the returned soldier said he was much impressed with the way the British people were organised to bring the war to a successful issue. They had no delusions as to the magnitude of the task, and were bending all their energies to the work. The way that the women were replacing men in all the avocations of life, so that the latter might be liberated for fighting service, was wonderful and inspiring. No work seemed too difficult or laborious for them to successfully undertake. In an effort to meet the food shortage, intense cultivation was the order of the day, even the vacant spaces on the railway lines were devoted to the cultivation of vegetables. Though impressed by what he had seen of the land and its fertility in England and France, Private Stewart thinks that none can compare for all-round conditions with good old "New South." We join in extending a hearty welcome to him, with the hope that he will have speedy recovery from the wounds and privations of war.

STIMPSON, Thomas

Place of Birth: Brighton, Sussex, England

Service number: 41

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 23

Occupation: Blacksmith

Next of Kin: Mary Stimpson (wife) 4 Grove Cottage, Ditchling, England

Roll title: 19 Infantry Battalion (June 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 25th June, 1915

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAAT Ceramic

Status: RTA 21st December, 1917. Medical discharge.

Notes: Living in Port Macquarie at time of enlistment

St JOHN, Henry Beauchamp

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 63791

Rank: Gunner

Age at Embarkation: 27

Occupation: Theological student

Next of Kin: Henry St John (father), Port Macquarie. Previous contact Rev. Frederick De Port St John (Brother) The Vicarage, Boggabri

Roll title: FAB [Field Artillery Brigade] - 27 to 35 Reinforcements (November 1917 - June 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 5th June, 1918

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: RMS Orontes

Status: RTA 12th July, 1919

STONE, E *[No further information known]*

Possible service numbers include:

2945 2726 2033 6848 7353 3200 801 4006 1776 2254 430

STRUTT, Henry

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 5121

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 33

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Alice Amelia (wife) 111 Yule Street, Petersham.

Roll title: 18 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (May 1915 - June 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 5th June, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Kyarra

Status: RTA 9th December 1918

*STRUTT, Thomas



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 5884

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 36

Occupation: Fitter's labourer

Next of Kin: Arthur Strutt (son) c/o Mrs Kate Brownlow, Woolwich N.S.W. [* Roll shows Mrs Nellie Lydia Strutt (wife) 342 Bolwarra Road, Ultimo. Later Victoria St. Darlinghurst; then Paul St. Waverley, finally (widow) c/o Mrs T. O'Keefe Brixton, Tumut N.S.W.]

Roll title: 18 Infantry Battalion - 14 to 17 Reinforcements (August-October 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 7th October, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ceramic

Status: K.I.A. 20th September, 1917. Buried Hooze Crater Cemetery, Belgium

SULLIVAN, W *[No further information known]*

SUTERS, Percy Hastings

Place of Birth: Wauchope

Service number: 2309

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Farmer

Next of Kin: Henrietta Suters (mother), Fuller Road, Chatswood

Roll title: 19 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (May 1915 - July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 30th September, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Argyllshire

Status: RTA 15th April, 1918

SUTERS, Sydney Albert Stanley

Place of Birth: Richmond, N.S.W. (18th September, 1899)

Service number: N95738

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Shop assistant

Next of Kin: George Suters (father), Wauchope. Mother Henrietta Lockton

Roll title: N/A

Date of Embarkation: N/A

Place of embarkation: N/A

Ship embarked on: N/A

Status: Discharged October 1918 in consequence of expiration of Period of Enlistment (end of war)

SYMONS, Harry

Place of Birth: Dulwich Hill

Service number: 4310

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Herbert Symons (father), Dulwich Hill

Roll title: 3 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 30th December, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAA Aeneas

Status: RTA 28th March 1919

Notes: Living at Telegraph Point at time of enlistment.

*SYRON, George William



Place of Birth: Cape Hawk, Foster

Service number: 2166

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Patrick Syron (father) Blackmans Point, Hastings River

Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 6 Reinforcements (May-November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 24th August, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAA Anchises

Status: K.I.A. Messines 3rd June, 1917. Buried Trois Arbres Cemetery, Steenwerck, France

TAYLOR, J.S. (J.F??) *[No further information known]*

THOMAS, W. *[No further information known]*

THORPE, A.S. *see* **THORPE, Arthur G.**

***THORPE, Arthur, G.**



Place of Birth: Badsworth, Pontefract, Yorkshire, England

Service number: 696

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 23

Occupation: Farm Hand

Next of Kin: Louie Thorpe (sister), care of Mrs. Bowman, Nouchly Farm, Calmer, Sheffield, England

Roll title: 17 Infantry Battalion (May 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 12th May, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Themistocles A32

Status: K.I.A. 25th September, 1915. Buried Railway Dugouts Burial Ground, Belgium

Notes: Resident at Telegraph Point at time of enlistment.

Identification of this name provided by Port Macquarie Historical Museum

***TONKINS, Stanley Macquarie**



Place of Birth: Wauchope

Service number: 1841

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21 years

Occupation: Motor driver

Next of Kin: Mrs Maria Tonkin [Mother] Hastings River Port Macquarie [deceased], R.J. Tonkins [Brother]
Tuncurry

Roll title: 2 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 12 Reinforcements (December 1914 - December 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 10th April 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Argyllshire

Status: KIA in France 9 April 1917, Buried Hermies British Cemetery, France.

TUOHY, P. *[No further information known]*

TURNER, Alfred Edward ("Barney")

Place of Birth: Sydney

Service number: 644

Rank: Pte

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Alfred John (father) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 2 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 1 to 10 Reinforcements (December 1914 - October 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 20th December, 1914

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Boorara

Status: RTA 1st July, 1916. Medically discharged 28th August, 1916

Notes: Port Macquarie News index lists him as "Barney", welcomed home 19 Aug 1916

***TURNER, Bernard Colin**



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3531

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 20

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Alfred John Turner [Father] Horton St Port Macquarie

Roll title: 3 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 12 Reinforcements (December 1914 - December 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd November 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Euripides

Status: KIA/POW died from wounds 24th July 1916 in field hospital at Hauhourdin. Wounds inflicted at Armentieres on the 16 July 1916.

WADE, Andrew Robert

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 1746

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 21

Occupation: Postal assistant

Next of Kin: Andrew Wade (father) Wauchope

Roll title: 49 Infantry Battalion - 2 to 10 Reinforcements (April 1916 - August 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 20th April, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: SS Hawkes Bay

Status: RTA 5th April, 1919

Notes: Living at Toowoomba, Qld at time of enlistment. Deceased 4th August, 1984

WADE, Thomas James

Place of Birth: Camden Haven

Service number: 7354

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 27

Occupation: School teacher

Next of Kin: Andrew Wade (father) Wauchope

Roll title: 2 Light Horse Brigade Train (6 Company ASC [Army Service Corps]) 1 to 10 Reinforcements (December 1914 - October 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 8th October, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Warilda

Status: RTA 2nd January, 1919

WALKER, O. *[No further information known]*

WALLACE, Arthur

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 31

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 35

Occupation: School Teacher

Next of Kin: Mrs. A Wallace (wife) 44 Frazers Rd. Petersham N.S.W. [Later Glebe, then Coogee]

Roll title: 4 Light Horse Brigade, Ammunition Reserve - 1 to 7 Reinforcements (May-December 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 12th May 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Themistocles

Status: RTA 9th March, 1919

Notes: Reallocated new service number 8990 on transfer from LH to 20th Coy. A.S.C. Defective hearing

WARLTERS, William Hugh Price

Place of Birth: London

Service number: 900

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Stockman

Next of Kin: Mrs. M.A. Warlters (mother) 127 Milton Road, Gravesend, Kent, England. [Later 12 Oakhill Road, Beckenham, Kent]

Roll title: 1 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 1 to 10 Reinforcements (December 1914 - October 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 17th March, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Shropshire

Status: RTA 16th May, 1919

Notes: Address at time of enlistment C/o T Warlters, "Milton" Port Macquarie, N.S.W.

WARWICK, Harold Roy

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 1260

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 20

Occupation: Horse driver

Next of Kin: William John Warwick (father) Rawdon Island,

Roll title: 34 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Horoata

Status: RTA 16th March, 1918

WELLS, Thomas George

Place of Birth: Newport, Wales

Service number: 2465

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 35

Occupation: Seaman

Next of Kin: John Hibbard (Uncle) 'Elsinore' Port Macquarie

Roll title: 20 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 13 Reinforcements (June 1915 - July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 6th September, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ballarat

Status: RTA 6th November, 1918

WESTON, John *[No further information known]*

Notes: Listed on Port Macquarie Public School Honour Board. See PM News Saturday August 24th, 1918.

WHELAN, Roger Bede

Place of Birth: Eden

Service number: 2015

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 34

Occupation: Bridge carpenter

Next of Kin: Anne Jane Davies (sister) of Allison Road Randwick NSW

Roll title: 53 Infantry Battalion - 2 to 5 Reinforcements (April-September 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 14th April, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAAT Ceramic

Status: RTA 27th September, 1917. Died 13th May 1949 Concord Hospital. Buried Woronora Cemetery.

Notes: Married Grace Caldwell, Denman N.S.W. Son John Patrick Whelan served in the RAAF (SN 403883) and was killed in France 8th June 1944.

***WHITEHOUSE, William**



Place of Birth: Sydney

Service number: 1258

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 32

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Bridget Cartledge (friend), Club Hotel, Albion Street Surrey Hills

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 13th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAAT Beltana

Status: K.I.A 30th September, 1918. Buried Roisel Cemetery Extension, Peronne France.

Notes: Address at time of enlistment was Telegraph Point. Note in NAA file indicates he was an orphan and resided with Alice Cartledge, known as B. Cartledge.

WILKENS, A *see WILKINS, Alfred*

WILKINS, Alfred "Puff"

Place of Birth: Reading, England

Service number: 1259

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Dairyman

Next of Kin: Mrs Annie Marie Wilkins (mother), Port Macquarie

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 13th May, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: RTA 10th June, 1919

WILKES, T *[No further information known]*

Notes: Possibly Walter Thomas Wilkes, Service Number 2785, of Bowraville N.S.W.

WILLIAMS, James Victor

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3136

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Carpenter

Next of Kin: Mrs Elizabeth Williams (mother), Elbow Street, West Kempsey

Roll title: 5 LHR [Light Horse Regiment] - 21 to 30 Reinforcements (September 1916 - March 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 3rd February, 1917

Place of embarkation: Brisbane

Ship embarked on: HMAT Hymettus

Status: RTA 20th July, 1919

***WILLIAMS, Stanley Edras**



Place of Birth: The Oaks (Camden) N.S.W.

Service number: 1260

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 30

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs Hannah Williams *nee* Giddy (mother) Upper Eungai, Macleay River N.S.W. Father John Williams.

Roll title: 36 Infantry Battalion (May 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 13th May 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana A72

Status: Reported missing in action 12th April 1918. Notified that he died whilst a prisoner of war (no date given) Possibly around 1st May 1918. Buried Noyers-Pont-Maugis French National Cemetery, Noyers-Pont-Maugis, Sedan, France 1st January, 1919

***WILSON, Eric Robert**



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 4887

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 19

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: George Wilson (father) "Hibbard", Port Macquarie

Roll title: 1 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 8th March, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Star of England

Status: K.I.A. 19th July, 1916. Pheasant Wood Military Cemetery, Fromelles, Lille, France

Notes: Eric Wilson and his brother Samuel went missing after the Battle of Fromelles, northern France, in 1916. Their remains were among those of 250 British and Australian soldiers that were found in a mass grave in 2008 and identified using DNA testing. Both enlisted in Port Macquarie and were members of the 53rd Battalion, 14th Brigade. *See Port Macquarie News 19th March 2010*



WILSON, James Arthur Ernest

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3533

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: George Wilson (father) Hibbard, Port Macquarie

Roll title: 3 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 12 Reinforcements (December 1914-December 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd November, 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Euripides

Status: RTA 25th January, 1919



Image courtesy AWM

WILSON, John Joseph

Place of Birth: Windsor N.S.W.

Service number: 3198

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 18

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: Mrs M. Daley (sister), Telegraph Point

Roll title: 1 Pnr Bn [Pioneer Battalion] - 6 to 10 Reinforcements (October 1916 - January 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 17th October, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Borda A30

Status: RTA 23rd March, 1919

*WILSON, Samuel Charles



Place of Birth: Braidwood

Service number: 3534

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 29

Occupation: Labourer

Next of Kin: George Wilson (father) Hibbard, Port Macquarie

Roll title: 3 Infantry Battalion - 1 to 12 Reinforcements (December 1914 - December 1915)

Date of Embarkation: 2nd November 1915

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Euripides

Status: K.I.A.



Notes: Samuel Wilson and his brother Eric went missing after the Battle of Fromelles, northern France, in 1916. Their remains were among those of 250 British and Australian soldiers that were found in a mass grave in 2008. Their remains were identified using DNA testing. Both enlisted in Port Macquarie and were members of the 53rd Battalion, 14th Brigade. *See Port Macquarie News 19th March 2010*

WOODLANDS, Arthur Douglas

Place of Birth: Wauchope

Service number: 2489

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 39

Occupation: Carpenter

Next of Kin: Clara Woodlands (wife) care of Mrs E. Amils Grand-view Parade, Epping

Roll title: Camel Corps, May 1916 to August 1917 - Reinforcements (May 1916 - November 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 17th February, 1917

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: RMS Morea

Status: RTA 12th November, 1917

Notes: Served in the Boer War with the Royal Engineers.

WOODLANDS, Frederick Charles

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 1330

Rank: Gunner

Age at Embarkation: 20

Occupation: Wool washer

Next of Kin: Mrs Elizabeth Woodlands (mother) 138 Catherine Street, Leichhardt

Roll title: 36 Australian Heavy Artillery Group - 13 to 21 Reinforcements (SAB) [Siege Artillery Brigade]
(November 1917 - October 1918)

Date of Embarkation: 28th February, 1918

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAT Nestor

Status: RTA 10th December, 1918

WOODLANDS, Gordon Fitzroy

Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 10017

Rank: Driver

Age at Embarkation: 22

Occupation: Clerk

Next of Kin: Mr Thomas Woodlands (father) Port Macquarie

Roll title: 9 FCE [Field Company Engineers] (July 1916)

Date of Embarkation: 5th July, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Ajana

Status: RTA 28th June, 1919

***WOODLANDS, L.F.** *See* **WOODLANDS, Harold Leslie**

***WOODLANDS, Harold Leslie**



Place of Birth: Port Macquarie

Service number: 3439

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 25

Occupation: Carpenter

Next of Kin: Mrs Cordelia Woodlands (mother) "Grassmere" Ackroyd Street, Port Macquarie

Roll title: 1 Pnr Bn [Pioneer Battalion] - 6 to 10 Reinforcements (October 1916 - January 1917)

Date of Embarkation: 25th November, 1916

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAT Beltana

Status: K.I.A. 26th April, 1918. Buried Le Peuplier Military Cemetery, Caestre, France

***WRIGHT, John A.**

Place of Birth: Beeton Ontario, Canada

Service number: 809

Rank: Private

Age at Embarkation: 26

Occupation: Surveyor's chainman

Next of Kin: Joseph Wright (father) Beeton Ontario, Canada

Roll title: 2 Infantry Battalion (October 1914)

Date of Embarkation: 18th October, 1914

Place of embarkation: Sydney

Ship embarked on: HMAAT Suffolk

Status: K.I.A. Gallipoli Peninsular 2nd May, 1915. Buried Lone Pine Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

Notes: Address prior to enlistment was Telegraph Point N.S.W. A bank clerk in Canada, he came to Australia in 1913 and enlisted on 20 August 1914



Seated at right

For The Fallen

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill; Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres,
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted;
They fell with their faces to the foe.

***They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.***

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain;
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

For the Fallen, a poem by the English poet and writer Laurence Binyon (1869-1943) and was published in London in *The Winnowing Fan: Poems of the Great War* in 1914. This verse, which became the Ode for the Returned and Services League, has been used in association with commemoration services in Australia since 1921.

Appendix 1

Names of service personnel added to the Port Macquarie War Memorial in the year 2000

AITKEN, F J

ANDREWS, P H

ANTHON, D H

ARMSTRONG, E J

ATKINS, Jas.

ATKINS, C

ATKINS, C J

ATKINS, J

ATTWOOD, P

AUSTEN, R

AUSTEN, A

BATTLE, E

BIRD, W

BOWD, R

BOWEN, M

BRIDSON, H R

BROOKS, W E

CADET, T

CAIN, H

CAIN, V S A

CAIN T M

CAINS D

CAMPBELL, J S

CAMPBELL, S S

CAMPBELL, R H

CAMPBELL, C D

CAMPBELL, S F

CAMPBELL, B W

CAMPION, W

CAPEWELL, C Y

CAREY, J S

CAREY, T J

CARTER, A J

CLARE W

CLARK S M

CLARK H N

COLLING W

COTTERILL E J

CRANE, F

CURRAN, D

DAVIDSON, E W

DAWSON, G H

DAWSON G M

DAY, J O

DELVES, F W

DELVES, S H

DENHAM, C

DOW, J

DURHAM, C

DYKES, P J

EDWARDS, F

EDWARDS, L
EDWARDS, O
FARLEY, J
FARROWELL, W H
FISCHER, B F
FISCHER, J
FISHER, P W
FOSTER, T
FRANK, L P
GALLOWAY, R F
GANNON, F J
GIBSON , T
GLEN, A
HALL, LB
HALL, R
HAMILTON, CW
HANNA, J
HARDY, C
HARRISON, B
HARROWER, A
HAYBURN, AW
HAYES, AW
HAYWARD, HJ
HAYWARD, TW
HAYWARD, W
HENLEY, N
HERBERT, AG

HOLLIS, GV
HOSEGOOD, L
HYDE, E
JOHNSON, V
JOHNSTON, R
KENDALL, HD
KENNY, JL
KERRIGAN, FX
KLUMP, L
KNOX-PERRY, JA
LAING, W
LANE, LW
LANSER, B
LEE, D
LOVE, DF
LYON, W
MAGUIRE, EF
MAHER, W
MAHER, J
MANN, LE
MANN, JH
MARSHALL, R
MATESICH, E
McALARY, D
McCURLEY, RT
Mc GREGOR, RF
McKAY, R

McKAY, JD

McKINNON, A

McLEOD, HW

McLEOD, A

McMAUGH, LM

MOHR, RH

MUDIE, RP

MURPHY, G

NEWELL, A

NICHOLLS, TC

ORMAN, HJ

O'BRIEN, JA

O'NEIL, A

OLSEN, J

OOSBORN, S

PARR, G

PEAD, G

PEAD, SH

PORTEOUS, L

PORTEOUS, RJ

REID, COG

RITCHIE, A

RITCHIE, B

ROBERTS, AH

ROWE, J

SAUNDERS, JH

SHARKEY, OH

SHARPE, G
SMIRT, W
SMITH, J
SMITH, SG
SMITH, SB
SMITH, AW
SMITH, DA
SMITH, B
SMITH, S
SMITH, F
SPOKES, H
STEELE, EH
STEWART, JAW
St. LEDGER, WJ
SUTERS, HH
TAYLOR, E
THOMAS, C
THOMPSON, C
TISDELL, LS
TOMS, W
TURNER, S
WALKER, D
WALSH, FX
WARD, J
WARWICK, TH
WELSH, D
WILKINS, P

WILKINSON, W

WILKINSON, F

WILKINSON, T

WILLIAMS, E

WILLIAMS, GH

WILSON, TM

WILSLEY, GH

WISLEY, DA

WOODALL, JL

WOODALL, FH

WOODLANDS, H

WOOLFORD, CE

Appendix Two

Unveiling the memorial



From the **Port Macquarie News** , Saturday, April 2 1921

Unveiling the Memorial

"Owing to heavy showers of rain, it was half-past three o'clock when the ceremony of unveiling the War Memorial took place. Notwithstanding the unpleasant weather conditions there was a great gathering assembled when this tribute to the immortal memory of our district heroes was unveiled. The people felt that any little discomfort experienced was a very trifling sacrifice to make for the men whose name was graven on that stone - men who had suffered sickness and wounds and death that they might live in security and comfort all their lives. This was the unspoken feeling which dominated the crowd, and no discordant note marred the solemn occasion.

The Mayor said they had assembled to fulfil a promise made, when they had a temporary Honour Board, that on a future date they would erect a permanent memorial to the boys who had fought for them. This Memorial and Honour Roll of trachyte and red granite would perpetuate their memory for hundreds of years. There had been a divergence of opinion as to what form the memorial should take but to him it was something sacred, and moreover should be of a permanent character. A hall could not fulfil these conditions. All contributions had been direct and voluntary , and amongst them was a magnificent donation from the Wauchope branch of the R. S. and S. T. League. Many who had seen the memorial said it was one of the finest on the North Coast, and personally he considered they had done the right thing. He would call on the mayoress, Mrs. J. H. Hill, to unveil the memorial.

Mrs. Hill then unveiled the Memorial, and as the flag which covered it was removed, bandmaster McKee sounded the "Last Post", the crowd standing with bared heads as the notes of the bugle rang out.

Mr. R. Davidson thanked the committee for the opportunity to address the largest gathering he had ever seen in Port Macquarie. They had that day been celebrating the centenary of Port Macquarie , and reference had been made to the town's unfortunate beginning. The monument unveiled that day showed that the founders had builded far better than they knew, and the names on the Honour Roll showed what had been done by descendents of

those who came here a hundred years ago, and had left the spirit of the British Empire behind them. Great as that Empire was, it was unprepared for the world-war, and might have gone down, just because of her unpreparedness, but for the help of the allies. They must remember the gallant stand of little Belgium, at Liege, which enabled the British Regular Army to get to the front; of France, with the élan and dash of her soldiers, which enabled them to hold the foe at the Marne in the early days of the war; of Italy, who came in late; of Japan for her naval help; of America, whose army and navy rendered great help; and the smaller nations which helped to stem the rush of the common enemy. As new facts were disclosed, they more fully recognized the help rendered to England when she was almost on her knees. They were now feeling the aftermath of the war and there were still ominous rumblings in Russia, Greece and Turkey. The most of the trouble was due to finance and wisdom was needed to deal with this phase of the war's after effects. They must make good the great loss incurred, and ever increasing production alone would make up for the stupendous losses. When they thought of the work of the pioneers they realised what great difficulties had been met and overcome, and the progress made was patent to all; but the younger generation must realise that the days of pioneering were not yet over. New land was waiting to be opened up, new industries to be begun, and vast areas to be populated.

Port Macquarie was destined to become the sanatorium of the North Coast, and was becoming increasingly popular with those who sought rest and recreation. The monument they had just seen unveiled was constructed of Australian trachyte and Aberdeen granite, and would stand for hundreds of years as a record of the heroism of Port Macquarie and district soldiers, who had played their part well. These men had answered the call of duty voluntarily. They had gone away free and unfettered and their record was imperishable one [sic]. The Committee could be congratulated on its choice of a design, as the Memorial was an ornament to the town. They were thankful that so many of their brave boys had returned to take up the battle of peace in the same fine spirit they had displayed in war. The people responded freely towards defraying the cost of the monument, but the sum of £60 was still required, and he appealed for this so that the structure could be handed over free of debt. The sum required was collected in a few minutes, and Mr Davidson then formally handed the care of the monument over to the Mayor as the peoples representative, and expressed the hope that the Council would always see that it was well cared for.

Mr R.A. Price, M.L.A., said the monument was a credit to the town and district, and should be a scared and inspiring object to the generation now growing up. The memory of the lads would had not returned would dear(sic)to them all by reason of the great sacrifice they had made. No more righteous war had ever been waged, and if the German desire had been accomplished, they would not be free today. All would remember the enthusiasm displayed when the boys went away, and the paeans of joy when they returned, and they should not forget what they should not forget what they owed to their valor (sic) and self-sacrifice. He had always fought for preference to returned soldiers; for he believed "That greater love hath no man than this, that he should lay down his life for his friend". The boys had made the name of ANZAC famous, and it was hard to realise fully what these great Australians had done. Their mothers heartstrings had been torn asunder at the parting, and they had left everything to fight for liberty and the Empire. It was a very slight recompense for all they had endured to be granted preference on their return., and it was up to all to see that right and justice were meted out to them. Port Macquarie was worthy of the memorial, and the

memorial of Port Macquarie and the boys in whose it was erected. He honoured the women for the great sacrifices they had made. At the speakers request three cheers were given for the women, and heads were bared in honor of Nurse Cavell.

Mr. Theo. Hill, M.L.A., said Mr. Davidson's eloquent address had left him little to say. The speaker then reviewed the last seven years of history. The nations had been lulled into the belief that there would be no more wars, and England gave little heed to Lord Roberts' repeated warnings to the contrary. The consequence was that when the storm broke the Empire was unprepared. he believed then as he did now that it was the most just war that England had ever engaged in. They all knew how well their boys had acquitted themselves. The deeds of their men had been taken as the highest standards of courage. The young men here had done their duty nobly and well. Mr. Davidson had four children at the war (three sons and a daughter), and Mrs Dennis had four sons there and he was glad to know that all had returned. Their memorial was a magnificent one, and go where they would, a more handsome or appropriate one could not be seen. He wished to impress on them all the value of the men's' services, and hoped the memorial would inspire the young boys if the time ever came, with the need for doing their duty as the men whose names were thereon had done theirs. He congratulated the people of Port Macquarie on their achievement, and stated that anything he could do to advance the cause of returned soldiers he would gladly perform.

The Mayor said he had received telegraphic apologies for absence from Dr. Earle Page, M.H.R., and the Royal Historical Society. On behalf of the citizens he was pleased to accept the gift of the monument to Municipality of Port Macquarie and trusted that the present and succeeding councils would care for, cherish and look after it which he was sure they would do. It was an ornament to the town, and a magnificent gift, there being few memorials like it.. On behalf of the committee he thanked visitors from Sydney and elsewhere and all present, and hoped they would carry away pleasant recollections of the greatest day in Port Macquarie.

A good number of A.I.F. men were present, some in uniform, and many in civilian attire.

The Town Band, under the conductorship of Bandmaster McKee, played a well selected programme of music appropriate to the occasion in the intervals between the speeches. The bandsman mustered in force, and have rarely been heard to better advantage. The playing of "God Save the King" terminated the proceedings.

The memorial, which occupies a conspicuous position, and is seen to advantage by those entering the town by the main thoroughfare, has inscribed on it the names of 254 district soldiers. A star opposite a man's name denotes he was killed. As the dread sign recurs no less than 51 times, it will be realised what a heavy toll the war extracted from the flower of the district's manhood. On one side of the base of the memorial there is an inscription that reads, "Erected to Commemorate the Great World War, 1914-1919, and the Victory of the Allies". On another side is inscribed, "Unveiled on Port Macquarie Centenary, 30/3/21. J.H. Hill, Mayor". The memorial is an artistic piece of work, well executed. The design of the monument is a modification of an original drawing executed by Mr. good himself, and selected by the Port Macquarie War memorial Committee. On being submitted to the Advisory Board of the Minister for Local Government, alterations to the die and cap mould

were suggested, and, on the monument being redrawn, it was approved by the Minister. It consists of a Doric column, mounted on a pedestal and steps, the whole being architecturally correct, both in design and proportion. The total height of the monument is 21 feet, and it is 9 foot square on the bottom step, the material used being a combination of Bowral trachyte and red granite, partly polished and partly fine axed. The column proper is a beautiful piece of stone, made in one piece 10 feet 6 inches high by 1 foot 6 inches in diameter, and highly polished. The memorial serves the double purpose of an Honor Roll to those who enlisted and a memorial to the killed. We are of the opinion that the monument, although not as large and as costly as some already erected in New South Wales, is, in proportion and appearance, one of the best, and is certainly a credit to the town; and the contractor for the work (Mr. Alfred Goode, of George Street, West Sydney), who has carried out the work in a very satisfactory manner."



The Memorial in its original location at the intersection of Horton and Clarence Streets

Appendix Three

Alfred and Ernest Ostler - Soldier Settlers

OSTLER, Ernest

NAME	Ernest Ostler
BORN	c1887 Sitapur India
DIED	1964
MILITARY SERIAL NO.	4585
UNIT	30th Battalion
	Newcastle, 11 November 1916
	ENLISTED
	DISCHARGED



Ernest (left) and Alfred Ostler

On 23 November 1920, Ernest Ostler wrote to the Director of Soldier Settlements requesting information about obtaining a loan. He stated that he needed the money to purchase an oil engine and circular saw plant for the purpose of cutting out building timber. He stated he had a block at Pappinbarra Creek, near his brother (Alfred) and their cousin. [1] He eventually applied for his loan on 20 January 1921. His block at Pappinbarra Creek was in the Port Macquarie Land District, Parish of Forbes, County of Macquarie – Homestead Farm No. 1920.16.[2]

In April 1921, he wrote stating that his funds had run out and he needed financial help to carry on. He believed that if he received financial assistance to tide him over the unproductive period, 'that he would never look back'. [3] He also stated that he was in good health 'except for the occasional period of trench fever symptoms which were getting less severe and less frequent'. [4] He subsequently received £100 at this date but also received additional loan money in 1922 and 1924. [5]

By May 1934, he was married with six young children dependent upon him. At this date, he was milking nineteen cows whereas only a short time before, he had twenty nine. [6] As a result of his war injuries, he was unable to do any hard work and was obliged to employ labour. [7] He was receiving 38/- per month for running the Post Office at Upper Pappinbarra and both he and his wife, Nellie Reeson were receiving war pensions. [8] She was an English nurse whom he had met when he was being treated in hospital for his wounds and for being gassed. [9]



Ethel Ostler a sister of Ernest and Alfred, with four of the Ostler children and Malcolm Howe in front of land cleared for Soldier Settlement. Image donated by Tony Ostler.

Ernest was on his block until 1936 when he share farmed the property.[10] He moved to Port Macquarie for six months before moving to Harrington on the Manning River where he took over the Post Office.[11]

Footnotes

[1] SRNSW: Lands Department; NRS 8058, Returned Soldiers loan files; [12/7165 No. 6383], Ernest Ostler to the Director of Soldier Settlements 23 November 1920.

[2] Ibid, Application for Loan 20 January 1921.

[3] Ibid, Ernest Ostler to the Director of Soldier Settlements 6 April 1921.

[4] Ibid.

[5] Ibid, District Surveyor to Under Secretary for Lands 17 April 1924.

[6] Ibid, CP Inspector A.W. Glasson to the District Surveyor, East Maitland 4 May 1934.

[7] Ibid.

[8] Ibid.

[9] Tony Ostler, *Recollections of a Soldier Settler's Son*, Wauchope, 12 April 2010.

[10] Ibid.

[11] Ibid.

Sources used to compile this entry:

State Records NSW: Lands Department; NRS 8058, Returned Soldiers loan files; [12/7165 No. 6383], Ernest Ostler.

National Archives of Australia: B2455, First Australian Imperial Force Personnel Dossiers (Ernest Ostler) online: <http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/scripts/Imagine.asp?B=8004608>

Tony, Ostler, *Recollections of a Soldier Settler's Son*, Wauchope, 12 April 2010.

OSTLER, Alfred George

NAME	Alfred George Ostler
BORN	c1897, Norwich, England
DIED	1962
MILITARY SERIAL NO.	2639
UNIT	33rd Battalion
ENLISTED	West Maitland – 29 July 1916
DISCHARGED	Sydney – 4 June 1920 – medically unfit gunshot wound to the head



Ernest (left) and Alfred George Ostler

Alfred George Ostler had a Homestead Farm of 222 acres in the Port Macquarie Land District, Parish of Forbes, County of Macquarie. It was a part of Upper Pappinbarra Soldier Settlement.[1] He stated that he required his Advance for a house, clearing, stock, and a dairy.[2]

Albert wrote to the Under Secretary for Lands on 9 June 1923 asking that the terms of repayment be reviewed. He acknowledged that the terms would be manageable for successful settlers and asked that 'the burden be made a little lighter' for himself.[3] It is not known if he was successful in this. By 20 October 1926, he was milking fifteen cows but due to the shortage of feed they were 'strong but low in condition'.[4] It is not known how long Alfred stayed on his block. The last date provided in the loan file is 26 August 1927.

Footnotes

[1] SRNSW: Lands Department; NRS 8058, Returned Soldiers loan files; [12/7108 No. 5622] Application for Loan 18 October 1920.

[2] Ibid, Returned Soldiers' Settlement Branch Office Memorandum, February 1922.

[3] Ibid, Albert Ostler to E.P. Fleming, Under Secretary for Lands, 9 June 1923.

[4] Ibid, CP Inspector's Report, 20 October 1926.

Sources used to compile this entry:

State Records NSW: Lands Department; NRS 8058 Returned Soldiers loan files; [12/7108 No. 5622], Alfred George Ostler.

National Archives of Australia: B2455, First Australian Imperial Force Personnel Dossiers (Alfred George Ostler) online:

<http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/scripts/Imagine.asp?B=8004605>

Appendix Four

Recollections of a Soldier Settler's Son

By Tony Ostler Oct.14, 2010

My father, Ernest Ostler, ex 30th Battalion was one of those who took up the option of a block of land gazetted for settlement in an area known as the Cedar Scrub on Pappinbarra Creek some 30 miles in the old scale, from Wauchope on the Hastings River – Pappinbarra Creek being a large tributary to that river.

Firstly I will give you a brief history of my father, Ernest Ostler and the type of man he was. He was a quiet man, some 6 feet tall, dark complexioned, able to put problems into perspective as they arose. All his life he was a person who seemed to me a father figure and people would come to him for advice and guidance. He just went about his business in a quiet orderly way. Dad was born in India, in 1887, at Sitapur, the son of a British Quarter Master Sergeant serving on the North West Frontier. Unfortunately his mother died when he was a very small boy and subsequently his father remarried, I think back in England where most of the 9 children of that marriage were born. In the early 1900's, the family migrated to Australia eventually settling in the Hastings area, where Dad worked at various positions. Following the outbreak of World War I, Dad with 2 of his brothers enlisted in the A.I.F., eventually ending up in France and action on the Western Front. As we all know this was not a picnic in the park, he took quite a battering, wounded in the legs as well as being severely gassed and ending back in a military hospital in Blighty (England). His wounds and especially the gassing were to severely affect his health for the rest of his life. It was while recuperating in hospital that he met my mother, Nellie Reeson, a member of the nursing staff. She was a reasonably well educated young lady and from what she told me and the photos I have seen, back it up, came from quite a well to do Lincolnshire family. Her father owned a substantial amount of property as well as a flour mill. Young ladies of that standing just didn't work in military hospitals, her mother and father didn't approve, especially her mother.

Following the cessation of hostilities with Germany, Dad was repatriated back to Australia and finally honourably discharged at Wauchope. Mum, feisty young lady that she was, against all family wishes, packed up her bags, and followed Dad out to Australia marrying him in Wauchope – I think on May 21st 1921. That will give you an idea of what my parents were like, one quiet and steady, the other more volatile – someone who hated injustice, but who was intensely loyal.

They settled down to married life, Dad working around the area and where three little boys, Keith, myself (Tony) and Bruce were born. It was then he secured the afore mentioned block of land, at what was finally to be known as Upper Pappinbarra. His brother Alfred, also in the ballot secured the adjoining property.

Pappinbarra Creek, headwaters in the now Mount Boss National Park, the largest and longest tributary feeding the Hastings, junctions into two arms some four miles down the creek from Dad's block of land, with both arms gazetted for Soldier Settlement. Now all this land was virgin scrub clothed in some of the heaviest forest, both rain forest and eucalypt on the North Coast, never been touched by the blade of a sharp axe, making the task of clearing the land



for settlement truly a daunting one. A fair proportion was never even occupied by those who won them in the ballot and I'm led to believe one man even committed suicide. I think there would have been sixteen or seventeen blocks all told and to my knowledge only six were finally settled by ex-servicemen, including my father's and two, one on either side of his, occupied. That included my Uncle Alf's.

Dad set about having his land cleared, either felling the trees or ring-barking the extra large ones

which were huge; burning it after it had dried off and then sowing down pasture. Most of the timber for the building of the homes and farm sheds were pit-sawn on the properties or into rough split slabs from suitable logs.

Our old home was built of some pit-sawn timber and slabs and lined to keep the cold out. A veranda out the back and one in the front, with a timber shingled roof. It was built butter-box style (no Jørn Utzon's around then) durable and serviceable. I have no recollection of moving to Pappinbarra, I was still too small, but have a vivid picture in my mind of my mother arriving home in the horse and sulky with baby number four, my little brother David. Dad was on the reins and Bruce in the middle with his leg all bandaged up.

We obviously had been living at Pappinbarra for some time, and while Mum was in hospital producing David, Dad was caring for us older three. Unfortunately accidents can happen in the best of family circles and I was the cause of a rather nasty one, leaving the lid of an opened 4 gallon kerosene tin laying in the backyard, Bruce tripped over it gashing his little leg very badly, which resulted a trip to hospital, hence the bandages and arriving home with baby David.

Ethel Ostler a sister of Ernest and Alfred, with four of the Ostler children and Malcolm Howe in front of land cleared for Soldier Settlement. Image donated by Tony Ostler.

Another time Mum was doing the family wash in a copper over an open fire in the back yard, Bruce with his little hatchet, splitting up kindling. Toddler David placed a stick of kindling on the block and Bruce accidentally severed David's middle finger and badly gashing the other. This meant another trip to Wauchope, 30 miles away in Uncle's car to see the doctor. I can still picture the scene in my mind.

I also remember the February 1929 flood: massive, still talked about in the Hastings by those of my vintage. We were really cut off from the world.

Drought and fires spring to mind and the struggle to keep weakened cattle alive – very trying times for everyone indeed. There wouldn't be many children in Australia who would have heard the eerie call of a dingo which was a frequent event in those days at Pappinbarra

especially on a cold winter's night. Their howling would send shivers up the backs of little boys, as we cuddled together in their bed, the animals only a few hundred yards away.

In the mid twenties with the phone now on and Dad working in the postal exchange, in a one room office erected on the end of the front of our veranda. This was a wonderful boon and gave a little extra cash for the finances. In the early days, Dad also had the mail run using a horse and sulky, where he had to pick up the mail from the next post office. I think this was at least twice a week to some 10 miles away. Finally we had a mail-man who arrived in a car three times a week.

Like most children in those days, slackness wasn't encouraged and we all had our farm chores, feeding chooks, pigs, and poddy calves and many other jobs. By the end of the twenties a good set of bails and a dairy had been built and set-up and a herd of cows to use them. Our cows were very quiet and it was not unusual for Bruce and me, one on either side with stools and bucket to milk one of the cows standing in the yard. We had become quite adept at hand-milking. I wouldn't do it now, no way. I guess it would be around this time I developed a great love of cattle, both dairy and beef to this very day. It gladdens my eye to see a good herd of cattle and always will.

The dairying industry at that time was totally different to what it is today, and the keeping of pigs was essential to supplement farm income. Subsequently corn or maize as it is known, was grown to feed the pigs to add to the separated milk as their diet. The combination produced very good pigs for sale. Corn paddocks had to be ploughed up with draught horses and prepared for planting, not too many tractors around then, they arrived on the scene post World War II. Then the young corn had to be scuffled and again with horses with an implement known as a scarifier to keep down the weeds and hill the young corn. This was all hard work and very time consuming. At the end of this and with the onset of winter, the corn and the cobs that developed dried off and had to be pulled (that is the cobs) and put in the barn. Again, with one horse and cart, and now with all hands on deck: Mum, Dad and the kids and anybody else who showed up. The weather was a big factor, the corn had to be dry for pulling. Corn pulling didn't always go down too well with the kids, but it had to be done. As an aside, the young corn cobs, colloquially known as mutti was a delicious supplement to add to the dinner table as well, for the family. Still to this day, I love it.

Chooks were another essential for their eggs and the table, and of course they had to be cared for and housed every night. We didn't want any of them falling prey to a marauding fox or quoll, even a goanna pinching the eggs. I still like chooks.

Fruit and vegetables are a must on any farm, there were no supermarkets then and it was too far away anyway, so we always had plenty of vegies and fruit. Mum did a lot of fruit preserving, especially peaches, pears and plums, and it was all hands on deck again peeling the fruit. There was much grizzling and moaning from the younger generation. Any large containers were used for preserving even an odd kerosene tin was brought into use. Dad would cut the lid off, thoroughly cleanse the tin ready for the fruit and then solder the lid back on with the fruit cooked and inside.

I might add some history here on the value of the four gallon kerosene tin. With no electricity, all lighting had to be from lamps run on kerosene, and being so far from town it was much more expedient to buy it in bulk. The empty four gallon drums (square in shape), were made excellent use of in a multiple of ways. Vessels for carrying water around the

house and garden, having the lid cut off, and a handle put in for carrying. Also in the dairy, especially for washing down purposes and carrying separated milk for calves and pigs. They also found a use in outside dunnies, very important, as there were no inside toilets those days. Also while I'm on the subject of bulk, the same went for sugar and flour. All in bags, you never knew when you might be cut off from town by floods or even bushfires. My mother always made good use of the bags in many ways especially the flour bags. She was a very practical woman. We made our own butter from the cream produced on the farm. All hands to the wheel turning the churn for the finished product. Homemade bread was always on the menu, Dad was a dab-hand at baking bread and with a growing family it was a never ending job. A great combination: fresh bread or scones, fresh cream and homemade jam. The elixir of life!

Transport was always a problem, Dad never held a licence, so no car. For the very early years of the children's lives there was the pony and sulky, until Dad came very close to losing his life trying to cross a flooded creek. No pony, no sulky. From then on it was either the mail car of the cream lorry for a necessary trip to Wauchope. The kids and men on the back of the cream lorry with the cans: shame if it was raining!

Dad always kept a vealer or two, plus the same with the pigs for farm slaughter and meat for the table. I hated having to help skin a beast which was not the most pleasant job in the world. No fridges or freezers in those days and because of the lack of electricity, much of the meat had to be salted down and preserved in a specially made brine. Also the old time meat safe came in handy and hung up in cool air, and kept away from those icons of the Australian bush, blow flies.

Education: My mother especially was very strong on this aspect of life and as there was no school closely situated, she elected to teach us through the old Blackfriars Correspondence School. She was well equipped to do this and laid down basics until a subsidised school was built on the property and a teacher was engaged to put a bit of polish on us kids and the neighbours children. At most there would have been up to a dozen children attending. The teachers and there were three all told over a period of time, always boarded with our family, one teacher Bill Lake in particular, had a profound effect on my life as a person which has benefitted me greatly. Unfortunately he was to lose his life, while serving in the R.A.A.F. during World War II.

There is so much I could recall, but there is a limit to everything. Life was hard for parents, their sacrifices monumental, but the children knew no other life and by and large were happy and contented. Education being the main factor in my family's case, change had to take place. At this time 1936, when I was 12 years of age, Dad made the big move. Share farmed the property out and moved to Port Macquarie for six months, until relocating to Harrington on the Manning River and taking over the Post Office there. I finished my primary schooling at Harrington Public and then on to Taree High for the rest of my school days.

By that time World War II was in full swing and Japan was causing a bit of angst in the Pacific Zone I was now 18 years of age and joined the Army. I had a bit of a problem persuading my parents, especially Mum, giving permission so that I could join the A.I.F. but she finally gave in. I served in various places in Australia including Darwin when it certainly wasn't a tourist attraction, finally being posted to Bougainville and active service. I was in Rabaul at the end of the war before returning to Australia and was discharged in Sydney after nearly 4 ½ years Army service, and still only 22 years of age.

I returned to the old farm at Pappinbarra exactly 10 years to the month since I left in 1936. A lot of water had flowed down that old creek in those years, I had well and truly grown up, seen quite a lot, met and associated with a lot of wonderful men, some who never made it back home.

I joined my brother David, now grown up on the old farm. We had dairy cattle together until I bought my own farm next door, having met and married the lady of my life, Pat a city girl. I ran a successful farm, raised three wonderful children and seven grandchildren, now at 86 well and truly “retired”. Unfortunately I’m now on my own, but still very active and enjoying life, with a great family and many friends.

This sums up my recollections as a soldier settler’s son and I feel so honoured to be the son of that man, Ernest Ostler and his redoubtable English war bride.

Source:

A Land Fit for Heroes? A History of Soldier Settlement in New South Wales, 1916-1939

<http://soldiersettlement.records.nsw.gov.au/index.php/about/>

Appendix Five

Charles Henry "Harry" Nicholls

Charles Henry "Harry" Nicholls was born on 6th February 1897 to William Wood Nicholls and Catherine Lyon Nicholls (nee Paddle) at Port Macquarie. He was killed at Pozieres, Belgium on 12th September 1916. He is buried at 127 Railway Dugouts Burial Ground, Zillebeke, Belgium. Harry bought a diary in France to record his experiences and it is reproduced below courtesy of Anne Keena, a relative.

The first daily entry in Harry's diary is for 19 March 1916 and the last date of entry is 10 September 1916.

MARS (March)

- 19** Dimanche (Sunday) Inspected at Serapeum Camp by the Prince of Wales and his staff. Band played the King and a march while they rode past.
- 20** Lectured and inspected by our Battalion CO. Commanding Officer Major Stephens.
- 21** Left Serapeum Camp at 3.30pm and bivouacked at Railway Station till 1am. Then entrained for Alexandria.
- 22** Entrained at Serapeum Railway Station at 1am for Alexandria arriving there at 10am. Embarked on board the Cunard Liner Ivernia for France.
- 23** Allotted our life boats in case of accident. Had to wear our life belts all day. Inoculated second time. Lights out every night at seven.
- 24** Alarm sounded and all hands had to fall in at their boat posts.
- 25** Passed Malta on the left.
- 26** Passed Sardinia and Corsica. Water very calm. (Sunday)
- 27** Arrived at Toulon and lay in the harbour till 6am 28th. Three other transports in the harbour.
- 28** Left Toulon at 6am for Marseilles arriving there at 10.30am after a fairly rough trip and being sick once. Drew near to wharf 1pm. Disembarked at 4.30pm and marched through the streets to the town. Entrained at 7.30pm
- 29** Passed through some beautiful villages. Stopped at Lyons and supplied with hot water for dinner by French nurses.
- 30** Stopped at Versailles a town just out of Paris for tea. Saw the Eiffel Tower of Paris.
- 31** Arrived at Renescure after trip of 58 hours in the train. Allotted our billets. The bandsmen billeted on a farm.

AVRIL (April)

- 1** Had a look around the village with some mates.
- 2** Played the hymns for church parade in the morning and at a concert by the men of A Company at night.
- 3** Alarm given and we all had to get out of bed at 9.30pm and were marched down to the village and had to stand to arms for an hour.
- 4** Very cold and windy very much like as if it was going to snow. Played a programme in village square in the afternoon.
- 5** Practiced some fresh marches in the morning and wrote letters in the afternoon.

6 Played programme in village square in the afternoon. Was paid our first pay while in France £1.8.8 or 40 franc.

7 Every man in the Battalion had to join his ranks and we were marched about 2 miles to a big paddock. Had to go through a dummy trench full of gas with our helmets. A Tommy Officer gave us a lecture on gas and how to use our helmets.

8 Practice in the morning. Half Holiday. Wrote some postcards. Daily routine. German Fokker plane came down in the village and the driver taken prisoner. Came down thro' running out of oil. Word came through that another had come down in the next village.

9 Received orders to be ready to move off at 7 am on the 10th inst. Supposed to be going to the trenches. Two taubs(?) flew over the village. Played programme in the village in the afternoon.

10 Left Renescure village at 7am arriving at our new billet at 1pm after a march of 16 miles. We were very tired and foot sore. Passed through a lot of villages. Billet on a farm on the outskirts of the village of Merris.

11 Had a hot shower bath at Divisional showers and a change of under clothing. Walked to the village of Meteren and had a look around. A heavy bombardment started about 4.30pm not very far away from here.

12 Woke up at 5.30am and had to be ready to march onto the parade ground. Fallen in on parade ground and inspected by General Walker. It rained nearly all day. Received letter from England.

13 Went for a short route march in the morning. Weather a little warmer. Received letter from Edie

14 It rained in the morning. Went for a short route march and sleet began to fall on our return journey. Joyce Paddle's birthday.

15 Sleet still falling. Went for a long route march with D and C Companies and the Captain shouted a drink for each bandsman (22 in all) when we came back for our good playing.

16 Church parade in the morning. Generals Birdwood and Maxwell and their staff were on parade. Played a programme at Battalion Headquarters in the afternoon. Weather getting warrner. Received letters from L Mander, Rita and Maude.

17 Still raining and very cold. Issued with our steel helmets. A rumour going round that we are off to the trenches on the morrow.

18 Left Merris at 11.30am arriving at our next billet about six miles nearer the firing line at 2.30pm after a pretty rough march through water and slosh. Paid 5 francs or 317. Billet in the outskirts of Sailly.

19 Left Sailly for the trenches. Entered trenches about 8pm. On duty from 9pm till stand to. The trenches are very sloppy. Relieved the Pantanks (?) (an English regiment.)

20 Had to stand to from 4am till 5am. Germans very quiet with their rifles. Two German tanks flying over the trenches

21 On duty all night and on look out duty with three mates working one hour shifts. Still raining and the ground very sloppy. Watched as duel between French and German aeroplanes and anti-aircraft guns. One German plane brought down.

22 Stood to from 4am to 5am. Still raining and very cold. Germans firing a few ins-bangs but no damage done. Received letter from Rita.

23 Weather very warm. Left firing trench and went into the supports for four days spells or light duties. Put on guard for the four days. Having a good time. Part of firing line which we occupy is called Layes River Post. Piece of aluminium dropped near my dug out.

24 Usual daily routine guard duties. Watched the Germans shelling a couple of cottages at the back of our lines and a couple of airships.

25 Continued guard duties. Germans shelled our communications trenches. Watched our aeroplanes manoeuvring over the enemies lines. Terrible rifle fire going on between our men and enemy during the night.

26 Continued guard duties. Germans shelling our lines with trench mortars. Warned to keep our gas helmets as the Germans were making a gas attack on our left flank. Received letters from Auntie Hilda and Ethel Grahame

27 Guard duties as usual. Very heavy artillery duel between our gunners and the enemies from 10.30pm to 1.30pm. We were called out of bed and had to stand for the hour. A lot of shrapnel and pieces of shell dropped about my dugout.

28 Weather continuing very warm. Enemies fire very quiet all day. Watched enemy firing at our aeroplanes and some of the shrapnel and pieces of shell fell over my dugout.

29 Weather still very warm. Very heavy rifle fire on our right flank early in the morning. Still on guard duties. Received letters from Thelma A Roper (?), Daisy Kean and Rita's photos. Letter from Rita.

30 Guard duties. Watched the German's trying to bring down three of our planes. Three of the planes flew off across the German lines towards Germany. Came back into firing line in the evening. Received letters Vera, 2 home, Rita, Bill, Ruby Denham, 2 Thelma, E Hollis.

MAI (May)

1 On look out duty watching enemies trenches. Things very quiet.

2 Our guns opened up on enemy for a bombardment but enemy would not reply. Our aeroplanes manoeuvring round on the lookout for enemy gun positions.

3 Relieved from trenches by 4th Battalion. Sent back into reserve billets. Put on guard over Tommy's gun supports very good job. Fourteen Tree is the name of guard post.

4 Enemies aeroplanes flying round on the lookout for our big guns. Driven off by anti aircraft guns. Was told by a Tommy that the gun we are guarding put a German Field Battery out of action. Noise enough to deafen one when the gun fires.

5 Day very sultry. Germans shelled the battery we are guarding, but no damage done to guns. The farm houses nearby blown to bits and road blown up. Our battery opened up on Germans in afternoon. Very heavy bombardment on our left flank. Germans attacked under gas.

6 Things very quiet along the line. Had a walk around the town of Bac-Saint-Maur.

7 Days still warm. Gun removed to another part of line. A few aeroplanes flying over head. Things very quiet along the line.

8 Weather wet and cold. Strong wind blowing from the west. Too windy for aeroplanes. Paid 20 francs or 14/-.

9 Still raining and very cold. A few aeroplanes flying about.

10 Relieved from guard duty by men from B Company. Sent with some more men to dig a new communication trench near firing line in the night. Got back to billet after 12pm. Received letter from Richard.

11 On duty with Pioneers putting duck boards down in new support trenches from 7am till 4pm. Made to walk about 3 miles from the billet.

12 Still on the duck board fatigue for a couple of hours. Shifted from old billet to a guard billet.

13 On fatigue work filling sand bags for dressing station behind firing lines. Weather very wet and cold. Received parcel from L Bones 1212116

14 Weather finer and warmer. On fatigue with pioneer surveyor surveying a section of the trenches. Saw Cpl H Price (?) Received letter from Thelma

15 On fatigue building dug out for dressing station. Weather very wet and ground sloppy

16 Still on dug out fatigue. Germans fired a lot of shells at one of our batteries and our aeroplanes.

17 Had a day off to-day. Weather lovely and warm. Rumour going round that we are going back to Sailly tomorrow for a month's spell. Third Brigade taking our place in firing line. Received letters 2 home, ?, 2 Edie, Thelma, Phyllis, Claude, Preston.

18 Removed from reserves back into drill billets for drill and a spell. Received papers home, Edie and Rita.

19 Had drill for four hours. A few aeroplanes flying about. Lectured on how to talk when we are in the village.

20 Weather very warm. Given a lecture on the use of gas helmets. Paid 20 francs or 14l-. Received letters from Rita and Edie Welch.

21 Weather very hot. The men are having a bit of a jollification and have painted some of their faces with the soot off the field kitchen. Received letter from Claude.

22 Weather very hot. On fatigue digging trench for cable wires from 8.30pm 21't until 4am 22'd. Saw Jim Badge (Budge?). Had a walk round Sailly with him. Received letters from Rita, Auntie Edie and Auntie Bess.

23 Sent to relieve a man on guard at the Tree Post. Saw a fight between two game cocks. English officer driving along in car stopped and had look at it too.

24 Empire Day. On daily routine of guard duties. Weather very warm in morning but dull and cold in the afternoon. Rained a little during the night. Tank machine manoeuvring round well behind our firing line our anti aircraft guns fired on it but failed to bring it down.

25 Still raining and cold. Still on guard duties. Things seem very quiet in the firing line.

26 Weather very dull. Very heavy bombardment going on the left towards Armentieres. A few aeroplanes flying round.

27 A bit of strafing going on with our guns. Weather a little brighter. Received letters Rita, Lucy W, Rene W and Mabel.

28 Nothing to state.

29 Very dull and inclined to be cold. Watch the trail trip of the new aeroplane. Raided during the night. Cleaned dirt from along duck boards of trench.

30 Still dull and cold. Very heavy bombardment on our sector of the trenches now occupied by 3'd Brigade. Received letter from Rita.:

31 Weather very warm. Went to YMCA at Bac St Maur and met Jack Mills. Rumour reported that 2'd Brigade lost a lot of men in previous nights attack.

JUIN (June)

1 The Battalion inspected by Mr W Hughes but I was unable to go as I was on duty. Watched a couple of our aeroplanes chasing a couple of tanks. But tanks too fast for ours. One of our observation balloons broke away and the wind carried it away across the German lines. Received parcel from Rita.

2 Germans putting a lot of big shells into the village of Tilverbaix (?) and nearby.

3 (nothing written)

4 Germans shelled the road and billets not far from here. Heard rumour that there has been a big naval battle in North Sea and 20 of our ships sunk. Heavy bombardment on our right flank during the night.

5 Weather very cloudy, windy and exceptionally cold. Got full account of North Sea battle in paper. Rained during the night.

6 Still raining and very cold. Very little artillery fire on our sector of line. Staff Officer inspected our post. Received parcel from Richard.

7 Weather very dull and cold. Paid 20 francs and then went over to canteen and YMCA to get some requisites. Received letters Edie, Roy, Claude, Mabel A and A Atkinson, E Welch, Rita, Olie (?), Mrs Staples, Auntie ??

8 Weather still dull. Went to Bac St Maur for a walk saw J Badge. Saw the account of Lord Kitcheners death in paper. Filled the day in in writing letters. Received letters mother, Rev Wilson, Claude and Thelma.

9 Rumoured that we are going into the trenches again tomorrow. A pair of planes flying over head. Received parcel from Mrs Teare.

10 Left 14 Tree Post relieved by 8th Battalion. Left Sailly for firing line at 8pm got to post at 11pm. Rained nearly all night. Received letter from Lena, Rita, Richard, Maude, D Orchard, E Hollis, L Bones, Papers from Edie and parcel Renie W.

- 11** Still raining but cleared off later in the day. Had a look at German trenches about 300 yds from our own. We shelled the German parapets with our trench mortars.
- 12** Still raining and fairly cold. Raiding party went out from D Company to German lines and captured six prisoners and a machine gun and killed a good many. Rita's Birthday.
- 13** Still raining and very cold. Had to stand to from 12pm till 8am while raiding party was out. Our artillery bombed Fritz's parapets to pieces. Received papers from Edie and Rita.
- 14** Transferred from A Company to Scouts Platoon and attached to D Company. Weather a bit finer. Received Sydney Herald from Rita.
- 15** Weather cleared up and warmer. A party went out on patrol from A Company and met a German Patrol which bombed them wounding some.
- 16** Sun shining brightly first time since we came in. Gas alarm sounded during the night and we all had to stand to. Heavy bombardment on our left flank.
- 17** Weather still fine and warm. Watched a duel between three enemy planes and three of ours. Two enemy planes supposed to be brought down inside their own lines and one behind our trenches. on patrol work in no man's land during the night. Received letter Maude.
- 18** Went down the line to 2 Battalion to see the boys but they were away. Payed 20 francs. Heavy bombardment all night.
- 19** Weather very dull and cold again very much like rain. A lot of strafing going on with the artillery.
- 20** Weather fine and warm. Saw a big fire in church at Armentieres caused by an enemy shell. Church burnt to the ground.
- 21** Weather still fine. Saw Jim Badge (Budge?) and had a good yarn with him. A lot of aircraft manoeuvring about and enemy fired a lot of shots at our planes. Took reports to headquarters.
- 22** Watched another fight between two of our planes and a tank. Pulled out of bed about midnight for gas alarm and had to put gas helmet on.
- 23** Heavy storm in the afternoon. A lot of strafing going on with the artillery. A shell burst in a dugout and wounded three men. Received letters t home, 2 Rita, Claude, Thelma, Lucy, Edie, Bessie.
- 24** Heavy artillery duel all afternoon. Relieved from trenches by 4th Battalion. Saw A Andrews and M Way in Fleurbeaux after I got to my new billet. Had a stroll round the village.
- 25** Had a look round the town with one of my mates. Went on fatigue laying cables in the night. Heavy bombardment going on nearly all the time we were there. Arrived home at 2am.
- 26** Slept till 9.30am and had breakfast about 10am. Our officer inspected our gas helmets in the afternoon and gave us a short lecture.
- 27** Trained nearly all day. Our CO gave us a lecture on gas and carefulness of speech when talking to strangers. Inspection of rifles and rations
- 28** The enemy shelled the billet of B Company and caused a number of casualties. Had a yarn with A Andrews. Heavy artillery action during the night.
- 29** Weather finer. Watched a fight between two of the scouts. Went on fatigue at night at 'Convent Wall' putting up barbwire fence for entanglements and had to come home early on account of bombardment.
- 30** Went to Bac St Maur for a bath. On fatigue putting out barbwire entanglements at night. Heavy artillery fire all the time we were working. Fritz spotted us and turned a machine gun on us but no one was hurt.

JUILLET (July)

- 1** A lot of aeroplanes flying about. On gas guard at night. Heavy bombardment on our right. Warned to go away with bandsmen to practice some new marches but did not go
- 2** Fritz put a shell into our billet about 3am and we all had to get out as quickly as possible but no more shells followed.
- 3** Fritz shelled our billet again about 3 am and we had to get out, one shell hit the road nearly

opposite our billet and wounded 3 of the scouts and killed one. Ordered to get our gear ready to proceed to Saily. Left Fleurbaix at 12pm and proceeded to our new billet about 1 mile out of Saily.

4 Had a good feed of cherries fresh off the trees. Had a walk round with two mates and had a look at the countryside.

5 Had a kit inspection and rifle drill in the morning and a route march in the afternoon. Received letters home, 2 Rita, Charlie.

6 Drill and bathing parade in the morning. Went for a route march about 6 miles in the afternoon. Marched through Dalleuil and around the outskirts of Estaires.

7 Bomb practice and bayonet drill in the morning. Went for another route march through Dalleul and back through Estaires. Received letter from Maude.

8 Inspected by our Colonel in the afternoon and were told that we were leaving the billet early next morning.

9 Left our billet at 7.30 and joined the battalion about Sam and marched about 8 miles arriving

at our old billets that we were in before we went to the trenches.

10 Left billet at Outerstune at 9.30pm and proceeded to railway station at Bailnet. Left station at 12.30 for unknown. Arrived at Flenvillers-Candas station at 6.30am. Left station at 8am and proceeded to a village about 8 miles arriving at 12 noon. Village Domaft

11 Arrived at village of Domart at 12pm. Had good rest ready for next day.

12 Left billet and marched about 8 miles to our next village. Had to climb a large hill and when

at the top had a good view of the countryside village Vigna Court(?)

13 Left village about 2pm and proceeded to next village about 12 miles off. Passed through three small villages on the route. Village Allenville(?)

14 Bayonet exercise and squad drill in the morning. Met Mick Coombes with Norm Way in the afternoon. Paid 20 francs or 14/-

15 Bayonet drill in morning. Ordered to stand by in case we had to move off in the afternoon. Mess orderly for the day and had to draw water out of a well about two hundred feet deep for the cooks. Received letters home, Rita, and Edie.

16 Left billets at 10.15am and proceeded to Warby-Ballion a village about 8 miles nearer the fring line.

17 Went for a route march in the morning and had to stand by ready to move off at half hours notice.

18 Had to stand by all the morning. Had physical exercises in the afternoon. Saw three German prisoners going along the street under escort.

19 Came into the trenches at night. A lot of heavy strafing with the artillery while we were coming in. Received letter from home

20 On fatigue carting water and rations. Dug a dugout for myself. Very heavy bombarding at night. Ona Keena's birthday.

21 On fatigue carrying bombs and flare lights ready for advance. More heavy artillery duels. Watched a duel in the air between two of our planes and two of the enemies. One of the enemies brought down. Our planes also set one of the enemies balloons on fire.

22 General advance. Scouts and bombers went over the parapet and advanced to an unoccupied trench and cleaned it out. Bombardment started about 12pm and the advance followed.

23 Scouts and bombers lined out into shell holes and dug a sap about one hundred yds from German front line. Heavy shelling all night. Watched 5 of our chaps capture 4 Germans in a cellar.

24 Germans shelled our trench all day. Had to retire out of it late in the afternoon but went back later on.

25 Captured a trench with bombs and machine guns. Took a lot of prisoners and left a lot of Germans killed in the trench. I was wounded in the right arm and right buttock late in the afternoon. Was driven in motor car to different dressing stations and then taken to No 3 clearing station.

- 26** Wounds cleaned and dressed in the morning. Left clearing station by train at about 12.30pm and arrived at Etaples about 7pm. Entered No 1 Canadian Hospital. Bob Campbell in the same ward as I am.
- 27** Nothing to report
- 28** (nothing written)
- 29** Marked for convalescent camp. Weather very hot and sultry.
- 30** Was inspected by Doctor. Went to church in the evening with the Sister of the ward I was in.
- 31** Left No 1 Hospital for convalescent camp about two miles away. Weather very hot. Went to a concert in YMCA hut at night.

AOUT (August)

- 1** Went to Base to get some pay but did not get any. Met Vic Kenny whilst there. He had just come from England.
- 2** Inspected by Dr of conv camp and had wound dressed. Went to the orchestral recital in YMCA hut at night.
- 3** Went down to the Australian training camp to find some of the boys but had to no luck. Went to concert in YMCA hut at night.
- 4** Inspected by Dr and marked for Oasa. Met some boys from Camden Haven in YMCA hut.
- 5** On ration fatigue in the morning had to go to railway station to load ration wagons. Left convalescent camp for Base, arrived at Base at 6.30pm and met Bob Burns Sgt Major of B Company 1st Depot Battalion.
- 6** Paid 20 francs by adjutant of 1st Depot Battalion. On fatigue moving tents.
- 7** Details fallen into line and the officer asked for volunteers to join the Battalion. I was one to volunteer. Inspected by Dr and passed fit.
- 8** Joined depot lines in the morning and issued with all shortages. Listened to a lecture given by Secretary of Royal Army Temperance Association. Watched aeroplane land in the Bull Ring and went down and had a good look at it and watched it rise.
- 9** Watched a dirigible flying over the channel. Went to the hospital to see a mate in the afternoon.
- 10** Went to the Bull Ring for bomb and first aid instructions. On ration fatigue in the afternoon.
- 11** On fatigue all the morning. Went to rifle range for instructions in the afternoon and had to march about six miles.
- 12** Drill in the morning. Went for a steam bath with my mates in the afternoon. Weather very hot.
- 13** Went on church parade in the morning. Went to church and communion at night.
- 14** Had a tooth pulled by the camp dentist. Paid 40 francs £1.8.8.
- 15** Went to Bull Ring for drill but came back to camp early with three mates.
- 16** Went to Bull Ring for drill. On fatigue during the afternoon carrying rations. Went to concert in the evening given in aid of the Depot Band.
- 17** More drill in the Ring all the morning. Went to concert in the YMCA at night.
- 18** Drill all the morning.
- 19** Drill in the morning. YMCA sports in the afternoon. I made one of the team in the tug of war. Artillery team won the pull.
- 20** Drill in the Bull Ring in the morning. Went to Church and communion in the evening. Received card from Aunt Nancy.
- 21** More drill in Bull Ring. Went to Mr Lorell's lecture on the war in the evening.
- 22** Drill as usual. The YMCA finished off their sports from Saturday afternoon.
- 23** Instructed by SM that we are to proceed to Battalion on the morrow. Went to lantern lecture in YMCA tent.
- 24** Inspected by Dr and Camp Adjut in the morning. Left camp about 2pm and proceed to train. Left Etaples station about 3pm for Battalion.

25 Arrived at No 3 Clearing Station about 2pm after a very tedious trip. Marched from station to Talmas camp about five miles distant. Left camp at 6.30pm after having tea and marched to Donllans to Batt.

26 Arrived at Donllans about 2am. Entrained with Battn and proceeded to our next camp arriving there about 1 1.30am.

27 Went to church in the morning. On in lying picket from 5pm till 6am. Received letters from Edie and Lucy.

28 Drill parade for about four hours. A lot of our aeroplanes scouting round and two or three observation balloons up one near our billets. Saw M Way and he told me some of the boys were killed. Received letters from Roy and Bess. Received parcel of socks from Lucy.

29 Drill in the morning. Went for a bath to the Canadian baths in the afternoon. It rained nearly all night. Gas alarm given about eleven pm.

30 Raining all the morning. No parade but we had to clean our ammunition and examine our helmets.

31 Orders issued for us to get ready to proceed to the trenches. Saw J Badge and M Way in afternoon. Came into trenches at night. Trenches very muddy. On duty till next morning.

SEPTEMBRE (September)

1 On day look out duty. On fatigue cleaning out trenches in afternoon. On post at night with three mates. Germans sent a few trench mortar bombs over.

2 On day lookout duty again. Things very quiet this morning. A bit of strafing going on in the afternoon. Received letters from Rita and Lena.

3 Fritz putting over a few trench mortar bombs. Rained nearly all night and very cold. Received letter from mother.

4 Still raining and very cold. A bit of strafing going on between our guns and Fritz's. Heard a mine blown up on our right flank. was told that v Kenny was killed.

5 Weather finer but still cold. Things very quiet during the morning. More trench mortars flying about in the afternoon. Received letters from Aunty Bess and E Hollis.

6 Beautiful fine day. Relieved from firing line by ? Btn. Marched back to second support trenches. Very comfortable dugouts. Received letters 2 home, 2 Rita, Richard, Lilly and Vera.

7 Had a cosy time all day. Went on fatigue to firing line with timber for mine at night. Got back about 12.30

8 Slept in till 9am' Weather beautiful and clear and warm. On fatigue in advanced sap at firing line. Arrived back to dugout about 4.30am. Received letters from Lena, A Ettie., Mabel, Lucy, Rita 2 Thelma and 3 Maude.

9 Slept nearly all day. Paid 40 francs £1.8.8. Came into support trenches to relieve Nos 1 and 2 Platoons. Received letters from A Ettie, Claude and Rita

10 Things very quiet in front line. Canadians blew up a mine in no-man's land. Saw J Badge (Budge?) and had a yarn with him.

THIS WAS THE LAST ENTRY IN HIS DIARY. HARRY WAS KILLED IN THE TRENCHES ON 12 SEPTEMBER 1916 AND IS BURIED AT YPRES, BELGIUM

2nd Battn. A.Coy.
A.I.F.

NICHOLLS
C.H. Pte. 2884

"Killed in Action 12-9-16"

A shell struck the dugout where Nicholls and others were resting, at Mont Sorrell - Ypres Salient. on September 12th 1916. I assisted to dig them out. Nicholls was then dead. I saw his body taken away for burial and saw his grave in a small Military Cemetery situated between Woodcote Farm and the railway dugout. Nicholls was a cornet player in the 2nd Battalion Band. 6ft fair, age 24-25.

Informant:- Cpl. Mc Donald. N.4248. 3 A.A.H.
2nd Battn. A.Coy.
Beach Street.

Coggee Coggee.
SYDNEY. N.S.W.

Ward 19.
London.
12-9-19.
J.E.A.

S.



Harry Nicholls 13th January, 1915



'Roseveare'
57 Gordon Street,
Port Macquarie



9th Reinforcements. 2nd Battalion. A.I.F. Liverpool, August 1915.

STANDING- (Left to Right) T.J. Drinkwater, J. Watts, C.H. Nicholls, T Brown

FRONT ROW- (Kneeling) W.D. Macansh, C.D.W. Wray

Harry Nicholls' father hand carved this frame after his son's death to mount this group photo. It is understood that this is the last photo of Harry that was taken which made it so special for his father. The detail in the carving is so delicate and painstakingly done and shows the deep love and grief that his father felt.

(Image of frame courtesy of Anne Keena)



Birth: unknown
Death: Sep. 12, 1916

Inscription:
Australian Infantry, A.I.F.

Note: 2854

Burial:
[Railway Dugouts Cemetery](#)
Ieper (Ypres), Belgium
Plot: Sp. Mem. A. 19.

Created by: [International Wargraves ...](#)
Record added: Nov 13, 2005
Find A Grave Memorial# 12325453



This is a transcript of the last known letter written home by Harry Nicholls just 15 days before his death.

Mrs W O Keena
'Fern Hill'
Ballengarra
Wilson River NSW

28th August, 1916

I received your welcome letter last night with one from L Welch and I got Roy's and Bessie's this morning, so you see I read yours first as you wished I would. I am very sorry to hear of poor Grandpa's death and I am sorry dear Mother did not get down to Sydney in time to see him before he died. It is nearly time Aunty Rose had a holiday and it ought to do her good is she can stop in Port for a couple of months . I am glad the boys had such a good time while they were down home, I suppose I will see a big difference in them when I get back. I suppose dad has plenty of news to read in the papers now as things have been pretty lively of late. I suppose you have heard ere this that I was wounded at Pozieres (which place I guess you have heard a lot about) but thanks to the care of the Nurses in the No1 Canadian Hospital my wounds are alright again and I am back with my Battalion. Glad to hear you got PO's alright. I have not received Lena's letter or papers yet. I suppose you will hear before you get this that Mick Coombes was killed in action. I saw him a couple of days before we went into the trenches. You asked me about Roy Dransfield in one of your letters. Well I only found out the other day that he was in this Batt and has been wounded. The chap that told me about him said that he was a splendid fellow and very religious so his people need not worry about him going astray. I met the son of the manager of the mill down near the wharf the other day, he is in this Battalion too. Joe Borger is back in the Battalion again and looks real well after his spell. The days are beginning to get short again here and it is getting cold of a night time. I had a card from Aunt Nancy a couple of days ago, she seems to be getting on well again. Well Edie I think this about all this time so I will ring off hoping to hear from you again soon. With love to all from your ever loving brother and uncle Harry XXXXXX

PS the extra kisses for the boys .