



FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

President: Craig Laffin

Secretary: Graeme Hosken

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER



Cover photos: Men in Steele's Post, Gallipoli (left); Looking up Rest Gully, Gallipoli (right). Photos taken by George Francis, 12th Light Horse Regiment Machine Gun Section. George later joined the 4th Machine Gun Squadron and won the Military Cross at Es Salt. Photos courtesy of his son, John Francis.

June 2005

No. 11

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

DIGGER 11 CONTENTS

Cover photos: Men in Steele's Post and Rest Gully, Gallipoli

President's message	The thin blue line during the Great War (NSW policemen who served)
Trench talk	
Letter from Gallipoli (Pte HA Smythe, 3 rd Bn, describing the landing)	Photo of Capt Tyson, Capt Elliot, Capt White of the 3 rd Bn
Fromelles speech by Les Carlyon (Melbourne Shrine, 2004)	Launch of 'Wellington's finest'
Lieut Victor Hall (alias 'Harry Danman'), 14 th Bn	DIGGER Quiz No. 11, with answers
Gravestones in Bazentin (HO Teague, 2 nd AFAmb) and Warren, NSW (G Reynolds, 55 th Bn)	Travels of the Anzac Biscuits, 1988 and 1990 tour reports
A battlefields tour (by G Franki); includes poem written 25/4/1988	C Neve (12 th Bn) – a WWI hero or hoax?
Shells and snipers in France	Photo essay: Visit to Victoria Barracks, Sydney
Private 2668 Frank Howell, 54 th Bn (father of GJ Howell, VC)	Photo of Diggers and civilians in Roubaix, Belgium, 1919
The Australian Comforts Fund	Anzac Day services in France, 2005
Etched in Stone, Part 10	Photo of burial of four Diggers at Outtersteene, 2005 (see story in DIGGER 12)
	Anzac Day in Sutton Veny, 2005
	Unveiling of John Hamilton VC portrait at Miranda RSL Club



FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

President: Craig Laffin

Secretary: Graeme Hosken

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER



Cover photo: A Lee Enfield .303 and the flags of France and Australia mark the site in a French field near Merris where the remains of Lieutenant Champion, Corporal Corby and two other men of the 3rd Battalion were found by farmer, Jean-Luc Gantois, as he was ploughing the soil. In this edition of DIGGER, FFFAIF member and relation of Corporal Corby, John Payne, tells the story of these men and their reinterment. Photo by Jean-Michel Vermuelen.

September 2005

No. 12

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

DIGGER 12 CONTENTS:

Cover photo (b&w): The field near Merris where five Diggers were uncovered

Trench talk	Lecture Day photos
President's annual report	Coote March re-enactment, Sydney
Letter from Gallipoli re: CPO EC Perkins, RANBT	Digger Quiz no. 12, with answers
Armistice Day accident in Wellington, NSW	'The malingerer', an account by Pte Claude Porter, 18 th Btn
The grave of Sgt HN Fisher, 15 th Btn	Digger profile: Alf Heywood, 1 st LHR, 4 th DAC, Y4A Mortar Bty
The accidental death of Pte L Worthington in New York, USA	The reinterment of Cpl Ernest Corby, 3 rd Btn, in Oottersteene Cemetery, France
A corporal of the 10 th LHR (photo)	Gallipoli landing re-enactment, Obelisk Bay, Sydney 1915
'Lucky thirteen': a story by AE Novice	A soldier's letter from the Dardanelles: Pte Bert Smythe, 3 rd Btn
Identifying two unknown soldiers: Pte O Bartlett, 17 th Btn; Pte B Bartlett, 17 th Btn	Extract from 'We will remember them' (John Laffin)
Etched in Stone, Part 11	Photo of officers and men of the 32 nd Btn, WA
Digger profile: Pte James Inglis, 32 nd Btn	
The hell of Fromelles: extract from Bert Bishop's book (55 th Btn)	

FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

President: Craig Laffin

Secretary: Graeme Hosken

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER



Ellis Silas, 'Crusading at Anzac': Fame, Gallipoli, December 1915

Fame:- 'These are Mine.'

[The sign says: 'In Memory of the Australians and New Zealanders who fell at ANZAC.']

December 2005

No. 13

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

DIGGER 13 CONTENTS

Cover illustration: 'Fame - these are mine' by Ellis Silas, 11th Btn

Trench talk	Australians in the Zeebrugge Raid, 23 rd April 1918
Civilian headstones of Diggers in Peak Hill cemetery	The Cameliers' reputation
Compulsory military training 1910-1914	Premature death and aging of AIF veterans 1919-39
The AE2: the sub that shaped Gallipoli	Digger profile: Lieut Charles R Nicholson, MC, 17 th Btn
AGM Canberra weekend: photos	The old war dog (letter extract: Gallipoli evacuation)
The artillery land on Gallipoli: Gnr B Lyall, 2 nd FAB	Diary by Tpr J Wilde, 1 st LHR, reveals link with famous ALH grave photo
Digger profile: Gnr Harold Fieldsend, 1 st Bty, 1 st FAB	A moving epitaph (Pte O Hay, 9 th Btn)
Soldiers of Australia, People of Australia (a poem by Jean Marie Monka)	Letter extract re Christmas 1915 (A Thynne, 2 nd Pioneers)
Letters from Cpl Bert Smythe, 3 rd Btn (at the Dardanelles)	Report on John Laffin Scholarship: Bruce Scates, UNSW
Order of next-of-kin for medals	The Hamel diorama at Forbes RSL Club
An Anzac's bullet: the accidental shooting of Pte Charles McLellan	Aussie bravado leads to own death (Sgt Ballantyne, Krithia)
The Passchendaele Archives project, Ypres	Unveiling of William Leggett Memorial, Goulburn
Three Tunnellers KIA on 4 th November 1918 (Barrett, Davey, Johnson)	Convalescents at Wareham, October 1916 (group photo)
The Dead Man's Penny and Memorial Scroll	Digger Quiz No. 13, with answers
Death of Gnr Bob Macken, 5 th FAB	Cost of WWI infantry kit
Field Punishment system	Digger profile: Lieut George H Long, MM, MSM, 5 th AFA
Digger profile: Pte Frank Naveau, 5 th DAC & Russian Relief Force	Letter from Gnr WJ Duffel
'To a comrade': a poem by GK Leggatt for Mick Logan KIA	
Etched in Stone, Part 12	



FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

President: Craig Laffin

Secretary: Graeme Hosken

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER



March 2006

No. 14

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

DIGGER 14 CONTENTS

Cover photo: Driver Clyde Overell, 5th MTC, on a Triumph motorcycle

Trench talk	Australian Mining Corps: fundraising venture for a Memorial
Signing of John Laffin Travel Prize protocol with UNSW	Killed by accident: Pte Arthur Lilliendal, 53 rd Btn
Digger profile: Pte EJ Lucas, 7 th Btn & 1 st MG Btn	The William Leggett Memorial, Part 2 (photo essay)
The meaning of 'ANZAC' pertaining to the Provost Corps	Digger profile: Driver Clyde S Overell, 5 th Div Motor Transport Company
Wartime experiences of Sgt HJ Yeend, 24 th Btn, Part 1	'The Kurrajongs': a book by Ian Small
Three Australians buried at St Germain-au-Mont-d'Or, France	Etched in Stone, Part 13
Using the Nominal Roll	Digger profile: Trooper William E (Billy) Sing, 5 th LHR
Private Tom Robinson's War, Part 1 (39 th Btn bandsman and stretcher-bearer)	Diary of Pte Percy Smythe, 3 rd Btn, Jan-Mar 1916
Statistics on the AIF	The Liverpool riots (letter extract describing)
Digger profiles: Pte WF Riedy, 1 st MG Btn and Pte DH Riedy, 45 th Btn & AFC	Digger Quiz No. 14, with answers



FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

President: Craig Laffin

Secretary: Graeme Hosken

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER



Cover photo: Men of the Australian Veterinary Corps, Mena Camp, Egypt. Courtesy of member Max Walters, Dubbo, whose father Captain CJM (Cec) Walters is the officer in this photo. Note the donkey mascot in the right foreground.

June 2006

No. 15

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

DIGGER 15 CONTENTS

Cover photo: Men of the Aust Vet Corps in Egypt

Trench talk	Outtersteene Cemetery in the 1920s (photo)
John Laffin Travel Prize presentation	Etched in Stone, Part 14
John Laffin Travel Prize: 2005 Winning essay by Sam McSkimming, UNSW	Unveiling of Murray VC statue
Staff Sergeant Brooke Almond	Digger profile: Pte Andrew TG Cumming, 7 th Btn
Avoca, Tasmania - a town of heroes	WWI shelters at Outtersteene, France (current day photos)
Digger profile: L/Cpl George F Clarke, MM, 53 rd Btn	Member events at Dubbo and Lithgow
Extracts from the diary (with photos) of Driver Clyde S Overell, 5 th Motor Transport Coy	Diary of Pte Percy Smythe, 3 rd Btn, March-June 1916
Tom Robinson's War, Part 2 (39 th Btn)	William Leggett Memorial, Part 3 (photo essay)
Digger profile: Pte WW Crisdale, 35 th Btn	Wartime experiences of Sgt HJ Yeend, 24 th Btn, Part 2
A letter from Egypt by Gunner E St J (Bob) Macken, 15 th Bty, 5 th FAB	The death of AG Corbett, AMC
The same man? A story of courage at Fromelles	Digger Quiz No. 15, with answers
The Dunbars at war (Ernest, Randolph, Charles)	



FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

President: Craig Laffin

Secretary: Graeme Hosken

ABN 67 473 829 552

"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Lieutenant Gordon Alford, 1st Battalion AIF.
Wounded at Pozieres 23rd July 1916,
died of wounds 12th August 1916.

September 2006

No. 16

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

DIGGER 16 CONTENTS:

Cover photo: Lieut Gordon Alford, 1st Btn

Trench talk	Digger profile: Pte Clement J Garvan, MM, 7 th Btn
A letter after Fromelles: Pte AN Crewes, 53 rd Btn	Wartime experiences of Sgt HJ Yeend, 24 th Btn, Part 3
Digger profile: Sgt AN Crewes, 53 rd Btn	A late casualty of war: Sgt AG Burt, 1 st Division Intelligence Officer
Tom Robinson's war, Part 3 (39 th Btn bandsman and stretcher-bearer)	Digger profile: Pte Percival C Lucas, 57 th Btn
Childhood memories of a disabled Digger at Central Railway	Account of Pozieres by Pte Percy Smythe, 3 rd Btn
John Laffin Travel Prize: runner-up essay by Sue Crane, UNSW	Missing no more: Pte William Gravell, 60 th Btn
Digger profile: Trooper Alvin Stanley, 1 st LHR	Etched in Stone, Part 15
The journey of Pte Claude Porter through the medical evacuation system	Digger Quiz No. 16, with answers
Ninety years of commemorating Anzac Day	

FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

President: Russell Curley

Secretary: Graeme Hosken

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER



A group of fresh recruits, probably at Liverpool Camp in January 1915. Only one soldier has a uniform – the rest are in civilian clothes as though they have just arrived in camp. Fresh enlistments were called 'Marmalades' from their fondness for army-issue marmalade jam. The men are pictured with mugs of tea and slices of bread covered with IXL jam. The soldier standing fifth from the left is Francis Ryan Darmody, who enlisted on 11th January – possibly the day the photo was taken. Francis Darmody is profiled in this issue. [Photo courtesy of member Steven Darmody]

December 2006

No. 17

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

DIGGER 17 CONTENTS:

Cover photo: Fresh recruits at Liverpool Camp, January 1915

Trench talk	Digger profile: Cpl W Fair Jones, 12 th LHR & 36 th Coy ASC
Digger profile: Gnr Andrew Gray, 56 th Siege Battery	Obituary notice for RC Werrett, 22 nd Btn
Deaths of Pte Lacey and Sgt Delbridge, 48 th Btn	Letter and profile: Cpl Will Holtham, 8 th MG Coy, later Lieut. AFC
Anzac Day at Baverstock, Salisbury Plains, 2006 (with photos)	Wartime experiences of Sgt HJ Yeend, 24 th Btn, Part 4
Digger profile: Pte Francis R Darmody, 1 st Btn	Australia's youngest VC: Pte John WA Jackson, 17 th Btn
John Laffin Travel Prize: runner-up essay by Patrick Moloney, UNSW	Etched in Stone, Part 16
Sgt Albert G Burt, 1 st Anzac Intelligence Dept	Digger Quiz no. 17, with answers
The death of Pte James Cowan, 48 th Btn	2006 AGM report with photos
Digger profile: Pte CEW Hyde, 4 th DAC	
Letter from Trooper W Fair Jones, 12 th LHR	



FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

President: Russell Curley

Secretary: Chris Munro

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER



Cover photo is from the collection of member, Ken Lyall. The men are probably from the 10th Field Ambulance. "Salisbury, Nov 23, 1916. Dear Fat, This photo taken outside our hut last Sunday in the snow. You will notice we are all wearing our 'tin hats' otherwise known as steel helmets. Leaving here for France at 4am in the morning ... Your affect. cousin, Geoff." Note the snow the men have placed on their helmets.

March 2007

No. 18

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

DIGGER 18 CONTENTS:

Cover photo: Men of the 10th Field Ambulance, Salisbury 23/11/1916

Trench talk	A mother's sacrifice: WT Watt, AJ Watt, FJ Watt, all KIA
Tour of France: 2/Lieut Dalbert IM Hallenstein, 5 th Div Cyclist Coy	Death en route to France: Pte Joseph Fowler, 56 th Btn
Digger profile: Pte William J Cumming, 6 th Btn	Charles Quinn, 53 rd Btn, at Fromelles
Digger profile: Pte Albert C Pike, 18 th Btn	A letter from Sapper A Gollan, 5 th FCE
A soldier's secret: Sgt William H Lett, 2 nd Coy ASC	The Easter Uprising in Dublin 1916
Tidbits from France (news clipping 27/7/17 re Gnr WH Jenner)	Wartime experiences of Sgt HJ Yeend, 24 th Btn, Part 5
Understanding WWI trench map grid references	Digger profile: Sapper JW Hambleton, 5 th & 2 nd Tunnelling Companies
Digger profile: Pte John Sharman, 1 st LTMB, 3 rd Btn	Extracts from new book, 'Dinkum Oil'
Letters from Gunner W Lyall, 8 th Bty, AFA	Sgt George RT Hodge, 54 th Btn
In search of an identity: Athol Osgood, 6 th AFA	Private Gravell's headstone (60 th Btn)
Grave of Pte Roy Levy	Desecrating the graves of our Diggers in Karrakatta Cemetery, WA
Digger profile: Pte Abel Armstrong, 14 th Btn	Driver William Lavers, 13 th FAB
Connections: W Gunyon, D McRae, W Lacey	Etched in Stone, Part 17
Who was John Johnson?	Digger Quiz No. 18, with answers
AFC pilot training requirements	
John Leak, VC, 9 th Btn	



FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

President: Russell Curley

Secretary: Chris Munro

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER



Photo: Charles Nurse, MM, a stretcher-bearer of the 3rd Battalion.

June 2007

No. 19

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

DIGGER 19 CONTENTS:

Cover photo: Charles Nurse, MM, stretcher-bearer of the 3rd Btn

Trench talk	Digger profile: Lieut-Col William Cheeseman, MC, DSO, 30 th & 53 rd Btns
Australia's most-decorated Gallipoli hero: Capt Alfred Shout, VC, MM, 1 st Btn	Taken prisoner at First Bullecourt: Pte LR Pezet, 15 th Btn
A tactful letter pertaining to Pte FT Bath, 18 th Btn	Postcard and message from a French lady in Bailleul
John Laffin Travel Prize: 2006 Winning Essay by John Holland, UNSW	An aftermath of war: Richard Sindell, 20 th Btn, AGMP, 1919 Tropical Force
Digger profile: Sgt Charles Nurse, MM, 3 rd Btn	Minister for Defence's commemorative address, Gallipoli 2007
Wartime experiences of Sgt HJ Yeend, 24 th Btn, Part 6	Unveiling of Pte William Gravell's headstone in France (photos)
Australian international cricketers in WWI	Digger profile: Pte Percy Minehan, 2 nd Btn
The things you find: extracts from files of John Hodgins (depot service) and Harold Hodgins, 30 th Btn)	The grave on the left: L/Cpl JA Launchbury, 25 th MC Coy
Fromelles – lest we forget (poem by N Kidd)	Maxim machine gun (photo)
Digger profile: Pte Jack E Swinfield, 53 rd Btn	Etched in Stone, Part 18
Coves: 'War is hell, and good fun' (WWI entertainment troops)	Digger Quiz No. 19, with answers
Ansetts, transport and war: Charlie Ansett, 3 rd Div Supply Column	The 3 rd Battalion bugle
	John Laffin Travel Prize Presentation



FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

ISSN 1834-8963

President: Russell Curley

Secretary: Chris Munro

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER

Special 60 page edition



Photo: Members of the 9th Machine Gun Company in training. Courtesy of Heather Bird/Trevor Munro.

September 2007

No. 20

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

DIGGER 20 CONTENTS

Bumper 60 page Issue

Cover photo: Members of the 9th MG Coy at training

Trench talk	Secret victims of WWI (Belgian news clipping 1936)
In the charge at Fromelles: Sergeant John G Ridley, 53 rd Btn	Death by suicide: Sgt Percy Newman, 57 th Btn
Best mates: Captains JH Fletcher and JA Mahoney, 24 th Btn	Digger profile: Pte Thomas H Kitchen, 3 rd Btn
Digger profile: Driver Robert Armstrong, 1 st RANBT	On a gift of leaves (poem by Cpl ER Henry, 3 rd Btn)
2007 Fromelles Service at Anzac Memorial, Hyde Park	Digger profile: L/Cpl Reginald Benson, 3 rd Btn
Corporal Ernest Corey, MM & three Bars	Anzac Day on the Salisbury Plains, 2007
The Digger with two graves: Private Victor Worthington, 3 rd Btn	Digger profile: Sgt James V Lihou, DCM & Bar, MM, 13 th Btn
WWI concert party (photo)	Age and determination (stories from Inglewood Advertiser, 1915/16)
In search of Cpl Ross Smith, 3 rd Btn	Digger profile: Pte James Paterson, 49 th Btn
Letters pertaining to the death of Cpl John B Ison, 3 rd Btn	A shameful waste: Lieut Walter O Summers, 23 rd Btn
Wartime experiences of Sgt HJ Yeend, 24 th Btn, Part 7	Snipers, boils and bombs (stories from Inglewood Advertiser, 1916/17)
Digger profile: Pte FJ Dalloway, 1 st MG Btn	Digger profile: Signaller Morris Mundy, 3 rd DSC
Digger profile: Lieut James Stewart, MM & Bar, 2 nd DSC & 27 th Btn	German in name only: Ern Heitmann, MM, 57 th Btn
WWI exhibits at the RAN Heritage Centre, Garden Island (photos plus captions)	Tall stories (Inglewood Advertiser, 1915/16)
Discovering his father: Pte Albert H Fleetwood, 46 th Btn	Bill's Crucifix (a story by Sapper Arnold Caldwell, 14 th FCE)
Burial of 2885 Pte Robert Cameron, 45 th Btn, at sea (news clipping)	John Laffin Memorial Lecture: (1) Report (2) Lecture given by Sam McSkimming
Digger profile: BSM Reginald R Radford MM, 8 th Bty, 3 rd AFA	Etched in Stone, Part 19
	Digger Quiz No. 20, with answers

DIGGER



Photo: A group of men from the 5th Pioneer Battalion in one of the better camp huts. Corporal Norman Temple, profiled in this issue, is seated at the table, second from right. Photo courtesy of Margy Walsh.

December 2007

No. 21

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

Answers to DIGGER Quiz No. 21

1. Monash was an Australian citizen of the Jewish faith.
2. Monash was given command of the Third Division.
3. The Battle of Messines on 7th June 1917.
4. The Battle of Hamel.
5. Ninety-three minutes – three more than Monash had planned.
6. The Battle of Amiens (8th August 1918).
7. Approximately 3 000 prisoners and 400 guns.
8. Monash was knighted at his headquarters at Bertangles Chateau near Amiens on 12th August 1918.
9. The five Australian Divisions, once together, were given the title of The Australian Corps.
10. 'Mo' and 'Arf a Mo'.
11. Monash attended Scotch College (where he was Dux in his final year).
12. Charles Bean (Official War Correspondent) and Prime Minister Billy Hughes argued against Monash's appointment.
13. Peronne, Mont St Quentin, Capture of the Hindenburg Line, Montbrehain.
14. Monash oversaw the repatriation of the troops (most were home by the end of 1919) and the non-military employment schemes, aimed at giving the participants work skills for their return to civilian life.
15. 2007 was the ninetieth anniversary of the Battle of Beersheba.
16. 31st October (1917).
17. The 4th and 12th Light Horse Regiments.
18. General Harry Chauvel, who reportedly said, "Send Grant's men straight at it!"
19. The 11th Light Horse Regiment.
20. Thirty-one Light Horsemen were killed and 36 wounded.

Digger 21 Contents

Trench talk	2	The Carey Brothers, 53 rd Bn	30-32
Stories of Christmas Day 1914-16	3-4	Private Alfred Gilligan, 53 rd Bn	32
'Our Sisters' – a tribute to the nurses	5-6	Private John Purcell, 55 th Bn/15 th FAB	32-33
Sister Jessie Slack	6	Gunner Pearce goes to town	33
Sister Gertrude Grewar	7-8	Private G Miller, 23 rd Bn: a lucky survivor	34
Sergeant Jack Walsh MM, 3 rd MG Bn	9-10	Private Walter Clift and nephews, 50 th Bn	35
Instructions for proceeding on leave to UK	11	Sergeant HJ Yeend, 24 th Bn: Part 8	36-37
Australian military aviation and WWI	12	Sgt-Mjr William Egan, 6 th FAB	38
Letters from an AFC man: Lt HW Miller	13-15	Corporal James Brazel, 2 nd Bn (Part 1)	39-42
ANZAC weekend in Belgium, Oct 2007	16-19	2007 Melbourne AGM Report	43
Mentioned in Despatches (Sgt C Bayliss)	20	Albert Jacka – a biased view?	44-47
Remembering John Hamilton VC	21	Interview with an AWM Art Conservator	48-49
Shell shock	22	Signaller Skeyhill's sight restored	49
The Popplewell brothers	23-25	Journey to the battlefields of the W. Front	50-53
Photo of 17 th Battery, 6 th Army FAB	25	Etched in Stone	54
Private John ('Long Jack') Deans, 3 rd Bn	26-27	Digger Quiz	55
The graves of Victor Worthington	27	The Red Cross camp at Havre; New books	55
Corporal Norman Temple, 5 th Pioneer Bn	28-29	Digger Quiz answers	56



This version of DIGGER is printed by the FFFAIF at Blakehurst using an A3 Laser printer supplied by the Commonwealth Government through the Office of the Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs under the 2007 Volunteer Small Equipment Grant Program.



FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

ISSN 1834-8963

President: Russell Curley

Secretary: Chris Munro

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER



Photo: Three men of the 2nd Light Horse Regiment. The soldier on the left is believed to be Sergeant Harold Joseph Barry (KIA Gallipoli, 7th August 1915). Trooper William Harold Kenny is in the centre. The other trooper is unknown. Photo courtesy of Geoff Barr and Trevor Munro.

March 2008

No. 22

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

Answers to DIGGER Quiz No. 22

1. 1st Bn: black over green rectangular patch; 17th Bn: black over green diamond patch; 25th Bn: black over light blue diamond patch; 53rd Bn: black before green upright rectangular patch.
2. 1st Bn = 1st Brigade; 17th Bn = 5th Brigade; 25th Bn = 7th Brigade; 53rd Bn = 14th Brigade.
3. Private 588 William Jackson. [See his story in DIGGER 17]
4. The Seabrook brothers.
5. Munster Alley.
6. The 17th Bn fought in all three battles (Peronne: 27/8/18; Mt St Quentin: 31/8/18; Hargicourt: 28/9/18).
7. Tel-el-Kebir, Egypt.
8. Marseilles, France.
9. 'Popes' and 'Quinn's Post'.
10. The MSM (Meritorious Service Medal).
11. A field gun or light cannon placed in a forward position in order to direct fire upon tanks.
12. The march of the troops to the positions from which they are to attack. In France this generally took place during the night before the attack.
13. A formation containing two or more divisions, usually commanded by a Lieutenant General.
14. The corps whose duty it is to supply and transport the army.
15. A formation of infantry (or mounted troops) used when passing through a zone subject to shell fire. The troops advance in small groups, extended in line and depth (i.e. with wide spaces between the groups).
16. A barrier usually of earth or sandbags built across a trench.
17. Comprises three regiments: full strength with brigade headquarters and signallers of about 1 700 men.
18. Gas emitted from cylinders and carried by the wind as opposed to gas fired in shells.
19. A number of ships sailing together under escort for protection.
20. Ground which, though within range, cannot be seen or reached by direct fire.

Digger 22 Contents

Cover photo: Troopers of 2 nd LHR	1	The mystery of Private Richard Mellor	21-23
Trench Talk	2	The Amiens Railway Gun	24-26
Mud, blood and gum leaves	3-6	Corporal James Brazel, 2 nd Bn, APC	27-29
Boorowa War Memorial	6	CSM Jarvis Latham, 3 rd LROC	30-31
Death of the Anzacs? 5 th Bn KIA Aug. 1918	7-8	Lieutenant Stanley Rowbotham, 1 st Bn	32
Sergeant HJ Yeend, 24 th Bn: Part 9 (final)	9-10	Wartime artefacts of Jarvis Latham	32
A visit to the Nek, 92 years on	11	Sergeant Harold Littlejohns, 1 st MGB	33-34
Private Nicholas Permakoff, 4 th Bn	12-14	A War orphan's story	35
L/Cpl William Norman, 4 th Bn	14-15	PO Stoker John Hughes, RAN	36-37
Visiting Fromelles in 2007	15-16	Etched in Stone	38
Extracts from 'There and Back'	15, 20	Digger Quiz; Trench Talk Part II	39
Driver Albert Hudson, DCM, 7 th LHR, Arty.	17-20	Digger Quiz answers	40

Visit our new website at www.ffaif.org.au



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a high quality printing job at the right price, contact Aaron at:

e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

phone: 02 6884 5577

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au

FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

ISSN 1834-8963

President: Russell Curley

Secretary: Chris Munro

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER



Photo: This wagon was used by the 5th Australian Veterinary Corps in Egypt to convey wounded or sick horses. The 'horse-ambulance' was donated by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Courtesy of Max Walters, whose father, Captain Cecil Walters, is standing in the foreground. Cecil served with the 1st Veterinary Corps and the 5th Mobile Veterinary Section (5th Division), before short stints with the Australian Veterinary Hospital and 3rd Army Brigade AFA. He returned to Australia in 1918 to continue his studies in human medicine, later graduating as a doctor.

June 2008

No. 23

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

Answers to Digger Quiz No. 23

1. The numbers indicate the medals have been issued to the soldier or his next of kin.
2. 'NE' means the soldier was 'not entitled' to that service medal. (Usually it is the 1914/15 Star that is recorded as 'NE' due to the soldier enlisting after its period of entitlement – Ed.)
3. No – never.
4. Yes. Some Australians who went overseas in WWI rendered approved service but were never taken on strength of a unit in an operational theatre, so they did not qualify for the Victory Medal. They received only the British War Medal.
5. Australian Archives. (The abbreviation 'NAA' for National Archives of Australia is also used today - Ed.)
6. Assistant Adjutant & Quarter Master General.
7. Australian Dictionary of Biography (which is now searchable on the Internet).
8. Australian Director of Medical Services.
9. Aide-de-Camp.
10. Australian Field Artillery.
11. Australian Flying Corps.
12. Australian Headquarters.
13. Australian Imperial Force.
14. Australian Military Forces.
15. The Battle of Romani.
16. Jerusalem.
17. The Sinai Desert.
18. Formed in Sinai, February 1917.
19. August 1917.
20. The 1st and 3rd Battalions ICC were Australian, and were mainly men drawn from the Australian Light Horse. The 4th Battalion ICC had two Australian companies.

Digger 23 Contents

Cover photo: Captain Cecil Walters, AVC	1	Visit to the Somme battlefields	26
Trench Talk	2	Charles Willey, 3 rd Pioneer Btn	26
Pte H O'Donnell, 11 th Btn	3	Lt LJ Mathias, 33 rd Btn	27-28
Cpl E Moolenaar (Milner), AHQ	4-5	A changing landscape: Pte F Lycett, 46 th Bn	29-31
Menin Gate service photos, 25 th April 2008	5	Killed in Paris: Pte T Oliver, 3 rd Btn	31
2007 John Laffin Travel Prize essay	6-11	90 th Anniversary services in V-B and Ieper	31
'The Mudlarks', 4 th MGC RL team	11	Death at the Races: Cptns Kemmis & Smith	32-34
Pozieres Comm. Day; Lt Brewer vignettes	12	L/Cpl E Hawkless, 56 th Btn	34
Cpl James Brazel, APC, Part 3 (final)	13-16	5 th Pioneer Btn snippets	34
The saving of Ptes Lewis and Paterson	17-20	Pte FA Finch, 56 th Btn	35-36
'International' baseball 1918 (7 th FAB)	20	'Cobbers' replica viewing	37
2/Lt Arthur Craker, 23 rd Btn	21-23	Etched in Stone	38
A 4 th Battalion link	23	Digger Quiz No. 23; Trench Talk Part II	39
Pte Joseph Leslie Curley, 34 th Btn	24-25	Digger Quiz answers	40

Visit our website at www.ffaif.org.au.



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a high quality printing job at the right price, contact Aaron at:

e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

phone: 02 6884 5577

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au

FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

ISSN 1834-8963

President: Russell Curley

Secretary: Chris Munro

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER



Photo: All ranks and units ... all ages and sizes ... all going home. A group of returning Diggers (and perhaps two nurses or wives and the ship's captain) aboard the *Ascanius*, which left England on 23rd September 1919. Sergeant Alfred French, Camel Corps and 15th LHR, is the first man seated on left of the front row, and is profiled in this issue. Photo courtesy of member Margaret French.

September 2008

No. 24

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

Answers to DIGGER Quiz No. 24

1. The intersection was named 'Hellfire Corner'.
2. The Menin Road led to Broodseinde, Polygon Wood, Zonnebeke, Westhoek and Hill 60.
3. Hooze Crater.
4. Private Patrick Bugden, VC, 31st Battalion.
5. The Battle of Polygon Wood.
6. The Battle for Menin Road commenced on 20th September 1917 and ran into the 21st.
7. Polygon Wood was 26th-28th September 1917.
8. The Battle of Broodseinde was fought 4th-5th October 1917.
9. The First Battle of Passchendaele was on 9th October 1917.
10. The Second Battle of Passchendaele was on 12th October 1917. The Canadian forces then continued fighting for the village of Passchendaele between 26th October and 10th November. In this period, Australians suffered casualties from gas attacks and shellfire, despite not participating in the offensives.
11. Storm troops were German units specially trained by the Germans to lead attacks (especially in the Spring Offensive of 1918).
13. The support trench was the trench immediately behind the front fire trench.
14. Tanks were defined as armoured motor-cars propelled by a caterpillar-tractor system.
15. Tapes were light-coloured strips of cloth laid on the ground to give alignment or direction to troops moving to or forming for an attack.
16. Tear-gas shells were filled with a sweet-smelling compound which caused the eyes to water profusely; largely used by the Germans in 1916 for shelling observation posts, etc.
17. 'Tel' was Arabic for 'hill' e.g. Tel-el-Kebir.
18. 'Tepe'; was Turkish for 'hill' e.g. Gaba Tepe.
19. Trajectory was the curve described by a projectile while in the air.
20. Traverses were buttresses interposed between successive bays of a trench; barriers against enfilading fire.

Digger 24 Contents

Cover photo: Group aboard the 'Ascanius'	1	Pte P Casserly, 2 nd LROC	30-31
Trench Talk	2	'The Trench Photo' (8 th Btn)	32-33
Trooper Harry Bunyan, 12 th LHR	3-5	5 th Veterinary Corps photos	33
AIF Routine Orders & Field Returns	6-7	Cpl N Graham, 38 th Btn	34-37
Letters taken from a German soldier	8-9	Pte SJ Temple, 21 st & 6 th Btns	37
Bourke Internment Camp	9	Joseph Humphris DSO	38-39
Sgt MT Gould, 7 th LHR, 4 th LHFA	10-12	Extracts from 'Gallipoli Sniper'	40
Journey to Hamel 2007	13	Pte H Golding, 23 rd Btn	41
Visiting Villers-Bretonneux	14-15	Harry Whiting & the Graves Detachment	42-43
John Laffin Travel Prize presentation	15	Lt GM Ingram VC	46-47
Cpl GH Smirthwaite, 1 st FCE	16	The work of Glyn Llanwarne	46-47
Trooper Christie Nielsen, 5 th LHR	17-18	Pte ME Smith, 18 th Btn (<i>Leinster</i> disaster)	48-51
Sister AM (Rachel) Kelly, AANS	19-20	Sporting revenge	52
Private Vernon Mullin, 7 th Btn	21	The Army Post Office	53-55
The Smiths – a family in mourning	22-23	Extract from 'There and Back'	55
Albert Jacka and the German pilot	24-25	Return of the Madonna: Lt H Brewer	56-57
L/Cpl T O'Keefe, 13 th Btn	25	Etched in Stone	58
Sgt AC French, 15 th LHR	26	Digger Quiz No. 24	59
Men of the 10 th LHR	27-29	Trench Talk Part II	59
Sapper W Moston, 15 th FCE	29	Digger Quiz Answers	60

Visit our website at www.ffaif.org.au



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a high quality printing job at the right price, contact Aaron at:

e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

phone: 02 6884 5577

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au

DIGGER



Photo: Driver Geoffrey Atkinson, 10th FCE, [left] with some friends in Paris on 29th March 1919. The building in the background has been identified by Yves Fohlen as the Palais du Trocadéro, created by architect Gabriel Davioud for the 1878 Exposition Universelle in Paris. It was demolished in 1937 to build the Palais de Caillot. Photo courtesy of Ruth Atkinson, Geoffrey's daughter. Driver Atkinson is profiled in this issue.

December 2008

No. 25

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

Answers to DIGGER Quiz No. 25

1. William Edward ('Billy') Sing.
2. Sing was born in Clermont, Queensland, on 2nd March 1886.
3. Sing was allocated to the 5th Light Horse Regiment. His service number was 535.
4. Horse breaker.
5. Sing was credited with 201 confirmed kills.
6. Sing was awarded the DCM at Gallipoli; MM at Polygon Wood; and Belgian Croix De Guerre.
7. Yes – to Elizabeth Stewart on 26/9/1917 in Edinburgh. From the scant information available it appears she did not follow him to Australia, and she remains a mystery to this day.
8. Ion Llewellyn ('Jack') Idriess.
9. Idriess wrote 'The Desert Column'.
10. Oliver Hogue, who wrote under the pseudonym of Trooper Bluegum.
11. Lieutenant Colonels Richard Courtney (Gallipoli); Charles Dare; John Peck; Walter Smith; Henry Crowther; William Arrell.
12. The Military Cross.
13. Lieut. Col. Charles Dare.
14. Brigadier General Charles Brand.
15. Lieutenant Harold Wanliss.
16. Reverend Andrew Gillison (The 'Cocoa King') and Chaplain Frank Rolland.
17. The First Battle of Bullecourt.
18. Victoria.
19. Near Villers-Bretonneux.
20. Jacka died at the age of 39, from chronic nephritis at Caulfield Military Hospital, Melbourne.

Digger 25 Contents

Cover photo: Driver G Atkinson in Paris	1	Beware of Trains: S Border and V Madden	32-33
Trench Talk	2	Anzacs over England (AFC)	34-35
Driver Archibald Mychael, 1 st LHR	3-5	Driver Geoffrey Atkinson, 10 th FCE	36-37
Sapper Charles Cathro, 1 st Fld Sqdn Engrs	6-9	The Fussell diaries: extracts re horses	38-39
Group of 10 th FCE enlistments in camp	9	Interview with Wendy Gadd, AWM staff	40-43
Caught in a masquerade: John Small	10-11	16 th Battalion history released	43
Private Walter Walker, 18 th Btn	11	Captain Ken Millar, 2 nd Btn	44
Red Cross files: Cpl H Arnold, 54 th Btn	12-15	Major Milton Jarvie, APC	45-48
2 nd Lieutenant John Larkin, 8 th Btn	16-18	Sailing disaster: three ex-Diggers drowned	49-50
The Spirits of Gallipoli project	19-20	Monash's nephews	51-54
Private Albert Moston, 3 rd Btn	20	A message of thanks re Fromelles	54
The Hartnett brothers	21-22	Megan's journey: James Avery, 51 st Btn	55-57
Court Martial of WH Kenny, MP	23-24	With friends on Anzac Day 2008	57
Clyde Overell: photo location discovered	25	Etched in Stone	58
Possessions of Lieut F Laracy, 1 st Btn	26	Using eBay for AIF research	59
Tropical Force and the Kavieng graves	27-29	Digger Quiz No. 25	59
Peter Morrissey wins scholarship	29	Digger Quiz No. 25 answers	60
Private Robert Hutchinson, 8 th Btn	30-31		

Visit our website at **www.ffaif.org.au**. The website is updated every Wednesday. Members have exclusive access to the 'FFFAIF Shop' using their (new) password. Contributions to the website, or enquiries, can be sent to projectffaif@yahoo.com.



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at the right price, contact Aaron at:

e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

phone: 02 6884 5577

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: **www.dubsec.com.au**



FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Patron-in-Chief

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC

Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

ISSN 1834-8963

President: Russell Curley

Secretary: Chris Munro

ABN 67 473 829 552

"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER

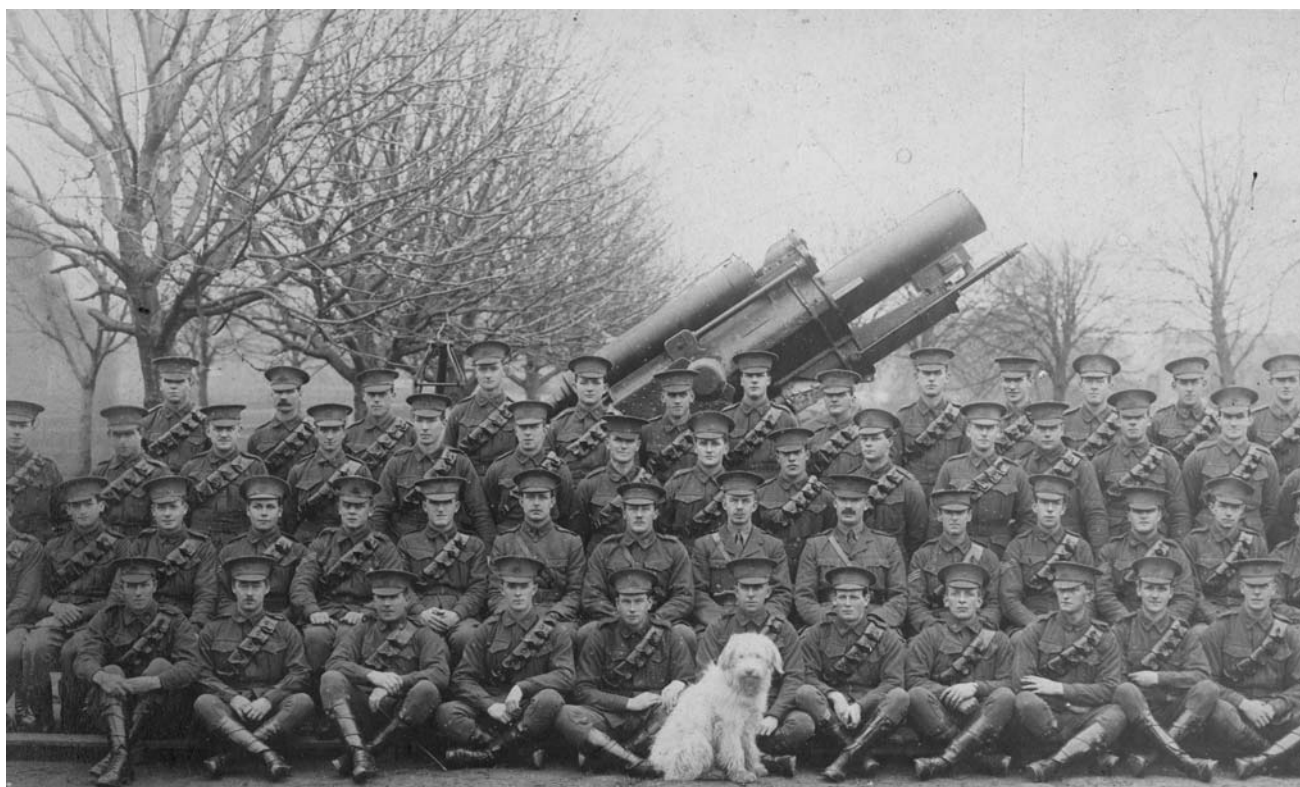


Photo: Part of the 55th Battery, 36th Heavy Artillery Group, with a 9.2 inch Howitzer and their mascot. The men of the Siege Brigades were allowed to wear the badge of the Royal Australian Artillery, instead of the AIF badge, as the majority of the original members of the 36th HAG were members of the Australian Permanent Forces. Sergeant Henry Robinson, fifth from the right in the second row (next to the officer), has a special place in Australian WWI military history. Find out more in this issue of *DIGGER*. Photo courtesy of Andrew Pittaway and the Army Museum of WA.

March 2009

No. 26

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

Answers to DIGGER Quiz No. 26

1. Harold Pope; then Eliazar Margolin; Edmund Alfred Drake-Brockman; Ross Harwood; Leslie Edward Tilney.
2. (a) Three (b) They were: 3970 Pte Martin O'Meara VC; 3399 L/Cpl Thomas Leslie Axford VC, MM; Lieut. Lawrence Dominic McCarthy VC, CdeG (French).
3. 303 inch Maxim Machine Gun.
4. Gun itself: 60lb plus tripod: 48lb, plus one ammunition box with filled belt: 21lb, for a total of 129lb.
5. The normal rate of fire was 450 rounds per minute (Mark VII .303 ammunition being 500 rounds per minute).
6. 1.5 pints of water (around 900ml).
7. Six soldiers were required. Their duties were: No.1 was the firer, cleaned and looked after the gun, and carried the tripod into action; No. 2 carried the gun into action, mounted the gun on its tripod, fed the ammunition to the gun and watched for signals; Nos. 3 and 4 were principally ammunition carriers; No. 3 also arranged the spare parts wallet at the gun position, while No. 4 took the ammunition from the limber to No. 3 when a further supply was required; No. 4 also supplied the condenser complete and half-filled with water; No. 3 was additionally responsible for ensuring the condenser reached the gun before the water boiled; the No.4 then placed his rifle and the rifles of other numbers in the limber; No. 5 acted as a scout; No. 6 was the range taker and spare man.
8. Forty five seconds.
- 9 (a). 12.5 seconds (b) Privates O'Brien, Hatcher and McLeod.
10. Like many other sections, the 16th Machine Gun Section was reorganised in 1916 and absorbed into the 4th Machine Gun Company which served with the four battalions of the 4th Brigade.
11. Three-quarters came from Western Australia, the remainder from South Australia.
12. "The Bluebirds" – after their uniform which was a dark blue shirt and jacket with pale blue piping and a dark blue hat.
13. They had to work their passage home as duty nurses, caring for the AIF wives and babies on ships. The same treatment was given nurses who married. Charles Laffin had to find the fare for his wife, Nellie Pike, to come home to Australia. The Bluebirds were also denied their War Gratuity by the Australian Government.
14. Lieutenant Harry Moffitt of the 53rd Battalion.
15. No; Lieut. Harry Moffitt was KIA during the battle of Fromelles on 19th July 1916 and is believed to be buried in Pheasant Wood.
16. The Florence Nightingale Medal. During the war, King was awarded the MM and twice mentioned in dispatches.
17. Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.
18. These were transports pressed into service as hospital ships, despite not being equipped to handle medical cases.
19. No. 3 General Hospital on Lemnos Island, off the coast of the Dardanelles Peninsula. The hospital equipment did not arrive until three weeks after the hospital was established. The nurses were treating the soldiers on the ground because of the lack of suitable accommodation.
20. The 21st Battalion was the first AIF Battalion to commence active operation on the Western Front and was the last Battalion to withdraw from active operations on the Western front.

Digger 26 Contents

Cover photo: 55 th Battery, 36 th HAG	1	Marseilles to Le Havre, Bill Lyall, 8 th Bty	36
Trench Talk & contact details	2	First Digger to die on the Western Front	37-41
Messages in a bottle (55 th Btn men)	3-6	The broom stick bomb (11 th LHR)	41
A unique Anzac experience (Mackay NHS)	7	Australian Boy Scouts in the Great War	42-44
Pte Mark Smith (Drice) & the Lone Pine	8-10	48 th Btn History being written	44
Major JM Lean and Base Records Office	10	'Jacka VC story', TA White, 13 th Btn	45
William Tompkins, 107 th Howitzer Bty	11	'Posed as a Digger', <i>Reveille</i> article 1928	46
Swimmers of the First AIF	12-14	Statistics on the First AIF	46
Cpl Stratford Bird, 34 th Btn	15-18	Pte Ernest Lee (Jeffries), 5 th Btn & 1 st Pnrs	47-48
The Kettering Bug	19	New NAA website for WWI researchers	48
CQMS James Bryant MM, 8 th & 60 th Btns	20-23	Trooper Rupert Draper, 1 st LHR	49-50
'Pozières', Sgt P Kinchington MM, 3 rd Btn	24	'The Pallbearers' (Anzac Provost Corps)	51-54
Ten killed at Morchies (11 th Btn men)	25-27	Why 'Montauban'? W Berryman, 15 th FCE	55-57
CEW Bean's 'Cairo dispatch'	28-31	Etched in Stone	58
Lieut. Fourdrinier, 2 nd Btn	32-34	Comfort Fund's gift (B McColl, 12 th LHR)	59
The mystery of Soldier 16650	34	Digger Quiz No. 26	59
Trooper Arthur Sorreson, 7 th LHR	35	Digger Quiz No. 26 Answers	60

Visit our website at www.ffaif.org.au – updated every Wednesday



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at the right price, contact Aaron at:

e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

phone: 02 6884 5577

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Patron-in-Chief

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC

Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

ISSN 1834-8963

President: Russell Curley

Secretary: Chris Munro

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER



Photo: Mrs Cassie Robertson poses as Britannia, surrounded by some cadets.

Her 16 year old son, Noel, enlisted in 1918 and is profiled in this issue.

Photo courtesy of Noel's daughter, FFFAIF member Margaret Morrissey.

June 2009

No. 27

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

Answers to DIGGER Quiz No. 27

1. McKenzie was the Salvation Army chaplain. (He was allocated to the 4th Battalion.)
2. McKenzie stood 6'2" and weighed 17 stone.
3. McKenzie sailed on the First Australian Contingent on the *Euripides*, embarking at Sydney on 19/10/14.
4. Chaplain McKenzie served on Gallipoli and the Western Front.
5. McKenzie's nickname was 'Fighting Mac'.
6. The Military Cross, for 'distinguished service in the field'.
7. McKenzie was supposed to have been recommended for the Victoria Cross three times. Apart from the MC he *was* MID.
8. The Burial Service at sea (or on land if in port) of those who died on the voyage – usually of illnesses such as pneumonia or meningitis.
9. The Reverend Andrew Gillison.
10. William Dexter DSO MC, who served from 1914 to the end of the War.
11. Chaplains involved themselves in organising sports, concerts, fun competitions and games. The timing of the rounds in boxing matches often fell to the chaplains. Censoring the men's letters was a task they were also invited to undertake.
12. The Reverend AC Plane.
13. Chaplain James Green (Methodist).
14. The Reverend John Fahey.
15. (a) A **minenwerfer** was a German trench mortar (b) **Mobilisation** is the process by which an armed force passes from a peace to a war footing (c) A **monitor** is a warship of shallow draft and low freeboard intended for use in coastal defence or attack (d) A **mountain gun** was a small cannon constructed for transport, along with its carriage, in several pieces upon pack animals (e) A **Nissen hut** was largely used in camps instead of tents, or for offices; constructed of semi-circular sheets of galvanised iron, which thus form both walls and roof (f) **No-man's land** is the space between the two opposing front trenches or front lines (g) A **Nordenfeldt gun** was an early type of machine gun firing a 1-inch projectile (h) A **nullah** was a gully or dried-up stream bed (i) An **observation post** was a position commanding some desired view of the enemy's position; occupied by observers for artillery, etc (j) An **observer** was one sent out to observe the enemy's line of movements, the fire of guns upon targets, etc.

First notice of 2009 AGM: This year's Annual General Meeting and associated activities will be held in the Albury-Wodonga region on October 10th/11th. Further details will be circulated with *DIGGER* 28 and via our website (www.ffaif.org.au) and to members' e-mail addresses. Please consider attending this annual gathering which usually includes tours, a dinner, a guest speaker as well as the AGM. Great fun to be had!

Digger 27 Contents

Cover photo: Mrs Cassie Robertson and cadets	1	Lt Arthur Wheen, 54 th Bn	33-34
Trench Talk & contact details	2	2008 John Laffin Travel Prize presentation	34
Biography of our Patron-in-Chief, the Gov-Gen.	3	Lt W Oldham, 56 th Bn	35
Governor-General visits Dar es Salaam graves	4	Capt Tom Mann, 2 nd Bn	36-37
Torpedoing of the 'Southland' 1915	5-10	2008 John Laffin Travel Prize (photos)	37
Poem, 'Why?'	10	Major Robert Chapman, RE	38-41
George Martindale, 59 th Bn, at Fromelles	11-14	The Wheeler boys	42-44
Pte Noel Robertson, 10 th LHR	14	Pte TG Clements, 8 th Bn	45-46
The Carman brothers	15-16	Capt Ted Freeman, 8 th Bn	47-48
John Laffin lecture notice and RSVP	16	Miss Bertoli's letters from General Birdwood	48
Berthe's letters to Claude	17-19	Cpl J Benson, 16 th Bn & Cpl L Benson, APC	49-51
The Mott brothers	20-21	In the footsteps of Pte Justy Hudson, 3 rd Bn	52-56
Lt WM Chisholm, 1 st Bn, East Lancashires	22	Report on Bathurst regional meeting	57
J Hartley, 12 th MGC & C Holland, 55 th Bn	23	Etched in Stone	58
WOII George Fuzzard, 8 th LHR, Part 1	24-30	First Australians to die on WF in British forces	59
Major JM Lean, Base Records Office	30	Digger Quiz No. 27	59
Visitors to Australia from Merris	31-32	Digger Quiz No. 27 Answers	60
Johan Vanderwalle in Australia	32	11 th LHR anecdotes	32, 51

Visit our website at www.ffaif.org.au – updated every Wednesday



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at the right price, contact Aaron McMillan at:

e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

phone: 02 6884 5577

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Patron-in-Chief

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC

Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

ISSN 1834-8963

President: Russell Curley

Secretary: Chris Munro

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER



Photo: A group of Australian officer cadets playing in the snow. It is likely that the photo was taken at Officer Training School at Trinity College, Cambridge, where Percy Smythe, 24th Battalion (custodian of the photo) was in attendance from 24th November 1917. Photo supplied by member Margaret Clarke.

September 2009

No. 28

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

Answers to *DIGGER* Quiz No. 28

1. Turkey – correctly named the ‘Turkish Star for the Gallipoli Campaign’. A design was submitted for a Gallipoli Star and Ribbon for British troops, but was eventually withdrawn in favour of the 1914-15 Star.
2. The 41st Battalion had no prisoners taken by the enemy. The battalion’s Latin motto translated as ‘Death Before Shame’.
3. In May 1918 the Germans stated in their Army Reports that the troops “most to be feared” and who were the “most courageous” were the Australians, the Guards, and the 5th Highland Division.
4. The first gas attack was at Ypres against the Canadian Highlanders, on the left of the British line, and a coloured French regiment on April 22nd 1915.
5. The ‘Desert March’ took place between Tel-el-Kebir and the Suez Canal. The men had to walk in soft sand, carrying heavy and full equipment, 120 rounds of SAA, rations and limited water, thirty-nine miles in three days (24 hours of marching). This horrible march is dramatically and truthfully recounted in many unit histories and soldiers’ memoirs, such was the impact of it on the men.
6. The death penalty did not apply to the AIF.
7. Major CH Brand (3rd Brigade) was the first to win the DSO, for his deeds during the first half-hour ashore at Gallipoli.
8. Captain TP McSherry (later Lieutenant Colonel and DSO) of the 15th Battalion was the first to be awarded the MC.
9. The 63 VCs went to: 17 privates, one driver, eleven corporals, ten sergeants, eighteen lieutenants, five captains and one major.
10. The 63 VCs went to: 57 infantry battalions, one light horse regiment, one AFC squadron, one pioneer battalion and three machine gun battalions.
11. (a) An **epaulment** is a side-work (e.g. a mound of earth) to afford cover, usually to a gun position, from flanking fire. (b) An **estaminet** was a French inn. (c) **Explosive bullets** contained an explosive, but these were never used by or against the Australians. ‘Expanding’ bullets (made, or tampered with, to expand on impact) were sometimes referred to as ‘explosive’. (d) **Extended order** was a formation in which men (and often successive lines of men) were separated by wide intervals. (e) A **fantass** was a flat-sided tank used for the carriage of water on a camel’s back. (f) A **field ambulance** was the first medical unit behind the regimental medical detachments – in the case of infantry, about 250 strong, under a lieutenant-colonel; provided with stretcher bearers, horse ambulances, and tents. (g) A **field company of engineers** was attached to an infantry division for ordinary military work (bridge-building, trench-siting, etc.). Usually about 220 strong, under a major. (h) A **field gun** was a mobile gun used on the battlefield for low-trajectory, high-velocity fire. (i) The **firestep** was a step in a fire trench on which men stood in order to fire over the parapet. (j) The **fire-trench** was a trench from which men fired (as opposed to a communication trench). If properly made, consisted of a series of short fire bays with traverses between them.

Reminder! The **Annual General Meeting** will be held at the Bandiana Army Museum (near Wodonga, Vic) on Saturday, 10th October, between 3pm and 5pm. Dinner will be held at the Commercial Golf Club Resort in North St, Albury, NSW, at 7.30pm. Further details are with this mailing and will be placed on the website.

DIGGER 28 Contents

Cover photo: Officer cadets at Cambridge	1	Lieut W (‘Tiny’) Host, 2 nd Btn	31-32
Trench Talk & contact details	2	William Currey VC, 53 rd Btn	33-35
Suicide in the First AIF	3-9	Private Walter Adcock, 23 rd Btn	36-38
Pte HJ Brotherton 1 st Btn/Bulls Road Cemetery	9	Gunner JH Davies, RAN	39-40
Sgt David Coyne AM, 31 st Btn	10-11	Frederick Cocks, 11 th Btn, 5 BGROC, 3 LROC	41-43
Book on GF Langley	11	Rania MacPhillamy and the Light Horse	44-45
Dr CEW Bean’s speech at Wellington, 1931	12-13	L/Cpl Ted Hubbard, 53 rd Btn	46-48
‘Mates’: Ken Millar and Tom Mann, 2 nd Btn	14	Origin of the title ‘AIF’	48
The Promise (Villers-Bretonneux and Aust.)	15-16	Major FR Hewitt, 7 th LHR, 7 th & 59 th Btms	49-50
Pte Ewan Rose, C de G, 14 th LTMB	17-18	Private Charlie Mance, 22 nd Btn	51-52
YMCA map of Cairo and its attractions 1914-15	18	John Laffin Lecture Day report	52
Sapper Clarence Temple, 5 th DSC	19-20	Stories from Fromelles’ Descendants Search	53-57
L/Cpl Sam Wilson, 8 th Btn (The ‘Trench photo’)	20	A day in France with Yves Fohlen	57
WOII George Fuzzard, 8 th LHR, Part 2	21-27	Etched in Stone	58
Dubbo regional meeting report	27	WF burials and commemorations statistics	59
The Williams Brothers	28-29	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 28	59
Continuing search for Soldier 16650	30	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 28 Answers	60



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at the right price, contact Aaron McMillan at:

e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

phone: 02 6884 5577

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE FIRST AIF INC.

Patron-in-Chief

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC

Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

Founder and Patron-in-Memoriam: John Laffin

Patrons-in-Memoriam

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD

General Sir Harry Chauvel GCMG KCB

ISSN 1834-8963

President: Russell Curley

Secretary: Chris Munro

ABN 67 473 829 552

DIGGER

Bumper 88 page issue



Photo: Bombardier Herbert Hampton MM (left) with two of his mates: one from the 1st Division FAB or DAC (right) and the other (centre) possibly from the 1st Division AMC. Herbert Hampton is profiled in this issue.

Photo courtesy of Kerry Patman.

December 2009

No. 29

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

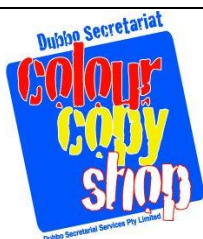
Edited by Graeme Hosken

Answers to *DIGGER* Quiz No. 29

1. The 28th Battalion was a Western Australian unit, formed at Blackboy Hill Camp in April 1915.
2. The 28th Battalion was part of the 7th Brigade (2nd Division).
3. The 28th's colour patch was a 'white over blue' diamond.
4. The Nek, or the junction of Rhododendron Spur and Sari Bair. The Apex was nearby.
5. From Gallipoli they first went to a valley near Mudros on Lemnos Island, before heading to Tel-el-Kebir, Egypt.
6. The reinforcements went to the 51st Battalion, which was formed as the 'daughter' of the 11th Battalion (also WA).
7. The 'Nursery Sector' near Armentieres.
8. The Old German line between Ovillers-Courcellette Road and the Bapaume Road. Here the battalion received 467 casualties, with all four company commanders killed.
9. The 28th was rested in Belgium near Zillebeke and Steenvorde.
10. The battalion was at Flers in the dreadful winter of 1916/17. Mud to a depth between three inches and three feet covered the trench floor and oozed from the trench walls. The weather was freezing and caused the Australians great hardship.
11. The outpost villages near Bullecourt were Queant and Noreuil.
12. The 5th, 6th and 7th Brigades were tasked to capture the villages.
13. Many bomb (hand grenade) fights took place as the 28th Battalion and Germans sought to capture or retain the villages.
14. The 28th had a supporting role to the attacking battalions and were also a source of reinforcements when more men were needed.
15. The 28th Battalion's last action was in the Beaurevoir Line in the first week of October 1918.
16. The 36th Battalion was drawn from NSW and was formed at Broadmeadows Camp (Newcastle) in February 1916.
17. The 36th was one-quarter of the 9th Brigade, 3rd Division.
18. The 36th's colour patch was oval, with 'white over green'.
19. The 36th was often referred to as 'Carmichael's Thousand', after the NSW politician, Ambrose Carmichael, who served in the battalion as a captain. Carmichael recruited many of the men from the rifle clubs of NSW.
20. The 36th Battalion suffered heavily at Crest Farm.

DIGGER 29 contents

Cover photo: Herbert Hampton and mates	1	Pte Frank Bernard, 17 th Btn	46
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	Pte Alfred Chapman (letters)	47-48
Mutiny on the 'Runic'	3-9	Fromelles documentary makers seek material	48
Christmas letters 1915	9	Pte Harold Harding	49
Sid Livesey (10 th LHR) on Gallipoli	10-14	Bdr Herbert Hampton, 1 st FAB	50-51
2009 FFFAIF AGM Report	14	Violet Robinson, VAD	52-53
Private David Smith, 2 nd Btn	15-16	Fovant Badges postcard	53
'Over the Top' released	16	Lieut James Dalton, 7 th LHR	54-64
'Sticks' and 'Splinter' (2 nd Btn 'midgets')	17-18	Chief Gunner Albert Pickett, RAN	64
Extracts from the 'Inglewood Advertiser'	18	John Nelson (2 nd Bn) & James Nelson (35 th Bn)	65-66
Pte Thomas Harriss: killed in a London air raid	19	Percy Smythe sketches	66
Sgt James Innes, 12 th LHR & 5 th DAC	20-30	Pte Edgar Jarvis, 34 th Btn	67-68
The 'dead letter depot'	31	George Viner Wicks, AFC	69-71
The Murphys: father and son KIA at Fromelles	32-33	'Missing' found in London Cemetery & Extn.	71
Pte Neil Penfold, 3 rd & 55 th Btns	33	WOII George Fuzzard, 8 th LHR, Part 3	72-78
Alfred Stopher and William Wilson	34-36	11 th LHR humour	78
Christmas letter 1916	36	Capt Lewis Andrews OBE, CTC	79-80
Family tragedies ('First to die' series)	37-39	Mystery of AWM photo A01566 (W Pheasant)	81-83
48 th Battalion history released	39	Military history in Childers	84-85
Financial patriotism (WWI loan raising)	40-42	Etched in Stone	86
Battle of Broken Hill	42	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 29	87
Frank Dalton, 10 th Btn & APC	43-45	Members' forum report	87
Digger humour samples	45	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 29 Answers	88



***DIGGER* is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop**

For a top quality printing job at the right price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan at e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: An unnamed group of men from the 24th Battalion. Courtesy of Margaret Clarke.

March 2010

No. 30

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963

Answers to *DIGGER* Quiz No. 30

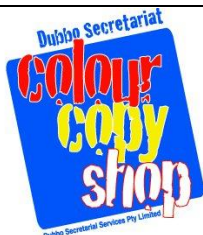
1. The nickname was a pun on 'Maid of Orleans' – 'Made of All Leanes'. Brothers Benjamin and Raymond Leane, three nephews and other relations served in the 48th Battalion. Ray Leane was Lieutenant Colonel of the 48th in 1916-1918, rising to lead the 12th Brigade till the Armistice.
2. Captain Edward Leane, KIA 23rd May 1917 and Major Benjamin Leane, KIA 10th April 1917.
3. The 48th was the daughter of the 16th Battalion (WA/SA). Both would be considered amongst the best fighting units of the AIF.
4. Their shoulder patch was round, with white over blue.
5. Private James Park Woods won his VC at Le Verguier, northwest of St Quentin, on 18th September 1918.
6. Lieutenant George D Mitchell. His book is one of the best – add it to your library.
7. DCM (when a corporal at Bullecourt, 1917) and the MC (when lieutenant at Albert, 1918).
8. Dernancourt – this battle is the subject of one of the AWM's dioramas.
9. The 48th hung on for another one hour and ten minutes.
10. Bullecourt casualties were 15 officers and 421 other ranks (of which 3 officers and 118 men were taken prisoner).
11. Pozieres (1916) to Le Verguier (1918).
12. The 'RAP' is the post in or close behind the line where the regimental surgeon and details give first treatment to the wounded.
13. A revetment is a buttress of wood, sandbags, or other material to hold up a steep side of trenches or open works.
14. A grenade or bomb fired from a rifle by special contrivances – sometimes by the insertion of a rod into the rifle-barrel; sometimes operated by the firing of an ordinary cartridge.
15. Shallow pits dug by soldiers, usually under fire in battle, from which they can fire their rifles; the first stage of a trench.
16. A salient is a curve in the line of battle, projecting towards or into the enemy's line. (Examples would be the Ypres Salient and the Sugarloaf Salient at Fromelles.)
17. A salvo is a single discharge of the guns of a battery in succession.
18. A sangar is a wall of loose stones piled so as to form a small breastwork.
19. A work similar to a trench, but dug forward from an existing trench or cavity by men working below the level of the surface.
20. The 75-millimetre field gun of the French Army, known for its rapid rate of fire.

Website news

(1) For the latest developments at Fromelles there is no better source than our website: www.ffaif.org.au. Our member on-the-spot, Carole Laignel, has sent photos of many of the reburials (which took place in some very cold weather, so thanks Carole!). (2) Photos of your local war memorial can be sent to projectffaif@yahoo.com.au. (3) Coming soon to the website! Photos of the Western Front: Then & Now.

DIGGER 30 contents

Cover photo: Men of the 24 th Battalion	1	Pte Neil Penfold, 55 th Bn: follow-up	39
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	Pte John Warren, 16 th Bn	40-41
Sgt Paul Pottage, 2 nd & 15 th FAB	3-9	Harry Hartnett meets Sgt Benson	41
British WWI service records	9	Cycling and war	42-44
Families with multiple deaths in the Great War	10-12	Pte Arthur Oscar Harvey, 34 th Bn	45-46
Bathurst committee meeting report	12	Gnr Thomas Dalton, 1 st LHR, 13 th FAB	47
Corporal Norman Halton, 56 th Bn	13-15	A hostile reception: MPs at Suez	48-49
ANZAC Day at Villers-Bretonneux 2009	16-17	Sgt Albert Barry, 46 th Bn	50-51
Corporal Brennen reported killed	17	Victory March in London: postcard	51
The making of a book: Bert Bishop, 55 th Bn	18-20	Reenacting the Great War	52-54
A case for additions to the Pheasant Wood list	21-25	Gnr Thomas Morris and the Sutton Veny grave	55-57
Member profile: Gontrand Callewaert	25	Etched in Stone	58
Pte Frank Gannon, 58 th Bn	26-29	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 30	59
The last Australians killed in the war?	29	Trench Talk Part 2	59
'Miss Pen': the Diggers' friend	30-35	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 30 answers	60
Study of the 9 th Reinforcements/11 th Bn	36-39		



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at the right price, wherever you are, contact

Aaron McMillan at e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: Victorian volunteers for the AIF pose for the camera soon after their arrival in camp, believed to be at Bendigo. These eighteen men were probably sharing a tent. The only identified men are Frank Walker (second from left, front row, wearing the cuneal cap); his brother Arthur Walker on his left, also in uniform and wearing a hat; and Ern Dickman, with his arm around Arthur's shoulder. A wonderful study of Australian faces. Courtesy of Trevor Munro.

June 2010

No. 31

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963

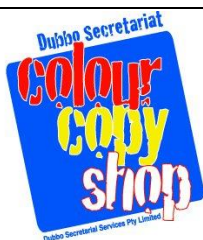
Answers to DIGGER Quiz No. 31

1. A purple 'T' with the numbers 1, 2 or 3 designating the Company.
2. The Australian Electrical and Mechanical Mining and Boring Company.
3. The 'Alphabetical Company'.
4. 'The Red House', containing German machine gunners and snipers.
5. To demolish the house with explosives (46 kilograms were used).
6. Sergeant Hugh Frazer and Sapper Morris.
7. The first of three Military Crosses that Woodward was awarded during WWI. He was annoyed that Sergeant Hugh Frazer and Sapper George Morris did not receive any decorations in the attack on Red House. Later in the war Hugh Frazer won the DCM for rescuing buried men. He died on 31st May 1918 and is buried in Ebblingham Military Cemetery. Sapper George Morris survived and returned to Australia after the war ended. (George's brother, Thomas, was featured in *DIGGER* 30, pp55-57. George Morris will be profiled in a future issue.)
8. The detonation of the first mine at Hawthorn Redoubt by the British, ten minutes before zero hour on the 1st July 1916.
9. The official name was 'Wallangatta Dugouts', but it was commonly called 'The Catacombs'. An entrance was adorned with a cut-out metal kangaroo.
10. 3rd October 1916.
11. Sorting out the 'Berlin Tunnel', which had been fought over and countermined by the Canadians and Germans.
12. 9th November 1916.
13. 'Gentlemen, we may not make history tomorrow but we will certainly change the geography.'
14. There were 21 mines in total; 19 were fired on the 7th June 1917. The remaining two were outside the battle perimeter and these were not fired.
15. At 3.10am on 7th June 1917.

Did you enjoy reading this issue of *DIGGER*? Great! Now your next task is to find the membership renewal form sent with this issue and renew your subs for 2010-11. You can direct deposit online or send a cheque in the Reply Paid Envelope. Your prompt renewal will ease the workload on the volunteer committee.

DIGGER 31 contents

Cover photo: Victorian volunteers in camp	1	Ernie Corey, 55 th Bn: a tribute by Bert Bishop	47
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	Arthur Lang, AN&MEF, RANBT, 4 th FAB	48-53
Private Henry Wright, 14 th Bn	3-14	Nurses who died in WWI	53
General Stewart anecdote	14	Murder at Surafend	54-60
FROMELLES and the Anzac Memorial	15-16	Letter from Signaller VE Barnes	60
Private George Greig, 60 th Bn	17-18	VCs recommended but not awarded in the AIF	61-64
'An old French ghost'	19	A 'Houdini' effort	65
The last Australians killed in the war? Part 2	20-23	Driver Andrew Woodfield, 57 th Bn	66-67
Captain David Twining, 48 th Bn	24-25	Beneath Hill 60 trivia	67
Escape to Russia: Pte Lew Newman, 17 th Bn	26-37	The Adcock brothers, 11 th Bn	68-72
Letters from Gnr WH & Sgt EM Jenner	37	Follow-up: the Nelson brothers	72
Captain Douglas Lucas-Tooth, 9 th Lancers	38	Trooper Sydney Livesey, 10 th LHR	73-77
Lancelot DeMole: Australian tank designer	39-41	The Crellin brothers	77
Letter from Gnr WH Jenner	41	Etched in Stone	78
L/Cpl Arthur Smith MM, 45 th Bn	42-43	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 31	79
Extracts from 'An Anzac Reverie', Bert Bishop	43	'Toc H' tribute to John and Hazelle Laffin	79
The Malcolm quartet	44-45	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 31 answers	80
Captain Francis Davy, 26 th & 47 th Bns	46-47		



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at the right price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan at e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



A small crowd assembles on the bay shore to watch the departure of A9 *Shropshire* and A18 *Wiltshire* [both at left] from Port Melbourne in September 1914. This photo was developed from a negative in the possession of member Ken Lyall. The photograph was taken by Ken's mother, then Hilda Maxwell. Other photos on the roll of film appear to have been taken in Broadmeadows Camp prior to the first contingent's departure.

September 2010

No. 32

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963

Answers to *DIGGER* Quiz No. 32

1. Pro Patria ('For Country').
2. Arthur Blackburn (Pozières, July 1916); Roy Inwood (Polygon Wood, September 1917); Phillip Davey (Merris, June 1918). Davey's two brothers also served in the 10th Battalion and won MMs.
3. Private Phillip Robin (KIA) and Private Arthur Blackburn.
4. The band was made up of men from the Brigade's four battalions, hence they were from Queensland, SA, WA and Tasmania. Men from Broken Hill in far-western NSW were also allocated to the brigade.
5. The 3rd Brigade comprised the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th Battalions. (This brigade was given the honour of being the first to land on Gallipoli.)
6. Lieutenant Colonel Michael Wilder-Neligan CMG, DSO, DCM.
7. The 10th Battalion drew from South Australia and Western NSW (which formed the 4th Military District).
8. The 10th made one attack on Celtic Wood.
9. The first (of two) attacks on Celtic Wood was made by the 11th and 12th Battalions on 7th October 1917.
10. The 10th Battalion raided Celtic Wood two days later, on 9th October 1917.
11. The raid was led by Lieutenant Frank J Scott of Gawler, SA.
12. The 42 men were not seen again. Conjecture is that the missing men were taken prisoner and then 'disposed of'.
13. The preceding artillery barrage on the wood had not been as dense as expected.
14. The raid was intended to 'persuade a watchful and wary foe to spread his fire and retain reserves at Broodseinde away from II ANZAC ...' [*The Anatomy of a Raid*, Tony Spagnoly, 1991]
15. The German 448 Infantry Regiment makes no mention of what happened on 9th October 1917 in their history.



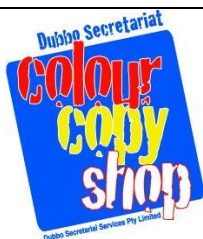
Commemoration at Aeroplane Cemetery, Belgium

Participants in the FFFAIF Western Front tour were invited to nominate soldiers whom they wished to commemorate in the CWGC cemeteries. The tour organisers then skilfully arranged the travel itinerary so these visits could take place. In this photo, Maurice Campbell is relating the story of his uncle, **Sgt Harold Campbell**, 3rd Battalion, who is buried as an 'unknown soldier' in Aeroplane Cemetery near Ieper. Such commemorations took place on every day of the tour and proved quite emotional, not only for the relative of the deceased but also for the audience who gathered at the graveside to hear the soldier's story of service and sacrifice.

DIGGER 32 contents

Cover photo: Departure of first contingent 1914	1	Trooper Frederick White, APC & brothers	40-42
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	Sergeant James Brown MM, 11 th Battalion	42
Tom Matthews, 52 nd Battalion	3-6	Sgt Stanley Carpenter DCM, 2 nd Battalion	43-46
NSW lawyers who served on Gallipoli	7-25	John Laffin Memorial Lecture 2010	46
Follow-up: WWI nurses; L/Cpl A Smith, 45 th Bn	25	L/Cpl 'Dick' Bridle, 2 nd MG Squadron	47-54
Soldiering in the blood	26-29	FFFAIF Western Front tour group photo	54
Paul Kendall's 'Bullecourt 1917'	29	Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Cemetery opening	55
Pte John Clarke, AAMC	30-31	Captain Hugh Buckley, 22 nd Battalion	56-57
Frank Tindale: veteran of three wars	32	Etched in Stone	58
Pte James Cairns	33-35	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 32	59
Poem: 'An Anzac's Fair'	36	Photos from Fromelles, 19 July 2010	59
Hector Deslandes, 22 nd Battalion	37-39	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 32 answers	60
The tale of Ernie Corey (55 th Bn) and 'Lion'	39	Commemoration at Aeroplane Cemetery	60

Check out our website at www.ffaif.org.au



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at the right price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan at e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER

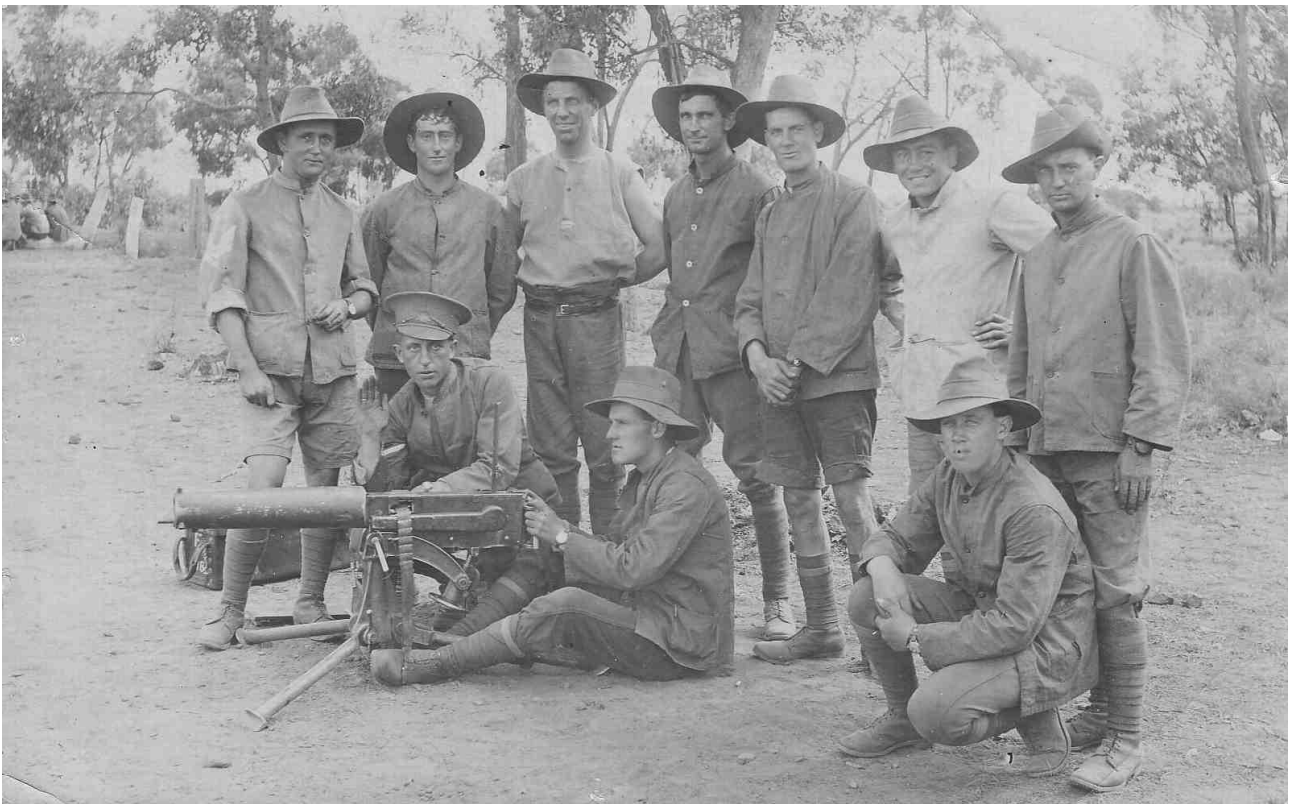


Photo: Machine gunners of the 12th Reinforcements for the 5th Machine Gun Company in training at Seymour camp, Victoria. The soldier behind the Vickers machine gun wearing the cap is Francis Townsend. Photo contributed by Jennie Rediger of Uralla, who is the niece of Frank.

December 2010

No. 33

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963

Answers to *DIGGER* Quiz No. 33

1. John Meredith, who is perhaps better known for his contribution to Australian folk music.
2. Leslie Greenleaf was the youngest Gilgandra Coo-ee and the last marcher to pass away. He was awarded the MM.
3. RG (Dick) Hitchen had the idea of the March but it was his brother, WT (Bill) Hitchen, who put the idea into effect.
4. The State Recruiting Board and the Defence Department were not impressed with the idea of a march, thinking it would be 'too costly and cumbersome, and would not be an effective means of getting volunteers'.
5. The Gilgandra Recruiting Association decided to ignore the official critics and proceed with the march.
6. The timetable assumed an average march of ten miles (16km) a day.
7. The Coo-ee March began on Sunday, 10th October 1915.
8. Wellington provided the largest number of volunteers.
9. New haversacks and military greatcoats.
10. Blue dungaree overalls and white floppy hats.
11. A bushfire.
12. 'Hitchen's Own'.
13. Thirty-two.
14. Harefield, UK. Bill died of illness before reaching the Western Front. (Most of the Coo-ees served with the 13th and 45th Battalions.)
15. Brian Bywater. Brian's collection is a must-see if you are in the area, as is the excellent Coo-ee March display at the Gilgandra Tourist Information Centre.



SEASON'S GREETINGS



*The FFFAIF Committee of Management offers members and their families
best wishes for a safe and enjoyable holiday season and for ongoing good health and prosperity
in the New Year.*

DIGGER 33 contents

Cover photo: 12 th Reinf for 5 th MG Company	1	Kenmore museum closure/Kenmore memorial	49
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	Pte William Doyle, 33 rd Bn	50-55
Lieuts William and Albert Watson, 48 th Bn	3-9	Bullecourt Memorial to the Missing extension	55
The Lord Howe Island war memorial	10	Pte Joe 'Scottie' Baxter, 21 st Bn	56-57
Cpl Arthur Carson/Carlson DCM MM, 2 nd Bn	11-13	Pte Roy Loader, 10 th & 43 rd Bns/Home Service	58-59
Tribute to the late Robin Corfield	13	Telling it like it really was (re: censorship)	60-62
Pte Robert Crosthwaite, 2 nd Pioneer Bn	14	Three unidentified men of the 5 th Div (photo)	62
Brett's tour of Gallipoli and Western Front	15-21	Battle-cruiser HMAS <i>Australia</i>	63-65
28 th and 51 st Battalion unit histories	21	L/Cpl David Leslie Greer, 14 th Bn	66-67
Private John Morley, 31 st Bn	22	Trooper Bert Lyon and 'Rexona'	68-70
'Brave Jack Morley' (poem)	23	Martin Place commemoration, 11 th November	70
Private AJ Mather & Prowse Point Cemetery	24-26	Sapper Cornelius Strachan, 9 th FCE	71-72
Pte Ethelbert Robinson, Cyclist Battalion	27-31	RQMS Eric Sneesby, 30 th Bn	73-74
Pte Francis McKay, 14 th Machine Gun Coy	32	Temp Sergt John Meehan MM, 17 th Bn	75-76
The unidentified 60 th Bn lieutenant at V-B	33-36	Remembrance Day & 'Fromelles Retrospective'	76-77
FFFAIF committee of management for 2010/11	36	Etched in Stone	78
6 th Broad Gauge Railway Operating Company	37-44	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 33 ('Coo-ee march')	79
'Reflections on the Western Front' (poem)	44	Shrapnel Charlie's Diggers at Hamel memorial	79
Captain James Osborne, 4 th Bn & British forces	45-46	'Brothers-in-Arms' (planned memorial)	79
Pte Alan Johnson, 28 th Bn	47-49	Answers to <i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 33	80



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at the right price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan at e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: Men of the 3rd Division AIF and a Scottish soldier mingle with some locals near Le Havre in France. The soldier sitting in front of the two ladies is Gilbert Brinsden, 37th Battalion, profiled in this issue. Photo courtesy of Andrew Pittaway, Fremantle, who is seeking the names of any of the other Diggers.

March 2011

No. 34

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963

Answers to *DIGGER* Quiz No. 34

1. 'Jacka's Mob' was written by Edgar John Rule.
2. 'Jacka's Mob' was first published in 1933.
3. Jacka's mob was the 14th Battalion, which formed part of the 4th Brigade (which became part of the 4th Division after Gallipoli).
4. The history of the 14th Battalion was written by Newton Wanliss, whose son Harold served in the 14th Battalion and was killed in action on 26th September 1917.
5. Around 5 500 men passed through the ranks of the 14th Battalion.
6. Rule reached the rank of Temporary Captain and was awarded the MM and MC.
7. The 14th Battalion was formed from Victorian enlistments, mostly drawn from Melbourne and suburbs.
8. Jacka also received the MC and Bar.
9. Jacka won the VC at Courtney's Post, Gallipoli, on 19th May 1915.
10. Joseph Bickley, William Howard, Frank Poliness and Stephen De'Araugo played a part in the VC-winning exploit.
11. The 14th Battalion was given the nickname the 'Bacon Stealers'.
12. Padre Andrew Gillison and Chaplain Frances Rolland.
13. Lieutenant Colonel JH Peck CMG, DSO (known affectionately as 'Dear Old Dad').
14. Jacka had his problems with Major General Charles Henry Brand CB, CMG, DSO.
15. Lieutenant Colonel Charles Dare DSO.

The Aussie who had endured a long succession of sunless days in frigid Belgium, regarded the landscape with keen interest. 'What's all that bright-looking stuff laying about all over the place?' he enquired of a cobbler. They both contemplated it with deep curiosity. The light of recognition gradually appeared on the cobbler's face. 'I remember it!' he said reminiscently, as of one recalling a circumstance of the vague long ago – 'it's sunlight!'

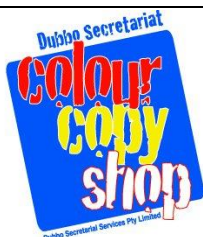
Duckboard Harrier, '*Aussie*', March 1919

The Digger was very annoyed with the Tommy MP, who had pinched him for being in Charleroi without a pass, and he decided to say something really nasty. He thought painstakingly for a minute and then relentlessly uttered these cruel words: 'Cripes! If you had any sense you wouldn't be on a job like yours. Why, if the size of your head was in proportion to your brains, half a peanut shell would do you for a panama!'

Duckboard Harrier, '*Aussie*', March 1919

***DIGGER* 34 contents**

Cover photo: Gilbert Brinsden, 37 th Bn, Havre	1	Cpl Frank Letherbarrow, RFA	33
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	The Peake family	34-35
Pte Daniel Davis, 31 st Bn	3-5	Tales from the 30 th Bn history	35
Incidents at Peronne: 55 th Bn	5	Cpl Harold Gilkes, 2 nd Bn, and his epitaph	36-42
Funeral of Tpr Jim Bothwell, MP	6-7	Franvillers Cemetery today	42
Pte Sidney Pelin, 15 th Bn	7	Sgt George Morris, 1 st ATC	43-45
Bandsmen and stretcher-bearers	8-13	Zam-Buk at the Front	46-47
Lieut Lachlan Henderson, 12 th LHR	14-17	Lieut Henry Slater DSO, 55 th Bn, abroad	47-48
Pte Allan Avard, 35 th Bn	18-19	Pte Richard Williams, 27 th Bn	49
Letters from the 'Molong Express' 1916	19	Pte Arthur Coad, 2 nd Pioneers	50
L/Cpl Gilbert Brinsden, 37 th Bn	20-23	Cpl Jack Ison's death and burial	51-57
Pte John West, 51 st Bn	24-25	Etched In Stone	58
Letters from the 'Molong Express' 1915	25	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 34 ('Jacka's Mob')	59
Rear Admiral Claude Cumberlege, RN	26-29	Red Cross Bureau's form letter	59
Pte Joseph Roberts, 54 th Bn, at Fromelles	30	Answers to <i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 34	60
L/Cpl John Mulford, 35 th Bn	31-32		



***DIGGER* is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop**

For a top quality printing job at the right price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan at e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: **www.dubsec.com.au**



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: Private Horace Balcomb of the 54th Battalion, one of the boys from Cranbury who fought at Fromelles and is featured in this issue. Courtesy of Harold Balcomb.

June 2011

No. 35

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963

Answers to DIGGER Quiz No. 35

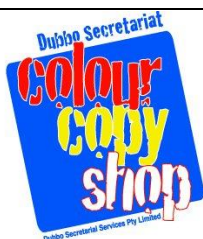
1. Captain Eric Wren, 3rd Battalion
2. Commander HD Stoker DSO, RN
3. HR Williams, 56th Battalion
4. Captain GD Mitchell MC, DCM, 48th Battalion
5. Patsy Adam-Smith
6. General Sir John Monash (FFFAIF Patron-in-Memoriam)
7. Lyndsay Baly
8. Neville Kidd (FFFAIF member)
9. Ross St Clair (FFFAIF member)
10. John Laffin (FFFAIF founder and Patron-in-Memoriam)
11. Robin Corfield
12. Bill Gammage
13. Neville Browning (FFFAIF member)
14. Harry Hartnett, 2nd Battalion, edited by Chris Bryett (FFFAIF member)
15. George Franki (FFFAIF member) and Clyde Slatyer

John Laffin Memorial Lecture Day (Sydney)

This year's John Laffin Memorial Lecture Day will be held on **Sunday 3rd July** at **Ashfield RSL Club, 374 Liverpool Rd, Ashfield**. Please note the venue is on the first floor of the club and access is by stairs only. The speakers will be **John D Cox** and FFFAIF member, **Tony Cunneen**. John delivered the NSW Governor's Inaugural Anzac Oration at Government House on 18th April 2011. He will speak on '*The Last Great Cavalry Charge: The Charge at Beersheba*'. Tony, who has had numerous articles published (including articles in *DIGGER* 32 & on pp3-12 of this *DIGGER*), will be speaking on '*The Legal Profession in the First World War*'. The day will commence at 10.30am and conclude by 3.00pm. **Light lunch** will be provided. There will be an **entry charge of \$15** to help offset costs, which will be collected on the day. To allow for catering to be ordered, please advise the number of persons attending and any special dietary requirements no later than **Monday 27th June**. **RSVP** to secretary@fffaif.org.au or by phone (leave a message) to **0448 266 634** or by mail to **FFFAIF, PO Box 4208, OATLEY WEST NSW 2223**.

DIGGER 35 contents

Cover photo: Private Horace Balcomb, 54 th Bn	1	Pte Henry Mason, 5 th Battalion	44
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	Pte Sydney Strike, 30 th Battalion (1916 diary)	45-49
The 18 th Battalion at Hill 60, Gallipoli	3-12	Johan's mural at Polygon Wood	49-50
L/Cpl Vernon Little, 2 nd /54 th Bns – KTMA	13-14	L/Cpl Reginald Kemp, APC	51-56
Pte Alexander Little, 10 th Bn (Blargies mutiny)	15-17	Trooper Edward Kemp, APC/5 th LHR	56-57
Cpl Sydney Aubrey, 1 st Bde HQ	17	Staff Sgt Raymond Kemp, 2 nd LHR/Dental	58-59
3 rd Bn soldiers killed at Bullecourt (Smythe)	18-19	Lieut Frederick Bowra, 4 th FCE	59
Lieut Fernleigh Bruton MC, 1 st Bn/GMP	20-21	The Macumber brothers of Inglewood	60-62
Cpl Arthur Hall VC, 54 th Bn, at Peronne	22-23	Lieut George Thompson, 1 st FCE – poet	63-67
Sgt Ernest Lawrence and Nurse Clarice Daley	24-25	Pte Frederick Milgate, 7 th Battalion	67
Cpl Thabet Suby, 28 th Bn (a Muslim in the AIF)	26-28	The boys from Cranbury (54 th Bn) at Fromelles	68-71
Ethel Campbell – the girl with the flags	29-32	War trophy at Goulburn	71
Australian Diggers abroad after the war	32	Lewis (28 th Bn) and Frank Marshall (51 st Bn)	72-77
FFFAIF Western Front Tour 2010: memories	33-35	Cpl Jack Ison, 3 rd Bn (follow-up to D34 article)	77
History of 31 st Battalion – material sought	35	Etched In Stone	78
2 nd Pioneers at Montbrehain and High Tree	36-38	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 35 (Authors)	79
Arthur Coad, 2 nd Pioneers (follow-up to D34)	38	Anzac Day commemorations at Ieper, 2011	79
The Garth family at war	39-42	Answers to <i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 35	80
Cpl Frederick Litchfield, 12 th Bn	43-44		



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at the right price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: A group of weary Diggers (infantry and stretcher-bearers) resting in a sunken road. The photo appears to have been taken after a battle, and may be of men from the 33rd Battalion. Contributed by Jackie Walker, Dubbo.

September 2011

No. 36

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963

Answers to *DIGGER* Quiz No. 36

1. The 19th Battalion (5th Brigade, 2nd Division) was granted 20 Battle Honours.
2. Ten of these honours can appear on the Regimental Colours.
3. A diamond; brown over green.
4. 4 842 men served in the 19th Battalion in its four years of existence, but it is likely there are some more men who served in the unit who are not recorded.
5. Of the 4 842 known to have served in the 19th Bn, Australian-born men totalled 3 492 and overseas-born 1 350.
6. The official figures show 37 members of the 19th Battalion were taken prisoner by the enemy.
7. (a) The First AIF went out of existence on 1st April 1921. (b) The war finally ended on 31st August 1923, having officially lasted seven years and 21 days.
8. Lieutenant Percy Valentine Storkey VC (later Captain). He was born in New Zealand.
9. Storkey won the VC at Hangard Wood, southeast of Villers-Bretonneux, on 7th April 1918.
10. Private 5934 Arthur Malcolm Stace.

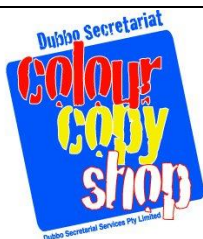
IWM Unit History reprints available in Australia at great prices!

Member Kim Phillips advises that reprints of Australian WWI unit histories produced by the Imperial War Museum (London) can now be ordered at attractive prices from the Australian online book store, www.booktopia.com.au, based in Sydney. Examples given by Kim include: 7th LHR (\$40.95); 2nd LHR (\$32.50); 28th Bn (\$34.40); 24th Bn (\$61.80); 13th Bn (\$34.40) and 11th Bn (\$75.50). These are facsimiles of the original books and represent great value for books that are extremely rare and expensive in the first edition. Kim suggests that you obtain the ISBN for the books from <http://www.naval-military-press.com/imperial-war-museum-books/index3.html> and search Booktopia's site using that code. Books are ordered in from overseas once you have placed an order. The Editor found many (perhaps all) Australian infantry battalion and light horse regiment histories are available – books that he thought he could never afford, if indeed he could ever find them! See a sample webpage at: <http://www.booktopia.com.au/history/anzac-history/gallipoli-and-our-first-anzacs/cHBB1-p2-l0.html>

DIGGER 36 contents

Cover photo: Diggers out of the battle	1	Pte Joseph Skewes, 58 th Bn	34
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	95 th Fromelles Commemorative Service, Sydney	35-36
Imperial Reservists from Australia	3-9	Sgt Edwin Reardon, 40 th Bn, at Mont St Quentin	37-38
Dawn Service at Villers-Bretonneux, 2011	10-11	Miss McConaghy and the Provost Corps	39-42
Capt Robert Gordon, 1 st Bn Northamptonshires	11	Lieut Henry Renny-Tailyour, RE	42
Naming of the AW Barry Bridge	12-13	Rededicating the Bodangora War Memorial	43-44
Sgt George Long, 5 th FA, at Hill 60, Gallipoli	13	Bodangora's Maxim machine gun returns	44-45
L/Sgt Ian MacInnes, 2 nd Bn	14-15	The Thomas brothers (Syd, Perc & Ern)	46-47
17 th Battalion at Munster Alley, 1916	15	Major Southey, RMO 2 nd Bn – humour	47
Ada Maria Hogg – volunteer aid worker	16-18	Mittagong War Memorial (R Pitts)	48
Lieut Stirling McWilliam, 9 th LHR	18	Lieut Maynard of the 17 th Bn at Passchendaele	48
Capt Roy Harrison, 2 nd Bn, at Lone Pine	19-21	The Irvin brothers go to war	49-51
Victor Harbor war trophy	21	Pte Charles Ah Tuck (Tucker), 16 th Bn	51
L/Cpl Richard Pitts DCM, 20 th Bn	22-24	Sgt Arthur Upward, 4 th DAAOC	52-55
Sgt Ormond Collins, 24 th Bn	24	Tpr George Seager, 9 th LHR	55
L/Cpl Francis Yorath, 5 th Bn	25-27	The hands of time (presentation watches)	56-57
33 rd Battalion orders – humour	27	4 th Battery cooks – humour	57
Cpl John Gall, 49 th Bn	28-29	Etched In Stone	58
Identities sought for soldiers (from photos)	29	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 36 (19 th Battalion)	59
Capt Duncan Mulholland, 1 st MG Bn	30-32	Toronto Ave Cemetery service (John Luff)	59
A sad day for the 2 nd Battalion	32	Unit history reprints	60
Gunner Clifford James, 2 nd FAB	33-34	Answers to <i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 36	60

fffaif.org.au



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at the right price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: Nurse Nellie Pike (later to be Mrs Charles Laffin and mother of our Patron-in-Memorial, John Laffin) pictured with some of her Digger patients who are dressed in their hospital 'blues'. Courtesy of Daphne Tongue, John's sister.

December 2011

No. 37

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963

Answers to DIGGER Quiz No. 37

1. Arthur Cobby [right].
2. AB Facey.
3. Will Davies.
4. Will Davies.
5. Maurice Campbell and Graeme Hosken.
6. Captain R Hugh Knyvett.
7. Sydney Loch.
8. John Hamilton.
9. Memoirs of Roy Ramsay, edited by his son Ron J Ramsay.
10. Michael McKernan.
11. Bert Bishop.
12. Jill, Duchess of Hamilton.
13. Ernest W Hammond.
14. Phillip Lecane.
15. Robert Kearney.



FFFAIF Western Front Tour 2012

Have you always wanted to visit the battlefields of France and Belgium, but been put off by the need to arrange air travel, book accommodation and drive on the wrong side of the road? And once there, worried about getting lost in the maze of villages and roads and being uncertain if you have found the battlefields you are looking for? *Procrastinate no longer!* Join the FFFAIF's second tour in July 2012 and all these hassles will disappear as our own tour guides will take you on a tour of the Australian battlefields and selected cemeteries, on board a luxurious coach while staying in three star accommodation (all rooms with en suites) in Ieper, Arras, Albert and Assevillers (near Peronne).

As our tours are run on a non-profit basis, you will not find a better value two-week Western Front tour *anywhere!* Only \$2,950 per person twin share*. It will be an experience of a lifetime as you travel the Western Front with fellow-members with similar interests. The Gallipoli prequel (\$1670 per person twin share*) to the Western Front tour has only a couple of seats left, but there are plenty of seats available for the second leg. You will fly into Amsterdam as part of the tour group and end in Paris, from where you can return home with the group or travel onto other places. A tour flyer was sent with *DIGGER* 36, so read through that or see the Members' Area of the website www.ffaif.org.au for more details, and then contact Chris Munro at secretary@ffaif.org.au to express your interest. Don't delay! [*Prices are for land content only and are subject to fluctuations in currency exchange rates.]

DIGGER 37 contents

Cover photo: Nurse Nellie Pike with patients	1	Cpl Stanley Ross, 9 th MGC, at Messines	45-47
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	Captain C Longmore and Blackboy Hill Camp	48-50
Pte William McKenzie, 3 rd Bn	3-14	2011 FFFAIF AGM report	50
Cpl Bert Smythe, 3 rd Bn – Gallipoli letter	15-19	Cpl James Felan, 17 th Bn	51-52
Lieut William Chapman, 17 th Bn/Cyclist Corps	20-24	Discovery of Pte Alan Mather, 33 rd Bn	53-54
Lijssenthoek photo project seeks help	24	Member seeking publisher for 2 nd Bn book	54
Lambis Englezos, the man who rewrote history	25-28	Sgt Thomas Eades ('Pambo', the snake man)	55-57
24 th Battalion humour	28	Johan visits Grün Farm (re Cpl JB Ison, 3 rd Bn)	57
Cpl Léon Briand MM, 16 th Bn	29-30	Sister Eileen King MM, QAIMNSR	58-59
1 st Battalion photo identified by Yves	30	The Snipers' Nest Raid (10 th LHR)	60-63
Nurse Nellie Pike – the 'Little Sister'	31-32	Pte Niel Penfold, 55 th Bn	64-77
'The Black Anzacs': first trench raiding party	33-37	Etched In Stone	78
Sgt Henry Thompson DCM, MM, 16 th Bn	38-40	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 37 (WWI authors)	79
Bendigo RSL Museum	40	Dedication of plaques to 2 nd /54 th /13 th /34 th Bns	79
Pte Frederick Dench, 2 nd FCE	41	Answers to <i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 37	80
Pte H Sutcliffe and Lieut L Radcliffe, 49 th Bn	42-44	2012 Gallipoli/Western Front tour notice	80



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at the right price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: The sons and daughter of Arthur Charles Hall VC proudly stand beside their father's grave at St Matthew's Church, West Bogan, in Western NSW on the occasion of the renaming of the adjacent Coolabah-Brewarrina Road after their father, who lived and farmed nearby after his return from the Great War until his death in 1978. **Inset:** Arthur Hall, 54th Battalion, at Buckingham Palace in 1919 following his investiture with the Victoria Cross.

March 2012

No. 38

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963

Answers to *DIGGER* Quiz No. 38

1. The 7th Brigade, in which the 25th Bn lost 965 men; the 26th Bn, 832; the 27th Bn, 742 and the 28th Bn, 939, with a total of 3 478 deaths. The 7th Brigade formed part of the 2nd Division. [*DIGGER* would like to have more articles on the 2nd Division – Ed.]
2. Lieutenant Alfred Edward Gaby, posthumously, for valour east of Villers-Bretonneux, 8th August 1918.
3. Lieutenant Albert Chalmers Borella, on 17th/18th July 1918 east of Villers-Bretonneux.
4. The 1st Brigade (1st to 4th Bns) landed between 7.30-8.00am on 25th April 1915.
5. Colonel Henry Normand MacLaurin MID.
6. Around 10am on 25th April.
7. Private 1485 Percy George Stafford. [A fascinating but rather shameful ‘service’ record! He was ruled ineligible for his service medals and the Memorial Plaque, but appears on the Roll of Honour – Ed.]
8. Private James Park Woods, 18th September 1918, near Le Verguier.
9. Cornish was in charge of the battalion cooks. He was regarded as ‘one of the strongest links in the chain of the battalion success’. [Medal citation extract.]
10. Lieutenant Colonel George Jameson Johnston, Commander 2nd Field Artillery Brigade.

Pozieres Memorial – After the recent recapture of Pozieres it was found that our battalion memorial there had been slightly damaged by shell fire, one of the stays to the cross, on which was engraved the word ‘Pozieres’, having been splintered and knocked off. Sgt Laing MM, who has taken a keen interest in the memorial, visited the old battlefield and brought the damaged portion of the woodwork back to the battalion as a souvenir. He also immediately had the memorial repaired in conformity with its original design, so that, with the exception of a few shrapnel marks on the beam, it is none the worse for the renewal of hostilities on that historic field. The damaged piece of timber is being forwarded to the war memorial as a souvenir.

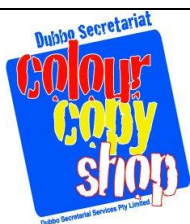
‘The Field Newspaper of the 24th Battalion’
Contributed by Margaret Clarke, Cardiff.

Family membership fee review

The committee has reviewed the Family Membership fee structure and is confident that a reduction in the current rate of \$50/\$40 (i.e. \$50 for the first member and \$40 for each subsequent member) to \$50/\$30 for regular family adult membership and \$40/\$20 for concession family adult membership can be achieved with little impact on the association’s overall finances. This new rate should apply to new and existing Family Memberships from 1st July 2012. Full details will be included in the renewal notice accompanying the next *DIGGER* issue and be available on the website by June.

DIGGER 38 contents

Cover photo: Arthur Hall’s family at Coolabah	1	Pte Harold Robson, 12 th Bn	43-44
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	The discovery of the Shellal Mosaic	45-49
Second Battalion’s last men off Gallipoli	3-7	Pte Bertie Cooper, 16 th Bn	50
Bullecourt men: H Wilkinson & C Chalk	8-16	Major AS Hutchinson, 58 th Bn	51
Photo: Inside Buckingham Palace Hotel	16	War piano returns home	51
Red Cross Missing & Wounded Enquiry Bureau	17-21	Dedication of The Arthur Hall VC Way	52
Photo: 4 th Reinforcements/34 th Battalion	21	Beaumont-Hamel to Bernafay Wood	53-57
The Paris March, July 1916, and participants	22-28	Etched in Stone	58
L/Cpl Richard Gunter, 34 th Bn	29-30	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 38	59
‘To Kate’: A poem from the dead	31-32	Barford (UK): then and now	59
‘Marginal truths’: Cpl Len Jones, 3 rd Bn	33-39	Birthplace statistics on AIF personnel	59
Developments at Bullecourt’s La Petite Croix	39	Answers to <i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 38	60
Spr James Devine, 1 st & 4 th Tunnelling Coys	40-41	Pozieres Memorial (24 th Bn anecdote)	60
A driver’s day: Dvr HO Bastian, 9 th FCE	42		



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at the right price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: 02 6884 5577

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER

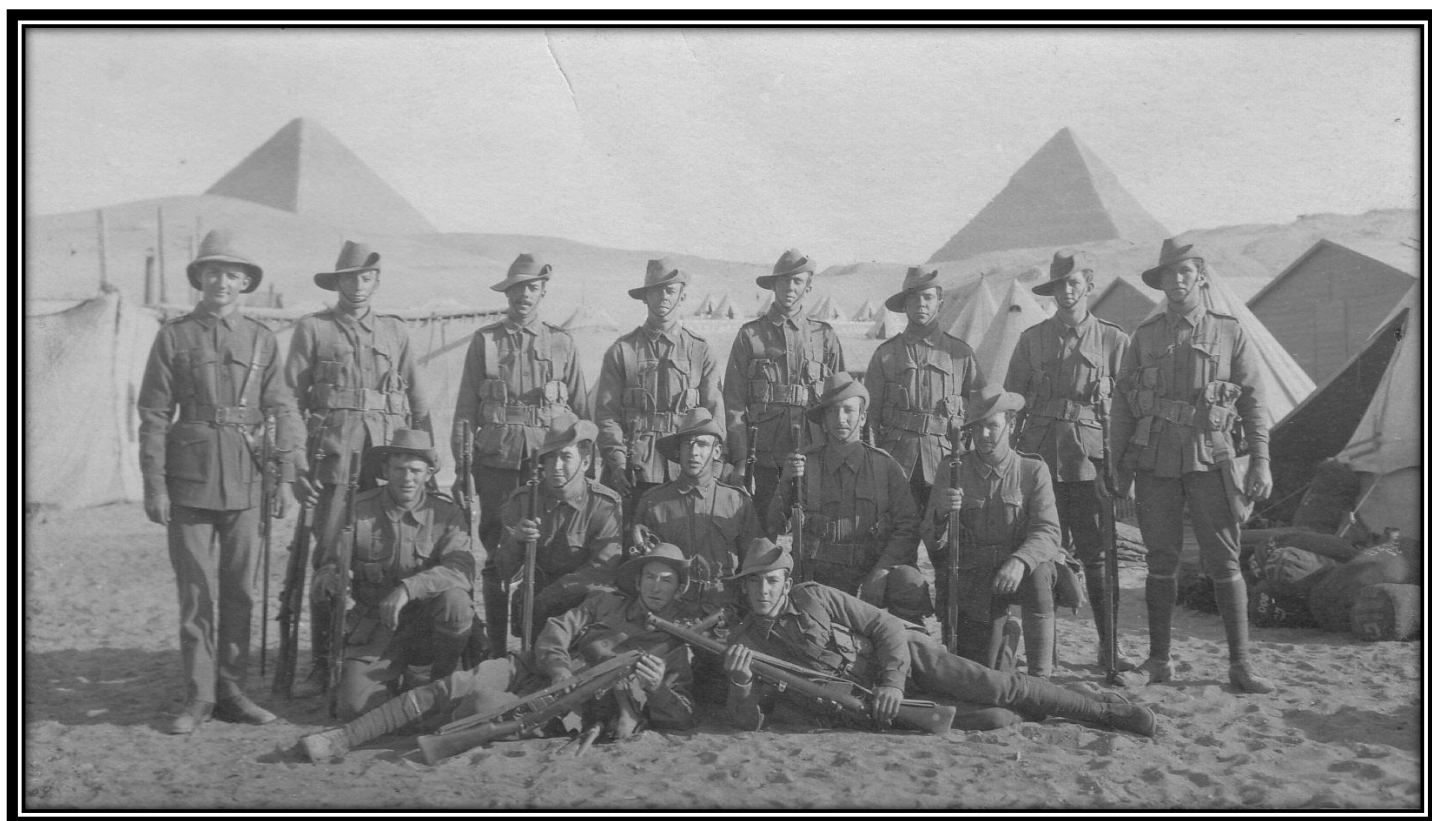


Photo: The men of No. 8 Section of 'C' Company, 2nd Battalion AIF, in camp at Mena, Egypt.
From the Marshal Roy Macdonald collection, courtesy of Jean Chase and Maurice Campbell.

June 2012

No. 39

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963

Notice of John Laffin Memorial Lecture Day 2012

The 2012 John Laffin Memorial Lecture will be held on **Sunday, 24 June, at Bathurst RSL Club**, 114 Rankin Street, Bathurst, NSW 2795 [ph: 02 6333 2999; www.bathurstsl.com.au], commencing at 11am. Lunch may be purchased at the club's excellent bistro.

The principal speaker is **Charlotte Descamps** who will give an in-depth presentation on 'Life on the Battlefields 94 years later'. Born in Poperinge, Belgium, in 1958, Charlotte Descamps has lived her entire life (to date) on the battlefields of the Ypres Salient. In 1998, Charlotte started the **Varlet Farm Bed & Breakfast** operation, specialising in hosting guests with an interest in the Great War. Varlet Farm B&B has been listed by tripadvisor.com as one of the 'Top 10 B&B and Inns' in Europe in 2011.

Charlotte became a qualified battlefield guide in 2004 and is a founding member of the Passchendaele Society 1917, a charity organisation that organises commemoration events in the Ypres Salient. This society was a driving force behind the events commemorating the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Passchendaele. Charlotte's role also included carrying out research for the Passchendaele Memorial Museum 1917 at the British National Archives in Kew. She has also:

- guided battlefield tours for the NZ Embassy on Anzac Day from 2004 till 2009
- lectured to groups visiting Varlet Farm from all over the world, including students, army cadets, army officers, bomb disposal squads and amateur and professional historians
- established contact between the Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917 and the 48th Highlander Regimental Museum in Toronto, and
- represented the community of Zonnebeke at the inauguration of a new WWI memorial in Essex on November 4th, 2011.

In March 2011, Charlotte began her international speaking career at the annual seminar of the Western Front Association – Pacific Coast Branch in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Between March and December 2012 she will speak in the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

It was decided to hold this year's lecture a little earlier than usual so as to allow those members participating in the Gallipoli extension of the 2012 FFFAIF Commemoration Tour a reasonable interval between the Lecture and the 2nd July departure date. Bathurst was chosen as a central venue, not too distant from Sydney and the Central West, where a good number of our members reside. The city was the birthplace of CEW Bean and home of the training depot for the 54th Battalion AIF. Bathurst has many historic buildings and memorials and is home to the Mount Panorama race track. Please **RSVP** by 21st June 2012, with numbers attending, to:

Secretary FFFAIF Inc

PO Box 4208

OATLEY WEST NSW 2223

or e-mail Chris Munro secretary@fffaif.org.au or phone **0448 266 634** (leave a message if unanswered).

FFFAIF thanks Bathurst RSL Club for its kind donation of a function room for the 2012 John Laffin Memorial Lecture.

DIGGER 39 contents

Cover photo: No. 8 Section, 'C' Coy, 2 nd Bn	1	2012 AGM: early notification of possible dates	46
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	The Recruiting Train 1917	47-49
Captain Ivor Margetts, 12 th Bn	3-13	The Henderson brothers (Hugh & Ronald)	50
The unknown Trench Mortar lance corporal	14-17	Personal reflections on Anzac Day	51-52
Barford St Martin Church: 'then and now'	17	Pte Maynard Waters, 10 th Bn	53
Nurse Amy Trebilcock	18-21	St Anne's Church and the Shellal Mosaic	54
Private Robert Mills, 3 rd Bn	22-23	Pte James Paterson, 25 th & 49 th Bns	55-56
Corporal Len Jones, 3 rd Bn: post-war life	23	Bdr Ray Bishop, 16 th Battery	57-58
The Allonville Races	24-27	Pte Gordon Bishop, 8 th Bn	58-59
Pte H Bembrick, 3 rd MGB & Pte H Lea, 17 th Bn	28-29	Hugo Throssell VC, 10 th LHR	60-66
Iso Rae and Etaples	30-32	Pte Jean Gallanty MM, 7 th Field Ambulance	66
Pte James Milne, 9 th Bn	32	Narrative of Cpl Len Jones, 3 rd Bn, Part 1	67-70
Pte Albert Hucker, 26 th Bn	32	'In memory of you and yours' (poem)	70
Civic Memorials at Tanilba Bay	33	Pte Herbert Beaton, 8 th Bn	71
'The Traffic Bloke' (poem)	34	Pte Arthur Beaton, 8 th Bn	71
Pte Herbert Stoops, 34 th Bn	35-36	The Hargraves and Hill End War Memorials	71
Hill 60 Tunnellers' Memorial: 'then and now'	36	When Anzacs came marching home	72-75
Midshipman George Armitage and the <i>Ballarat</i>	37-39	Headstones for Tasmanian Diggers	76-77
Chief Signalmen Irwin Chamberlain	39	Opening of Bullecourt Museum	77
The Miranda 'Digger'	40-41	Etched in Stone	78
Book release (B Scates); Vale: Ivan Sinnaeve	41	Memories of 1918 (Pte Eric Fairey, 38 th Bn)	79
Cpl Marshal Macdonald, 2 nd Bn	42-46	Book release (Ross McMullin)	79

www.fffaif.org.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: Driver 2342 Laurence Payne, 23rd Battalion. [T Munro]

September 2012

No. 40

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963

Answers to *DIGGER* Quiz No. 39

1. Abdul = Turk (individual or collective noun).
2. Ack Emma = Morning (a.m.); sometimes also Aircraft Mechanic.
3. Alleyman = German soldier (from French *Allemagne*).
4. Archie = Anti-aircraft fire or artillery piece.
5. Banjo = Spade, from the shape of the entrenching tool.
6. Base rat = A soldier perpetually at the base, thereby maintaining comfort and safety.
7. Billjim = An Australian (from two common first names, Bill + Jim).
8. Bivvy = Bivouac, a form of temporary shelter.
9. Boche = German.
10. Bull ring = British Army training establishment at places like Rouen, Harfleur, Havre and Etaples. The Bull Ring at Etaples was famous for its strict discipline.

Changes to Roll of Honour for those who died at sea

In preparing Frev's story on the *Kanowna* for publication, checking of the units for those who died at sea (and were subsequently buried at sea) revealed that the AWM's online Roll of Honour showed for most of the deceased that their 'place of death' was France, Egypt or England.

Apparently, this quite deceptive information comes from the past practice of showing 'place of death' as being the country in which the soldier's name appears on a memorial to the missing. So if a Digger died on the voyage home (even if just off the Australian coast), but his name appears on the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, then his place of death was recorded on the ROH as 'France'.

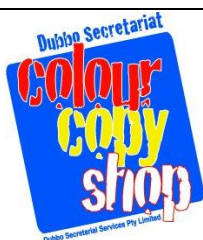
After contacting Wendy Gadd at the AWM (who was aware of the problem), sending the list of names from Frev's article has seen their places of death changed to reflect reality. The database now shows such entries as: Red Sea; Tasman Sea; Indian Ocean; at sea off South Africa; North Atlantic Ocean; Great Australian Bight and the Gulf of Aden. Thanks, Wendy, for making the changes to the ROH.

The Editor has pondered how history would have been altered if **Victor Reston**, who died one day out from Sydney, had been kept onboard so that he could have been buried on Australian soil. Would that have made Reston, **General Bridges** and the **Unknown Soldier** at the AWM the only three AIF men who died while on active service to be buried in Australia? – Ed.

DIGGER 40 contents

Cover photo: Driver Laurence Payne, 23 rd Bn	1	24 th Bn anecdote: 'The saluting problem'	33
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	Private Albert Bonzer, 18 th Bn	34-36
Hospital Ship <i>Kanowna</i>	3-10	Lieutenant William Watson MC, 16 th Bn	37-38
Arthur Hall VC, 54 th Bn, in London	10	Mid-day meal at Blackboy Hill Camp, WA	38
The Gavin brothers, 26 th Battalion	11-14	Lt Col Maurice Wilder-Neligan, 9 th & 10 th Bns	39-45
Private Walter Vandenberg, 3 rd Bn	15-17	John Laffin Memorial Lecture 2012 report	45
Private Harry Spark, 7 th Bn	17	Narrative of Cpl Len Jones, 3 rd Bn, Part 2	46-50
With the Westralians at Broadmeadows Camp	18-19	Pte Herbert May, 3 rd Pioneers	51-52
Follow-up: The Shellal Mosaic	19	Opening of Bullecourt Museum	53-54
'To Kate' – a reprise	20-21	Fromelles Day Service, Sydney	55
Conduct of the men in Egypt, 1915	21	The first battalion unit history	56-57
Private James Blackwood, 2 nd Bn	22	FFFAIF's 'unknown soldier'	57
Captain Walter Leslie, 7 th Bty, 3 rd FAB	23-26	Etched in Stone	58
Fromelles Day Service, Melbourne	26	Norbert McCrory, RANBT, 6 th FAB, RAN	59
Pte William Shirley, 13 th Bn, and the Sphinx	27-29	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 39: WWI slang terms	59
Private Walter Mitchell, 35 th Bn	30-31	Answers to <i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 39	60
'Bud the Monkey' extract: Pigeon pals	32-33	Changes to ROH for those who died at sea	60

Visit the association's website at www.ffaif.org.au



***DIGGER* is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop**

For a top quality printing job at the right price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER

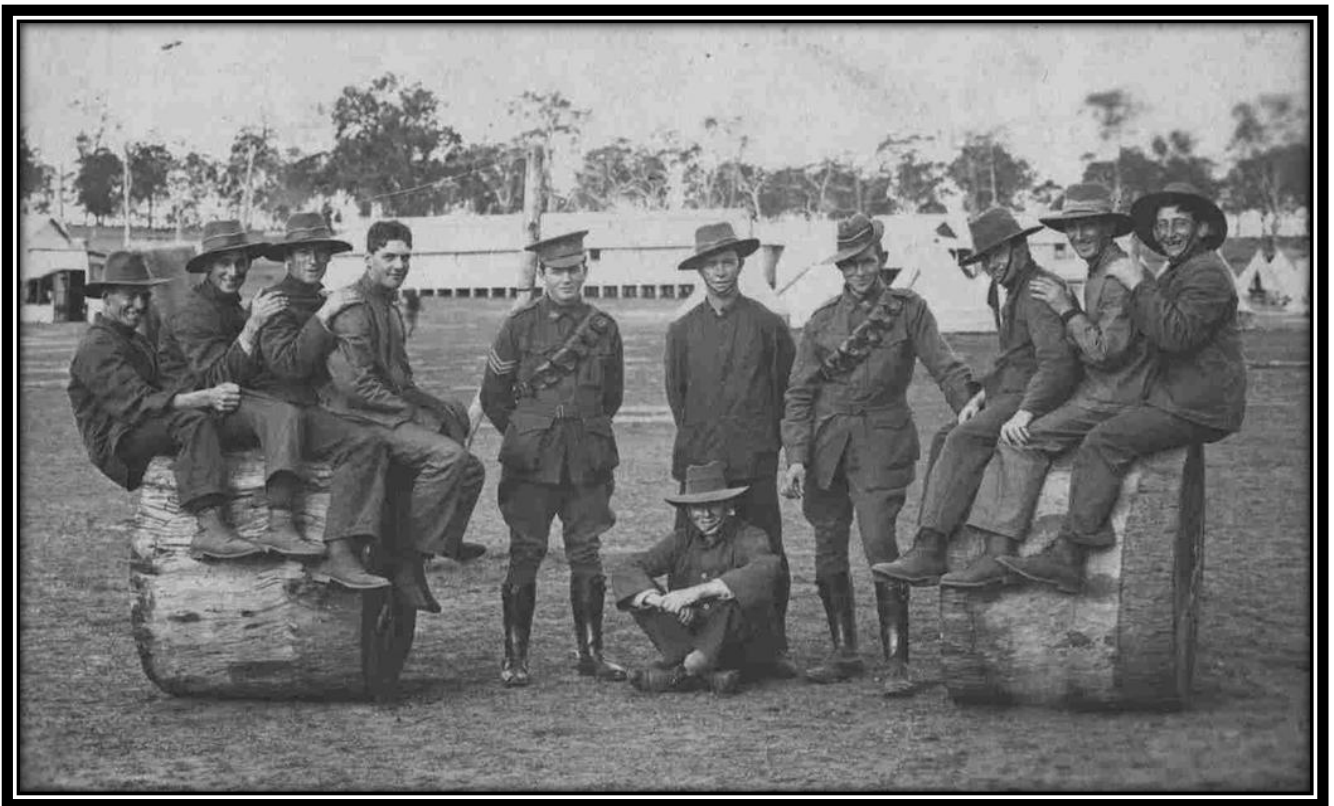


Photo: 'This is a photo of me and some more rolling these blocks up to the mess rooms' – Bert Egan, 20th Battalion. The photo was taken at camp in Sydney, probably at Menangle. The logs would most likely be used as butchers' blocks. Bert Egan is the soldier sitting extreme right and is profiled in this issue. Courtesy Maurice Campbell.

December 2012

No. 41

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963

Answers to *DIGGER* Quiz No. 41

1. 130 Horseferry Road, Westminster, London.
2. Miss Vera Deakin (daughter of the former Australian Prime Minister, Sir Alfred Deakin).
3. Larkhill (3rd & 5th Divs), Perham Downs (1st Div), Rolleston (2nd & 4th Divs), Parkhouse (ASC, AMC, Eng & Sigs) and Tidworth (HQ & MGC).
4. Christchurch (Hants.), Brightlingsea (Essex), Shefford near Hitchin (Herts.), Belford Park near Grantham (Lincs.).
5. Perham Downs, Weymouth, Bovington (Wool), Worgret Hill (Wareham). Where men were sent was mainly determined by when they would be fit for return to the front or repatriation to Australia.
6. Canberra (Federal Territory, now the ACT); Berrima, Bourke, Holdsworth, Liverpool, Molonglo, Trial Bay (NSW); Brisbane, Enoggera (Qld); Fort Largs, Torrens Island (SA); Bruny Island, Claremont (Tas); Melbourne, Langwarrin, Point Cook (Vic); Rottne Island (WA).

WA members hold get-together

At the instigation of member **Paul Graham**, four members of the FFFAIF (and two guests) living in and near Perth, Western Australia, met up on 18 November for a tour of the naval base at HMAS *Stirling*,



Rockingham, followed by refreshments. Paul arranged the gathering so that FFFAIF members could meet each other, share common interests and discuss military history projects they are working on. After entering the base by the 4.5km long causeway, the group visited the Z Force Area (WWII), then the Clearance Diving Team to see some mines from WWII and the Gulf Wars. The party then inspected the naval ships and submarines in the wharf area and heard from a submariner about life in the navy. This was followed by tea, coffee and cold beer in the Senior Sailors' Mess and inspection of relics from ships that have been paid off from the

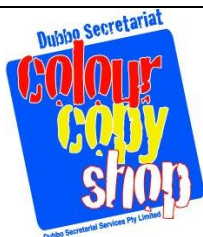
navy. Well done, Paul, on organising the day. **Above left (l to r):** Paul Graham, Andrew Pittaway, Sandra Playle, Alan Rayfield and Roley Rayfield.

South Australian member, **David Wright**, is interested in holding a similar gathering at the Walkerville RSL Club. If you live in SA and would be interested in attending, David can be contacted via the Editor.

DIGGER 41 contents

Cover photo: Pte Bert Egan, 20 th Bn, and mates	1	Spr Frederick Thornton, 3 rd DSC	44-50
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	FFFAIF donation towards Boer War Memorial	50
The genesis of 'Digger'	3-6	Pte Herbert Harley, 42 nd Battalion	51-56
The War Medal of John Donaldson, 59 th Bn	6	A tribute to Ron Austin	56
Sgt Christopher Sandilands, 16 th Battalion	7-10	Pte John Sweeney, 54 th Bn, and a famous photo	57-60
Men of the 8 th Reinf/32 nd Battalion (photo)	10	Narrative by Cpl Len Jones, 3 rd Bn, Part 3	61-64
The Anderson brothers (Ralph & Ernest)	11-12	'Beaten Down by Blood' (M Bomford) released	64
Missing at Mouquet Farm: Pte O Abbott	13-14	The Chalmers family (James Chalmers, 2 nd Bn)	65-66
Pte Ernest Waterhouse, 11 th Battalion	15-16	Extract from 'The Old Digger's War'	66
96 years in the mud	17	Extract from 'The Price of Valour' (J Hamilton)	67-68
Tpr Walter Bonser, Camel Corps/11 th LHR	18-25	Tragedy in the 5 th Pioneer Battalion	69-75
2 nd Lt Frank McEvoy, 9 th LHR/British Army	26	Privates Arthur and William Russell honoured	75
Pte Bert Egan, 20 th Battalion	27-28	Lieutenant John Peel, 3 rd Sqn AFC	76-77
Beerburum's 'Adopt-a-Digger' project	29	Etched in Stone	78
Pte Stewart Ramsay, 18 th Battalion	30-31	Kandahar Farm Cemetery: then & now (H May)	79
Pte Walter Vandenbergh, 3 rd Bn (photos)	31	2012 FFFAIF AGM Report	79
L/Cpl Edward Rees, 12 th Battalion	32-39	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 41	79
Pte Thomas Bennett MM, 31 st Battalion	40	Answers to <i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 41	80
George Thomas & George Thatcher, 43 rd Bn	41-42	WA gathering of FFFAIF members	80
Inspired by 'Shrapnel Charlie'	42-43		

Visit the association's website at www.ffaif.org.au



***DIGGER* is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop**

For a top quality printing job at the right price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: 2758 Private Colin Maxwell Harkins, 2nd Pioneers, 1918.
Courtesy of Andrew Macdonald.

March 2013

No. 42

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963

Answers to *DIGGER* Quiz No. 42

- King George's Sound, Albany, on the southwest coast of WA.
- The convoy was originally expected to sail to the UK (on 21 September) where the men would be trained prior to fighting on the Western Front.
- 28 October 1914.
- 21 529 men and 7 882 horses [Source: 'Postal History', RC Emery. Note: Bean records the number of horses as 7 843.]
- 28 Australian Transport Ships plus 10 New Zealand Transports.
- Escort consisted of: HMS *Minotaur* (armoured cruiser, 14 600 tons); the Japanese battle cruiser, *Ibuki* (14 600 tons); HMAS *Melbourne* (light cruiser 5 400 tons); HMAS *Sydney* (light cruiser 5 400 tons). The *Minotaur* left the convoy on 8 November and *Melbourne* took her place.
- A3 SS *Orvieto* of 12 130 tons.
- The *Minotaur* was 5 miles (8km) in advance of the convoy, which followed in three lines abreast; *Sydney* was on the left; *Ibuki* on the right and *Melbourne* five miles astern.
- 1 November 1914.
- Turkey had declared war on the Allies on 31 October 1914 and the War Office wanted the Australians and NZers to help defend the Suez Canal from Turkish attack. Also, it was thought inadvisable to bring the troops from the southern hemisphere to Salisbury Plain in an English winter, with a lack of suitable accommodation.

Strange Coincidence

April 6, 1917, had been a strenuous day in the 34th Casualty Clearing Station on the Poperinghe road. Wounded soldiers had been pouring in all day. A request went around for a volunteer from among the nursing staff for a blood transfusion for a poor fellow lying almost at the door of death.

Feeling that I should get a rest from the horrors around me, I volunteered. A test was taken of my blood, and I was chosen. After the transfusion I had 24 hours rest, and when I resumed my duties I was told by the doctor that the man to whom I had given my blood wished to see me. I made my way to his side, and when I saw his face I promptly fainted across the bed.

He was my own brother, who had been reported 'killed in action' eight months previously. He is alive to-day. – 'Springbok', Perth.

Snippet from 'A DIGGER'S DIARY' – a column in the Western Mail (Perth) – conducted by "Non-Com", which published brief accounts and reminiscences from ex-servicemen. Thursday, 22 December 1932. Contributed by Heather (Frev) Ford, Montrose. [According to the CWGC the 34th CCS was at La Chapelle, Peronne, France from Apr-July 1917, which casts some doubt on the reliability of the story.]

DIGGER 42 contents

Cover photo: Pte Colin Harkins, 2 nd Pioneers	1	Trooper Berthold Fimmel, 3 rd MGS	45
Trench Talk & contact/membership details	2	2 nd Lieut William Parsons, 6 th LTMB/22 nd Bn	46
The Clarke family, Isle of Man	3-6	Surgeon Probationer Robert Walker	47-49
Lieutenant Alfred Hearps, 12 th Bn	7-15	The Allonville disaster (14 th Bn)	50-54
1 st Division history released	15	'The Tyke' from Bud the Monkey	54
The ANZAC Memorial and its heritage	16-17	Lieut Harry Harlock, 4 th Bn/APC/4 th Div Arty	55-59
2 nd Lieutenant Cecil Healy, 19 th Bn	18	WWI Diggers lost on HMAS <i>Sydney</i>	60-61
'Battle of Mont St Quentin-Peronne' released	18	Restoration of graves in the UK	61
Pte Sydney Strike, 30 th Bn, 1917 diary extracts	19-25	Pte Jack Sweeney, 54 th Bn, and Peronne photos	62
'Old Digger's War' extracts	25	Captain Arthur Ross, AIF Postal Service	63
Private Henry Bell, 29 th Bn	26-28	Fromelles inscription – feedback results	64-65
'Old Digger's War' extracts	28	Removal of names from Memorials by CWGC	65
Private Cass Mahomet, 10 th Bn	29-31	Poppy Day	66
Private Peter Barloge, 18 th Bn	31	Trooper Walter Tink, 7 th LHR	67-69
'Frog Farms' from Bud the Monkey	32-33	Private Griffith Owen, 28 th Bn	70-72
'Old Digger's War' extracts	33	Narrative by Cpl Len Jones, 3 rd Bn, Part 4	73-77
Private Roy Lenholm, 19 th Bn	34	Etched in Stone	78
Driver Bernard Cartwright, 1 st DAC	35-37	Captain Charles Snook, RFC	79
Driver Septimus Flint, 1 st LH Fd Amb	38-43	<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 42: The First Contingent	79
Photo of Menin Gate sent to families, 1927	43	Answers to <i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 42	80
Private John Forrest, 54 th Bn	44	Strange coincidence	80



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at the right price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: Corporal Frank Rochfort, 56th Battalion & Army Pay Corps.
Photo probably from late 1918. Courtesy of Michael Rochfort.

June 2013

No. 43

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 43 Contents

Articles

Officers of the 52nd Battalion, <i>Andrea Gerrard</i>	3
Corporal Robert Pittendrigh, <i>'Molong Express'</i>	9
Lance Corporal Arthur Hall MM & 2 Bars, 5th Bn, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	10
Gallipoli diary of Private 533 Frederick Heatley Symonds, 5th Bn, <i>Heather Ford</i>	12
Private Ernest Worth, 27th Bn: the shortest man in the AIF? <i>Andrew Pittaway</i>	24
The cost of the Great War to Euroa, Victoria, <i>Steve Ager</i>	25
Corporal Dugald Macpherson, <i>'Molong Express'</i>	29
Trooper Dennis Mychael, 1st LHR, <i>Harry Willey</i>	30
Private Valentine Rochfort, 9th Field Amb (and brothers, Frank and Joe), <i>Michael Rochfort</i>	32
Alfred Samuels (54th Bn) and Robert Samuels (54th Bn, APC, 1st Bn), <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	40
RSM John Raitt MM, CdeG, 17th Bn, <i>Trevor Munro</i>	44
Private Alfred Vandenberg, 6th LHR, 14th FAB, <i>Judith Green</i>	46
'Bud the Monkey' extract: Dogs assorted – <i>Miss, Lin McDonald (courtesy Russell Curley)</i>	47
Lieutenant James Wilson, 52nd Bn, <i>Yves Fohlen</i>	48
Rail accidents in the AIF, <i>Trevor Munro</i>	50
Lance Corporal Marshall Way, 16th Bn, <i>Jenny Chapman</i>	53
Narrative by Corporal Len Jones, 3rd Bn, Part 5, <i>Len Jones (courtesy Phillip Mannell)</i>	59
Erle Boyd, RAN, <i>Greg Swinden</i>	64
Memento of Private William Cammack, 9th Bn, <i>Peter Roberts</i>	66
Chickerell's First World War Australians (UK marriages), <i>George Lanning</i>	67
Private Ernest Merriman, <i>'Molong Express'</i>	68
Aboriginal enlistments: Richard Martin and Albert Tripcony, <i>Col Sutcliffe</i>	69
Gunner Roy Dean, 36th HAG, <i>'Molong Express'</i>	71
The reason for Fromelles, <i>CEW Bean (courtesy Alan Kitchen)</i>	72
Two AIF VCs and their graves: John Dwyer and Joergen Jensen, <i>Tim Reynolds</i>	73
'Willaura's Finest' released; Photos of memorials in Victoria, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	75

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 43: Australian VCs of WWI	39
Etched in Stone	74
Answers to <i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 43	75



***DIGGER* is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop**

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



DIGGER

"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"



Photo: Corporal Eric Churches, 17th Battalion, AIF.
Courtesy Carol Churches. Eric's memoirs will be featured in *DIGGER*.

September 2013

No. 44

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 44 Contents

Articles

Visiting some Western Front cemeteries, Brett Arnfield	3
Cpl 462 Albert Graffunder, 2nd ALHR, Mike Goodwin	9
Cpl 14547 John O'Brien, APC, Paddy O'Brien	10
Overseas members meet up at Queant Road Cemetery, Michelle Young	13
The Konza brothers, 3rd Bn, Trevor Munro	14
The Landing at Gallipoli, Lieut EV Timms (served as 'King'), 1st Bn	15
The enduring legacy of war, Graeme Hosken	18
Pte 2112 Thomas Beenham, 27th Bn, Yves Fohlen	19
Smivvy's Teef, Bert Bishop, 55th Bn ('Smivvy' was Cpl 3803 E Franks, 55th Bn)	20
Cpl 1806A Harry Conway, 33rd Bn, Andrew Pittaway	25
Members visit the Lost Diggers of Vignacourt exhibition, Ron Keith	26
Pte 2259 JJ Barry, 22nd Bn & Pte 2583 JJ Barry, 10th Bn, Graeme Hosken	27
CSM 3476 Charles Sydes' medal found, Robert Henson, 'Swan Hill Guardian'	29
Narrative by Cpl Len Jones, 3rd Bn, Part 6, Len Jones	30
AIF VCs of WWI, Part 2 (W Currey, 53rd Bn and H Dalziel, 15th Bn), Tim Reynolds	43
WWI Commemorations in the Gilgandra district, Margot Piggott	44
Lieut John Grant, 15th Bn, Mike Goodwin	45
'Message in a bottle' from Sprs 1237 H Lewis & 1236 H Blunt, 2nd DSC, Heather Ford	46
Letter from Spr 1236 Harry Blunt, 2nd DSC, courtesy Heather Ford	49
Pte 6020 Douglas Grant, 13th Bn, Andrea Gerrard	49
Pte 1576 Claude Lennon, 61st Bn, Stephen Brooks	53
Memoirs of Cpl Eric Churches, 17th Bn, Part 1, Eric Churches (courtesy Peter Benson)	54
WWI book reviews, Tim Reynolds	58
French newspaper published in English for Anzac Day, John Payne	60
97th Anniversary Service for Battle of Fromelles, Hyde Park, Sydney, Margaret Snodgrass	61
Father and son: RSM G Grace, AN&MEF, and Pte G Grace, 59th Bn, Stephen Brooks	63
'Lonesome Pine, The Bloody Ridge' released (Author, Simon Cameron)	63

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 44: Australian VCs of WWI	59
Answers to DIGGER Quiz No. 44	61
Etched in Stone	62



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



DIGGER

"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"



Photo: Officers from Australia, New Zealand, Scotland and England at No. 1 Officer School, 1917.
See page 19 for further details. Courtesy of Jackie Walker, relative of FG Johnstone, 33rd Bn ('No. 1').

December 2013

No. 45

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 45 Contents

Articles

Saving Hazebrouck: The Battle of the Lys, April 1918, Geoff Lewis	2-9
Lieutenant James O'Brien, APC, Paddy O'Brien	10-15
Private William Lucas, 6th MG Coy, Stephen Brooks	15
Petty Officer Telegraphist Arthur Swinden, RAN, Greg Swinden	16-19
Officers attending No. 1 School 1917 [relates to cover photo], courtesy Jackie Walker	19
Death on the Euripides, 1914 [3rd Battalion], Justin Reading	20
Bud the Monkey: A Nanny heroine, Lin MacDonald (courtesy Russell Curley)	21-22
Private Leslie Irvin [3rd Bn] describes a dugout, courtesy Margot Piggott	22
Private Edward Keefe, 48th Bn, Yves Fohlen	23
Australians buried at Dartmoor Cemetery, France, Brett Arnfield	24-30
Anzac commemorations in Picardy 2013, courtesy John Payne	31-32
The Coo-ee Statue fund-raising appeal, Doug Diggs	32
Private Thomas Wood, 12th Bn, Greg Swinden	33-34
Private Raitt [17th Bn] meets General Birdwood, KW McKenzie MC	34
Private William Williamson [18th Bn] and his three sons, Stephen Brooks	35
War narrative of Basil Williamson, AN&MEF [later 18th Bn], Basil Williamson	36-39
Poem: 'AEI', Del M'Cay	39
Memoirs of Corporal Eric Churches, 17th Bn, Part 2, Eric Churches (courtesy Peter Benson)	40-44
Private Arthur Bowman [17th Bn] and Miss Gwen Newman, Graeme Hosken	45-47
FFFAIF Committee 2013-14, Russell Curley	47
Lieutenant Hill [31st Bn], Captain Mond [RFC] and St George, Neville Browning	48-49
Bacchus Marsh Great War Centenary Committee, Damien Strangio & Faye Threlfall	50
Private Walter Smyth, 17th Bn, Greg Smyth	51
The old steel helmet, Andrew MacDonald	52-53
'Fromelles to Nauroy': History of 31st Battalion released, Neville Browning	53
Surviving Messines: letter from 2/Lt Richard Barton, 52nd Bn, courtesy Dulcie Taylor	54-55
Accidental deaths in the AIF, Heather (Frev) Ford	56-61
Narrative by Cpl Len Jones, 3rd Bn, Part 7, Len Jones (courtesy the Mannells)	62-68
The Noakes brothers of Portarlinton, Stephen Ager CSM	68-70
The mystery of the 'Lost Company of the 24th Battalion', courtesy Stephen Ager CSM	71
The Hyde Park Memorial, London & Fromelles ceremony, 19 July, 2013, Geoff Lewis	72-73
Yves Fohlen and Brendan Nelson at Bullecourt, courtesy Yves Fohlen	75
Fromelles' battlefield walking and cycling trail opened, Geoff & Robyn Lewis	75

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 45: Books on WWI	23
Etched in Stone	74



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER

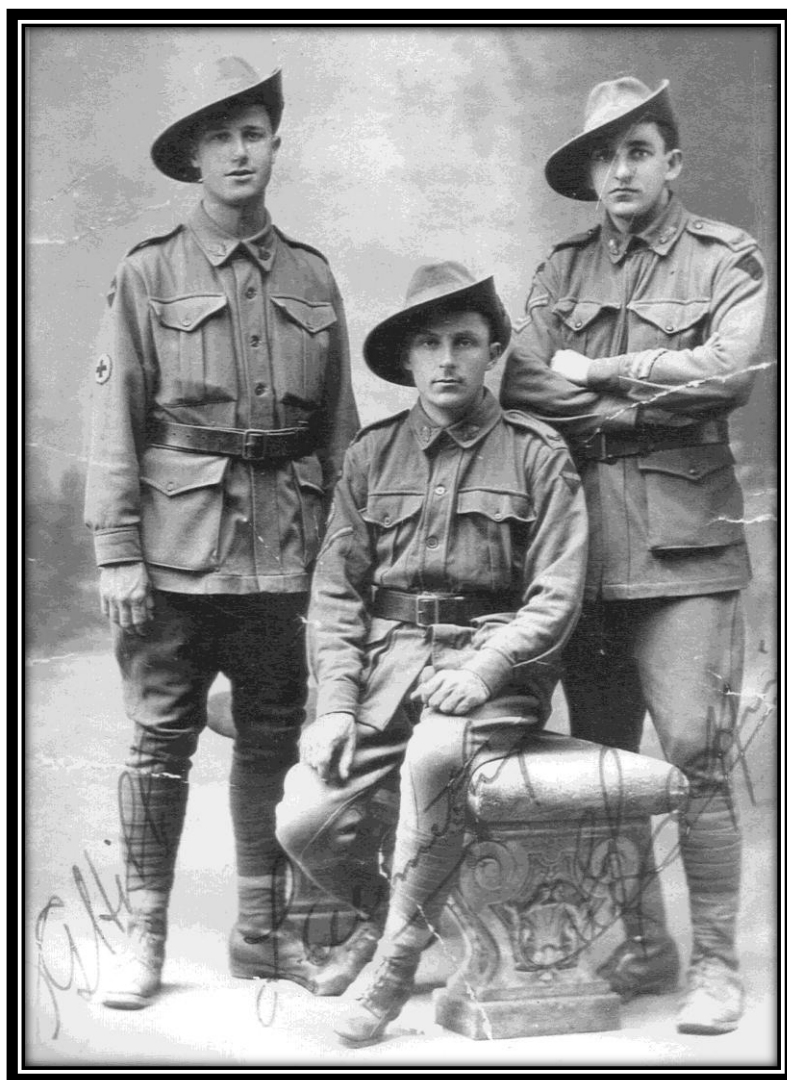


Photo: Three men of No. 3 Australian General Hospital. Left to right: 4736 Fred George Hill, 4701 Leonard Abernerthy and 4414 Charles George Laffin. Courtesy of Patricia Williams.

March 2014

No. 46

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 46 Contents

Articles

George, Reginald and Thomas White: Brothers in Arms, <i>courtesy Max White</i>	3-11
William Starr, 55th Battalion, and his family, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	12
Narrative by Cpl Len Jones, 3rd Bn, Part 8, <i>Len Jones (courtesy the Mannells)</i>	13-26
FFFAIF Patron-in-Chief retires from Office, <i>Russell Curley</i>	26
Letter from Cpl Jack Ison, 3rd Bn, <i>courtesy Lynette Harrison</i>	27
Memoirs of Corporal Eric Churches, 17th Bn, Part 3, <i>Eric Churches (courtesy Peter Benson)</i>	28-31
Colonel Douglas Marks and his father, <i>courtesy Max White</i>	32-33
Private Edmund Roberts, 52nd Bn, <i>Peter Roberts</i>	33
Private Aubrey Ewin, 54th Bn, <i>Margot Piggott</i>	34
Sergeant John Spence DCM, MM, RAN/52nd Battalion, <i>Andrew Pittaway</i>	35-38
Private Lionel Grant, 28th Bn, <i>Yves Fohlen</i>	39-40
Tributes to Captain Frederick Fanning, 56th Bn, <i>Margaret Clarke</i>	40
Supply Commander Eric Kingsford-Smith, RAN, <i>Greg Swinden</i>	41-42
Private Leonard Holloway, 54th Bn, <i>Greg Knight</i>	43-45
Statue near Corbie identified [relates to Churches Part 2 in <i>DIGGER 45</i>], <i>Yves Fohlen</i>	45
Private Harold Bourke, 30th Bn, at Fromelles, <i>Geoff Lewis</i>	46-53
Bert Bishop's view of Fromelles, <i>Bert Bishop, 55th Bn, contributed by Sean McManus</i>	53
Passing on a tradition of remembrance, <i>Penny McLintock with Ron and Pam Dures</i>	54
Ptes Thomas Dures, George Carpenter and Sidney Carpenter, <i>Graeme Hosken & the Dures</i>	54
Finding 'Wack': Corporal Reuben Allen, 18th Bn, <i>Ron and Pam Dures</i>	55
Private Edgar Williams, 53rd Bn, and family, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	56-61
Major Sydney Middleton, 5th Brigade, <i>George Franki</i>	62-66
Introduction to the 'Damaged Soldiers', <i>Carl Johnson</i>	67-69
Captain Charles Tighe (Digger anecdote), <i>contributed by Sean McManus</i>	69
Lieutenant George Francis, 7th LHR/APC, <i>Trevor Munro</i>	70-74
Sacred duty at Villers-Bretonneux, <i>George Mitchell, 48th Bn, contributed by Sean McManus</i>	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
<i>DIGGER</i> Quiz No. 46: The Australian Flying Corps, <i>Maurice Campbell</i>	61
Answers to <i>DIGGER</i> Quiz	69
Etched in Stone, <i>Russell Curley and Jim Corkery</i>	75



***DIGGER* is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop**

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au **Membership/subscription enquiries:** via website or ph 0401 467 819



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: Believed to be a group of men from the 32nd Battalion. The only soldier identified is John Sargeant, second from left in the front row. The donor, Nancy Gurney, is seeking the names of the others in the photo. Courtesy Trevor Munro.

June 2014

No. 47

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 47 Contents

Articles

New Patron-in-Chief for FFFAIF	3
History, high ranks and the 40th Bn of 1918 at Heilly Cemetery, Brett Arnfield	4-15
Death of Major James McManamey 19th Bn, John Mulford	15
Memoirs of Corporal Eric Churches, 17th Bn, Part 4, Eric Churches (courtesy Peter Benson)	16-21
Code for cables, Graeme Hosken	21
Bud the Monkey: The lamb that got too fat, Lin MacDonald (courtesy of Russell Curley)	22-23
The Coronation Cadets, Sue Tongue	24-26
Coming home: Bert Bishop, 55th Bn, and George Mitchell, 48th Bn, courtesy Sean McManus	26
Lieutenant Charles Manning, AN&MEF/24th Bn, Greg Knight	27-28
The Pearce brothers, Stephen Brooks	28
Football team identified, Graeme Hosken with Stephen Brooks and Paul Stenhouse	29
The Turner and Benham brothers, Stephen Ager CSM	30-32
A visit to the Western Front, Louise Coman	32
Provos and swords, Trevor Munro	33-35
The APM, 'Centurion', courtesy Ray Black	35
Lieutenant John Lee, 24th and 21st Bns, Margo Piggott	36-37
Message to the Third Division, November 1916, John Monash	37
Narrative by Cpl Len Jones, 3rd Bn, Part 9, Len Jones (courtesy the Mannells)	38-44
Homeward bound, Cpl Arthur Kelly, 5th FAB, courtesy Ray Black	45
Private Bert Vandenbergh, 3rd Bn, Judith Green	46-47
Poppy tile released, courtesy Graham Hutchinson	47
Private Cecil Smyth, 17th Bn, Greg Smyth	48-49
Anzac uniforms, AAP, SBS News article	49-50
Private Robert Holl, 3rd Bn/1st MG Coy, Graeme Hosken	51-52
Interview with Marc le Moal, Graeme Hosken	53-54
Lieutenant Alan Maney-Lake, 7th LHR, Trevor Munro	55-57
Lance Corporal John Carroll VC, 33rd Bn, Andrew Pittaway	58-61
Photo taken at Strazeele 1918, courtesy Sean McManus	61
Privates Amor Mundy, 1st Bn, and George Mundy, 3rd Bn, 'The Advertiser', Barrie Brewer	62-64
Extract from 'Snowy to the Somme', Tim Cook	65-66
'Digger' (poem), unknown author, courtesy Ray Black	66
Private William Irwin DCM, 33rd Bn, Rod Carpenter	67-72
Corporal William Ryan, 31st Bn, courtesy Geoffrey Benn	73
'The Eleventh Hour' (poem), Lieutenant FS Tall, 6th (Army) FAB, courtesy Ray Black	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 47: The Sinking of the RMS 'Leinster', Maurice Campbell	45
Answers to DIGGER Quiz	72
Etched in Stone, Russell Curley and Jim Corkery	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: "This is St John's Churchyard [Sutton Veny, UK] and the graves of the Australian soldiers that died of wounds and other causes. The lady dressed in white plays the piano and sings to us. She lives in the Manor House just across the lane from the church." Postcard and note from Sgt 2344 Will Mair, 54th Battalion, 1919. Courtesy Maurice Campbell.

September 2014

No. 48

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 48 Contents

Articles

The outbreak of war in 1914: Sydney takes up the cause, <i>Tony Cunneen</i>	3-21
Fromelles Day Service, Sydney 2014, <i>Margaret Snodgrass</i>	21
The Allen brothers: Leslie (12th Bn); Paul (51st Bn); Edwin (40th Bn); James (26th Bn), <i>Stephen Brooks</i>	22-23
'A fine line': Lieutenant General Birdwood on cowardice, <i>Trevor Munro</i>	23
Died of sunstroke: Pte Ferdinand Clifton, 9th Bn, <i>Kathryn Simpson</i>	24-26
Fitter Charles Johnson MM, 3rd ALROC, <i>Bill Latham</i>	26
Private Denis Sherry, 36th Bn, <i>David Harrower</i>	27-28
Postscript: CSM Will Rose, 55th Bn, <i>Sue Tongue</i>	28
Private George Lemon, 45th Bn, <i>Margo Piggott</i>	29
Narrative by Cpl Len Jones, 3rd Bn, Part 10 (Final), <i>Len Jones (courtesy the Mannells)</i>	30-39
Trooper Alfred Ellis, 1st LHR, <i>Geoff Lewis</i>	40-43
Connections in Mackay, Queensland, <i>Robert 'Mac' Walker</i>	44
Letter from Salisbury Plain, Pte Stanley Starr, 33rd Bn, <i>courtesy Rod Carpenter</i>	45
Arthur Wheen's letters from the Front, 54th Bn, <i>John Ramsland</i>	46-48
Follow-up: Provos and swords, <i>Trevor Munro</i>	48
A French connection: Merris to Milperra, <i>John Payne</i>	49-52
'The first man and the first shilling': the Battle of Bitapaka, <i>Phillip Mannell</i>	53-54
Chapter 5: Kabakaul, <i>Phillip Mannell</i>	55-62

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 48: The UK bases, <i>Maurice Campbell</i>	44
Answers to DIGGER Quiz	48
Etched in Stone, <i>Russell Curley and Jim Corkery</i>	63



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au **Membership/subscription enquiries:** Via website or ph 0401 467 819.



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Shallow Trench 1915

Photo: Soldiers of the 1st Battalion undergoing training in a shallow trench near Mena, Egypt, in 1915. From the photographs of **Lieutenant Herbert Gordon Carter**, 1st Battalion, supplied to member Peter Morrissey, Coonabarabran, by Carter's daughter, Shirley Clifton. Carter rose to be lieutenant colonel of the 53rd Battalion and 5th Pioneer Battalion and was awarded the DSO. *DIGGER* will feature some of Carter's photos over a number of issues.

December 2014

No. 49

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 49 Contents

Articles

A Coe-ee at Puchevillers, Brett Arnfield	3-9
Pte Herman Bowles, 2nd MG Bn, Yves Fohlen	9
On active service: Sgt John Falconer, 18th Bn, Part 1, courtesy Neil Falconer	10-16
Reginald Buller, AN&MEF, RANBT, RANR, Greg Swinden	17-18
Mouquet Farm, Ron Keith	19-22
L/Cpl George Leach, 1st Pioneers, Graeme Hosken	22
Lieutenant Wesley Taylor MC, 32nd Bn, Andrew Pittaway	23-26
2014 AGM report, Russell Curley	26
Lone Pine cone morphs into guitar, Kathryn Barton	27
Perceptions of ANZAC 'across the ditch', Geoff Lewis	28-33
The Tingira boys in the Sydney-Emden action, George Franki	34-35
Sydney's AN&MEF plaque, Greg Knight	35
Cpl Vere Syme, 2nd LHR, Peter Tremain	36-38
Book release: 'Honours and Awards of the Army', Major General Gordon Maitland	38
The Brooks brothers (of Jamestown, SA), David Brooks	39-46
John McNamara (a Coe-ee), Extract from 'The Coe-ee March', John Meredith	46
Captain Roby Manuel DFC & Bar, 2nd Sqn AFC, Graeme Hosken	47-49
Pte Thomas Ellis, 3rd Bn Signals, Geoff Lewis	50-58
German concentration camps guards' reunion, courtesy Ann McLachlan	58
Coincidence or providence? Tim Lycett	59-61
Photos from Mena, 1915, HG Carter collection, courtesy Peter Morrissey & Shirley Clifton	61
'Discovering Anzacs' website and '100 Years of Anzac' Facebook App released	61
Pte David Kneller, 33rd Bn, Rod Carpenter	62-63
The Diggers' Commandments, 2058 'A' Coy, 24th Bn, courtesy Margaret McIntosh Clarke	63
The Battle of Broken Hill, January 1915, Brett Arnfield	64-67
Lieutenant Joe Maxwell VC, MC & Bar, DCM, 18th Bn, Emeritus Professor John Ramsland	68-74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 49: The Charge at Beersheba, Maurice Campbell	33
Answers to DIGGER Quiz	74
Etched in Stone, Russell Curley and Jim Corkery	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au
or phone: **02 6884 5577**
or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au



DIGGER



Photo: Shrapnel Valley Cemetery, Gallipoli. Photo by Garry Snowden, Ballarat.

March 2015

No. 50

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 50 Contents

Articles

2nd Lieut Bert Crowle and 2nd Lieut Leo Butler at Puchevillers, Brett Arnfield	3-10
Photo: 'Anzac Cove looking North', Lieut HG Carter, 1st Bn	10
Walter Matthews and Roy Justice, HMAS 'Australia', Greg Swinden	11-12
Sgt John Kelly, 30th Bn and Elope Force (Russia 1919), Patric Millar	13-17
Sgt William King, 1st Aust Tunnelling Company, Valmai McKenzie and Graeme Hosken	18-19
Diary extract for 25 April 1915, Captain Beresford Bardwell, 11th Bn	19
Sister Mary Timms, QAIMNSR, Judith Green	20-21
Pozieres Remembrance Association: fundraising appeal for Memorial Park	21
On active service: Sgt John Falconer, 18th Bn, Part 2, courtesy Neil Falconer	22-25
Cpl/2nd Lieut Frank Shapira, 18th Bn/AFC, Graeme Hosken	25
For Valour: Anzac VCs awarded at Gallipoli, Part 1: Jacka, Keysor, Symons, Geoff Lewis	26-28
Bud the Monkey extract: Miners' Mice, Lin MacDonald, contributed by Russell Curley	29-30
Lieut John Ion, 32nd Bn, Yves Fohlen	30
Lieut John Cosson DCM, 48th Bn, Andrew Pittaway	31-34
Pte Arthur Veitch and Pte Donald Veitch, 7th Bn, Stephen Brooks	34
Sara McCulloch: war bride, Graeme Hosken	35-37
Photo: William Lycett and mates, 4th Field Ambulance, contributed by Tim Lycett	37
Gallipoli scenes: colour photographs of Gallipoli today, Heather F, Andrew P and Garry S	38-39
Lieut Robert Poore, 1st LHR/5th Div MMP/56th Bn, Trevor Munro	40-49
Poem: 'Australians to the Rescue', Samuel Chapman, 33rd Bn, contrib. by Lorraine Judge	50
Pte William Bower, 33rd Bn, Rod Carpenter and William Durrant	51-52
Where is CEW Bean? Geoff Lewis	52
Letter: Signaller 'Bert' Smythe, 3rd Bn, courtesy Margaret McIntosh-Clarke & J Kennedy	53-56
Photo: 'Anzac Cove looking NNW', Lieut HG Carter, 1st Bn	56
Postscript: Colin Harkins, 2nd Pnrs, contributed by Narelle Harkins	57
Postscript: Pte Vernon Mullin, 7th Bn, contrib. by Margaret Johnston, with Graeme Hosken	58-60
Photo: 'Looking North from Anzac Heights', Lieut HG Carter, 1st Bn	60
2nd Cpl John Rodgers, 2nd Aust Tunnelling Company, Valmai McKenzie	61-67
'Private Scheragn'/Clarence Schwager, Trevor Munro	67
Diaries of L/Cpl William Lycett, 4th FA/15th LROC, Part 1, contributed by Tim Lycett	68-74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 50: Gallipoli, Middle East and Western Front, Maurice Campbell	49
Answers to DIGGER Quiz	74
Etched in Stone, Russell Curley and Jim Corkery	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: pc@dubsec.com.au

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.dubsec.com.au

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au **Membership/subscription enquiries:** Via website or ph 0401 467 819



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: Gunner 2219 William Henry Sandford, 12th Army AFA.
From the Gunner Bill Lyall collection, courtesy of the late Ken Lyall.

June 2015

No. 51

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 51 Contents

Articles

Brian Lyall, 2nd FAB, and Bill Lyall, 3rd Army AFA, Ron Keith	3-8
For Valour: Anzac VCs awarded at Gallipoli, Part 2: Tubb, Dunstan, Burton, Geoff Lewis	9-11
Shoeing Smith John Harrison, 10th LHR, Andrew Pittaway	12-13
Queensland WWI casualty records, contrib. by Adrian Harrison, Dept of Justice & A-G, Qld	14-15
Funeral for 'Pte Joseph Mitchell' and Pte Albert Stewart, Trevor Munro	16-17
Sgt Louis Brook, 1st LHR, Margo Piggott	18-19
The Howes family: Frederick, Albert, George, Henry, Albert Amies, Stephen Brooks	20-21
FFFAIF members attend AWM 'Gallipoli 2015' conference, Ron Keith	21
Diaries of L/Cpl William Lycett, 4th FA/15th LROC, Part 2, contributed by Tim Lycett	22-30
Photo: Light Horse re-enactors at Cooma Show, Jeremy Marples	30
Lieut Robert Harris, AN&MEF/2nd Bn/1st MG Bn, Judith Green	31-34
1096/2nd Lieut Reginald Forsyth, 1st LHR/AFC, contributed by David Forsyth	35-37
Speech at Dedication of the Neville Howse VC Rest Area, Emeritus Professor John Ramsland	38-42
ANZAC Memorial, Hyde Park, Sydney: a reminiscence, Sean McManus	43
Pte Frank Ellis, 3rd Bn, Geoff Lewis	44-48
On active service: Sgt John Falconer, 18th Bn, Part 3, courtesy Neil Falconer	49-53
Pte Arthur Lines MM, 48th Bn, contributed by Christian Wright	54-55
Experiences at the Landing: Vernon Smythe, 3rd Bn, courtesy Margaret Macintosh Clarke	55
'The School Paper': Empire and Education in pre-war Victoria, Capt Rupert Dalley RFD	56-61
Pte George Bryant, 33rd/34th Bns/9th MG Coy, Rod Carpenter	62-63
Photo: Officers of the 2nd Bn, 1917, courtesy Patric Millar	63
'The camp bed of the Australian': Ernest Mallivel, 2nd AMTC, Claire Dujardin	64-67
2nd Bn officers: Millar, Ryan, Host, Trott, Rowlands, Patric Millar	68-69
Anzac Day in Waukesha, USA, contributed by Ray Black	69
Ptes George Platt, William Platt and Frederick Abbott, 41st Bn, contrib. by Harold O'Keeffe	70-74
Postscript: Post-war life of John Kelly, 30th Bn/Elope Force, Patric Millar	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 51: AIF commanders, Maurice Campbell	42
Answers to DIGGER Quiz	67
Etched in Stone, Russell Curley and Jim Corkery	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopy.co
or phone: **02 6884 5577**
or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopy.co

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au **Membership/subscription enquiries:** Via website or ph 0401 467 819



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Photo: A group of Diggers from Tumut, NSW, photographed in camp in France, 1917. Courtesy of Paula Cavanough, who writes: "My grandfather, Bill Sturt, standing at the back with his hand on Gus Keown's shoulder. 520 Percy McAlister is on the right of Gus Keown. Frank Henery and 506 Walter Malone at on the left end of the middle row and Fred Malone and Tom Malone on the left end of the front row." See also page 2 and page 20 for details of these men.

September 2015

No. 52

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 52 Contents

Articles

Gallipoli's first MM awarded to Edward Roberts, 2nd Bn, Patric Millar	3-6
L/Cpl Charles Grimson DCM, 4th LHR, Extract from 'The Molong Times'	6
Pte Frederick Graham, 48th Battalion, Andrew Pittaway	7-8
Pte George Ellis, 20th Bn, Geoff Lewis	9-14
My Gallipoli Centennial pilgrimage, Louise Coman	15-16
Book release: 'ANZAC & Its Enemies', Mervyn Bendle	16
The horrors of Lone Pine, Pte Reginald Cole, 3rd Bn, and Major Roy Harrison, 2nd Bn	17-20
Photo: Soldiers from Tumut district, contributed by Paula Cavanough	20
On active service: Sgt John Falconer, 18th Bn, Part 4 (final), courtesy Neil Facloner	21-29
Pte Edgar Abbott, 8th MG Coy, Yves Fohlen	29
Reverend Chaplain James Green, Trevor Munro	30-31
Photo: Mrs Ellis and her boys (from Cowra), Graeme Hosken	31
James Brunton Gibbs, 7th FA and 'The Anzac Coves', Judith Green	32-35
Diaries of L/Cpl William Lycett, 4th FA/15th LROC, Part 3, contributed by Tim Lycett	36-42
Photos from National Portrait Gallery's Great War exhibition, Graeme Hosken	42
Pte Walter Creenaune, 3rd MG Bn, Graeme Hosken and David Creenaune	43
For Valour: VCs awarded at Gallipoli, Pt 3: Hamilton, Shout, Bassett, Throssell, G Lewis	44-51
Death of Gunner Roy Dean, Extracts from 'The Molong Times'	51
Billeting the AIF in Charleroi region, Belgium, 1918-19, Claire Dujardin	52-56
Underground warfare at Gallipoli: L/Cpl Cyril Rankin DCM, 4th FCE, Geoff Lewis	57-61
Pte Frederick Pratt, 3rd Bn, Trevor Munro	62
Two pennies: connecting Australia and Villers-Bretonneux, Vicki Bennett	63-64
Members visit Gallipoli, Sue Tongue, accompanied by Daphne Tongue (nee Laffin)	64
'Tubby' Clayton and the 'Toc H' movement, contrib. by A Harrison, Dept of J & A-G, Qld	65-67
Capt Herbert Foxton, 25th Bn, Norah Mines	68-69
Post-Armistice tour of the battlefield, Jessie Bage, BRC, contrib. by Heather 'Frev' Ford	70-72
Photos: Cudal Cemetery (NSW), Graeme Hosken	72
Lieut Hugh Buntine, 33rd/35th Bns, Rod Carpenter	73
Report: John Laffin Memorial Lecture, Canberra 2015, Jim Munro	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 52: Battles of mid 1916 - April 1917, Maurice Campbell	14
Answers to DIGGER Quiz	61
Etched in Stone, Russell Curley and Jim Corkery	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopy.co

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopy.co

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au **Membership/subscription enquiries:** Via website or ph 0401 467 819



DIGGER

"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"



Photo: Members of 40th Battalion with a couple of 'Ginger Beer' (Engineer) mates. The photo was taken during the time the 3rd Division wore their hat brims turned down. Courtesy of Jim Rouse, '40th Battalion AIF' Facebook group administrator.

December 2015

No. 53

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 53 Contents

Articles

First ashore at Gallipoli, <i>Tim Lycett</i>	3-8
Christmas in Harefield, 1915, <i>Nurse H Chadwick AANS, contrib. by Heather 'Frev' Ford</i>	9-10
The evacuation of Gallipoli, <i>Pte 2245 George Mundy, 3rd Bn, contrib. by Barrie Brewer</i>	11-12
Hated to leave (the evacuation of Gallipoli), <i>Ken Millar, 2nd Bn, contrib. by Patric Millar</i>	12-13
Bringing in the prisoners, <i>Captain Eric Wren, 3rd Bn History: 'Randwick to Hargicourt'</i>	13
The hunt for dad's trench, <i>Graham Hutchinson and Tim Leslie (ABC)</i>	14-17
Letter: 2/Lieut Lesley Dummer, 41st Bn, 'NT Times and Gazette', found on Trove	17
Abner Dalzell, RAN, ANMEF, RANBT, AFC, AIS, AAC, <i>Greg Swinden</i>	18-20
The bravery awards of Chard Neve revisited, 12th Bn, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	21-25
Christmas on Lemnos, 1915, <i>Sister E Taylor, AANS, contrib. by Heather 'Frev' Ford</i>	25
Pte 733 Arthur Bolitho, 7th Bn, <i>Jenny Chapman and Trevor Munro</i>	26-30
Letter re: Pte 319 Walter Fraser, 14th Bn, unknown author, contrib. by Bryan MacKenzie	31
Pte 12295 William Fraser, 10th Famb, <i>Graeme Hosken and Bryan MacKenzie</i>	31
Pte 82 James Sheehan, 30th Bn, <i>Graeme Hosken, with thanks to 'Frev' Ford and Brenda Leece</i>	32-34
AIF Recruitment in 1914, 'Sydney Morning Herald' article, 22/9/1914	35-36
Diaries of L/Cpl William Lycett, 4th Famb/15th LROC, Part 4, contributed by Tim Lycett	37-41
Lieut Col Jack Antill, 3rd LH & 2nd Inf Bdes: the main culprit at The Nek, <i>Ross McMullin</i>	42-44
Diary of Pte 4393 Alexander Wallace, 29th Bn, Part 1, courtesy of Stephanie Smyth	45-49
Pte Joseph Kleshenko, 8th LHR, 17th, 1st, 29th Bns, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	50-51
Sgt 3970 Martin O'Meara VC, 16th Bn, <i>Noreen O'Meara</i>	52-56
Pte 1305 Claude Masterson, 33rd/3rd Bns, <i>Rod Carpenter, with thanks to Trish Doyle</i>	57
Pte 6320 Stanley Stephens (a Co-ee), 13th Bn, <i>Helen Thompson</i>	58-61
Postscript to article in DIGGER 52: Francis Read, NZEF, contrib. by Carol Sharp	61
2015 AGM report, <i>Jim Munro</i>	61
Diggers in the Coolac cemetery, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	62-66
Letter: Pte 3051 William Garr, 4th Pnr Bn, 'NT Times and Gazette', found on Trove	66
Cpl 5710 Laurence Howie, 3rd FCE: war artist, <i>Judith Green</i>	67-68
'Your Friend, the Enemy' (art exhibition report), <i>John Payne</i>	69-73
L/Cpl 68 Harry Bowden MM & Bar, 14th Famb, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 53: The RAN and the First Convoy, <i>Maurice Campbell</i>	49
Answers to DIGGER Quiz	56
Etched in Stone, <i>Russell Curley and Jim Corkery</i>	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopy.co

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopy.co



DIGGER



Photo: Le Trou Aid Post Cemetery, Rue-Petillon, Fleurbaix. This cemetery near the Fromelles battlefield contains 56 Australians, only four of whom are identified: two from the 54th Battalion and two from the 32nd Battalion. Courtesy Peter Morrissey, Coonabarabran.

March 2016

No. 54

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 54 Contents

Articles

Men of the 6th Reinforcements/4th Battalion, Stephen Brooks	3-7
News item: 'Employment of Enemy Aliens' at Melbourne University, 1915	7
The Battle of Krithia, 8 May 1915, Graham Hutchinson	8-11
After the Evacuation, Ken Millar, 2nd Bn, contrib. by Patric Millar	11
Determined to serve: Robert Edward Hemmings, various units, Greg Swinden	12-13
A nurse's experiences, 1918, Sister Emily Taylor, AANS, contrib. by 'Frev' Ford	14-17
Letter: The Gallipoli Landing, Pte 4263 Frederick Richardson, 10th Bn	17
Ptes 357 Harry Wharton and 358 Les Wharton, 2nd Bn, Judy Grieve	18-22
Diary of Pte 4393 Alexander Wallace, 29th Bn (Part 2), courtesy of Stephanie Smyth	23-27
Pte 21625 Ken Beames, 1st Signal Squadron, Graeme Hosken	28-30
Letters from Gallipoli, Pte C Marshall, 12th Bn and Pte WE Young	30
Go forward to France, Shirley Durrant	31-34
Postscript: Pte Joseph Kleshenko, 'Frev' Ford and article in Grafton 'Daily Examiner'	35-36
Lieut John Christie Wright, 20th Bn, Judith Green	37, 40
Colour photographs relating to the AIF at Fromelles & Pozieres, 1916, various contributors	38-39
Tpr 2043 David O'Rourke, 12th LHR, Trevor Munro	41-42
Cpl 3316 Arthur Ford, 20th Bn, Graeme Hosken	43-44
Dr Frank Doak, RAMC, and family, Judith Green	45-46
'Easter Sunday in the War Memorial', Pte 3762 Bert Bishop MM, 55th Bn	46
Diaries of L/Cpl William Lycett, 4th F Amb/15th LROC, Part 5, contributed by Tim Lycett	47-52
30th Bn anecdote, Lieut Col M Purser, 30th Bn	52
Cpl 2246 Eugene Hayres, 8th/60th Bns and APC, Dr Jim Roche	53-55
Staff Sgt John Gaukroger, 33rd Bn, Bill Durrant	55
L/Cpl 6515 Ernest Grivell, 10th Bn, Christopher Collins	56-57
Letter from Gallipoli: Pte T Bowers, 10th Bn	57
30th Bn anecdote, Sgt 398 Geoff Cowen, 30th Bn	57
Pte 5042 Frank Bolitho, 7th Bn, Jenny Chapman and Trevor Munro	58-59
Letter from Gallipoli, Pte 1401 Albert Briggs, 16th Bn	59
'Daily doings on a troopship', Cpl 306 Harry Matheson, 2nd Field Amb	60-62
German propaganda leaflet from Gallipoli, CEW Bean	62
Port Moresby's WWI Memorial, Greg Knight	63-71
Capt Garnet Adcock, 2nd ATC, Greg Swinden	72-74
30th Bn anecdote, Pte 2101 Robert Mather, 30th Bn	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 54: Fromelles, Maurice Campbell	22
Answers to DIGGER Quiz	59
Etched in Stone, Russell Curley and Jim Corkery	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopy.co

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopy.co



DIGGER

"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"



Above: Private 607 Alfred Leonard Little, 20th Battalion. Enlisted 17 March, 1915. Served on Gallipoli; shell shocked at Pozieres, 29 July, 1916; wounded second occasion near Warloy, 27 April, 1918, GSW face. RTA 31/7/18. Courtesy Angie Little, Coonamble.

June 2016

No. 55

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 55 Contents

Articles

Pte 2228 Edgar Robards, 13th Bn, & the 4th Brigade in August 1915, <i>Dean Sherringham</i>	3-17
Cpl 2604 Athol Kirkland, 34th Bn, <i>Andrew Pittaway</i>	18-21
Membership reminder for 2016/17: summary of renewal information	21
Essendon's 'Three Musketeers': Stones, Walker and Elliot, <i>Ross McMullin</i>	22-25
Diary of Pte 4393 Alexander Wallace, 29th Bn (Part 3, final), <i>courtesy Stephanie Smyth</i>	26-28
Pte 4432 Victor Backhouse, 54th Bn, <i>Greg Swinden</i>	29-30
John Hamilton VC statue for Orange; Hamilton genealogy, <i>contrib. by Richard Castine</i>	30
Diaries of L/Cpl William Lycett, 4th F Amb/15th LROC, Part 6, <i>contributed by Tim Lycett</i>	31-36
Llew, Reg and Ray Jones, brothers in the 14th Bn, <i>Faye Threlfall and Graeme Hosken</i>	37-41
Letter from the Front, 1916, Pte 2600 Charles Cowley, 7th Bn	41
4th Class Naval Staff Clerk Royal Mungovan, <i>Greg Swinden</i>	42-43
'Little Willie' and Sgt McDuff, <i>Lieut Col M Purser, 30th Bn</i>	43
Lieutenant Colonel Lancelot Fox Clarke DSO, VD, 12th Bn, <i>Andrea Gerrard</i>	44-52
Letter from the Front, Sgt 7652 Robert Donaldson, 5th FAB	52
Letter after Pozieres, Pte 4539 HG 'Harry' Hartnett, 2nd Bn	53-55
For Valour: Anzac VC Recipients on the Western Front, 1916, Part 1, <i>Geoff Lewis</i>	56-64
Letter from the Front, 1916, Cpl 108 Charles Scott, 2nd LHR	64
Three GW Lloyds in the AIF, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	65-66
Letters from the Front, 1916: Sgt 1887 John Booth; Pte Denis McMahon	66
The Memorial Tree: the Smiths brothers of Geelong, <i>Barry Abley</i>	67-69
Spr 411 Samuel Bolitho, 4th MG Coy, <i>Jenny Chapman and Trevor Munro</i>	70-72
Letter from the Front, 1917, Sgt Roy Warwick, 34th Bn	72
L/Cpl 4371 Walter Bray, 18th Bn, <i>Greg Swinden</i>	73-74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 55: The Army Postal Service, <i>Maurice Campbell</i>	25
Answers to DIGGER Quiz	69
Etched in Stone, <i>Russell Curley and Jim Corkery</i>	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopy.co

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopy.co



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Above: Part of the Signals Section, 28th Battalion. **Back row, 1 to r:** Sgt 1146 Henry Kahan, Cpl 309 John Hamley, Sgt Arthur Coolahan, L/Cpl 168 Fred Taylor and Cpl 260 Sydney Crofts. **Front row, 1 to r:** Pte 755 William Charles Piggott MM (later Lieutenant) and Pte 633 Harrie Holmes, KIA 5/8/1916. Arthur Coolahan is profiled in this issue. Courtesy Andrew Pittaway.

September 2016

No. 56

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 56 Contents

Articles

Fromelles Speech – 2016, Gov-Gen and FFFAIF Patron-in-Chief, Sir Peter Cosgrove, AK MC	2
The Great War: Recollections by Captain Tom Mann, 2nd Bn, Tom Mann, cont. by T Mann	3-39
'Unselfish courage': Boys from the 7th LHR, Stephen Brooks	40-42
Soldier's letter, 1917, WOI George Whiteford, 2nd LHF Amb	42
'A lonely soldier': Tpr 173 William Samson, 7th LHR, Graeme Hosken and Frev Ford	43-46
Sgt 606 Arthur Coolahan, 28th Bn, Andrew Pittaway	47-48
Letters home: Lieutenant Colonel Walter Dollman, 27th Bn, cont. by Walter Dollman, g'son	48
For Valour: Anzac VC Recipients on the Western Front, 1916, Part 2, Geoff Lewis	49-53
The McKenna brothers, Stephen Brooks	54-55
Soldiers' letters, 1917, Pte FW Ford, 19th Bn and Pte E Millard, 18th/3rd Bns	55
Diaries of L/Cpl William Lycett, 4th F Amb/15th LROC, Part 7, contributed by Tim Lycett	56-61
FFFAIF Commemorative Tour of the Western Front 2016, some highlights	61
Nurse Eva Olive Eggleston, AANS, Dianne Strahan and Val McKenzie	62-67
Memories of the 2015 Coe-ee March re-enactment, Margo Piggott	68-73
Pte 2626 Leonard Bolitho, 46th Bn, Jenny Chapman and Trevor Munro	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 56: AIF battalion commanders and C-words, Maurice Campbell	46
Answers to DIGGER Quiz	67
Etched in Stone, Russell Curley and Jim Corkery	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopy.co
or phone: **02 6884 5577**
or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopy.co

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au. Also find us on **Facebook**.

Membership/subscription enquiries: Via website or phone 0401 467 819 or 02 6882 6270.

Direct correspondence to: **FFFAIF Inc, PO Box 4245, FORSTER NSW 2428.**



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Above: Corporal (later Lance Sergeant) 1045 William Johnston Turner, 12th Battalion.
Killed at Pozieres, 25 July, 1916. Turner is profiled in this issue. Courtesy Anne Betts.

December 2016

No. 57

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 57 Contents

Articles

Diggers buried at Tincourt, Brett Arnfield	3-16
Fragment memories of Armistice Day, 1919, Emeritus Professor John Ramsland OAM	17-21
WO1 Alexander Rose Falconer, 5th FAB, Part 1 of his diary, contrib. by Neil Falconer	22-29
L/Sgt 1045 William Turner, 12th Bn, Anne Betts	29
The Dayball family in WWI, Greg Swinden	30-32
Pte 1179 John Colless, 3rd Bn, compiled by Graeme Hosken	33-42
HMAS Sydney and the Emden's silver dollars, Judith Green	43-44
Letters from the Neilsen brothers of Forbes, 1916	44
Sgt 2543 John Flynn, 57th Bn, Trevor Munro	45-47
An urgent message reaches the 38th Battalion, 38th Bn unit diary	47
Murphy father and son killed at Fromelles, Stephen Brooks	48-49
Brief history of Hurdcott Camp, contrib. by Lucy London, UK	49
Sister Maud Bradford, AANS, Margo Piggott	50-52
Pte 2049 Robert Erwood, 6th Bn/2nd MG Coy, Stephen Brooks	53-56
Pte 2653 Harold Edwards, 20th Bn, Peter Tremain	57-58
Making your bed (in a camp hut), Bill Durrant	58
Lieut Arthur Henson Smith, 3rd FAB, at Pozieres, 1916, contrib. by Rowan Smith	59-62
Pte 3914 Thomas Puddephatt, 1st Pioneers, Graeme Hosken	63-64
Speech at Cornelian Bay headstone unveiling, Lambis Englezos	65
Tasmanian Headstone Project, from their website courtesy Andrea Gerrard	65
Sgt 2493 Robert Batton DCM, MM & Bar, 22nd Bn, Peter Byron	66-69
Cpl 5196 Bert Smith, 49th Bn, letter from Superintendent R Bush, Bishop's Knoll Hospital, UK	69
Diaries of L/Cpl William Lycett, 4th F Amb/15th LROC, Part 8, contrib. by Tim Lycett	70-74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 57: The Russian Relief Force, Maurice Campbell	42
Follow-up to DIGGER Quiz No. 56: AIF Infantry Battalion commanders killed in action	56
Answers to DIGGER Quiz No. 57	64
Etched in Stone, Russell Curley and Jim Corkery	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopy.co

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopy.co

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au. Also find us on **Facebook**.

Membership/subscription enquiries: Via website or phone 0401 467 819 or 02 6882 6270.

Direct correspondence to: **FFFAIF Inc, PO Box 4245, FORSTER NSW 2428.**

DIGGER



Above, main picture: Australian graves at Noreuil, France. Courtesy Heather Ford.
Inset: Silk postcard from Private Duncan McCallum, 16th Bn, 1 Feb 1916. Courtesy Wendy Mahoney.

March 2017

No. 58

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 58 Contents

Articles

Private 955/3082 John Jensen DCM, MM 1 st & 33 rd Bns, <i>Daryl Barker</i>	3-10
The first saving of Villers-Bretonneux: Pte 203 Vivian Veale, 33 rd Bn, <i>contrib. by Bill Durrant</i>	11-13
Extract from the memoirs of Pte 3178 Gordon Kiely, 59 th Bn, <i>courtesy of David Huggonson</i>	13
Gibbs father and sons, <i>Stephen Brooks</i>	14-15
Letter from the Front, 1916: L/Cpl 4355 George Woods, 3 rd Bn/1 st DSC, <i>found on Trove</i>	15
Pte 6303 Angus Duncan McCallum, 16 th Bn (captured at First Bullecourt), <i>Wendy Mahoney</i>	16-23
Unidentified officers of the 12 th Machine Gun Company, <i>Greg O'Reilly</i>	24-34
Centenary of the Battles of Fromelles and Pozieres, 2016, <i>John Boyd</i>	35-37
Colour spread: Photos relating to the AIF on the Western Front in 1917, <i>Various contributors</i>	38-39
Tpr 166 Frank Gannon, 7 th LHR, <i>Gwenda Stanbridge</i>	40-41
Hon. Col George Merrick Long CBE, DD, <i>Maurice Campbell</i>	42
For Valour: Anzac VC Recipients, 1917, Part 1, <i>Geoff Lewis</i>	43-56
Letter, 1915: Dvr 1609 Wilfred Stenner, 3 rd FAB, <i>found on Trove</i>	56
Pte 6983 John Clement Rohan, 3 rd Bn, <i>Denis Pain</i>	57-59
List of AIF Infantry COs, KIA, DOW or DOI, 1914-1919, <i>Ross St Claire</i>	59
WO1 Alexander Rose Falconer, 5 th FAB, Part 2 of his diary, <i>contrib. by Neil Falconer</i>	60-65
Formation of the Australian Flying Corps (AFC), <i>contrib. by Gareth Morgan, ASWWIAH</i>	66
Capt Thomas Baker, No. 4 Squadron AFC, <i>contrib. by Gareth Morgan, ASWWIAH</i>	66-67
Air Mechanic 44 Francis Adams, No. 30 Sqdn RFC, <i>contrib. by Gareth Morgan, ASWWIAH</i>	67
Diaries of L/Cpl William Lycett, 4 th F Amb/15 th LROC, Part 9, <i>contributed by Tim Lycett</i>	68-72
Tpr Alex Chrystal, 6 th LHR, <i>Trevor Munro and Graeme Hosken</i>	73-74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
DIGGER Quiz No. 58: Prisoners of War, <i>Maurice Campbell</i>	23
Answers to DIGGER Quiz	41
Etched in Stone, <i>Russell Curley and Jim Corkery</i>	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopy.co

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopy.co

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au. Also find us on **Facebook**.

Membership/subscription enquiries: Via website or phone 0401 467 819 or 02 6882 6270.

Mailing address: FFFAIF Inc, PO Box 4245, FORSTER NSW 2428.



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Above: Three AIF NCOs in an English camp. Courtesy Tracey Rose Sparke.

June 2017

No. 59

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 59 Contents

Articles

The 20th Battalion and the Evacuation from Gallipoli, <i>Neville Browning</i>	3-7
Pte Frederic John Baird, 17th Bn, <i>Maurice Campbell</i>	8-10
L/Cpl Noho Toki, 1st Maori Contingent, <i>Judith Green</i>	11-12
Lieut Thomas Acherson Armstrong, 33rd Bn, <i>Stephen Brooks</i>	12
Pte Garnet Dart, 9th Australian Field Ambulance, <i>Emeritus Prof. John Ramsland</i>	13-20
Gallipoli diary of Bdr Arthur Henson Smith, 3rd FAB, <i>contrib. by Rowan Smith</i>	21-28
Bob Bage: forgotten comrade of Antarctica and Gallipoli (3rd FCE), <i>Ross McMullin</i>	29-32
How we recovered waste: Pte Leslie St Clair Roberts, ex-10th Bn, <i>contrib. by Bill Durrant</i>	33-34
WO1 Alexander Rose Falconer, 5th FAB, Part 3 of his diary, <i>contrib. by Neil Falconer</i>	35-40
Centenary of Anzac Obelisk, Moore Park, Sydney, <i>Jim Munro</i>	40
For Valour: Anzac VC recipients, 1917, Part 2 (Bullecourt & Messines), <i>Geoff Lewis</i>	41-49
Flanders Memorial Garden (AWM grounds, Canberra), <i>Sue Tongue</i>	50
Lieut Frederick Carl Stolz, 32nd Bn, <i>contrib. by John Haddow</i>	51-57
Major John Higgon, Pembroke Yeomanry/32nd Bn AIF, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	57-60
Swift father and son killed in the war, <i>Stephen Brooks</i>	60
Diaries of L/Cpl William Lycett, 4th Field Ambulance, Part 10, <i>contrib. by Tim Lycett</i>	61-65
The three brothers McGree, <i>Stephen Brooks</i>	66
L/Cpl Charles Frederick Lee, 14th & 46th Bns, 12th MGC, <i>Greg O'Reilly</i>	67-70
Letters from the Front: Pte Reginald Milton Smith, 33rd Bn, <i>Bill Durrant</i>	71-73
Letters from the Front, 1917 (Messines): Pte Bert Von Einem, 38th Bn, <i>found on Trove</i>	73
Return of the Menin Gate lions to Ieper, <i>Johan Durnez, Anny de Decker & Geoff Lewis</i>	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
Etched in Stone, <i>Russell Curley and Jim Corkery</i>	75
Note: There is no <i>DIGGER</i> Quiz in this issue	



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopy.co
or phone: **02 6884 5577**
or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopy.co

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au. Also find us on **Facebook**.

Membership/subscription enquiries: Via website or phone 0401 467 819 or 02 6882 6270.

Direct correspondence to: **FFFAIF Inc, PO Box 4245, FORSTER NSW 2428.**



DIGGER



Above: Australian, New Zealand and British internees at Interlaken, Switzerland, Anzac Day 1918. Private Percy Ellis of the 14th Battalion, profiled in this issue, is third from right in front row. Courtesy David Ellis.

September 2017

No. 60

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 60 Contents

Articles

Lieutenant David Gerald Evans MC, MID, 8th Bn, <i>Evan Evans</i>	3-18
Pte 271 Garnet Rundle, 12th Bn: the First Contingent voyage, <i>found on Trove</i>	19-27
Letters from 1915: Sgt FA Elworthy, 1st LHR & Lieut WC Beeken, 3rd Bn, <i>found on Trove</i>	28-29
Pte 1736 Percival Ellis, 14th Bn/POW, <i>David Ellis</i>	30-32
Memories of Polygon Wood, 'Tun', <i>found on Trove</i>	32
POWs escape: Pte 4534 Jack Lee MM, 14th Bn & L/Cpl 940 Fred Peachey MM, 15th Bn	33-39
Pte 3150 Victor Jones, 60th Bn, remembered, <i>Geoff Lewis</i>	39
WWI commemorations in the Rural City of Horsham, <i>contrib. by John Wilson OAM</i>	40-41
Making good at 'Polygon Wood': Pte 2452 Sherdy Gardiner, 3rd Bn, <i>found on Trove</i>	41
WO1 Alexander Rose Falconer, 5th FAB, Diary Part 4 (final), <i>contrib. by Neil Falconer</i>	42-46
Pte 3151 John (Don) Jameson, 56th Bn, <i>Pam Shadie</i>	47-50
Diaries of L/Cpl William Lycett, 4th Field Ambulance, Part 11, <i>contrib. by Tim Lycett</i>	51-55
Pte 7373A George Vincent Forsythe, 8th Bn, also RAN, RCN, <i>Greg Swinden</i>	56-58
Australian-Serbian WWI Project – seeking help, <i>contrib. by Bojan Pajik</i>	58
Last out – final days at Gallipoli: men of the 6th LHR, <i>contrib. by David S Wilkins</i>	59-61
Belgian Embassy oak tree planting, <i>Sue Tongue</i>	61
For Valour: AIF VC recipients, 1917, Part 3 (Third Ypres), <i>Geoff Lewis</i>	62-73
Letters from the Front, 1916: Cpl 525 George Henry Woods, 33rd Bn, <i>found on Trove</i>	73
Sinking of HMAT 'Ballarat', Pte 7235 John Giles, 7th & 23rd Bns, <i>found on Trove</i>.	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
Etched in Stone, <i>Russell Curley and Jim Corkery</i>	75
Note: There is no DIGGER Quiz in this issue	



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopy.co
or phone: **02 6884 5577**
or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopy.co

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au. Also find us on **Facebook**.

Membership/subscription enquiries: Via website or phone **02 6882 6270**.

Direct correspondence to: FFFAIF Inc, PO Box 4245, FORSTER NSW 2428.



DIGGER



Above: Sapper Rupert Gordon Moremon, 6th BGROC. Courtesy Gai Swales.

December 2017

No. 61

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 61 Contents

Articles

Captain Clifford 'Tiny' Hatcher MC, 12 th MG Coy/4 th MG Bn, <i>Greg O'Reilly</i>	3-7
Cpl 2024A Stanley Woolbank, 45 th Bn, <i>letters and news items, found on Trove</i>	8-11
Sister Hilda Mary Knox, AANS, <i>Heather (Frev) Ford</i>	12-15
E/R Sgt John Wicks, AIF Canteens, <i>found on Trove, research by Graeme Hosken</i>	15
The O'Connor brothers of Collic: George, Michael, Patrick and Edward, <i>Margo Piggott</i>	16-19
Pte 2029 James Antcliff, 36 th Bn <i>Emeritus Prof. John Ramsland</i>	20-25
Dvr 2102 Oliver Courtney, 4 th Light Horse Field Ambulance, <i>Greg Swinden</i>	26-28
My three Digger uncles: Jim and Fred Harvey, Mac Smith, <i>Judith Green</i>	29
Memories of Polygon Wood, 'Barb', 51 st Bn	30-31
Extract from French newspaper found in 4 th MG Bn unit diary, <i>contrib. by Greg Knight</i>	31
Pte 2722 Rupert Donaldson, 2 nd & 54 th Bns, <i>Graeme Hosken and Malcolm Donaldson</i>	32-33
Boy-buglers of the AIF, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	34-40
Commemorations of the Centenary of 3 rd Ypres, <i>Johan Durnez with Geoff Lewis</i>	41
Capt Gordon Coghill MC, 35 th Bn, <i>contrib. by Bill Durrant</i>	42
Differing views on the Battle of Passchendaele, 'Dig' and 'Fifth Army', <i>found on Trove</i>	43-44
Battle on the Menin Road, Cpl 3097 Alfred Gray MSM, 5 th Pnrs, <i>found on Trove</i>	44
Letters from Gallipoli: Pte Garnet Rundle, 12 th Bn, <i>found on Trove</i>	45-50
Cpl 566 James Smith MM, 4 th MG Bn, and the Battle of Hamel, <i>Greg Knight</i>	51-54
The Road to Passchendaele, <i>Emeritus Prof. John Ramsland</i>	55-59
A ration party, <i>Unknown soldier-author, found on Trove, contrib. by Bill Durrant</i>	60-61
Spr 145 Rupert Moremon, 6 th BGROC, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	61
Lieut John Davidson MC, 1 st LHR, ICC, 15 th LHR, <i>contrib. by Rob Davidson</i>	62-63
Cpl 165 A Stranger, 32 nd Bn, & his father, Sgt 872 T Stranger, 5 th BGROC, <i>Stephen Brooks</i>	63
For Valour: Australian VC recipients 1918 (Part 1: March to May), <i>Geoff Lewis</i>	64-70
2018 Battle of the Lys Centenary at Merris and Vieux Berquin, <i>John Payne</i>	70
Keeping their Memory Alive (seven soldiers from Chinchilla), <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	71-72
The fight for Passchendaele, L/Cpl 2865 William Murray, 39 th Bn, <i>found on Trove</i>	73-74
'Fun at the Front': account of a DAC mule race, 23 rd Battalion unit diary	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
Etched in Stone, <i>Russell Curley and Jim Corkery</i>	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopy.co

or phone: 02 6884 5577

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopy.co

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au. Also find us on **Facebook**.

Membership/subscription enquiries: Via website or phone 02 6882 6270.

Direct correspondence to: **FFFAIF Inc, PO Box 4245, FORSTER NSW 2428.**

DIGGER



Above: Heath Cemetery, Harbonnieres, is situated on the south side of the straight main road (D1029) from Amiens to St Quentin, approximately 13 kilometres from Villers-Bretonneux. The Australians buried here were killed in August and September 1918. Photo courtesy of Gwenda Stanbridge.

March 2018

No. 62

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 62 Contents

Articles

Lieut Francis William Goodwin MC, 8th Bn, <i>Evan Evans and Heather Armstrong</i>	3-23
Medical diagram found in service record of Lieut AO Duprez, 3rd Bn, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	23
Billeting of 26th Bn in Belgium after the Armistice, <i>Claire Dujardin and Alison McCallum</i>	24-25
Search for Belgian man's Aussie great-grandfather, <i>Claire Dujardin</i>	25-26
Cpl 746 John Tomlinson, 1st LHR/Provost Corps, <i>Trevor Munro</i>	27-29
Poem: 'The soldier's prayer', <i>found by Heather (Frev) Ford on Trove</i>	29
Gallipoli memoirs: Pte 175 James Lewis, 23rd Bn, <i>found on Trove</i>	30-31
Pte 1746 David Gow, 45th Bn, <i>Val McKenzie</i>	32-37
Colour spread: Photos relating to the AIF in France 1918, <i>Various contributors</i>	38-39
Voices of Birralee: Australia's Centenary Choir, <i>Julie Christiansen OAM, with Geoff Lewis</i>	40
Gallipoli Memoirs: Pte 771 Garnet Rundle, 12th Bn, <i>found on Trove</i>	41-44
Lieut Horace Gilchrist, 7th LHR, <i>Stephen Brooks</i>	45
Battlefield burial of Thomas, Russell, McGannon and Sims, 23rd Bn, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	46-55
Lieut William Salvatori, 34th Bn: the man who lost his memory, <i>Bill Durrant</i>	56
Pte 2721 Robert Tibbs, 2nd Bn, remembered at Blayney, <i>contrib. by Tony Nixon</i>	57-58
Letter from 1917: Pte 876 Leslie Carter, 8th/46th Bns, <i>found on Trove</i>	58
The war after the war, <i>Tina Horsfall, John Laffin History Prize recipient, Deakin University</i>	59-62
Volunteers sought to help with Kyoomba RSL Project, <i>Graeme Hosken and Deb Wheeler</i>	62
Battle of Lys Centenary at Merris and Vieux Berquin, April 2018, <i>John Payne</i>	63-65
For Valour: Australian VC recipients 1918 (Part 2: June and July), <i>Geoff Lewis</i>	66-74
Pte 4794 Waldimar Anderson, 32nd Bn, <i>Bill Durrant</i>	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
Etched in Stone, <i>Russell Curley and Jim Corkery</i>	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopy.co or phone: **02 6884 5577** or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopy.co

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au. Also find us on **Facebook**.

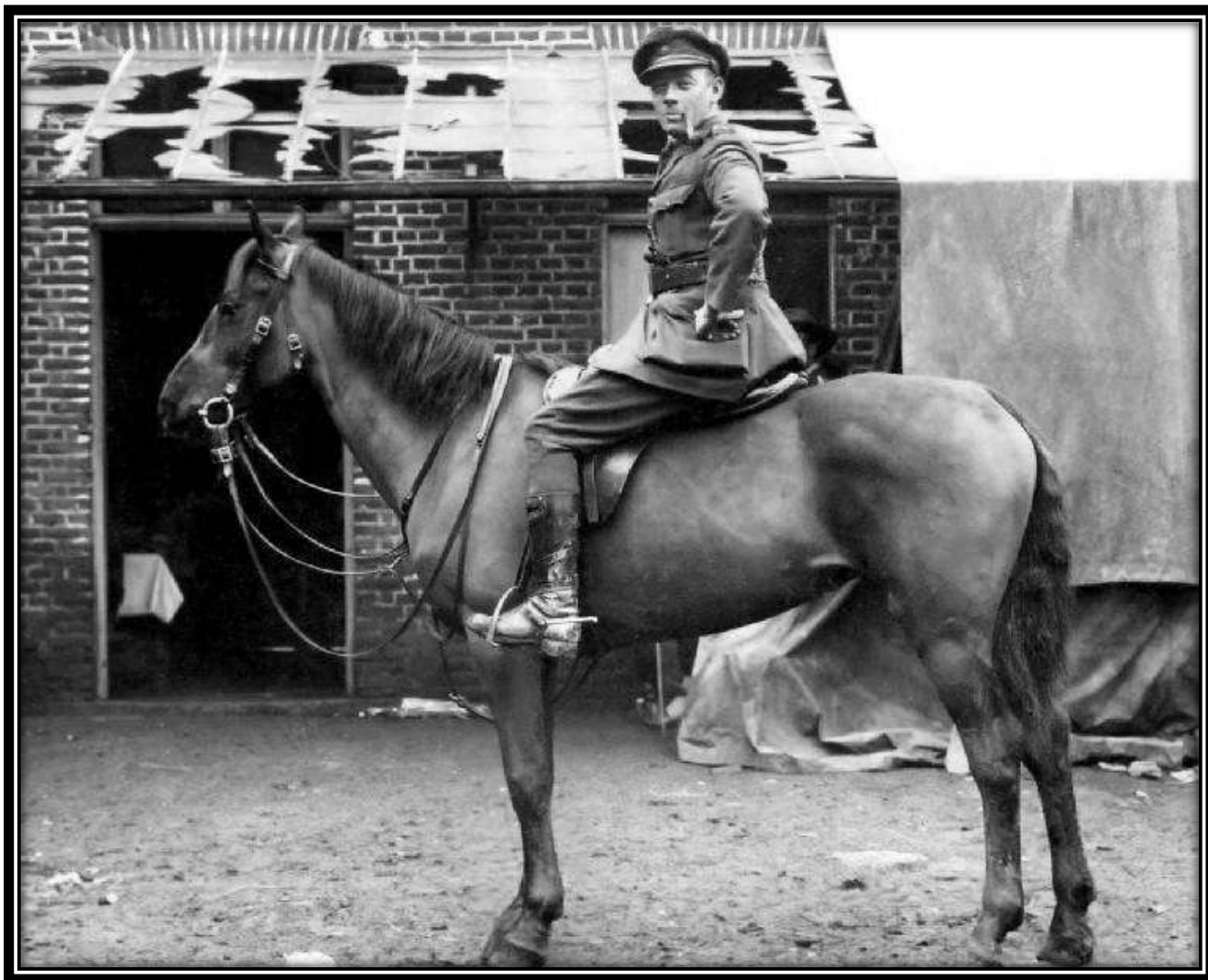
Membership/subscription enquiries: Via website or phone 02 6882 6270.

Direct correspondence to: **FFFAIF Inc, PO Box 4245, FORSTER NSW 2428.**



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Above: Captain Alick Burgess, 11th Battalion Transport Officer, on his mare 'Baby', in France 1918.
Courtesy Ross Burgess. Alick Burgess is profiled in this issue.

June 2018

No. 63

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 63 Contents

Articles

Captain Alick Burgess, 11 th Bn, Graeme Hosken with Ross Burgess	3-16
Post-traumatic stress disorders and shell-shock in WWI, Jessica Bourke, JLMHP recipient	17-20
Book release: 'The Little Stowaway', Vicki Bennett	21-22
Soldier's letter: Pte (later Lieut) 927 Vincent Callen, 34 th Bn, contrib. by Bill Durrant	23-24
Battle of Hamel, Pte Percy 2183 Koosachi [served as Kookoosachi], 13 th Bn	24
2 nd Lieut Hugh Massie, 22 nd Bn, Contrib. by Darryl Massie	25-26
Sgt 3509 George Miller DCM, MM, 26 th Bn, Val McKenzie	27-29
Spr 3988 Patrick Minogue, 2 nd ATC, Graeme Hosken	30-32
Extracts from 29 th Bn unit diary for 28/29 July, 1918, Lieut Col J McArthur	32
Letter: Lieut Harold Neumann (HP Nyman), 44 th Bn, contrib. by Sandra Playle	33
The devoted Anzac: Pte 1146 Tasman Millington, 26 th Bn, contrib. by Charles Davis	34-37
The 9 th Brigade at Villers-Bretonneux, 4 April, 1918, contrib. by Bill Durrant	38
Tpr 2947 Wilfred Steele, 3 rd LHR, contrib. by Bill Durrant	39
Soldier's letter 1917: Pte 6319 Thomas Dobson, 22 nd Bn, found on Trove	39
Memoirs of Pte 2639 Verdi Schwinghammer, 42 nd Bn (Part 1), edited by Graeme Hosken	40-47
Member profile: Danielle Roubroeks, photographer, Belgium, Danielle with Geoff Lewis	48
Pte 2594 Bertie Knight, 7 th Bn, Stephen Brooks	49
'A war-wrecked generation', Nathaniel Sgambellone, JLMHP recipient	50-54
'The Drink Evil', unknown WA soldier, found on Trove	54
For Valour: Australian VC recipients 1918 (Part 3: August), Geoff Lewis	55-64
Battle of Chuignes – Monster Gun captured, Lieut Gen Sir John Monash, found on Trove	64
Rededication of City of Liverpool Cenotaph, Sue Tongue	65
Letter: Spr 522 Jack Fahey, 2 nd ATC, found on Trove	66-67
The Americans at Hamel, found on Trove	67
Soldiers' letters from 1918, found on Trove	68
After the war – 'the Amiens Three', contrib. by Charles Davis	69-73
Diggers who want work, found on Trove	73
Abstract: Memorialisation of Queanbeyan's service history, Jodi Adams, JLMHP recipient	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
Etched in Stone, Russell Curley and Jim Corkery	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact

Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopyshop.com.au

or phone: 02 6884 5577

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopyshop.com.au

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au. Also find us on **Facebook**.

Membership/subscription enquiries: Via website or phone 02 6882 6270.

Direct correspondence to: FFFAIF Inc, PO Box 4245, FORSTER NSW 2428.



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Above: The band of the 1st Australian Light Horse Regiment, taken just before embarkation in 1914. Those men marked with an 'X' were killed and those marked 'O' were wounded in the war. Photo courtesy of Roy Greatorex, the son of Trooper James Greatorex (later lieutenant, 1st LH Bde MG Squadron), second from right, back row.

September 2018

No. 64

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 64 Contents

Articles

Montbrehain: the AIF's last battle of the war, <i>Evan Evans</i>	3-8
Ptes 6509 Huntsman, 6987 Eacott, 7th Bn, and 6831 Neilson, 8th Bn, <i>Andrew Pittaway</i>	9-10
SALIENT: Contemporary artists at the Western Front (exhibition), <i>Compiled by Jill Hayes</i>	11-12
The legacy of Pte 6020 Douglas Grant, 13th Bn, <i>John Ramsland</i>	13-23
Cpl Vine's grave at Camden, <i>found on Trove</i>	23
Stories of SA brothers in the AIF, <i>Judith Green</i>	24-28
Postcard from opening of Australian National Memorial 1938, <i>Greg Knight</i>	28
Memoirs of Pte 2369 Verdi Schwinghammer, 42nd Bn (Part 2), <i>edited by Graeme Hosken</i>	29-33
Captain David Martin MC, 12th MG Company (4th MG Bn), <i>Greg O'Reilly</i>	34-41
Sgt 191 Albert Tuck, 4th Bn, and the floating cross, <i>Bill Durrant</i>	42-43
Bill's choice: gunner's bravery at Cape Helles, <i>found on Trove</i>	43
Cpl 372 Charles Lane and Private 648 Reinhold Ruschpler, 4th MG Bn, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	44-49
Ptes 2736 Alexander Levings and 2737 Norman Levings, 7th Bn, <i>Stephen Brooks</i>	50-51
Soldiers' memories: Misplaced kindness; Hard luck Digger; Duckboards, <i>found on Trove</i>	51
Ptes 3639 V Gardner, 54th Bn, & 3160 CC Wheeler, 4th Bn, <i>Kerry Patman & Graeme Hosken</i>	52-59
Soldiers' accounts of Hamel and Amiens 1918, <i>found on Trove</i>	60-62
For Valour: Australian VC recipients 1918 (Part 4: 31 Aug – 12 Sept), <i>Geoff Lewis</i>	63-73
Pte 1881 Samuel Baguley, 17th Bn, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
Etched in Stone, <i>Russell Curley and Jim Corkery</i>	75



DIGGER is printed in Dubbo by the Colour Copy Shop

For a top quality printing job at a great price, wherever you live, contact Aaron McMillan by e-mail: print@colourcopyshop.com.au
or phone: **02 6884 5577**
or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: www.colourcopyshop.com.au

FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au. Also find us on **Facebook**.

Membership/subscription enquiries: Via website or phone 02 6882 6270.

Direct correspondence to: FFFAIF Inc, PO Box 4245, FORSTER NSW 2428.



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Above: Four ex-members of the Australian Imperial Force at a post-war reunion, circa mid to late 1920s; a fitting photo for our 'Centenary of the Armistice' edition of *DIGGER*. Seated left is Sgt JE Bruce McColl, 12th LHR, of Bingara, NSW. From the McColl collection, courtesy of Bruce's daughter, Jeanette O'Brien, Narromine.

December 2018

No. 65

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc

Edited by Graeme Hosken

ISSN 1834-8963



'Dedicated to Digger Heritage'

The purpose of the FFFAIF is to commemorate the service, sacrifice, courage and suffering of the First Australian Imperial Force of the Great War 1914-1918 and of their families and friends.

DIGGER 65 Contents

Articles

The impact of the Great War, Sue Tongue	3-4
'Overheard on a train', anon. reporter, 'Burnie Advocate', 1931	4
Report on 2018 John Laffin Memorial Lecture Day, Paul Simadas	5-6
1917 letter: Pte 3774 Fred Chin, 19th Bn, found on Trove	6
2nd Lieut Jacques d'Alpuget, 54th Bn, Matt Smith	7-11
Memories of Amiens in 1916, 'AIF' (anon. Digger), found on Trove	11
1916 letter: Pte 433 Joseph Smith, 5th MG Bn, found on Trove	12-13
1917 letter: WOI George Whitehead, AAMC, found on Trove	13
Battle of the Lys Centenary at Merris, John Payne	14
Boy soldier stowaways, contrib. by Bill Durrant	15-16
1918 letter: Pte 3762 Bert Bishop, 55th Bn, contrib. by Pam Goesch	16
Memoirs of Pte 2369 Verdi Schwinghammer, 42nd Bn (Part 3), edited by Graeme Hosken	17-21
Pte 1926 Clarence Gordon, 54th/1st Bns, contrib. by Lesley Abrahams	22-24
How soldiers go to bed: (probably) Dvr 1620 James Hodson, contrib. by Bill Durrant	24
Pte 2653 Harold Edwards, 20th Bn, Val McKenzie	25-26
1917 letters: Pte 3312 Eric Millard, 3rd Bn, found on Trove	26
'Murphy of Anzac': Simpson's donkeys, by 'Ex-Captain', contrib. by Bill Durrant	27-29
Armistice Day memories, (probably) Pte 2871 Harold Preston, found on Trove	29
Account of trench raid, Sgt 2682 Albert Green, 9th Bn, and AWM artefacts, found on Trove	30-33
Spr 868 Alec Gollan, 19th Bn/5th FCE, Trevor Munro	34-35
'I got you those', 'Hplar' (unknown Digger) in 'Smith's Weekly', found on Trove	35
'Sandbags': Lieut RSM Sturges, British Army, contrib. by Bill Durrant	36-37
'Stiffness', 'Franzac' (unknown Digger) in 'Smith's Weekly'	37
How the Diggers in France reacted to the Armistice, Graeme Hosken	38-41
When did Australia receive news of the Armistice? Graeme Hosken	42-44
Armistice Day sadness for Cumnock family, Val McKenzie	45
Captain Ken Millar, 2nd Bn, and the Armistice, contrib. by Patric Millar	46
For Valour: Australian VC recipients 1918 (Part 5), 18 Sep to 5 Oct, Geoff Lewis	47-56
Ned's nephew: Pte 2002B Fred Foster, 17th Bn, David Creenaune & Graeme Hosken	57-60
'Some gargle', 'Musha' (unknown Digger) in 'Smith's Weekly', found on Trove	60
The men from Myrrhee: a town's pictorial honour roll, Evan Evans	61-73
The Armistice: memories and hopes, Gnr 3289 Edwin Davidson, 13th FAB, found on Trove	73
November 11, 1918: The Armistice in Syria, Captain Hector Dinning, AASC/WRS	74

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
Etched in Stone, Russell Curley and Jim Corkery	75



FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au. Also find us on **Facebook**.

Membership/subscription enquiries: Via website or phone 02 6882 6270.

Direct correspondence to: FFFAIF Inc, PO Box 4245, FORSTER NSW 2428.