



*"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, 54<sup>th</sup> 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**

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

### **Regular features**

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



#### **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](mailto:pc@dubsec.com.au)

or phone: **02 6884 5577**

or visit the Colour Copy Shop website: [www.dubsec.com.au](http://www.dubsec.com.au)