



"Dedicated to Digger Heritage"

DIGGER



Three unidentified AIF soldiers, from a postcard signed 14 April, 1918.
Courtesy of Sean McManus.

September 2025

No. 92

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 92 Contents

Articles

The 'Foote soldiers' of Ipswich, <i>Sue Tongue</i>	3-7
AIF books written by member, Jeff Peirce, <i>Jeff Peirce</i>	7
Pte 571 Thomas Arthur Ward, 33 rd Bn, <i>Bill Durrant</i>	8-9
Who was EG Skinner? <i>Greg Smyth</i>	9
Pte 6877 Frederick John Alexander MM, 3 rd Bn, <i>Graeme Hosken & Nicole Alexander</i>	10-13
The 1916 diary of Lieut Robert Pickup, 13 th & 45 th Bns, Part 2: 1 Jun-30 Aug, <i>contrib. by Neville Browning.</i>	14-21
1915 letters written soon after the Landing: Sgt 597 Clarence Marshall, 12 th Bn & Pte 991 Thomas Bowers, 10 th Bn, <i>found on Trove</i>	21
Pte 146 Charles James Bradley, 11 th Bn, <i>John Aitken</i>	22-31
Possible photo of William Lycett at Kandahar Farm, <i>Tim Lycett</i>	31
Diaries of L/Cpl 2063 William Lycett, 4 th Fld Amb & 15 th LROC, Vol III (1917), Part 7, <i>contrib. by Tim Lycett</i>	32-34
Yelverton Street at War, <i>Graeme Hosken</i>	35-44
Letter mystery: Pte 338 George William Condon, 25 th Bn, <i>found on Trove, research by the Editor</i>	44
Pte 2564A Alfred Donald Blanch, 25 th & 9 th Bns, <i>Geoffrey Benn</i>	45-46
The wartime memoirs of Pte 2485 George Ross Freeman, 5 th & 57 th Bns, Part 2, Gallipoli and the Canal Zone, <i>contrib. by Bill Freeman</i>	47-50
Pte 1433 John Dunbar, 13 th Bn & Pte 2035 John Beech: the same man, <i>Raben Dunbar & David Harrower</i>	51-52
WO1 1246 Joseph William Osborn DCM, 23 rd Bn, <i>Trevor Munro</i>	53-55
Pte 498 Thomas Henry Taylor, 16 th Bn, <i>Graeme Hosken and Matthew Dent</i>	56-59
Second photo featuring the 'unknown Norm', <i>contrib. by Sean McManus</i>	59
The 38 th Stationary Hospital and the AANS, <i>Heather (Frev) Ford</i>	60-67
The Menin Gate, Ypres, Belgium, and its precinct, <i>Peter Bartley</i>	68-70
1914 newspaper article: 'The early days of enlistment,' <i>The Sydney Morning Herald, found on Trove</i>	71
'Letters from France,' Chs III & IV, <i>CEW Bean, contrib. by Anne Carroll</i>	72-75
Pte 2007 Alfred Scott, The Kennedy Regiment, <i>letter found in NAA file, research by the Editor</i>	75

Regular features

Trench Talk and Contact/Membership details	2
AIF humour from 'Memories of Digger days,' and 'A Digger's diary,' <i>The World's News & The Western Mail</i>	34, 44, 67, 70



FFFAIF website: www.ffaif.org.au.

Facebook: Families and Friends of the First AIF

Membership/subscription enquiries: membership@ffaif.org.au or phone 02 6882 6270.

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

Send submissions to DIGGER to: The Editor, 2 Colony Crescent, DUBBO, NSW 2830, or by e-mail to digger@ffaif.org.au.