

WAR MEMORIAL WINDOW



St John's Anglican Church Young

This Booklet was produced for the St John's Anglican Church Young, War Memorial Window Re-dedication Service, held on 12 November 2023.

This Booklet aims to give due remembrance to the names of the men listed on the brass tablets on either side of the window who made the supreme sacrifice during the Great War.

Thank you to the relatives of these men for the contribution of information and photographs.

Thank you to the to the Congregational Members of Young District Anglican Ministry who worked researching, gathering and compiling information.

Every effort has been made to ensure the information presented in this Booklet is accurate.

This Booklet dedicated to all Australian and New Zealand Defence Personnel. *“Greater love has no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”* John 15:13

Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35

The WAR MEMORIAL WINDOW



and the MEN of the PARISH and DISTRICT
on the BRASS TABLETS

TO THE GLORY OF GOD
IN THANKFUL REMEMBRANCE OF THE MEN
OF THIS PARISH AND DISTRICT
WHO COUNTED NOT THEIR LIVES DEAR UNTO THEM
BUT GAVE THEM WILLINGLY IN THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM AND
JUSTICE IN THE GREAT WAR 1914 – 1918
“FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH” Rev. 2:10

FALLEN SOLDIERS

Memorial Window

UNVEILED IN ST. JOHN'S

The beautiful Church of St Johns, Young, has been still further adorned by a memorial window to the fallen soldiers of the parish and district, which, was unveiled and dedicated during a solemn memorial Eucharist at 10:30 on Tuesday morning (Anzac Day).

Long before the hour appointed for the service crowds gathered in the church, which was filled to overflowing. Included in the congregation were representatives of most of the public bodies. The only invited persons were the nearest relatives of the fallen, who were accommodated in seats near the window, and as was fitting, only those near and dear to the men who made the supreme sacrifice approached the altar for communion. Dr Radford, Bishop of Goulburn, in cope and mitre, was the celebrant and preacher; and dedicated the window. Rev S Champion (Rector of Young), and Rev S North (Rector of Thuddungra) assisted at the altar. Suitable hymns were sung, and special prayers offered for the departed soldiers, for those who mourn, and for the Empire. After the Creed, the Bishop, clergy, and choir proceeded to the window, which is at the south side of the nave, singing the hymn "O God of Jacob". The unveiling was performed by Major T Steel, the senior officer of the local militia. The Bishop then solemnly

dedicated the memorial and Bugler Pritchard sounded the "Last Post". The memorial comprises a two-light window, beautifully coloured, and depicting the figures of St Michael and St George. Above is the Rising Sun of the AIF in the small light in a central position surmounting the memorial. Below is the inscription, "Jesus said, It is more Blessed to Give than to Receive". On brass tablets on either side of the window, surmounted by a plain Latin Cross, in black lettering, are the following names:

J E Ashton
H Bailey
E Beplate
H E Bolton
G B Briggs
A B Burrows
R Burstal
A J E Carmichael
W Duncan
W J Foots
R Hopwood
L R Jennings
F Johnson
H Johnson
N P Harris
W J Harris
E H Hinton
A Lee
B W Marina
A S Metcalfe
B F Miller
G Miller
J Moss
A C Myall
O Nixon
G W Poplin

D J Staunton
W T Storey
W Thompson
P J Vincent
A B Wallace
L Williams
W E Wood

On a polished block, placed in front of the mullion of the windows, on which stood a vase of flowers, with the following inscription on a small brass plate: "To the Glory of God. In thankful Remembrance of the Men of the Parish and District who counted not their lives dear unto them but gave them willingly in the cause of Freedom and Justice in the Great War, 1914-1918." "Faithful unto Death." Revelations 2:19

Numerous wreaths were placed there as tokens of remembrance by loving hands.

The processional hymn, "For Thy Children Gone Before" was sung as the choir returned to the chapel. The Bishop then delivered a most inspiring address, in the course of which he touched upon the great sacrifice which the soldier had made and the higher life of service to which they had now been called. His Lordship said that ANZAC anniversaries were not the time for praise and glorification, but for solemn remembrances and serious reflection. Returned soldiers had struck the right note by their desire for a distinctly religious type of commemoration, and by their anxiety that ANZAC Day should be guarded against the appetite for sport and entertainment. They had rightly protested against the tendency to use

as an ordinary holiday a day which was made sacred by sacrifice of soldier brothers. Then followed the beautiful hymn, sung usually at festivals of martyrs and other holy days, "How Bright these Glorious Spirits Shine!" The Benediction and the National Anthem followed, and then that sweetly comforting hymn, which is really a prayer for absent friends, "Holy Father in Thy Mercy, Keep Our Loved Ones now far Absent, Neath Thy Care". It was sung for a recessional, and as the sweet notes of the choristers rang through the church, some of those whose loved ones have passed beyond the veil silently made intercession for their soldier boys who are sleeping in other lands. Then, they passed out with the crowd. The raindrops were gently falling as if the heavens were shedding tears with them – mingled tears of pride and sadness. The military formed into line, and the band struck up a march and the procession swung off down the road.

The window is the work of Mr W Montgomery, artist, of Melbourne, and is a fine piece of work and compares favourably with anything in the church. The erection was carried out by Mr H R Blackett with satisfaction to all concerned.

Introduction

This rededication came about by accident when a Great War scrap book fell open at the page with a copy of the article on the dedication of the Memorial Window in St Johns Anglican Church, Young, on Anzac Day 1922. This was just a few weeks before Anzac Day in 2023. This booklet aims to give due remembrance to the Fallen Soldiers listed on the sides of the War Memorial Window.

A number of sources of information were consulted including the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, National Archives of Australia, Australian War Memorial, Hilltops Memorial at the Young Town Hall, Young Family History Society, UNSW Canberra ADFA AIF Project, cemeteries in Young and surrounding villages. The pivotal document was, of course, the Great War scrap book very kindly lent to us by Mrs Sue Hardy, a member of the local sub-branch of the RSL.

We were contacted by a number of people who were relatives of those on the window. We acknowledge help given to us by Vicki Burstal, Margaret Davis, Glenda Smithers, Janice Ward, Jarod Johnson-Smith, Elsa Sorensen, and Pam Warren. If we have missed any relatives, we sincerely apologise for that. The information presented is the best that the researchers could do. If anything has been misrepresented or is erroneous, we offer an unreserved apology.

In addition to articles on each person and their photographs where available, we have also included general information relating to the men. Photos have therefore been included of various cemeteries and memorials such as Menin Gate in West Flanders in Belgium which is well known and much lesser known local memorials. We deemed these important as they set up in part the respect the locals and others had for men who had made the Supreme Sacrifice during the Great War.

The Window is registered with the Australian War Memorial. The AWM has advised that there is an option to add a “story” to the Memorial Page which shall be followed up after the rededication.

Due acknowledgement must be given to parishioners who worked so assiduously gathering information and resolving conflicting or vague information. These people are Vicki Burstal, Judith Langfield and Rob Nash.

1936 Private ASHTON James Edwin

6th Australian Light Trench Mortar Battery

James was born near Wombat in about 1896. The son of Mr WT and Mrs EJ Ashton of Wombat Road, Young.

James, a labourer, enlisted on 13 September 1916, aged 21, at Goulburn NSW. He embarked Sydney 10 February 1917 on the troop carrier RMS *Osterley*, arriving Plymouth 11 April 1917.



James contracted mumps and was admitted to Wareham Military Hospital. He commenced training with 63rd Battalion, contracted an infection and was in and out of hospital for several months. James left England on 16 April 1918, arriving Rouelles France 19 April 1918.

James was killed in action on 15 June 1918 aged 22. He was originally buried near where he fell, at Ville-sur-L Ancre, Morlancourt.

On 30 April 1920 his Father was advised that James had been carefully exhumed and re-interred at Beacon British Cemetery, Sailly-Laurette, Somme Hauts-de-France, Picardie, France. In accordance with his family's request his headstone is engraved:

*“DEARLY LOVED SON & BROTHER OF MR
& MRS WT ASHTON & FAMILY.”*



In St Matthew's Anglican Church Wombat, a wood altar was given in memory of James.



*Beacon Cemetery, Sailly-Laurette,
France Resting place of
1936 Private ASHTON JE*

13187 Private BAILEY Henry Robert

55th Australian Infantry Battalion

Henry was born at Gundaroo near Goulburn in about 1868. A labourer, his parents were Henry Clayton Bailey and Elizabeth Edwards of Wombat via Young.



Enlisting for Service on 4 May 1916, at Goulburn, aged 48. Henry did not go overseas to fight. He was admitted to the Sacred Heart Hospital Young and died from meningitis on 13 May 1916.

Henry is buried in the Church of England Cemetery at Wombat. Local Undertakers were John J Patterson. A Soldiers headstone and Memorial Plaque marks his grave.

Wombat Cemetery
Photo by Keith Harrison

Memorial Plaque

The round bronze Memorial Plaque is 120mm in diameter. It shows Britannia and a lion on the front and bears the inscription: "He died for freedom and honour". The full name of the dead soldier is engraved on the right-hand side of the plaque. No rank, Unit or decorations are shown, befitting the equality of the sacrifice made by all casualties.

The shape and appearance of the plaque earned it nicknames such as the "Dead Man's Penny", the "Death Penny", and the "Widow's Penny".



511 Private BEPLATE Ernest Herbert

1st Australian Divisional Train

Ernest was born in Young on 6 April 1894 and Christened in St Johns Church, Young, on 2 July 1894. He went to Cowra Public School for a short time and probably went to school in Young. He was living with an Aunt in Young at the Commercial Hotel when he performed in a concert in the Young Town Hall in May 1908. He was a bugler in the Young Cadets. He worked for Holdsworth McPherson Company in George St., Sydney, as a saddler.



PTE. ERNEST BEPLATE (Darlinghurst).
found at entrance.

Ernest enlisted at Randwick on 23 August 1914. His stated age was 20 years and 9 months. His next of kin was his Mother Mrs Minnie Beplate, 16 Waratah Avenue, Randwick. Ernest embarked from Sydney on board HMAT A19 SS *Afric* on 18 October 1914.

Ernest died of pyrexia on 4 August 1915 on board the Temporary Hospital ship HMT *Ionian* at Mudros, Greece. He is buried at Mudros East Military Cemetery, plot 2, row C, grave 47, Lemnos, Greece.

Details furnished to the War Graves Commission after his death say Ernest was born in Young, the son of Frederick William and Minnie Beplate; and was aged 19 at the time of his death.

Ernest's maternal Grandmother Emily Beplate is buried in Young. Both Emily's parents were convicts. His Grandfather was Ernest August Beplate born in Hanover, died in South Africa, on the family farm. His Grandparents had a farm at Mt Crowther near Greenethorpe. There are 7 or 8 family graves in Young. There are no Beplate descendants in Young but there are several families in Cowra. His age was 21 when he died.



*Mudros East Military Cemetery,
Lemnos Island, Greece
Final resting place
311 Private BEPLATE E R*

5302 Private BOLTON Harry Ebenezer

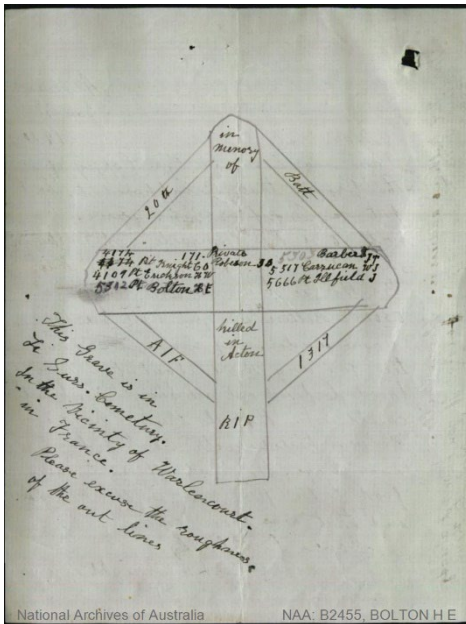
20th Australian Infantry Battalion

Harry was the son of George Field Bolton and Agatha R Bolton of Spring Farm Young. Born near Young on 30 January 1885, Harry attended Tipperary Gully Public School.

Harry, a farmer, enlisted at Cootamundra on 7 February 1917, aged 21. His next of kin was his Father, George.

Harry's Father had served with the Young Cadets and the Citizen Military Forces. Harry's Brother, 523 Sergeant BOLTON 'Fred' George Frederick, enlisted 3 November 1914 and returned to Australia in 1919.

Harry embarked at Sydney on 22 June 1916 aboard the HMAT A18 *Willshire* arriving Plymouth 13 October 1918. He proceeded to France from Folkestone aboard the *Princess Henrietta*. Harry marched into his Unit in Etaples, France on 17 December 1916.



Harry, and Privates, 4174 Knight C O, 171 Robson J D, 5303 Barber J T, 5666 Illfield J, 4109 Erickson W W, and 5317 Carrucan W J, were killed in action 2 March 1917 when they were taking rations to the front-line at Warlencourt.

The family received Harry's medals, the British War, and Victory.

Harry is buried at the Warlencourt British Cemetery, plot V111, row C, grave 47, Nord Pas de Calais, France.

The drawing of the grave where Harry and his mates were initially buried.

Mrs. M. E. Bolton's address is.
Young.
Flour. Mills

Flour. Mills.
Young. If you have not already
sent it to him

DECEASED SECTION

APR 28 1920

RECEIVED

APR 28 1920

As above
Jan 15th
1920

Dear Sir

I am sending you this Copy of the Cross. that is supposed to be put on my poor sons grave. with 6 of his Comrades. A Gentleman sent it to me. from Young. His Brother is buried with my son. (5502 St Bolton ^{H.E.}) you will see the name under my sons. I cannot tell you any more about it I have tried to find out all about him but could not. the only thing I heard was he was killed. with 20 other poor Dear boys. they had offered to carry food to the poor men in the Trenches. and that was their end.

Yours Faithfully
Mrs John Knight

FORMAL AOK
SENT JAN 21 20

JAN 22 1920

RECEIVED
JAN 24 - JAN 25

National Archives of Australia

NAA: B2455, BOLTON H.E



The letter and photo (of Fred Bolton) are from Mrs John Knight whose son was buried near Harry.

BRIGGS G B

It is unclear who this is. There are two Briggs boys, Brothers, listed on the Soldiers Memorial at the Young Town Hall.

4749 Private BRIGGS George

56th Australian Infantry Battalion

Born in Grenfell in 1889 to Mr Harry Montague Gregory and Mrs Susan M Briggs. The Grandson of Matthew and Nancy Briggs nee Pettit. George's hometown was Young.

George, a Mental Hospital attendant, enlisted at Casula on 20 November 1915, aged 26 years 3 months. His Father, Harry, of Glebe was his next of kin. He embarked from Sydney 8 March 1916 on the HMAT A15 *Star of England*. Arriving in Marseilles France onboard the SS *Huntsend* 29 June 1916.

George was in the field in Calais, Boulogne, Cayeux, and Etaples, France from July 1916 to September 1918. With 2 weeks leave, in England, spring 1917.

George was killed in action on 2 September 1918 in France. He is buried at Peronne Communal Cemetery Extension, Picardie, France. His Sisters, Ruth Anne and Nancy Marion were named as his beneficiaries.

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War, and Victory.

3762 Private BRIGGS Frank

17th Australian Infantry Battalion, 9th Reinforcements

Born in Young in 1892 to Mr Harry Montague Gregory and Mrs Susan M Briggs nee Pettit, one of (at least) fourteen children.

Frank's hometown was Young. He was a tram conductor when he enlisted, in Sydney, 6 September 1915, aged 23 years and 9 months.

Frank arrived in Marseilles France 3 April 1916. Marching into the 2nd Australian Division Base Depot, Etaples on 4 April 1916. He spent some time in the 20th General Hospital Danne-Camiers before joining the 17th on 3 August 1916. He was admitted to hospital in Belgium with influenza 6 October 1916, recovered and returned to his Unit in France on 23 November 1916.

On 5 May 1917 Frank was listed wounded and missing in action 3 May 1917 in France. On 22 September 1917, Frank was reported killed in action 3 May 1917 and was said to be buried East of Bullecourt, France. Frank's name is on the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War, and Victory.

802 Private BURROWS Alfred

3rd Australian Infantry Battalion

Alfred, a carpenter, was born in Young on 2 May 1880. He was the son of Alfred (dec 1895) and Katie Harrington Burrows of 'Salathiel' Marengo Street, Young. Alfred had served a four-year apprenticeship with W Voigt of Young.

Alfred enlisted in Sydney on 31 August 1914, at the stated age of 29 years. His next of kin was his Mother, Mrs K Burrows. He embarked from Sydney on the HMAT A14 *Euripides* on 19 October 1914. On 5 April 1915 Alfred embarked from Egypt on the SS *Derfflinger* headed for Anzac Cove, Gallipoli, landing on 25 April 1915.

Alfred was reported as missing on 1 May 1915, Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey. A Field Court of Inquiry into his death was held in France on 5 June 1916 where it was determined Alfred was killed in action, at Gallipoli, Dardanelles, Turkey, on 29 April 1915.

Alfred's personal effects, his diary, book, wallet, 2 Testaments, Bible, cards, Hymn Book, photo, cigarette case, leather purse, colors, notebook, Military book, brush, mitten, and handkerchief were dispatched to his Mother on 20 July 1917.

Alfred's family received his Medals, the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal.

Known to God. Alfred is remembered at the Lone Pine Memorial, Gallipoli Peninsula, Canakkale Province, Turkey.



*3762 Private BURROWS A
Remembered at the
Lone Pine Memorial,
Gallipoli, Turkey*

Second Lieutenant BURSTAL Richard Stewart

1st Australian Infantry Battalion



Richard was born 14 October 1891 in Temora. His Father, Richard Burstal, a Bank of NSW Manager, transferred to Young in 1899, and then to Townsville Qld in 1912.

Richard, a Stock and Station Agent, enlisted on 13 April 1915 aged 23 years and 7 months. His religion was recorded as Church of England.

On 9 December 1915, Richard was appointed 2nd Lieutenant. He embarked on *HMAT Star of England* and disembarked 2 May 1916 at Suez, and from there, disembarked Marseilles ex *Caledonia* on 17 May 1916. On 7 June 1916 he was taken on strength of 1st Battalion as supernumerary to establish pending absorption.

Richard was killed in action at Pozieres on 25 July 1916. Known unto God. Richard has no known grave; his name is recorded on the Memorial Wall at Villers-Bretonneux, France; on the Townsville Cenotaph, and the Young Clock Tower.

His commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Jas Heane wrote to Richard's Father on 1 August 1916 saying in part:

"If ever a man deserved mention, your son did, and I have sent his name on. He was well liked by officers and men and although he had only been with us a such short time, proved himself a competent officer and his death has been a great loss to us."

Richard's Brother, 31121 Gunner BURSTAL Albert Charles Clubbe enlisted 9 October 1916 aged 21. He was a university student studying medicine. Albert was wounded in action, receiving a gun shot wound to his face. He returned to Australia on 15 April 1918 and was medically discharged on 17 May 1918.

1917 Lance Corporal CARMICHAEL “Jack” Alfred John

55th Australian Infantry Battalion

Jack was born in Young in 1895 to James and Rose Carmichael. Growing up in Young, he attended the local Public School. When he was six years old, his Father deserted the family leaving his Mother to raise a large family alone. Jack went on to become a compositor for a printing company, where he had been an apprentice for 4 years, and the sole support of his Mother. By the time war broke out in 1914 he had spent three years in the Cadet forces and two years in the local Militia.

Jack enlisted 21 January 1915, aged 19 years and 10 months. His next of kin was Mrs Carmichael, Yass Street, Young.

Jack underwent a period of training in Australia, leaving for active service overseas with reinforcements to the 3rd Battalion in April. He was first sent to Egypt and from there to Gallipoli arriving in mid-June. Jack was with the 3rd Battalion as they participated in the Battle of Lone Pine where he was wounded and sent to Malta to spend three weeks, and later England.

Recovering from wounds, he returned to Mudros in December 1915. Weeks later the Australian Forces were evacuated from Gallipoli and returned to Egypt. In Egypt the Australian Forces underwent a period of expansion and reorganisation and Jack was transferred to the 55th Battalion.

About this time, he met Lieutenant Harry Wilson and the two became like Brothers. After several weeks in Egypt, Jack’s military discipline declined, and he was charged at least twice with breaking camp and improper conduct before his Battalion left for Europe.

Private Carmichael arrived in France to fight on the Western Front in June 1916 and went on a week’s leave. The day after he returned to the Battalion, it took a critical part in the disastrous operation at Fromelles. Jack came through unscathed and was promoted to Lance Corporal.

The next few months were spent in hospital with an infection, before eventually transferring back to the 3rd to be with his Brother. Harry Wilson was also transferred back to 3rd. Jack was described as being discontented and tried to get back with Harry.

In September 1917, the 55th Battalion advanced in misty conditions capturing German position and reaching their objectives. At some point, Lance Corporal Jack Carmichael was wounded and died in action Belgium, 26 September 1917.

His Platoon Sergeant John Bye later wrote to Jack's parents saying:

“I was quite near your son when he was hit with a piece of shell and he died at once without pain... he had been in my platoon for some time and as a soldier he proved himself one of the best – always brave and cheerful under circumstances of a straining nature. In the Platoon he was very popular, and his death is much regretted.”

A fellow soldier Private CP Kenny, 11th Company, wrote:

“I knew Carmichael for four months; he was medium height, medium build, fair, about 24 from Young. He had been wounded once. On 26 September 4:45 am, the Battalion was in front of Polygon Wood, just before the hop-over, a shell fell and Carmichael was hit, and died in a few minutes. He was just behind me – touching me – and he saved me. I got a piece myself and came out. Carmichael is buried on the Ypres side of the Mound or Butts. I haven't been there again and haven't seen the grave.”

Jack was buried in the field of battle, and a short service was read over his grave. His battlefield resting place was later lost and today he is commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing, Ypres, Belgium.

Information from:

Meleah Hampton, Historian
Military History Section. AWM

Known unto God.
1917 Private CARMICHAEL A J
5035 Corporal HINTON E J
1759 Private WILLIAMS L E C
589 Private WOOD W E
Are remembered at the
Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing,
Ypres, Belgium



3510 Private DUNCAN William

54th Australian Infantry Battalion, 9th Reinforcements

William was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, 10 October 1870. He was an apprentice at J Elliott, Horwich Lancashire for nine years.

After his marriage to Elizabeth Ann Darbyshire, 18 November 1896 they emigrated to Australia with four children. (2 other children had predeceased them.) Sailing on the ship *Persic*, they arrived in Sydney, 15 September 1911.



William had a butcher shop in Young before enlisting for service on 8 January 1917 at Cootamundra. His next of kin was his wife Elizabeth, Lower Burrowa Street, Young. His Attestation papers record him being at the Cootamundra Camp as Sergeant Butcher, for 9 months, then proceeding to Victoria Barracks, Sydney.

William embarked on the Troopship HMAA A68 *Anchises* on 24 January 1917 and disembarked Devonport England on 27 March 1917. He proceeded to France from Southampton arriving Havre 25 July 1917, marching into his Unit on 11 August.

William was killed in action at the Battle of Polygon Wood in Belgium on 26 September 1917 aged 48 years. William was buried in Oxford Road Cemetery, Ypres, Flanders, Belgium.

Williams Grandchildren include Marie O'Malley dec, John and Gwen O'Reilly dec, Kath Bronsveld, Fred and Janice O'Reilly, and Norman.



3750 Private FOOTS “Willie” William James

1st Australian Pioneer Battalion, 34th Reinforcements

6th Light Horse Regiment –15-34 Reinforcements (March 1916-March 1918, HMAT *Anglo Egyptian* A25.)



Born at Young 11 June 1895, Willie went to school at Belowra, Wambanumba. His next of kin was his Mother, Philadelphia Gorham Foots (Hall), Young, care of Miss Wall, Tubbul.

William’s place of Association was Marengo. William James Foots (Hall) presented himself for enlistment on 20 August 1915 at Cootamundra aged 20 years and 2 months.

Willie was allotted 27 October 1915 to 12th Reinforcement 4th Battalion at Liverpool NSW. He embarked from Sydney on the ship *HMAT A7 Medic* on 30 December 1915 and disembarked at Alexandria. From there William went to France where he joined the 1st Pioneer Battalion, 26 May 1916.

William kept a diary, a full record of his experiences from the time he left Sydney. William was killed in action at Hooge Dump, Belgium, 25 July 1916 aged 21. No known grave. William’s Remembrance details are on the Villers- Bretonneux Memorial, Picardie, France.

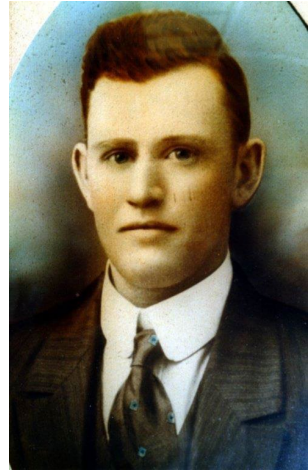
Information from ‘**Marengo Boys Answer the Call 1914-1918, A commemoration of the Centenary of the Armistice**’
written by Tricia Mack and Neil Gow

4038 Private HARRIS Norman Page

3rd Infantry Battalion 12th Reinforcements

Enlisted 22.7.1915 Liverpool, KIA 5.10.17 Ypres, Belgium.

Norman Page Harris was born 21.12.1895 at "Spring Farm", Temora Rd, Young, the second son of William Harris, a farmer and Lucy née Whitechurch. He and the third son Frederick Charles Harris were **baptised at St John's church**, Young on 4 July 1899, by 'N.H.P.'. Norman attended Milong school.



Norman Page HARRIS enlisted 22.7.1915 with his eldest brother William John Harris. His age was 19 years 7 months, a labourer, not married, he had not done any prior service because he was in an 'exempt area' (farming, supplying food for the nation, which meant he did not have to enlist!) He signed 'NP Harris' 23.7.1915.

Like his brother Willy, he was recorded as a 'native of Young district', and a 'Natural born British subject'. No permission letters from parents are filed even though he was only 19.

Norman's '**Description** on enlistment' on 23.7.15, was complexion ruddy, eyes hazel, good; hair brown, Religion 'Bapt' <Baptised>. He had no distinctive marks. His height was 5'9½", weight 154 lbs (11 stone) and chest expansion 33-36".

Norman's Certificate of **Medical Examination** was dated 22.7.15, Sydney.

The '**Certificate of Attesting Officer**' and the **Oath** were signed at Liverpool, 23.7.1915.

Norman must have gone on 'extended sick leave' soon after entering camp. (He was recovering from **pneumonia** when Willy died on 27.9.1915). He was farewelled on 23.1.1915 at Milong School and presented with 'a solid silver military wristlet watch, with luminous dial, set of military brushes in case, and purse of silver to provide himself with a sheepskin vest,' and then returned to Liverpool camp.

On 30.12.1915 he 'embarked at Sydney' on HMAT A7 MEDIC, departing 7.1.16 after being appointed to **3rd Battalion 12th Reinforcement** on 5.1.16.

On 17.3.16 he was 'Taken on Strength' at Serapeum (Egypt), and on

22.3.16 embarked on *HMTS GRAMPLAN*, ex Alexandria to join the BEF (British Expeditionary Force). On 28.3.16 he **disembarked at Marseilles, France.**

On 22.7.1915, or soon after, he was **'Wounded in Action' in France. (POZIÈRES) 'GSW head'**... and on 25/26th admitted to hospital at Le Treport. On 2.8.16 he was 'Transfd from No7 CanG.Hosp to No3Con Depot at Le Treport. On 4.8.16 he was 'Discharged to Duty to Base' and marched into Etaples next day. On 18.8.1916 a cable was sent to W. Harris **'Regret ... son Private Norman P. Harris wounded....'** and the reply to Lucy's 3.9.1916 letter on 19.9.1916 was 'nature of wounding and what hospital not known here'!

On 8 October Norman rejoined his Unit in the field in Belgium but just one day later was **'Wounded in Action, Belgium', Reninghelst? near Ypres, '2nd occasion'**, 'Adm 2ndAF Amb', **'SW L thigh'** and transferred to CCS, Belgium, then on 12 October 3rd CanGH, Boulogne and embarked on *HS Panama* to England next day. (**BW Thigh/ Bomb wd L/thigh**)

On 15/18.10.16 he was 'Adm 3rd Lond Gen Hosp Wandsworth **BW L Thigh'/R thigh.**

On 31.10.16 notice was sent to Norman's father: '... Private N.P. Harris was admitted to the 3rd London General Hospital on 15.10.16 suffering from **'bomb** wound thigh (which thigh NOT STATED), mild (Wounded 2nd occasion.)' On 1.11.16 Trans from 3rd Lon Gen Hos to 2nd Aux Hosp gsw l thigh [**BuWd L/Leg (thigh)**]. On 4.11.16 Disch from 2nd Aux Hosp to Wareham. (BuWd L/Thigh/ bwrthigh). So which thigh was injured and how is not clear.

It was **a very tough time for Norman in April / May 1917 at Wareham**, knowing he was to be sent back to the front after having been injured twice. He went AWL (2-14.4.1917), suffered scabies (19-24.4.1917), rejoined his Unit 27.4.1917, then went AWL twice more (2-3.5.1917 and 14-29.5.1917). For these three quite out of character AWLs he was first awarded 8 days detention and was in custody awaiting trial 1 day with total forfeiture 22 days pay, £5.10.0; next:7 days detention and was in custody awaiting trial 3 days with total forfeiture 12 days pay, £3.0.0; last:16 days detention, and he was in custody awaiting trial 9 days with total forfeiture 41 days pay, \$10.5.0.

On 13.7.1917 Norman wrote his **Will**, leaving everything to his mother. A week later he marched out from 'No4 ComDep' Codford England, 'to o/seas tng Btn Perham Downs' and on 4.8.1917 from there proceeded via Folkestone overseas to France. He had been in England recovering for over 9 months.

On 6.8.1917 he 'marched into Havre from England' and on 21.8.1917 he 'rejoined 3rd Btn in France' (from wounded). 45 days later he was dead. On 4.10.17 he was '**wounded in action**', 'in the field', in the front line, ('**3rd occasion**'), **Ypres, Belgium near Anzac Trench**. (Appears to be in the Battle of Broodseinde Ridge.)

On 5.10.17 he was 'Adm 3rd AFAmb' and 'Trans to 10CasCStn' and that day '**DIED OF WOUNDS 'sustained in action,'** 'Shrap wds' both thighs, at **10th Casualty Clearing Station, Belgium. KIA**. He was BURIED in Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, **Belgium**, Plot 20, Row H, Grave 6A. The **Anglican clergy** informed NOK of his death.

Norman's personal 'effects, **religious book, photos, cards, letters**', were sent to 'LEGATEE' Mrs Lucy Harris on 4.2.18 from the *Gilgai* ex 3rd Echelon France. (Received 19.9.18)

His awards: Memorial Scroll and Kings Message, Memorial Plaque or Death Penny and Victory Medal (received by W. Harris) and 1914/ 15 Star and British War Medal.

***He is remembered** on the marble headstone for his bother William John Harris at Young Cemetery and with brother on the brass cross now kept at Hampstead Church (See photos for William John Harris), at St John's, Young, St Saviour's Cathedral, Goulburn, AWM (N.P. Harris, Panel 36), Milong School Honour Board, and at Young Town Hall.*

Detail: Young Town Hall Foyer: **THE TOWN AND DISTRICT'S TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO VOLUNTEERED ...** N.P. Harris and Jas W. Harris (incorrectly), but not W. J. Harris. Detail: Young Town Hall Foyer: **IN MEMORY OF THE HEROIC DEAD** ERECTED BY COMRADES showing two Harris names...N.P. and James W. Harris (incorrectly) but not W.J. Harris. NO James W. Harris or Jas.W Harris enlisted from Young:

Honour Roll of Milong Public School. 'In honour of the old boys of this school who served the Empire in the Great War....' Detail of RH panel: **Harris N.P. killed...Harris W.J. deceased...** (now in Young Museum)

References: *Young Witness, Young Chronicle*, War records for Private Norman Page Harris, Unit diaries, St John's Baptisms 1864-1922, p.138, Nos 440, 441. (William John is p. 92).

Photo of Norman Page Harris: Nerrida Feeney
Information provided by Janice Ward.

2383 Private HARRIS “Willy” William John

17th Australian Infantry Battalion, 5th Reinforcements



Brothers, Norman (standing) and William Harris

Willy was the first son of William Harris, farmer, and Lucy Harris née Whitechurch of ‘Spring Farm’ Temora Road, Young.

Willy, a labourer, was 22 years and 9 months old when he and his younger Brother, 4038 Private HARRIS Norman Page, enlisted together, at Liverpool, on 22 July 1915.

Willy died of pneumonia, 27 September 1915, in the Field Camp Hospital, Liverpool. He is buried in the Young Cemetery.



*Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium
Resting place of*

4038 Private HARRIS Norman Page

Photo by AWM



*Willy's grave stone, Young Cemetery
Photo by Lindsay Swadling*

5035 Corporal HINTON Ernest Henry

20th Australian Infantry Battalion, 13th Reinforcements

Ernest was born in Young. His parents were Robert and Eleanor Hinton of 'Westhorpe' Tubbul.

Ernest enlisted at Casula on 22 December 1915 aged 24 years and 2 months. He was noted as single, a grocer, and a shunter with NSW Railways. His Father is recorded as his next of kin.

Ernest embarked on HMAT A31 *Ajana* departing Sydney 5 July 1916, arriving in Plymouth 31 August 1916. He left England on 21 October arriving in France on 23 October 1916. He was taken on strength 1st Battalion in the field at Etalles on 7 November 1916.



Ernest was promoted to Lance Corporal, in the field, on 16 March 1917; attended Sniping School in June 1917; and promoted to Corporal on 29 August 1917.

On 6 October 1917 Ernest was reported as wounded in action in the Battle of Polygon Wood, near Ypres, on 2 October 1917. On 7 November 1917 he was formally reported killed in action in Belgium on 2 October 1917. His will was dated 18 July 1917 leaving his effects to two Sisters, Miss Grace Hinton and Miss Carrie Hinton of 'Westhorpe' Tubbul via Young.

Known unto God. Ernest has no known grave; his name is etched on the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres, panel seven. Ernest's name is on his Mother's gravestone in the Young Cemetery.

Ernest's Medals, the 1914-15 Star, British War, and Victory, were consigned to his Father who duly received them 13 October 1922. His memorial Plaque and Scroll were received by his Father on 16 March 1923.

The family made a claim through Manchester Unity Independent Order of Odd Fellows which sought a report from Defence on the death of Ernest Hinton, that was duly provided on 10 April 1918.

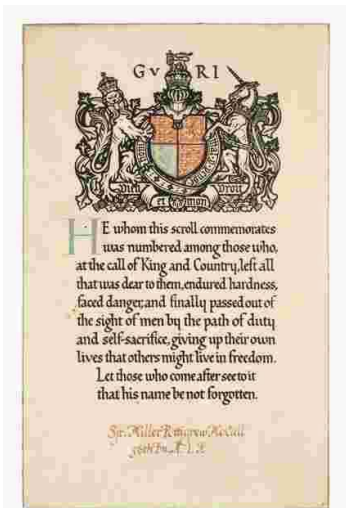
The Hinton family were enthusiastic workers for wartime appeals. Ernest's Sister was an entrant in a Queen competition to raise money for the Clock Tower Memorial at the Town Hall in Young.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

WW1 War Memorial Tower and Clock on the Town Hall building, Young NSW, all of which were unveiled on 31 May 1924. In a niche in the tower front is a statue of an Australian soldier on the alert.

www.awm.gov.au/collection/H17867



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

REL41097.004

1914–1918 Memorial Scroll

In 1922 a Memorial Scroll was presented to the next of kin of those soldiers, sailors, and nurses who died while serving in the Australian Imperial Force or Royal Australian Navy during the First World War.

The Memorial Scroll bears the Royal Coat of Arms and a message paying tribute to the soldiers who gave up "their own lives that others might live in freedom".

www.awm.gov.au/articles/encyclopedia/memorial_scroll

7475 Private HOPWOOD Robert Francis

2nd Australian Infantry Battalion 25th Reinforcements

Robert was the son of George William and Kathleen Frances Hopwood of the Post Office, Wallendbeen. He was born in Young in September 1987.

Robert enlisted in Cootamundra 26 April 1917 at the stated age of 19 years and 8 months. His next of kin was his Father, George.

Robert embarked on HMAT A20 *Hororata* on 14 June 1917. He was hospitalised on the ship, arriving in Liverpool on 26 August 1917 and was sent to the 1st Training Battalion. He arrived in France from Southampton on 17 January 1918. Marching into his Unit, in the field, in Havre on 23 January 1918.

Robert was hospitalised, in France, with influenza on 6 February 1918. He returned to active service in the field on 8 June 1918.

Robert was killed in action in France 23 August 1918, aged 21. It was reported, at the time, he was buried at Harbonnieres.

In 1919 Robert's family was formally advised he was buried Plot 5, Row C, Heath Cemetery, Harbonnieres, Picardie, France.

Robert's Father receipted his medals, the 1914-15 Star, the British War and the Victory; and his Memorial Scroll and Paque.



*Robert's Headstone
Heath Cemetery, France*

Robert is related to Ian Hopwood of Young.

2435 Private JENNINGS Leslie Raymond

55th Australian Infantry Battalion 5th Reinforcements

Leslie was born in Young and attended school at Sawpit Gully Public School near Young.

Leslie enlisted at Goulburn 1 May 1916, aged 21 years and 7 months. He was a trainee in the 18th Field Artillery Battery, Australian Militia (Citizen Military Force) prior to enlistment. His records say he was Church of England, a single man, and a farmer. His next of kin was his Father, Edmond Jennings of Back Creek Road Young.

Leslie embarked from Sydney on board HMAT A60 *Aeneas* on 30 September 1916. He left Folkestone, on board the HMT *Princess Victoria*, for France on 12 December 1916. Marching into the 55th on 8 February 1917.

Leslie was wounded in the thigh, by shrapnel, in the field in France, on 4 July 1918. He was sent to hospital in England on 10 July 1918. His next of kin was advised he was wounded, and in hospital, on 18 July 1918. He was discharged from hospital in September and sent on furlough in England.



Leslie was re-admitted to hospital, on 8 November 1918, with influenza. His Father was advised he was being returned to Australia on 17 January 1919. He returned to Fremantle, disembarking the AWM244 *Bakara* on 6 February 1919.

Leslie died in the Fremantle Base Hospital from tuberculosis on 4 March 1919, aged 24. He is buried in the Fremantle Cemetery.

*Leslie's headstone,
Fremantle Cemetery WA
Photo Kitty, findagrave.com*

3162 Private JOHNSON Frank

36th Australian Infantry Battalion 8th Reinforcements

Frank was born at Spring Hill, Young in May 1889 to Jesse and Alice Eva Johnson. He attended Wambanumba Public School, near Young.

Frank, a labourer, enlisted in Goulburn, on 13 September 1916 aged 27 years and 4 months. His next of kin was his Father, Jesse, of Spring Hill via Young. Frank's Brother, 3101 Trooper JOHNSON Henry, enlisted on 14 November 1916.

Frank embarked from Sydney on HMAT A29 *Suenic* on 11 November 1916. He arrived in France on 23 August 1917. Marching into 36th Battalion on 1 September 1917.

Frank was wounded in action in Belgium on 12 October 1917. He was transferred to England onboard the Hospital Ship *St Denis* on 16 October 1917.



*Frank's Headstone
Cambridge City Cemetery*

Frank died 20 October 1917 at the 1st Eastern Cambridge General Hospital, UK, aged 28 years from a shrapnel wound to his face, shock, sepsis and hemorrhage.

Frank is buried in Cambridge City Cemetery, grave number 5640, Cambridge, England UK.

Frank's Medals the British War, 1914-15 Star and Victory, and his Memorial Plaque and Memorial Scroll were sent to his Father.

WW1 Australian Army Badge



Proudly worn by soldiers of the 1st and 2nd Australian Imperial Force in both World Wars, the 'Rising Sun' badge has become an integral part of the digger tradition. The badge was originally called the General Service Badge, but is now officially labelled the Australian Army Badge. It will, however, always be referred to as the **Rising Sun Badge**.

Information from: www.army.gov.au

3101 Trooper JOHNSON Henry

4th Australian Camel Battalion 11th Reinforcements

Henry was born near Young to Jesse and Alice Eva Johnson. Henry was Church of England, single, working as a waiter, and living in Murrumburrah.

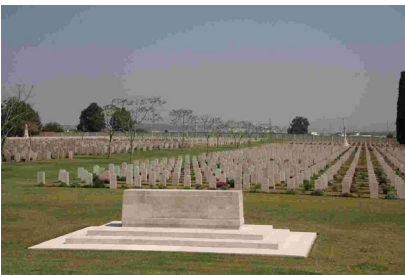
Henry enlisted in Murrumburrah, on 14 November 1916 at the stated age of 18 years 9 months. Henry's Brother, 3162 Private JOHNSON Frank, enlisted 13 September 1916. Henry's next of kin was his Father, Jesse, of Spring Hill, Young.

Henry embarked from Sydney on board HMAT A15 *Port Sydney* on 9 May 1917. Disembarked Suez 20 June 1917.



Henry was killed in action on 4 December 1917, by a gunshot wound to the head. He died near Hill 265 Jaffa, Palestine. Henry's rank, on the Nominal Roll, at the time of his death was Corporal. His record says he was promoted to Lance Corporal 9 November 1917, in the field in Moascar.

Henry was buried in the Camel Brigade Cemetery by C Scott-Little near where he fell on 4 December 1917. On 7 January 1919 Henry's Father was advised: *"It has been found necessary to exhume the bodies buried in the area in which you were advised your son was interred and re-bury them."* Henry's body was moved to Wilhelma Military Cemetery, 9 1/2 miles east of Jaffa, Palestine. The Australian War Memorial records Henry as being buried at the Ramleh War Cemetery, Ramla, Israel.



Henry and Frank are Margaret Davis's Great Uncle's. Pam Warren is also a Great Niece and confirmed we had the right Johnson's.

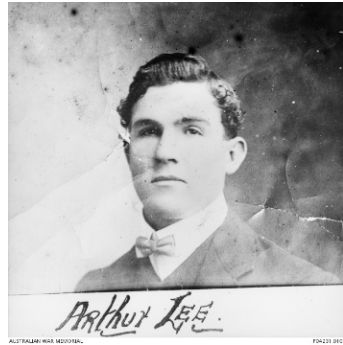
*Ramleh War Cemetery, Israel
Resting place of
3101 Trooper JOHNSON H*

450 Sergeant LEE “Leo” Arthur

1st Australian Field Artillery Brigade 3rd Battery

Arthur was born in Tamworth the son of William Southworth Lee and Matilda Lee. Prior to his enlistment he worked as a foreman at a timber yard in Young.

Leo enlisted 24 August 1914 and embarked from Sydney aboard HMAT A8 *Argyllshire* on 18 October 1914. His next of kin was his Mother, Mrs W S Lee, care of Mrs Spencer, Livingston Road, Marrickville.



Leo arrived in Alexandria on board the SS *Caledonia* 22 December 1915. He was promoted to Corporal on 1 March 1916 in Tel-el Kebiri. He saw active service in Marseilles, Alexandria and Caestre. Leo was promoted to Sergeant on 12 June 1916. He was hospitalised 26 August 1916 for pyoderma, returning to duty 2 September 1916.

Leo died on 16 November 1916 aged 32 of (multiple) wounds received at Flers, France. He is buried in the Bernafay Wood British Cemetery, Montauban de Picardie, France.

Bernafay Wood British Cemetery
Resting place of
450 Sergeant LEE A
Photo: ww1cemeteris.com

Leo was a Drum Major in the Young Town Band. On Sunday 3 February 1918, a large crowd of people gathered to hear the Town Band play at Carrington Park and to raise money to build new gates in remembrance of Arthur and his fellow bandmen, including 4171 Private DIROU Frederick Ignatius who died in France 14 May 1918.



697 Driver MARINA Bertie William

1 Field Artillery Brigade

Bertie was a member of one of the best known and most highly respected families in the Young district. He was born on 20 November 1886 near Monteagle. The grandson of Mr and Mrs Carlo Marina of 'Moppity', Young. The son of Mr William and Mrs Helen Marina nee Taylor of 'Verana', Young. His Brother and Sisters were Mr EB Marina, Mrs FA Selden and Mrs MM Laxen. Bertie was very fond of sport and occupied a prominent position at different times on the Young Turf Club and the Young Gun Club.

Bertie was one of the first to enlist for Service in the war on 4 September 1914, aged 29. He embarked on the HMAT A8 *Argyllshire* from Sydney on 18 October 1914 enroute to Egypt with the first contingent of the Australian Imperial Force.

Bertie was injured at the Gallipoli Peninsula on 24 June 1915, receiving a gunshot wound to the left leg. He spent several weeks in the No.1 Australian General Hospital, Heliopolis, Egypt, before returning to his Unit, on light duties, on 7 October 1915.



On 10 December 1915 Bertie was re-admitted to hospital, in Egypt, with a fractured skull. On 9 February 1916 he embarked from the Suez onboard the HMAT A71 *Nester* bound for Australia.

Bertie suffered much as a consequence of his injuries. After being invalided home in April 1916, he died on 13 September 1920 and is buried in the Young Cemetery.

697 Driver MARINA Bertie lies with his Grandfather at Young Cemetery
Photo Brian Allan

1030 Corporal METCALFE Arnold “Selwyn”

1st Australian Light Horse Regiment 6th Reinforcements



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL P0541 0.000

Born in Young on 16 January 1894, Selwyn was the sixth son of Charles Joseph and Annie Laurie Metcalfe of ‘Orakei’, Young.

Selwyn went to Young High School and spent 3 years as Corporal, NSW Senior Cadets. He was a Bank Clerk and moved around with his job, spending time at Cowra, Eugowra, Narrandera, and Stockinbingal.

Selwyn enlisted on 15 February 1915 aged 21 years and 2 months. He embarked aboard HMAT A65 *Clan McKewan*, 28 June 1915, for active service abroad.

Selwyn saw service in Gallipoli from the end of September 1915 until the evacuation. He then took part in the campaign in Syria and Palestine, being engaged in the battles of Romani and El Arish and the capture of Jerusalem. Selwyn was promoted in the field at Romani, to Lance Corporal 18 August 1916, and to Corporal 8 November 1918.

Selwyn went on to Bethlehem and the Jordon where he was killed in action on 19 April 1918, aged 24. He was injured by an high explosive while on reconnaissance and never recovered consciousness.

It was reported Selwyn was buried on the banks of the Jordan River but he may have been interred in Jerusalem.



Known unto God. Selwyn is remembered at the Jerusalem War Cemetery Memorial, Israel, and on the Bank of NSW Roll of Honour, Sydney.

Jerusalem War Cemetery
Memorial place of
1030 Corporal METCALFE A S
Photo: rutlandremembers.org



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P12313.002

Selwyn reading his mail

A great letter writer, a Collection relating to Selwyn's Service with the 1 Australian Light Horse Regiment, Palestine, Egypt, 1916-1918 is held by the Australian War Memorial. It consists of copies of ten letters written by Corporal Metcalfe, while on active service, to his Brother, Harry, in Australia. Also in the collection is a photostat copy of a letter of condolence written by Trooper Thomas Stephen Walsh, 1 Light Horse Regiment, to Harry Metcalfe, Selwyn's Brother.

After his death, Selwyn's Mother, Laura A Metcalfe, received letters from members of Selwyns Squadron (B) 1st Light Horse, providing particulars of his death and burial.

She wrote to tell Selwyn's Command:

"He was hit by a shell on the head and with his horse, killed almost instantaneously – never recovering consciousness. They also report that he was buried on the banks of the River Jordan.

Those who wrote were Sergeant V Harris, Trooper H Harris, and Trooper Bertie Lamb whom I know well. My son and the latter were close together when my boy fell, so I think I shall not ask you to make any further enquires as Sergeant Harris is also known well by two of my daughters and would not be likely to be mistaken."

Selwyn's Mother, Laura A. Metcalfe, was renowned in Young and other towns for her services to Charities such as the Benevolent Society and in particular as Secretary of the Local Red Cross Branch both during and after World War 1. She also formed the Girl's Sewing Circle which later became the Junior Red Cross. Laura worked with others to have a statue created of a Digger as a memorial to those who lost their lives and was recognised for her contribution to the War effort and Returned Soldiers by a Plaque which is now in the Young Museum which reads:

"AS A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION OF THE SPLENDID SERVICES RENDERED BY THE LATE LAURA A. METCALFE ERECTED BY THE R.S AND S.L. LEAGUE YOUNG SUBBRANCH 28-1-1934"

**Information provided by
Laura Metcalfe and Elsa Sorensen**

5155 Private MILLER “Dot” George Edward

1st Infantry Battalion 16th Reinforcements

George was born in Young on 27 August 1885. He was the 5th of 11 children born to Matthew Miller and Anna Mary Spliet.

George enlisted on 17 September 1915 aged 30 years and 1 month. He was single and a tailor, apprenticed to Lazzarini’s in Young. George’s next of kin was his Father, Matthew, of Currawong Street, Young.

George embarked from Australia on 1 April 1916 on the HMAT SS *Makarini*, disembarking Suez 2 May 1916.

George was reported killed in action in France between 22 and 25 July 1916. In June 1918, a fellow soldier responded to a Red Cross inquiry into George’s death stating he was killed in battle on 23 July 1916.

“MILLER Pte G 5155

Killed in Action. 23-7-16

Came from Australia, on same boat as myself “Makarini” 8-4-16. He was in C Company. Our battn. Was attacking at Poziers, in front of the village, when I saw him killed by a shell, in the early morning of 23-7-16. I was only about ten yards away from him, when he fell, killed instantly, being hit in the head and chest. The same day he was buried, where he fell: by the Padre of our Brigade, Capt McKenzie, myself assisting. A cross suitably inscribed was erected by our Battn. He came from Sydney. Was called Dot by his mates.

*DESCRIPTION: Medium height, Stout,
Dark complexion, going bald.*

*INFORMANT Pte BJ Parsons,
1st Battn AIF”*

George is remembered on the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France.

*Villers Bretonneux Memorial, France
Memorial for
3762 Private BRIGGS F
2nd Lieutenant BURSTAL R
3750 Private FOOTS W J
5155 Private MILLER G E
814 Bombardier MOSS J
6103 Private VINCENT P J
Photo: Wikipedia.com*



2361 Trooper MILLER Bertie Frederic

7th Light Horse Brigade 16th Reinforcements

Bertie was born at Monteagle near Young. His next of kin was his Mother, Amelia Miller of 'Tenley' Nasmyth Street, Young.

Bertie enlisted on 17 July 1915, aged 28 years and 11 months. His attestation papers say he was a shunter with the railways.

Bertie embarked on the HMAT A56 *Palermo* from Sydney on 18 APRIL 1916, marching into the 2nd Light Horse Regiment Tel-el-Kebir, Egypt, on 10 June 1916. Bertie is recorded as being in Moascar, Marakeb, El-Fukhari, Kazar, Rafa, Kantara, Abbassia, and Montazah, with his Regiment.

Bertie contracted malaria, in the field in Ludd. He was admitted to hospital in Kantara with pyrexia on 20 July 1918.

Bertie embarked the SS *Kildonan Castle* bound for Australia, from Suez, on 2 April 1919. He was discharged, 50% invalidity, by 2 Military District, Sydney on 15 April 1919.

Bertie died of appendicitis and peritonitis on 20 February 1921 at No 4 Australian General Hospital, Randwick.

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War and Victory.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

HI1571

The British hospital ship SS Kildonan Castle arriving with wounded Australian servicemen from overseas. Ladies of the Australian Red Cross are on the wharf waiting to render their aid as required. (Donor Sydney Mail)

814 Bombardier MOSS Joel

4th Division Trench Mortar Battery

Joel was born in Lancashire, England in about 1893. A farmworker, he was the son of Francis and Martha Moss of Grenfell Road Young.

Joel enlisted at Holsworthy on 15 December 1914, at the stated age of 21. He embarked from Sydney on HMAT A6 *Clan Maccorquodale* on 6 February 1915 joining his Unit, the 1st Light Horse Regiment in Gallipoli on 15 July 1915.

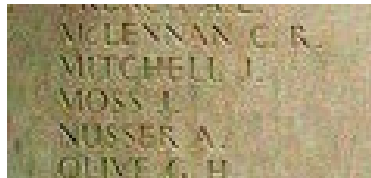
Joel suffered from ill health and was hospitalised in Gallipoli with influenza on 15 July 1915. He rejoined his Unit at Madros but was hospitalised again, in Heliopolis, with influenza and enteric fever on 1 January 1916.

Joel was discharged from hospital and on 16 April 1916 and transferred to 4th Trench Mortar Battery, Serapeum, Egypt. Moving to Marselles, France onboard the HMT *Oriana* 13 June 1916. Joel entered the training school before rejoining the 4th Division Trench Motor Battery on 19 July 1916. He was promoted to Bombardier on 24 July 1916.

Joel was killed in action 5 May 1917 with approximately 80 other men from his Company, in front of Noreuil on the Somme near Bullecourt, when a shell exploded an ammunitions dump. Many of the only 20 survivors remembered the incident and Joel's death. 1870 Gunner KING recalled:

"I was close by him when he was killed. He was on guard at a dump about half a mile from Bullecourt on an outpost. The dump was blown up by a shell. His body was recovered and buried close by, by members of the Batty. I believe a cross was erected. I knew him in the batty. He came over with a Light Horse Regiment from Australia. He came from NSW."

Joel is remembered at Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, Picardie, France.



424 Lance Corporal MYALL Ambrose Geoffrey

2nd Australian Infantry Battalion

Ambrose was born in Surrey, United Kingdom. His vocation was a Mechanical Engineer. He had completed 15 months of an apprenticeship with Wilson and Pilcher in Westminster, before coming to Australia.

Ambrose was 28 years and 8 months old when he enlisted, at Randwick, on 24 August 1914. His address on enlistment was care of AR Middlemiss, Nasmyth Street, Young. His next of kin was recorded as Mr HT Friswell, Flatford, East Bergholt, Suffolk, UK.

Ambrose embarked from Sydney, HMAT A23 *Suffolk* 18 October 1914, arriving at Alexandria 8 December 1914.

In March 1915 Ambrose was admitted to hospital. He died of pneumonia on 11 March 1915 at Mena in Egypt. He is buried in the British Protestant Cemetery, Cairo.

Ambrose's personal effects, his wallet, wrist-watch, papers, knife, keys on key-ring, chocolate box containing postcards, pocket wallet, diary, and letters, were sent to Mr Friswell. They were delayed getting to the right address being sent to Surrey instead of Suffolk.

Ambrose received the 1914-15 Star Medal, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. These along with his Memorial Plaque were sent to Mr Friswell in England.



*British Protestant Cemetery
Cairo, Egypt
Resting place of
424 L Corporal MYALL A*

2250 Ordinary Signalman 2nd Class NIXON Oscar

HMAS *Australia*, Royal Australian Navy.

Oscar Harold was born in Warialda on 19 December 1897, to parents, Richard Nixon, a school teacher, and Jessie Douglas Nixon nee Cavanagh.

Oscar enlisted with the Royal Australian Navy at Sydney at the age of 14 years 6 months. His next of kin was his Father, Richard, at Tipperary Public School.

Oscar joined HMAS *Tingira* on 2 October 1912 as Boy 2nd Class. He was promoted to Signal Boy 13 July 1913 and Ordinary Signalman 2nd Class 19 December 1914.



Oscar died on 25 March 1915, aged 17 years and 8 months, from pneumonia at Rosyth, Fife, Scotland. Oscar is buried at Queensferry Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Oscar's death is acknowledged at the Australian War Memorial, the Soldier's Memorial Clock Tower Young, St John's Anglican Church Young, and HMAS *Cerberus* Protestant Chapel of St Mark, Crib Point, Victoria.

*Memorial to WW1 Australian Soldiers
and Nurses who rest in the UK Memorial,
Queensferry Cemetery, Edinburgh*
Photo: ww1austburialsuk.weebly.com

HMAS *Tingira* originally the *Sobraon*, was a training vessel commissioned into the Royal Australian Navy 25 April 1912. She was decommissioned on 30 June 1927. 3,158 boys were trained for naval service on the *Tingira*. Up to 250 boys between the ages of 14½ and 16 could be trained at any one time.



5744 Private POPLIN “Guy” William

2nd Australian Infantry Battalion, 18th Reinforcements

Guy was born in 1887 at Coolabah Station, Nyngan. He was the 3rd and youngest son of Mr Alfred Poplin (deceased) and Mrs Louisa Poplin nee Besnard. Guy attended Young District School.

Guy enlisted on 10 January 1916 at Cootamundra, as a Dentist. His next of kin was his Mother, Louisa Poplin, Edward Street, Young. He embarked on HMAT A55 *Kyarra* on 5 June 1916 from Sydney, arriving Plymouth on 3 August.

On 23 September Guy embarked for France and on 1 October, was taken on strength of 1st Australian Brigade, 1st Division, 1st Battalion (ABDB) at Staples. On 13 October he joined 2nd Battalion. He was at the School of Instruction from 21 June to 21 August. On 19 September 1916 Guy went on furlough for a month.

On 17 January 1917, Guy was detailed for duty with the Dental Corps and returned to his Unit 8 December 1917. On 28 February 1918 he went on leave to Paris for a month.

Guy's medical records indicate he first became ill, in France on 26 March 1918. He was transferred from the field to 3rd Canadian General Hospital on 31 March; sent to Hillsborough Red Cross Hospital England aboard the HMS *Brighton* on 2 April; to the 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital Dartford on 20 May; and finally left England for Australia on 7 June 1918.

Guy arrived in Sydney, on the Hospital Transport SS *Essex*, on 1 August 1918 where his illness was specified as nephritis. He was discharged from the Army before being admitted to 4th Australian General Hospital Randwick on 4 September 1918.

Guy died in Randwick hospital of uricemia and chronic nephritis on 23 October 1918, aged 30 years. His funeral was held in St John's Anglican Church Young. He is buried in the Young Cemetery (D4 – 4). His death certificate describes Guy as a Soldier and a Dentist.



Young Cemetery
Resting place
 5744 Private POPLIN W G

A Young Witness newspaper report Tuesday 29 October 1918 says of Guy, and his funeral:

“When the sad news reached Young the sorrow was general for the deceased was exceedingly popular and known to almost everybody in the town. . . he engaged in the dental profession and when he enlisted about two years ago, sacrificed his life’s prospects to serve the Empire and to uphold the fair name of his native land. . . the service seemed more solemn than usual, for the realisation came to many that neath the flag hidden coffin reposed what was mortal of one whose life had been given for every person present within the church’s sacred walls.”

Tyne Cot British Cemetery,
Belgium
Resting place of
 2656 Private WALLACE A B



Warlencourt British Cemetery
France
Resting place of
 5302 Private BOLTON H E
 Photo Alan Kitchen

3414A Private STAUNTON Dennis Joseph

53rd Australian Infantry Battalion

Born in Young, Dennis, a tinsmith, was the son of Patrick and Margaret Staunton. He enlisted at Cootamundra on 29 July 1915 stating his age as 18 years 10 months. His next of kin was his Father Patrick Staunton of Cloete Street, Young.

Dennis was allotted to 1st Training Battalion and embarked from Sydney on HMAAT A14 *Euripides* on 2 November 1915. He was taken on strength of 53rd Battalion at Tel-El-Kebir on 16 February 1916. He embarked Alexandria on the Troop Ship SS *Royal George* on 19 June, arriving in Marseilles 28 June 1916.

Dennis was posted missing in action on 28 July 1916 in France. A Field Court of Enquiry held by 53rd Battalion on 2 September 1917 confirmed he was killed in action on the battlefield on 19 July 1916.

Dennis was buried in Ration Farm New Military Cemetery, plot 6, row D, la Chapelle D' Armentieres, France. Only his identity disc was able to be returned to his Father.



Mitchell Sim has updated Dennis' details on vwma.org.au to say that he was only 16 when he enlisted and 17 when he was killed in action.

*Ration Farm New Military Cemetery,
La Chapelle-d-Armentieres, France
Resting Place of
3414A Private STAUNTON D J*

1217 Lance Corporal STOREY William Thomas

Imperial Camel Corps, 4th ANZAC Regiment

William, a farmer, was born at 'Hope Farm' Young in 1896 to Mr William and Mrs Henrietta Storey. He attended Burrangong Heights (Public School) Young.

William enlisted at Liverpool on 18 January 1916, aged 21 years and 4 months. His next of kin was Mrs Henrietta Tattersall, Wombat Road, Young. He embarked Sydney 19 August 1916 on the RMS *Mooltan*, joining the Imperial Camel Corps in Abbassia on 15 November 1916.

William was admitted to 14th Australian General Hospital Abbassia on 13 April 1918 with malaria. He was moved to the 70th General Hospital Cairo on 11 May 1918 and was said to be dangerously ill on 23 May 1918.

William died of enteric fever on 31 May 1918 in the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Choubra, Egypt. William is buried in Cairo War Memorial Cemetery, Row O, Grave 181, Egypt.



*Cairo War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt
Resting place of
1217 Lance Corporal STOREY W T*

The Imperial Camel Corps Brigade

Formed in 1916 from British and Commonwealth troops and was attached to the Anzac Mounted Division. There were four regiments: the 1st and 3rd were Australian, the 2nd was British, and the 4th was a mix of New Zealanders and Australians. Each regiment had around 770 men, and at full strength the brigade contained almost 4,000 camels. In 1917 the brigade took part in the fighting at Gaza and Beersheba in Palestine. By the following year the country's harsh terrain had made the camels less effective than horses. No longer needed, the Australian cameliers were transferred to the light horse. [The Imperial Camel Corps | Australian War Memorial \(awm.gov.au\)](http://www.awm.gov.au)

1868 Private THOMPSON William John

36th Australian Infantry Battalion, 2nd Reinforcement

William was born near the town of Rocky Ponds, Queensland. A farmer, living near Galong, he enlisted at Cootamundra on 16 March 1916, aged 40. His next of kin was his Mother, Mrs Christina McGrory, of Demondrille Siding, Murrumburrah.

William embarked on the HMAT A15 *Port Sydney*, from Sydney, on 4 September 1916 arriving in Plymouth on 29 October 1916.

William proceeded to France from Folkestone on the *Princess Victoria* on 19 December 1916 arriving Etaples on 23 December. He marched into 36th Battalion on 18 January 1917.

William was reported missing in action, Belgium on 12 October 1917. A Court of Enquiry held on 4 April 1918 determined William had been killed in action in the field near Passchendaele on 12 October 1917, however there was no record of where he was buried.

William's Medals, the 1914-15 Star, British War and Victory were issued to his Mother, Christina, in January 1923.

On 8 July 1925 the Officer in Charge of Base Records wrote to William's Mother telling her they had found his remains:



*Aeroplane Cemetery, Ypres
Resting place of
1868 Private THOMPSON W J*

“Dear Madam, With further reference to the report of the regrettable loss of your son, the late 1868 Pte WJ Thompson, 36th Battalion, I am now in receipt of advice that the Imperial War Graves commission has been successful in recovering the remains of the late soldier which have since been interred with every measure of care and reverence in the Aeroplane Cemetery Plot 6 Row D Grave 10 situated at Ypres Belgium.”

On 10 August 1925 “a metal disc obtained together with a match box cover” belonging to William were returned to his Mother.

6103 Private VINCENT Phillip John

1st Australian Infantry Battalion, 19th Reinforcements

Phillip was born at Marengo (Murringo).

Phillip, a labourer, enlisted on 14 March 1916 at Cootamundra aged 21. His Brother AJ Vincent was his next of kin on enlistment, but this was later changed to his mother Mrs Elizabeth Jane Vincent of Moppity Road Young. His Father being deceased.

Phillip sailed from Sydney on 22 August 1916 on HMAT A18 *Wiltshire* arriving in Plymouth 13 October 1916. He spent two months at the 1st Training Battalion leaving for France from Folkestone on the SS *Arundel* on 13 December 1916. He was taken on strength of 1st Battalion on 9 January 1917.

Phillip was initially reported killed in action, in the field in France, between the 5th and 8th May 1917, aged about 22 years. There is an unsigned note on his file saying, 'Buried in vicinity of Bullecourt'.

A Red Cross enquiry into Phillip's death in November – December 1917, determined Richard died on 8th May 1917. 3354 Private HUCKLE W reported:

"I saw him killed at Bullecourt [8th May 1917]. He was hit with shell fragments about the body and died instantly. I knew him very well, he was the only man of that name in the Company. We held the ground, but I do not know the place of burial, and I cannot refer to anyone for particulars. He was sure to have been buried near the place of casualty.

Phillip's Brother AJ Vincent signed a receipt for his effects on 9 February 1918. His Mother signed for his medals, the 1914-15 Star, British War and Victory, on 27 March 1923. She was granted a pension of two pounds a fortnight effective 28 July 1917.

Known unto God. Vincent is remembered at the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, Picardie, France.

2656 Private WALLACE “Alec” Alexander Brown

39th Australian Infantry Battalion



Alec, a farm hand, was born in Melbourne, the son of Alexander and Amy Elizabeth Wallace. He was a member of Young Cadets while in High School.

Alec originally signed up for service in Cootamundra on 4 March 1916 but was referred for dental treatment before enlistment on 24 July 1916 at the age of 25 years 11 months. His next of kin was his Father, Alexander, of 224 St John’s Road, Forrest

Lodge. His Brother was 2669 Private WALLACE William Israel Herbert who returned to Australia 4 July 1919.

Alec left Sydney aboard HMAT A24 *Benalla*, in convoy, on 9 November 1916 arriving in Devonport, 9 January 1917. Marching into 10th Training Battalion, Durrington, on 14 January. On 15 March he left England from Folkestone, joining the 39th in Etalles, Northern France on 30 March 1917.

Alec was wounded in action, gassed, on 7 June 1917 and was admitted to West Lanc Field Ambulance, rejoining his Unit in Rouelles on 31 August 1917.

Alec was killed 4 October 1917 during the Battle of Broodseinde, Belgium. His death was confirmed by his Brother, William, who was in a nearby foxhole and saw Alec’s foxhole take a direct hit.

Alec was buried in Ration Farm Military Cemetery as one of the unknown soldiers until 1920 when he was identified by his canteen and had his headstone ‘replaced’ at the Tyne Cot.

Alec’s Father was formally advised on 10 June 1921 that he had been moved to 5 ½ miles east southeast of Ypres, Belgium. The Australian War Memorial records Alec’s final resting place as plot XXIV, Row C, Grave 20, Tyne Cot British Cemetery Passchendaele, Flanders, Belgium.

1759 Private WILLIAMS Lloyd Ernest Cameron

55th Australian Infantry Battalion 2nd Reinforcements

Lloyd was born at Red Bridge near Murrumburrah. The son of Mr John Williams and Mrs Elizabeth Sarah Williams nee Hobson. He was employed as a railway porter at Bowral.

Lloyd enlisted at Goulburn on 25 January 1916 at the stated age of 18 years 6 months. His next of kin was his Mother, Mrs E Simpson, of Redbridge near Murrumburrah.

Lloyd's Brother, 2751 Private WILLIAMS Charles Joseph, enlisted at Goulburn 13 May 1916 into 55th Battalion, 6th Reinforcements. Charles returned to Australia at the end of 1917, discharging from the Army 5 March 1918.

Lloyd embarked at Sydney on the HMAT A40 *Ceramic* on 14 April 1916 spending a few months at the 14th Training Battalion in Southampton before arriving in Etaples France on 9 August 1916 aboard the HMT *Arcadian*. Lloyd marched into the 55th Battalion on 6 October 1916.

Lloyd was admitted to hospital with the mumps in January 1917 at Boulogne. This was the first of many visits to hospital at Etaples, Rouen and Havre, several for the treatment of pyoderma on his right toe.

A Red Cross inquiry in 2018 confirmed Lloyd was killed in action on 28 September 1917 at Polygon Wood, Belgium. Witness 2388 Private CROKER J A, C Company, 55th Battalion stating:

"I saw him killed by shell [28 September 1917] in a shell hole in Polygon Wood, death instantly. He came from Young. I knew his Brother in Goulburn Camp. I was with Lloyd Williams for 6 months same Coy. A single man, about 20. A very nice fellow."

Lloyds Medals, the 1914-15 Star, British War and Victory were, contrary to traditions of the day, sent to his Mother, not his estranged Father, after intervention by local authorities.

Known unto God. Lloyd is remembered at the Menin Gate Memorial (Commonwealth Memorial to the Missing of Ypres Salient), Belgium.

589 Private WOOD “Ted” Wilfred Edgar

36th Battalion, Machine Gun Section



Ted was born near Cooma. The son of NSW Police Sergeant Thomas Wood and Mrs Wood. He had one Sister.

Ted enlisted at Liverpool on 18 January 1916, aged 24 years and 4 months. He was single and a shop assistant living in Young where his Father, and next of kin, Thomas, was appointed to Young Police Station.

Ted embarked HMAT A72 *Beltana* from Sydney on 13 May 1916 to Devonport. He proceeded to France from Southampton on 22 November 1916.

On 1 February 1917 Ted reported sick to 9th Australian Field Ambulance in Boulogne. Suffering from spinal paralysis and shell shock, he was sent to England on the Hospital Ship *Cambria*. Ted was admitted to the Frensham Hill Military Hospital, Surrey. He returned to Rouelles, France on 24 August 1917, marching back into his Unit on 1 September 1917.

Ted was reported missing in action on 12 October 1917 in Belgium. On 27 October 1917 it was determined that Ted had been killed in action on 12 October 1917.

A later inquiry into Ted's death, prompted in part by his Father's request for additional information, provided more details. On 25 April 1918, 3154 Private HORAN Matthew Thomas said:

“Was in D Coy 13th Pltn called Ted. He was next man to me and I saw him lying dead. He was killed by shell and I was wounded by the same shell. It happened at Passchendaele on October 12th. We were just going into the line at the time. I was taken away immediately after, so don't know where he was buried.”

Known unto God. Ted is remembered on the Menin Gate Memorial Ypres, Belgium.

Thank you for your information and support:

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Information Sources:

Great War Scrap Book lent by Mrs Sue Hardy

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

National Archives of Australia

Australian War Memorial

Hilltops Memorial at the Young Town Hall

Young Family History Society

UNSW Canberra ADFA AIF Project

Cemeteries in Young and surrounding villages

Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn

Young District Anglican Ministry



St John's Church, 19 Cloete Street, Young

St Matthew's Church, 27 Hope Street, Wombat

St James' Church, 3453 Milvale Road, Hampstead

St Mark's Church, 22 Third Street, Quandialla

St John's Hall & Meeting Rooms, 23 Cloete Street, Young

St John's Op Shop, 23 Cloete Street, Young

YDAM Parish Office, 23 Cloete Street, Young

Enquiries 02 6382 1811 or stjyoung@bigpond.com

Information www.ydam.com.au