

Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

"We will remember them well"

A CALL FROM THE DARDANELLES



ROLL OF HONOUR

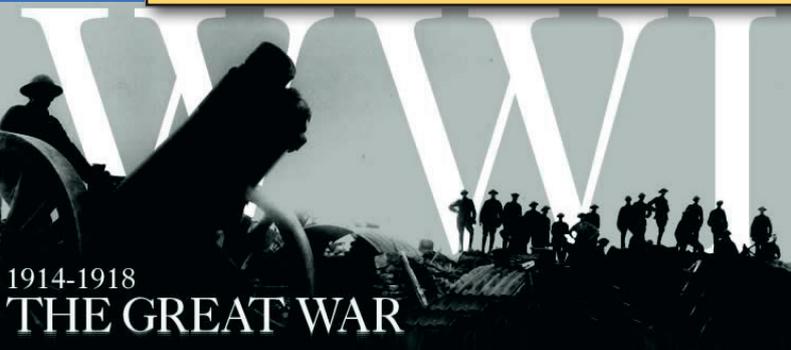
CALLAN, William Henry

Service Number: 241

Rank: Private

*"Coo-ee-
Wont YOU
come?"*

From 1914 - 1918, 465 volunteers from Braidwood and the District
joined the Australian Imperial Force in World War I.
88 lost their lives, never to return home. This is their story.



1914-1918
THE GREAT WAR

100
YEARS OF
ANZAC

THE SPIRIT
LIVES
2014 - 2018

Introduction

This year, 2015, marks the centenary of the start of the Gallipoli campaign and Australia's involvement as a nation in the greatest and most terrible conflict ever seen to that time. Australians joined their Armed Forces in large numbers. Their motives were as varied as their upbringings, from a need to save the Empire, of which Australia was an integral part, to the desire to have a great adventure.

Braidwood and district were no exception. Over the four years from 1914 to 1918, from a population of about 5000, 465 men and women from what is now the 2622 postcode area – including Braidwood, Majors Creek, Araluen, Mongarlowe, Nerriga, Ballalaba and Jembaicumbene joined the Navy or Army. Of these 377 returned to Australia. Sadly, 88 lost their lives.

A varying amount of their history is recorded in the Australian War Memorial. Some of their names, but not all, are recorded on local memorials. More is recorded in limited local histories and newspapers, not readily available to the general public; and the people who lived with and knew these distant relatives are also passing on.

The Braidwood RSL Sub Branch has collected all the information available from the Australian War Memorial and local sources, including the Braidwood Museum. Families, still resident in the district, have added their family knowledge and their precious memorabilia.

This booklet is the available story of **William Henry Callan**, one of the 88 Braidwood volunteers who did not return from World War I. It contains his details as recorded in the World War I Roll of Honour, his Enlistment Papers, Field Service records, any Casualty notification, correspondence relating to his death, details of decorations won, any available photos, and, in some instances, family correspondence or recollections.

William Henry Callan died for his country, for you and for me. Please pause a moment to remember him.

Lest We Forget.

WORLD WAR I

World War I lasted four years, from 4 August 1914 until 11 November 1918. It began after the assassination of the heir to the Austrian throne. The axis powers were Germany and Austria. Russia and France were the initial allies. When Germany invaded Belgium, Britain entered the war on the side of Russia and France.

The war was in Europe, the Western Front was in France and Belgium. The Eastern Front was Russia and Austria-Hungary. Africa was another front because of colonial possessions on that continent, and after Turkey entered the war on 1 November 1914, the Middle East became another theatre of war.

Australians generally thought of themselves as an integral part of the British Empire and the Australian Army and Navy were part of the Imperial Forces. In 1914, Australia's Prime Minister, Andrew Fisher, immediately promised Australian support for Britain 'to the last man and the last shilling.' The Australian population was less than five million. 324,000 Australians served overseas. 61,720 lost their lives. 155,000 were wounded. 4,044 became prisoners of war (397 died while captive).

The first Australian troops were sent to Egypt in 1915. The ANZACS – Australian and New Zealand Army Corps – were engaged in battle on the Gallipoli Peninsula against the Turks to control the Dardanelles' and open the way to Eastern Europe with their fateful landing on 25 April 1915.

The ANZACS were evacuated on 19-20 December 1915. The Gallipoli campaign resulted in the deaths of 7,600 Australians and the wounding of 19,000. Despite the defeat, the legend attached to the heroism, comradeship and valour of the soldiers remain a source of Australian pride and national identity.



ROLL OF HONOUR

WILLIAM HENRY CALLAN

Service Number: 241

Rank: Private

Unit: 30th Australian Infantry Battalion

Service: Australian Army

Conflict: First World War, 1914-1918

Date of death: 01 May 1918

Place of death: France

Cause of death: Killed in action

Place of association: Ballalaba, Australia

Cemetery or memorial details: Adelaide Cemetery,
Villers-Bretonneux, Picardie, France

Source: AWM145 Roll of Honour cards, 1914-1918 War,
Army

Location on the Roll of Honour: William Henry Callan's
name is located at **panel 116** in the Commemorative Area
at the Australian War Memorial

30th Australian Infantry Battalion

The 30th Battalion was raised as part of the 8th Brigade at Liverpool in New South Wales on 5 August 1915. Most of its recruits hailed from the Newcastle region and other parts of country New South Wales, but almost an entire company was composed of former RAN ratings from Victoria.

The 8th Brigade joined the newly raised 5th Australian Division in Egypt and proceeded to France, destined for the Western Front, in June 1916. The 30th Battalion's first major battle was at Fromelles on 19 July 1916. It was tasked with providing carrying parties for supplies and ammunition but was soon drawn into the vicious fighting. Following Fromelles, the battalion was rotated in and out of the front line along with others in the brigade, but played no major offensive role for the rest of the year.

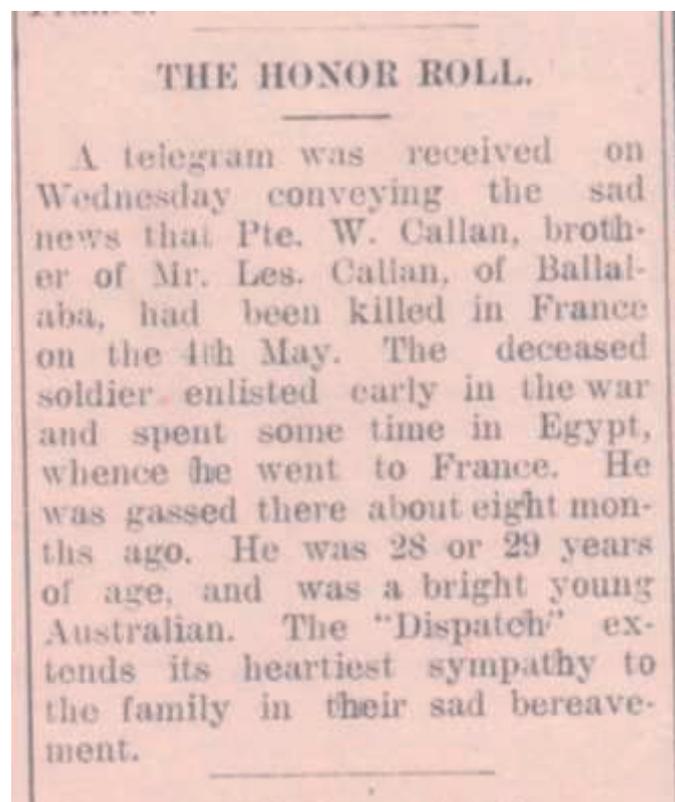
In early 1917, the German Army withdrew to the Hindenburg Line. During the general advance that followed, the 30th Battalion had the honour of occupying Bapaume, one of the original objectives for the Somme Offensive of 1916. The 30th missed much of the heavy fighting of 1917, being employed in flank protection and reserve roles at the second battle of Bullecourt and the battle of Polygon Wood.

Unlike many AIF battalions, the 30th also had a relatively quiet time during the German Spring Offensive of 1918 as the 5th Division was in reserve for much of the time.

The German Spring Offensive relates to the three major German attacks on the Western Front in late March, April and May 1918, known collectively as the "Kaiserschlacht" (Kaiser's Battle) offensive. Using troops released from the Eastern Front, following the revolution and collapse of the Russian Armies in late 1917, the German General Staff attempted to win the war before the Americans arrived in sufficient force to tip the strategic balance firmly in favour of the Allies. The first German attack in March was launched against the British Fifth Army in Arras (Somme area); the second attack in April centred on Lys in Flanders, and the third offensive in May focused on the Aisne, where British Divisions recuperating from the March

attacks were again subjected to severe losses. Despite sweeping early gains in each of their attacks, German forces (which incurred huge casualties in their all-out attacks) outdistanced their supply lines and became themselves exhausted by the constant fighting. The final German advances were repulsed at the Marne in mid-June 1918, and the scene was set for the Allied counter-offensives of the summer.

When the Allies took to the offensive again, the 30th fought in a minor attack at Morlancourt on 29 July, after having conducted several large raids in the area in June. The 30th was heavily engaged when it led the 5th Division's advance down the Morcourt Valley, during the battle of Amiens on 8 and 9 August. It followed up success there with an active role in the great advance that followed through August and into September. The 30th fought its last major action of the war between 27 September and 1 October when the 5th and 3rd Australian Divisions, and two American divisions attacked the Hindenburg Line across the top of the 6-kilometre-long St Quentin Canal tunnel; the canal was a major obstacle in the German defensive scheme. The 30th Battalion disbanded on 21 March 1919.



The Braidwood newspaper, *The Dispatch*, reporting the death of William Henry Callan

D

44831 AUSTRALIAN



MILITARY FORCES.

1444 831 AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 344

241A

Name

CALLAN William Henry

Unit

33 Battalion

Joined on

Sept 24 1914

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

- 1. What is your Name?
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born?
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject?
4. What is your age?
5. What is your trade or calling?
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice?
7. Are you married?
8. Who is your next of kin?
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power?
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces...
11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army...
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service?
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service?
14. (For Married Men and Widowers with children) Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued to you either before or after embarkation during your term of service?

- 1. William Henry Callan
2. In the Parish of Sweetyan in or near the Town of Bridewood in the County of N.S.W.
3. Natural Born
4. 26 yrs 9 mos
5. Grocer
6. No
7. No
8. Samuel Callan Ballababa Post Office Bridewood
9. No N.S.W.
10. No
11. 2 yrs 7ish Rifles Time Expired Penalties
12. Yes
13. No
14.

I, William Henry Callan do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife and children.

Date Sept 16th 1914

Signature of person enlisted.

*This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men, or widowers without children under 18 years of age.

Aug 1913 France 24/1/15
2 17/33

Embodied 20-12-14

Statement of Service of No. 241A Name Callan, William Henry

Unit in which served.	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Period of service in each rank.		Remarks.
		From—	To—	
6th LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT, 2nd AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.		14-9-14		
	Taken in strength Influenza to 5th Amb 4/9/15 Adv. 25 th C.C.S. Ambros 6/9/15 Trans. R.S. Assaye 11/9/15 Admitted 21st Gen Hosp. 11/9/15	13-7-15		PT II 232 24/1/15 " 834 6/10/15
	ADMITTED <u>1st</u> HOSPITAL Dudley Road Section Birmingham, England	15-11-15		PT 2/10/237 27-12-15
	M/I from 1 st to 2 nd (Callan)	6-9-16	England	E.P. 1842 J.O. 24/1/16 11-12-16
30th Battalion	Taken in strength by 2 Battalions Organically but Aust. Lt. Horse from 1st Aust. Div Base Depot.	10-7-16		PT 62/235 9/1/16
	Wounded in action (Gassed)	18-9-17		PT 44/4572 2-10-17
	Transferred to England 5 th Red Cross Hospital (Gassed)	28-9-17		PT 45/2254 10-10-17
	ADMITTED <u>2nd</u> HOSPITAL (Gassed shell wound Rt Hand)	28-9-17	Seaford	PT 76/1661E 10-10-17
	Dis to Furlo 7.12.17. to 21.12.17. report to no. 3. Com. Depot. Huddersfield			Auth. G. Records
	Proceeding Overseas FRANCE ex 1st Div. Long Bde L/Deverill via Southampton	21-2-18		Do. 17/524E 28-2-18
	Rejoined 1st Div as killed (Eng)	28-2-18		Do. 11/815. 12-3-18
30th Bn 1 st Late 6th M.L.H.	KILLED IN ACTION	France	1-5-18	62137 2523 1910 20/1435 16/5/18 Batt 64 231472
	Buried			
	2 Photos to No. 100 FOR BURIAL REPORT SEE B 103.			Diary 5-7-19

CR 1803/1/29

SEE COPY AF. B103 ENCLOSED

I have examined the above details, and find them correct in every respect.

Edw. D. Dalley
Major
O. C. B. Squadron

Casualty Form - Active Service.

Sheet II
 Regiment or Corps 6 A & H
 Rank Sp4 Surname Callan Christian Name William Henry
 Religion _____ Age on Enlistment _____ years _____ months
 Enlisted (a) _____ Terms of Service (a) _____ Service reckons from (a) _____
 Date of promotion to present rank _____ Date of appointment to lance rank _____
 Extended [] Re-engaged [] Qualification (b) _____
 or Corps Trade and Rate _____

Signature of Officer i/c Records.

Date	Report From whom received	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc. during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 30, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 30, or other official documents
		Embarked ...			
		Disembarked ...			
1	Yates on Strength			13-7-16	Pls 200 26-7-16
2	Influenza to 7th Amb.			4-9-15	834 6-10-15
3	Adm: 25th C.C.S		Inbas	6-9-15	
4	Trans: H.S. Caspary			2-9-15	
5	Admitted 21st Gen. Hosp:			4-9-15	
6	10th 31st Gen Hospital				
7	Hudley Road Section		England	15-11-15	Pls 44 2398 27-15
8	Dormingham				
9	30/9/16 1st Cug Bn	Proceeded Overseas France	England	30/9/16	A.X.2263. P 93703
10	10/10/16 1st A.D.B.D.	Taken on Strength	Staples	1/10/16	A.X.2170.
11	18/10/16 do	Proceeded to Join 30th Batta	do	14/10/16	A.X.2311.

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.
 (b) Signaller, Shoemsmith, &c.
 (A 22 20) W 1202-638 120,000 1215 H W V (1917) Form B. 103 P.T.O.

Date	Report From whom received	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc. during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 30, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 30, or other official documents
10	23/10/16 O.C. 30 Bn.	T.O.S. 30th Battalion	France	15/10/16	B213 AQ9339 07/22-5230
11	21 SEP 1917	Wounded in Action (Gassed)	Field	15-9-17	07/24-4072 07/25-7/12
12	19-9-17 6th P.F.A.	Gas Shell Wound	France	19-9-17	HK1697/112
13	19-9-17 3rd Com. C.C.S.	Gas Shell Wound Adm	"	19-9-17	HK1697/112
14	20-9-17 8th P. Bn	do	Adm to Hospital	20-9-17	HK1697/112
15	25-9-17 H.S. Villa	Gas Shell Wound	France	25-9-17	HK1722/114
16	28-9-17 1st W. H. Hosp	Adm. based at	Seaford	28-9-17	In 76/E 10/10/17 N3 554 116 158/1
17	4-12-17 1st W. H. Hosp	Adm. based at	"	4-12-17	4-12-17 4-12-17
18	2-2-18 N.4 Com Bn	Placed on 6th Gen. Regt	Handcott	2-2-18	L7 1052
19	2-2-18 6th Gen. Regt	Placed on 6th Gen. Regt	Handcott	2-2-18	L7 1053
20	21-2-18 O/C Overseas T.D.	Proceeding Overseas FRANCE		21/2/18	L1433
21	22 FEB 1918 A.I.B.D.	Marched in from England	Harrold	22 FEB 1918	AH 2274/100
22	4 FEB 1918	Marched out to Unit	"	24 FEB 1918	" 1103
23	1 MAR 1918 C.O. 30 Bn	Rejoined Unit ex	Widd (Eng) Field	28 FEB 1918	07/1/18 B213 E7/61

WILL.

Name in full. I, William Henry Callan

Unit. Regimental Number 241 serving in 30th Battalion
of the Australian Imperial Force do hereby revoke all former Wills made by me and declare this to be my last Will.

Name and Address of person or persons to whom it is to go I DEVISE and BEQUEATH all my real estate unto my Mother Mrs Susan Callan of "Ballallaba" Braidwood in the State of New South Wales the wife of Samuel Callan of the same place Gentleman

Name and Address of person or persons to receive personal estate (See Note) absolutely, and my personal estate I bequeath to the aforesaid Mrs Susan Callan whom I appoint sole executrix of this my will

Fill in Date. IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this Fifth day of June A.D. 1917

W H Callan (Signature).

All alterations to be initialled by Testator and Witnesses. Signed by the said Testator as his last Will and Testament the same having been read over and explained to him, in the presence of us both present at the same time who at his request and in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses.

FIRST WITNESS Signature of Witness F W Gowan
Address and Occupation Bank Clerk. Singleton N S W

SECOND WITNESS Signature of Witness N A Ellion
Address and Occupation Articled Law Clerk Dungog

N.B.-Personal Estate includes Pay, Effects, Money in Bank, Insurance Policy, in fact everything except Real Estate.

Certified to be a true copy of the Will of No.241 Pts. CALLAN William Henry, 30th Battelion, A.I.F.

Checked

Jones

Cpl.

J B Munkers

Estates Branch
Adm. Hdqrs., London.

25.5.18.

2/ Light Horse Fld: Amb: Maadi, Egypt.		E.E.F.
Regiment	6/ L.H.	Reg; No. 241
Troop, Batty. or Coy.	H 02	
Rank		Tpr: 0
Name		Callan, W.H.
Age		27
Service		1/2
Service { in Command or in Field Force }		1/2
Disease - - - - -		Measles. 030
Admitted to Hospital - -		30/3/15
Discharged from Hospital		
Discharged to duty -		7/4/15
Disease changed		
Died		
Transferred		
Discharged invalid		
Days under Treatment	9	9
Religion		
Observations		

Particulars Required for the Roll of Honour of Australia in the Memorial War Museum.

- Name (in full) of Fallen Soldier: William Henry Callan
- Unit and Number (if known): 241. {both Light Horse} afterwards transferred 20th Battalion
- With what Town or District in Australia was he chiefly connected (under which his name ought to come on the Memorial)—
Town (if any): Ballalaba District: Braidwood State: N.S. Wales.
- What was his Birthplace: Ballalaba
- Date of Death: 1. 5. 18.
- Place where Killed or Wounded: Near Hamlet. Colic, Somme.

Particulars Required for the Nation's Histories.

- What was his Calling: Farmer and Cabman
- Age at time of Death: 27
- What was his School: Ballalaba
- What was his other Training: none
- If born in Britain or Abroad, at what age did he come to Australia: ✓
- Had he ever served in any Military or Naval Force before Enlisting in the A.I.F. (Please state particulars): No.
- Any other biographical details likely to be of interest to the Historian of the A.I.F., or of his Regiment—

Served on Gallipoli and was invalided to England with enteric. After twelve months was sent to France, and was later wounded, gassed or wounded at or about the time of Polygon Wood. Was wounded at Hamlet. (He and a mate of his, to return to Australia for six months' furlough, when both of them are said to have been killed by a shell which burst in the billet.)

- Name and Address of the Parent or other person giving this information—
Name: A. McNeelan
Relationship to Soldier: Sister
Address: Broughton Street, Las Loue.
- Names and Addresses of any other persons to whom reference could be made by the Historian for further information—
Name: None except official particulars.
Address:



JML/WH

17th May, 1921.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

18 MAY 1921

Dear Madam,

I understand you are a sister of the late No. 241 Private W.H. Callan, 30th Battalion, and shall be much obliged if you will favour me with advice as to whether his father still survives, or if not whether there are any brothers living, and if so, their names and addresses in order of age. I am advised that his mother is mentally unable to deal with any of deceased's affairs.

The favour of early attention is requested, as I desire to be in a position to dispose of the late soldier's war medals, etc.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

Major,
Officer i/c Base Records.

Mrs. A. V. McLean,
"Colyembra",
Broughton Street,
SANS SOUCI, N. S. W.

up
Lath to
C/O
address.
S. Callan.
C/O W. Callan.
W 4 Wollie Creek Rd.
Banksia

C/O 4 Wollie Creek Rd.
Banksia
June 1st 1921

Dear Sir,

In reference to your letter
30th inst, and to state I am brother
of deceased C/O 41 Rte 10. H Callan
30th Battalion, his father still survives
and at present he is living here with
me and may be here for some time
if writing within the next month
kindly address here, his address later
will be (Cheviott Hills. Narrabri.)
but may not go back for ^{crossing mail} some time
if you should want further partic-
ulars, as to his brother ages will let
you know, but as father is still
living, you may not want further
particulars.

Your faithfully.
W. Callan.

war medals re to father
Jm Major
Officer in Charge Records
13.6.21



In Memory of

Private

William Henry Callan

241, 30th Bn., Australian Infantry, A.I.F. who died on 01 May 1918

Son of Samuel and Susan Callan. Born Ballalaba, New South Wales.

Remembered with Honour

Adelaide Cemetery, Villers-Bretonneux



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Braidwood War Memorial, unveiled 5th June, 1922 by the Hon. Mr. Austin Chapman MP.

Acknowledgements

Everybody responded enthusiastically to the idea of capturing the information about Braidwood's 88 World War I veterans who lost their lives. The Braidwood RSL Sub Branch is most grateful for the support they received in carrying out this task and would like to acknowledge those of whom we are aware: Karen, Chris and Renee Nelson, Roslyn Maddrell, Karen Shea, Jill Clarke, Rod McClure, Ben and Meaghan Frohling, Diane McGrath, Us On Mondays Quilting Group, Len Mutton & Co and local shopkeepers for their World War I window displays.

Thank you to the students and teachers of Braidwood Central School and St. Bedes School who have embraced these soldiers and have honoured their memories on Anzac Day 2015.

The Braidwood RSL Sub Branch raised a good proportion of the funds for the cost of producing these booklets. The efforts of the members of the sub branch involved are very much appreciated. This money was augmented by welcome funding from the Federal Government through the ANZAC Centenary Local Grants Program and the Braidwood Community Bank.

To all those who helped in any way, many thanks. Your efforts have ensured we remember these Braidwood and District Veterans well.

Back Cover: Peace Day, 11th November 1918, Wallace Street, Braidwood.

"Wild day in Braidwood: When Braidwood woke up on Tuesday morning to find the 'glad tidings of great joy' awaiting it that Germany had signed the armistice and the frightful carnage of the past four years or so had come to an end it simply went mad with delight. No other words could adequately describe the excitement that followed." "Braidwood Letters from the Front" by Roslyn Maddrell.

ROLL OF HONOUR

Alley, Clair Underwood
Archer, Fred
Backhouse, Victor John
Barnett, Frederick George
Barry, Charles Louis
Beatty, Walter Cusack
Bell, John Henry Edward
Black, George Scott
Bruce, Thomas Fraser
Byrne, Cecil John
Callan, William Henry
Catlin, Robert Henry
Clarke, Lester Thomas
Cook, Thomas John
Crandell, Christopher George
Cregan, Clarence Theodore Augustus
Cullen, Henry Thomas
Davis, John Henry
Davis, Oscar Raymond Stanley
Dawson, Edric Athol
Dayball, Arthur Joseph
Dempsey, Charles Frederick
Dempsey, Charles
Dowell, Frederick Robert
Feeney, William
Fisher, Osborne
Flack, John Foster
Garnett, Henry James
Geelan, Robert Michael
Gosling, Fred
Gough, James
Green, Francis Henry
Healy, Myrtle James
Howard, John Alexander
Huggett, William
Hunt, Frederick William
Hunt, John
Hush, Percy Alfred
Hush, Thomas
Hush, Austin Septimus
Innes, Henry George
Kelly, Herbert Albert
Kemp, Leslie Smith
Keyte, Robert
Knight, Charles Oliver
Lee, Thomas James
Lennon, James
Lupton, Spencer
Lynch, James Joseph
Matthews, Francis
McCool, Francis Leslie Neil
McDonald, Alexander Joseph
McLean, Donald
McRae, Finley Arnold
Meade, Arthur Stuart
Merton, Thomas David
Montgomery, Stanley
Moore, William
Newberry, Alwyn (Alwin) Horace James
O'Brien, Thomas Daniel
O'Reilly, John
Pooley, Edward
Rex, Horace Joseph
Riley, Frank
Roberts, Frederick Bede
Robinson, William James
Rodgers, Albert
Seidel, Alfred George
Seidel, Henry Edward
Sharpe, George Lyle
Sharpe, Reginald
Sherman, Edgar Robert
Sherman, Percy Frederick
Simmons, George
Smith (Greenwood), George
Spicer, William Henry
Steele, Alexander Norman
Stein, Daniel Godfrey
Stewart, David Walter
Styles, Reginald Lucian
Torpy, Patrick Edward
Torpy, Thomas Patrick
Walker, William Albert
Watt, James
Watt, Oscar Harold McClure
White, Alister
Whitelaw, Thomas Philip
Wilson, Samuel Charles

Lest We Forget