

Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

"We will remember them well"

A CALL FROM THE DARDANELLES



ROLL OF HONOUR

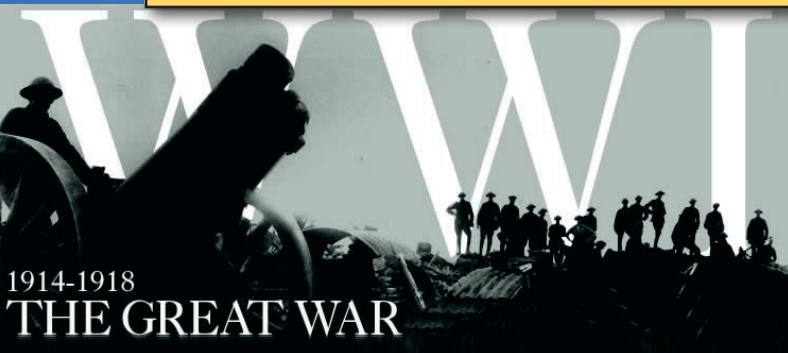
COOK, Thomas John

Service Number: 3121

Rank: Private

*"Coo-ee-
Won't 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 **Thomas John Cook**, 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.

Thomas John Cook 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

THOMAS JOHN COOK

Service Number: 3121

Rank: Private

Unit: 45th Australian Infantry Battalion

Service: Australian Army

Conflict: First World War, 1914-1918

Date of death: 07 June 1917

Place of death: Belgium

Cause of death: Killed in action

Age at death: 22

Place of association: Braidwood, Australia

Cemetery or memorial details: Menin Gate Memorial,
Ypres, Flanders, Belgium

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

Location on the Roll of Honour: Thomas John Cook's
name is located at **panel 139** in the Commemorative Are
at the Australian War Memorial

45th Australian Infantry Battalion

The 45th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 2 March 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. Approximately half of its new recruits were Gallipoli veterans from the 13th Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 13th, the new battalion was composed mostly of men from New South Wales.

As part of the 12th Brigade of the 4th Australian Division, the 45th Battalion arrived in France on 8 June 1916, destined for the Western Front. It fought in its first major battle at Pozieres in August, defending ground previously captured by the 2nd Australian Division. After Pozieres the battalion spent the period until March 1917 alternating between duty in the trenches and training and rest behind the lines, first around Ypres in Belgium, and then in the Somme Valley in France.

The 45th Battalion was in reserve for the 4th Division's first major action of 1917 'the first battle of Bullecourt' and was not committed to the attack. It was, however, heavily engaged during the battle of Messines in June, and suffered commensurate casualties. The focus of the AIF's operations had now switched to the Ypres sector in Belgium and the 45th took part in another major battle near Passchendaele on October 12. Conditions were horrendous and the operation was hastily planned - thus it resulted in failure.

Like most AIF battalions, the 45th rotated in and out of the front line throughout the winter of 1917-18. In the spring of 1918 it played a crucial role in turning the last great German offensive of the war when it defeated attacks aimed at breaking through the British front around Dernancourt. The Allies launched their own offensive on 8 August with the battle of Amiens. On the first day of this battle the 45th Battalion captured 400 German prisoners, 30 artillery pieces and 18 machine guns. 8 August became known as the "black day of the German Army" and initiated a retreat back to

the formidable defensive barrier known as the Hindenburg Line. The 45th Battalion fought its last major action of the war on 18 September 1918 around Le Verguier to seize the "outpost line" that guarded the approaches to the main defences. The battalion was out of the line when the war ended on 11 November, and was disbanded on 2 May 1919.

“Late Private T.J. Cook, the son of Mr and Mrs H. T. Cook, was killed in France on 7th June, 1917. He was attached to the 45th Battalion. A fine type of young man, extremely popular on the Creek and throughout the district, he was 22 years of age.”

Notice from The Dispatch, published in “Braidwood Letters from the Front”, By Roslyn Maddrell



Thomas John Cook

AUSTRALIAN



MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 15714 Name Cook Thomas John
 Unit 3/2/ 8/45th Btn
 Joined on 30.7.16

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name? Thomas John Cook
2. In the Parish of Majors Creek in or near the Town of Brandwood in the County of New South Wales
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown) Natural born
4. What is your age? 27 years
5. What is your trade or calling? Motor Driver
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? No
7. Are you married? No
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) (The answer to this question shall not be constructed as in the nature of a will.) My father Mr H. J. Cook Majors Creek New South Wales
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? No
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incurable and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with Disgrace from the Navy? No
11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy, or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge. No
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? Yes
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? No
14. Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with Pay would reach eight shillings per day? Yes
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against small-pox and enteric fever? Yes

I, Thomas John Cook do solemnly declare that the above answers made 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 three-fifths

Date 30.7.16

Sgt. Thomas John Cook
 Signature of person enlisted.

* This clause to be amended where necessary and should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age.

Transferred to

D 31125

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

No. 3121

Rank

Pte

Name

COOK T.J

Unit

45th Bk

Casualty

Killed in Action 7/6/17

CG. 608 D. 1554/9264 dated London 29.6.17

MEMORIAL
SCROLL

Kaiser

Mr H.T. Cook

326786

4/9/22

"WHERE THE AUSTRALIANS REST."

Memorial sent to Mr H.T. Cook on 31.5.17

DATE

A.F. B. 103 Received

PURPORT.

A.F. B. 2090A Received

REF. NO.

2 JUL 1917

10 7 17

19 3 18

WAR HISTORY INDEX

M.G. 2 ADVISED, KILLED IN ACTION. 7.6.17

COPY MADE FOR WAR PENSIONS
PERSONAL EFFECTS EX. *Ex. 100/100*

CONFIRMATION RECEIVED OF

Cable No. *Sold 1554 vide 7/207 Ldb. 2/1/17*

Circular B.R.M. 46/1368 & Booklet re Graves despatched *12.1.17*
by postcard 17/1/17



BRITISH WAR MEDAL to Comd *2nd* M.D.B.R.M. 58/408



CASUALTY FORM - ACTIVE SERVICE.

Army Form B. 103.

Regiment or Corps 845th Battalion
 Regimental No. 3121 Rank Pte Name Cook Thomas John
 Enlisted (a) 25.11.16 Terms of Service (a) S.O. 31 Service reckons from (a) 25.11.16
 Date of Promotion to present rank 30.1.17 Date of appointment to lance rank 28.3.17 Numerical position on roll of N.C.O.'s 1084
 Extended 16 JUN 1917 Re-engaged 16 JUN 1917 Qualification (b) 16 JUN 1917

Report	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place.	Date.	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
Date.	From whom Received.			
1	O.C. Troops	72 nd "Beltana" (Embarked)	Sydney	25.11.16. (S.O. 31)
2	4.2.17. 12 th Tng. Bn.	Marched in from Australia	Codford	30.1.17. DO 15/E. 21.2.17. ER 9417
3	27.3.17. 12 th Tng. Bn.	Proc. O/S to France ex 12 th Tng. Bn. Codford	Folkestone	28.3.17. DO 19/E. 2.4.17. LR 1084
4	31.3.17. 4 th A.D.B.D.	Joined Depot from England	Etaples	29.3.17. AK 1101/12
5	31.3.17. 4 th A.D.B.D.	Marched out to Unit.	Etaples	31.3.17. AX 6199
6	7.4.17. C.O. 45 th Bn.	Taken on strength	France	1.4.17. B.213 DO 13/14
7	16 JUN 1917. B.213	Killed in Action	Field	7 JUN 1917. DO 13/24 VL 366. DO 34/3428

ORIGINAL. Copies forwarded to Defence Melbourne, Administrative Headquarters and Chief Pay Master with A.F.B. 2090A

(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 in the Officer 1/c Records.
 (b) e.g., Signaller, Shoeing Smith, &c., &c., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties.

Army Form B. 103.

Regimental Number 3121

Casualty Form - Active Service.

Regiment or Corps 8th. Reinf. 45th. Battalion. A.I.F.

Rank Private Surname COOK Christian Name Thomas John
 Religion Anglican Age on Enlistment 21 years 0 months
 Enlisted (a) 25.11.16 Terms of Service (a) S.O. 31 Service reckons from (a) 25.11.16
 Date of promotion to present rank 30.1.17 Date of appointment to lance rank 28.3.17
 Extended 16 JUN 1917 Re-engaged 16 JUN 1917 Qualification (b) 16 JUN 1917
 Occupation Private Signature of Officer S.H. CRAWFORD

Report	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, 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. 36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received			
	O.C. Troops	72 nd "Beltana"	Embarked	Sydney 25.11.16. S.O. 31.
			Disembarked	Devonport 29.1.17. 31.1.17.
4.2.17.	12th. Tng. Bn.	Marched in from Australia	Codford	30.1.17. DO 15/E. 21.2.17. ER 9417
27.3.17.	"	Proc O/S to France ex 12th. Tng. Bn. Codford	Folkestone	28.3.17. DO 19/E. 2.4.17. LR 1084
31.3.17.	4th. A.D.B.D.	Joined depot from England	Etaples	29.3.17. AK 1101/12
"	"	Marched out to Unit	"	31.3.17. AX 6199
7.4.17.	C.O. 45th. Bn.	Taken on strength	In the Field	1.4.17. D 13/14
	B.213.			DO 17/2026
16.6.17.	"	KILLED IN ACTION	"	7.4.17. D 13/24 VL 366

ANZAC SECTION, 3RD. ECHILON. G.H.Q.

British Expeditionary Force, France.

Officer 1/c Records

P.T.O.

A.A.M.C. (DENTAL)

2nd MILITARY DISTRICT.

Right. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 Left.

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4

32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17

Examination Date OCT 31 1916

Extractions

Artificial Sets

Fillings

General Remarks:

SHOWGROUND.

Military Camp

Name 57144 Cook T. J.

Rank Pte Ch Warrup Lp

FIELD SERVICE.

Army Form B. 2090A.

REPORT of Death of a Soldier to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt of notification of death on Army Form B. 213 or Army Form A. 36, or from other official documentary sources.

REGIMENT OR CORPS 45th Battalion. A.I.F. Squadron, Troop, Battery or Company

Regimental No. 3121 Rank Private

Surname COOK Christian Names Thomas John

Date 7th June 1917 Place BELGIUM

Died Killed in Action

Nature and Date of Report Army Form B 213 dated 16th June 1917

By whom made Commanding Officer, 45th Battalion, A.I.F.

* Specially state if killed in action, or died from wounds received in action, or from illness due to field operations or to fatigue, privation or exposure while on military duty, or from injury while on military duty.

Place Particulars not yet to hand Date

By whom reported

State whether he leaves (a) in Pay Book (Army Form B. 213) (b) in Small Book (If at Base)

a Will or not (c) as a separate document

All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital, as well as the Pay Book, should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office.

Any information received as to verbal expressions by a deceased soldier of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be reported to the War Office as soon as possible.

A duplicate of this Report is to be sent to the Fixed Centre Paymaster at Home, or to the D.F.A.G., Indian Expeditionary Force, or Field Disbursing Officer, as the case may require, together with the Deceased's Pay Book (after withdrawal of any will from the latter). If the deceased's Small Book is at the Base, it should be forwarded to the War Office with this Report.

ANZAC SECTION, 3RD ECHELON. G.H.Q.

Station British Expeditionary Force Officer in charge of Section Lieut.,

Date 1st August 1917 Adjutant-General's Office at the Base Officer i/c Records

Majors Creek
March 27th 1918.

Dear Sir

Herewith enclosed please find receipt for
package of effects of my late son No 3121 Private T. J. Cook
package containing only Wallet & Photos.

Would you please inform me whether it would be
possible for me to get any other property that my son
had, as he would have on him, a gold ring, Wristlet
Watch, a gold medal, Fountain Pen & Pipe & Money.

I would also like to get an official record from
your office or certificate of death of my son, as
I want this very particular, my late son
was insured in A. M. T. Society & I cannot get
the insurance amount until I can show them
the record of his death, date Etc.

Thanking you in anticipation

The Officer in Charge

Base Records

Victoria Barracks

Melbourne

Victoria

Respectfully yours

T. J. Cook per

Mrs Mary Ann Cook

Majors Creek,

Via Broadwood



In Memory of

Private

Thomas John Cook

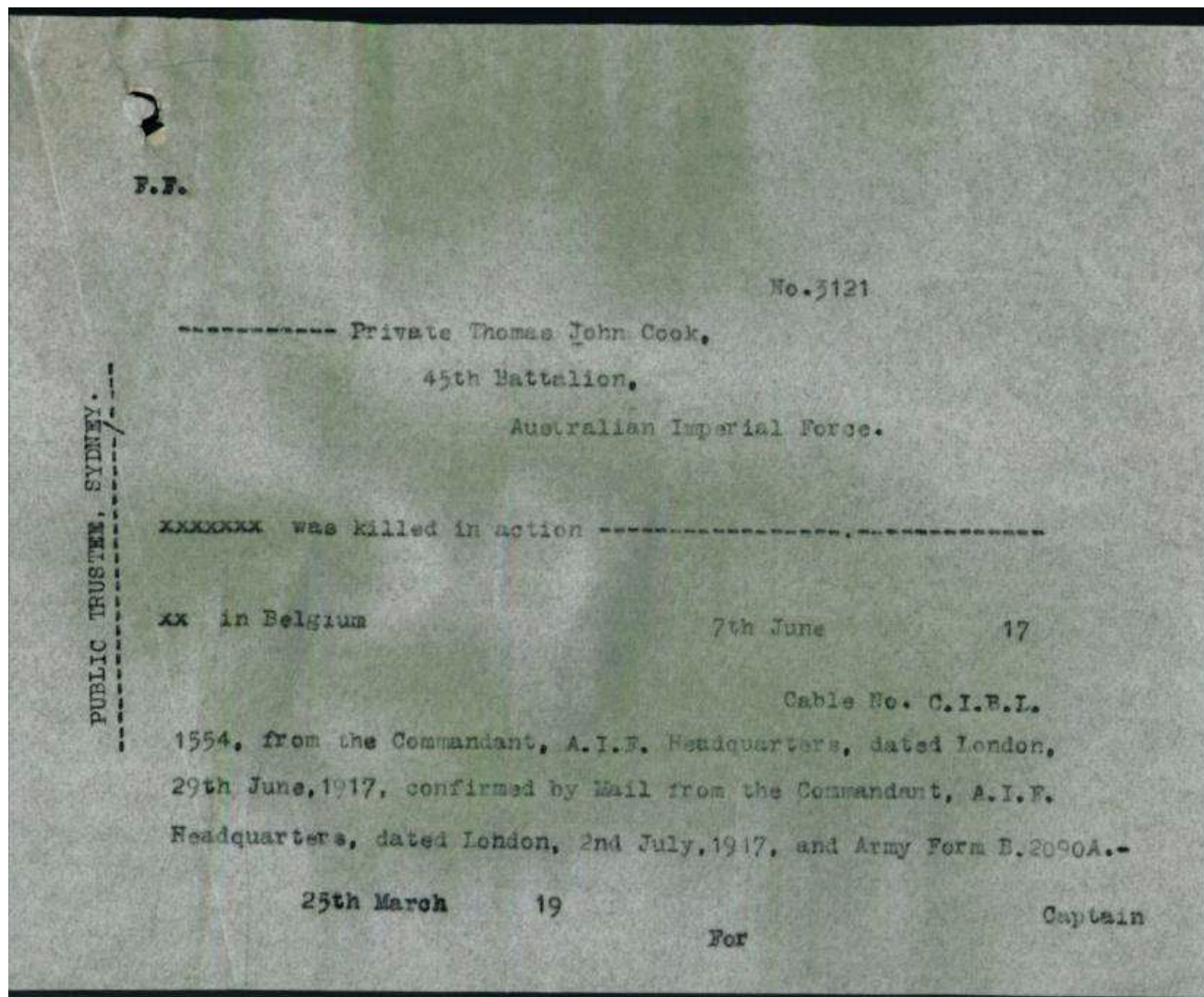
3121, 45th Bn., Australian Infantry, A.I.F. who died on 07 June 1917 Age 22

Son of Henry Thomas and Mary Ann Cook, of Majors Creek, New South Wales.

Remembered with Honour
Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



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