

Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

"We will remember them well"

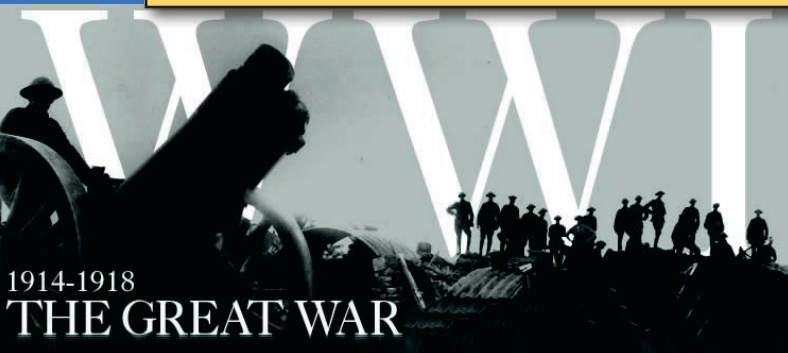
A CALL FROM THE DARDANELLES

ROLL OF HONOUR
CREGAN,
Clarence Theodore Augustus
Service Number: 1155
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.



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 **Clarence Theodore Augustus Cregan**, 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.

Clarence Theodore Augustus Cregan 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

CLARENCE THEODORE AUGUSTUS CREGAN

Service Number: 1155

Rank: Private

Unit: 18th Australian Infantry Battalion

Service: Australian Army

Conflict: First World War, 1914-1918

Date of death: 27 August 1915

Place of death: Gallipoli, Ottoman Empire

Cause of death: Killed in action

Age at death: 23

Place of association: Cootamundra, Australia

Cemetery or memorial details: Lone Pine Memorial, Gallipoli Peninsula, Canakkale Province, Turkey

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

Location on the Roll of Honour: Clarence Theodore Augustus Cregan's name is located at **panel 85** in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial

18th Australian Infantry Battalion

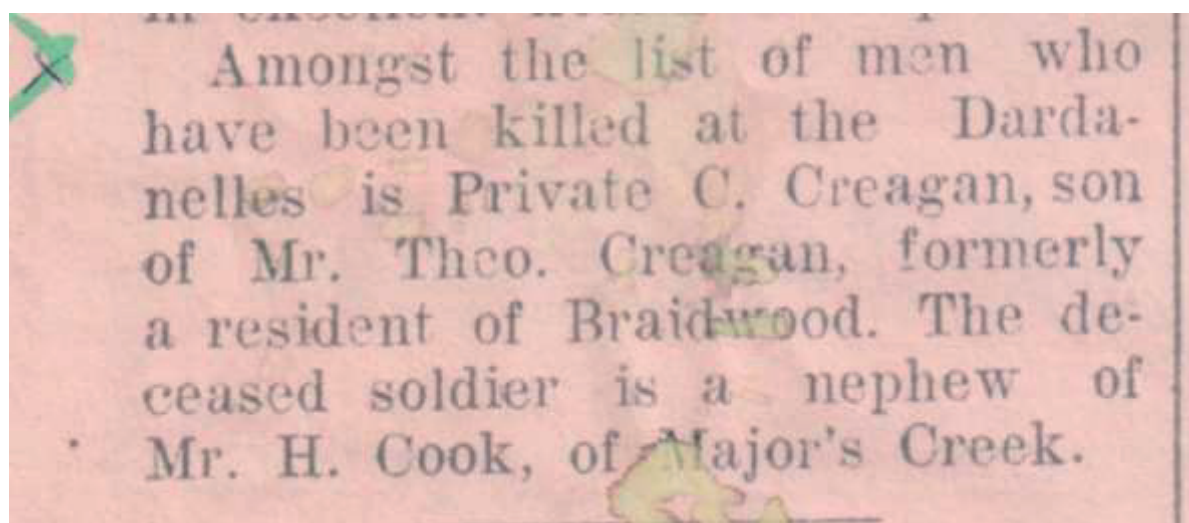
The 18th Battalion was raised at Liverpool in New South Wales in March 1915 as part of the 5th Brigade. It left Australia in early May, trained in Egypt from mid-June until mid-August, and on 22 August landed at ANZAC Cove.

The battalion had not been ashore a day when it was committed to the last operation of the August Offensive ' the attack on Hill 60 ' which lasted until 29 August and cost it 50 per cent casualties. For the rest of the campaign the 18th played a purely defensive role, being primarily responsible for holding Courtney's Post. The last members of the battalion left Gallipoli on 20 December.

After further training in Egypt, the 18th Battalion proceeded to France. Landing there on 25 March 1916, it took part in its first major battle at Pozieres between 25 July and 5 August. The battalion returned to the Pozieres trenches for a second time in late August. After a spell in a quieter sector of the front in Belgium, the 2nd Division including the 5th Brigade, came south again in October. The 18th Battalion was spared from having to mount an attack across the quagmire that the Somme battlefield had become, but did have to continue manning the front through a very bleak winter.

In 1917 the 18th was involved in the follow-up of German forces during their retreat to the Hindenburg Line, and was involved in some particularly heavy fighting around Warlencourt in late February. The battalion took part in three major battles before the year was out: the second Bullecourt (3-4 May) in France; and Menin Road (20-22 September) and Poelcappelle (9-10 October) in Belgium.

After another winter of trench duty, the spring of 1918 brought a major German offensive that the 18th Battalion helped to repel. With this last desperate offensive turned back, the Allied armies turned to the offensive and the 18th participated in the battles that pushed the German Army ever closer to defeat: Amiens on 8 August, the legendary attack on Mont St Quentin on 31 August, and the forcing of the Beaurevoir Line around Montbrehain on 3 October. For his actions at Montbrehain, Lieutenant Joseph Maxwell was awarded the Victoria Cross. Montbrehain was the battalion's last battle; it was training out of the line when the armistice was declared and was disbanded on 11 April 1919.



The Braidwood Dispatch, reporting on the death of the Clarence Theodore Augustus Cregan.

✓ B10572

AUSTRALIAN



DECEASED

MILITARY FORCES.

D

10572

IAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 1155

Name

Unit

Joined on

C. J. H. Cregan

22. 2. 15

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? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.)
4. What is your age?
5. What is your trade or calling?
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period?
7. Are you married?
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated)
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power?
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?
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
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? If so, on what grounds?
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. Clarence Theodore Augustus Cregan

2. In the Parish of

near the Town of Braidwood

in the County of New South Wales.

3. Yes

4. 22 years 7 months

5. Station Land

6. No

7. Single

8. Father

Theodore Cregan

49 Augustus St. Enmore

9. No

10. No

11. No

12. Yes

13. No

14. /

I, Clarence Theodore Augustus Cregan, 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

22/2/15

C. Cregan

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.

W

Transferred to

WAR GRATUITY

D

5849 ✓

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

No.

1155 ✓

Rank

Private ✓

Name

Cregan, C. J. A. ✓

Unit

15th Battalion ✓

Casualty

(27/8/15) Killed in action. M. & C. Alexandria 20/10/1831 A. D. 8/10/15 ✓

(27/8/15) Killed in action at Gallipoli Peninsula A. F. B. 2090A Received

No Confirmation 4/11/15

DATE

A. F.

B. 103 Received

PURPORT.

A. F.

B. 2090A Received.

REF. No.

12.10.15

- M. C. 9 adv (Killed)

27.10.15

Provident Life Ass Coy, Sydney asking for Death Certificate ✓

3.11.15

Reply sent letter 12/11/15

CONFIRMATION RECEIVED OF

Cable No. M. & C. 20710 V. de 19/1/16

19.11.15

Report forwarded to Prov. Life Assn.

28.11.15

16 Cregan asking particulars Re death & applying for personal effects ✓

1.12.15

Reply sent to 28.11.15.

11.4.16

Not advised copy of B.R. Cregan report.

27.5.16

Identity disc to R.O.

16.6.16

PERSONAL EFFECTS EX. Wm. A. Dale 1/12/15

3.7.16

Advice of despatch of Personal effects received - B. R. M. ✓

No personal effects in kit B. R. M. No. 35/134



15/10/15

Copy made for: War Pension

C.R. 122 B.R.M. 40, 1303 & Booklet re Graves despatches 5.10.1915 27.1.1922

2nd

M.D. B.R.M. 51. 1362

To Comd.

1914/1915 Star issued B.R.M. 43/1229/

13/10/14 18044



LIST 89

R. & M. P. P. 122-124

FIELD SERVICE.

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 } 18th Battalion, A. I. F. Squadron, } "D" Company
or CORPS } Troop, Battery }
or Company }

Regtl. No. 1155 Rank Pte

Name CREGAN, C. T. A.

Died { Date 27th August 1915.
Place Gallipoli Peninsula
Cause of Death * Killed in action

Nature and Date of Report A. F. b 213 of 5/9/15

By whom made C. O.

* 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.

Burial { Place _____
Date _____
By whom reported _____

State whether he leaves a will or not { (a) in Pay Book (Army Book 64) _____
(b) in Small Book (if at Base) _____
(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.

Signature of Officer in charge
of Section Adjutant-General's
Office at the Base

Cyril J. Griffiths Major

Station and Date Alexandria 29th October 1915.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regiment or Corps **"D" Coy 18th Battalion, A. I. F.**Regimental No. **1155** Rank **Pte** Name **CREGAN, C. T. A.**

Enlisted (a) _____ Terms of Service (a) _____ Service reckons from (a) _____

Date of promotion to present rank } Date of appointment to lance rank } Numerical position on roll of N.C.Os. }

Extended _____ Re-engaged _____ Qualification (b) _____

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., 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				
5/9/15	C. O. 18th Batt	KILLED IN ACTION	Gallipoli Peninsula	27/8/15	A. F. b 213 M. F. C. 20709/10 D. O. 21/1562
=====					
<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Cyril J. Griffiths Major</i> O. C. Australian Records Section, H. Q. 3rd Echelon, M. E. F.</p>					

(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) e.g., Signaller, Shoeing Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties.

P.T.O.

PROCEEDED TO JOIN
M. E. F. GALLIPOLI
16/8/15.

Duplicate - Original forwarded Int. Base, Cairo on 29/10/15.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Army Form B. 103. AUG 16 1915

**"D" COY 18TH BATT.
5TH BRIGADE, A.I.E.F.**Regimental No. **1155** Rank **Pte** Name **CREGAN C. T. A.**Enlisted (a) **22.2.15** Terms of Service (a) _____ Service reckons from (a) _____

Date of promotion to present rank } Date of appointment to lance rank } Numerical position on roll of N.C.Os. }

Extended _____ Re-engaged _____ Qualification (b) _____

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., 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				
5/9/15	C. O.	Killed in action	Gallipoli Pen	27/8/15	A. F. B213 M. F. C. 20709/10 D. O. 21/1562
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Dead</i></p>					

(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) e.g., Signaller, Shoeing Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties.

P.T.O.

50687

11th April

6.

Dear Sir,

With reference to the regrettable loss of your son, the late No. 1155 Private C. T. A. Oregan, 18th Battalion, the following copy of a British Red Cross Society's report, received through the High Commissioner's Office, is forwarded for information, it being the policy of the Department to transmit all information coming to hand concerning members of the Australian Imperial Force.

Oregan, C.T.A. Pte. 1155

"On 27.8.15 was shot through one lung, left side low down. We got him into New Zealand trenches, Hill 60. He lasted about 10 minutes. Was conscious and knew he was going. "I'm done, Sergeant." "Take my bible and hand it to my sister." This was handed to Chaplain Walden of the 18th Bn. He died peacefully. I was with him till he died and then had to attend to other duty. He was given a proper burial behind the trenches, it was quite early in the charge that he was hit. Was blown up myself about two hours after. I expect to go home in two days time."

Reference - Sgt. H. Hale, 565, 18th A.I.F.
Ras-el-Tin Conv. Hospital, Alexandria."

Yours faithfully,

Mr. T. Oregan,
49 Augustus Street,
ENMORE, N.S.W.

Capt.
Officer i/c Base Records.

24 Marian Street
Enmore, Sydney
N. S. Wales, 19. 7. 20.

The G.C

Base Records

Victoria Barracks, Melbourne.

Dear Sir,

My Son Clarence Theodore Augustus Cregan
(N^o 1155) enlisted in N. S. Wales in 1915 and was
killed at Gallipoli the same year.

I understand that I, as next of kin, (his mother)
am entitled to a decoration known as the
"Gallipoli Star" in respect of my deceased son.
I shall be very grateful if you would forward
it (and other decorations if any) to me at the
above address.

I might mention that I have not received
the "will" made by ^{my} late son. If not troubling
you too much would you kindly forward
it to me.

Hoping to receive the aforementioned as soon
as convenient, and thanking you in
anticipation.

Yours faithfully,
Mary Cregan

DECEASED
SECTION
JUL 22 1920
RECEIVED





COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I (1) Mary Jane Gegan of 24 Marian Street Enmore.

, do solemnly
and sincerely declare (2)

1. that I am the mother of the late No 1155 Private C T A Gegan
18th Battalion, who killed in action 27th August 1915.
2. that I divorced my husband T Gegan ^{year} three ago,
3. that I received an allotment of 3.0 per day from the above son.
4. that I have six children still alive, five living with me.
5. Under the above circumstances I desire to make application
for all decorations on behalf of my late son to be issued
to me.
6. Since divorcing my husband I do, not know of his whereabouts.

And I make this solemn declaration by virtue of the Statutory
Declarations Act, 1911, conscientiously believing the statements
contained therein to be true in every particular.

(3) ✓

Mary Jane Gegan

Declared at SYDNEY

the

12th

day of NOVEMBER

19 20.

Before me,

(4)

J. Shelton J.P.

(5)

1. Here insert name, address and occupation of person making the declaration.
2. Here insert matter declared to. Where the matter is long it should be set
out in numbered paragraphs.
3. Signature of person making the declaration.
4. Signature of person before whom the declaration is made.
5. Here insert title of person before whom the declaration is made.

NOTE.—(1) Any person who wilfully makes a false statement in a Statutory Declaration is
guilty of an indictable offence, and is liable to imprisonment, with or without hard
labour, for four years.

(2) A Statutory Declaration may be made before:—

- (a) A Police Stipendiary or Special Magistrate or a Justice of the Peace, or
- (b) A Commissioner for Affidavits, or
- (c) A Commissioner for Declarations.

MILITARY FORCES OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

TELEPHONE—LW.

2ND MILITARY DISTRICT.

Please quote this Number when replying.

139	1	232
		637

VICTORIA BARRACKS, SYDNEY,

District Headquarters,

(Date) 18th November, 1920.

Officer-in-Charge,
Base Records.

With reference to 1914/15 Star No. 18044 on issue to Mr. T. Gegan, father of the late Pte. C. T. A. Gegan, advice was forwarded to address as shewn on your schedule 51/1362.

Mrs. Gegan, mother of the deceased soldier, states that the father has never lived at 24 Martin Street, Enmore, and further that she divorced him three years ago, being granted the care of the children, by the Judge in Divorce Court.

Under these circumstances she makes application for the issue of all decorations, issued on behalf of her deceased son.

Statutory Declaration made by Mrs. Gegan, is forwarded herewith.

Star being held pending your decision.



R. Jones

Colonel.

A. A. G. 2nd Mil. District.

Miss Shaw 29/11

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

General Headquarters, 3rd Echelon, M. E. F.,
Australian Records Section.

22/824
191
16th February 6.

EFFECTS OF DECEASED OFFICERS OR OTHER RANKS.

Unit Eighteenth battalion
Number 1155
Rank Private
Name Gregan G. T. A.
Effects Bible.

No. of Package 6468

For
for Lieut.
 O. C. Australian Records Section,
 G. H. Q. 3rd Echelon, M. E. F.

2/6

In Memory of
Private
Clarence Theodore Augustus Cregan

1155, 18th Bn., Australian Infantry, A.I.F. who died on 27 August 1915 Age 23

Son of Theodore Edward and Mary Jane Cregan, of 24, Marian St., Enmore, New South Wales. Native of Braidwood.

Remembered with Honour
Lone Pine Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Photo published in "Braidwood Letters from the Front" by Roslyn Maddrell.

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