

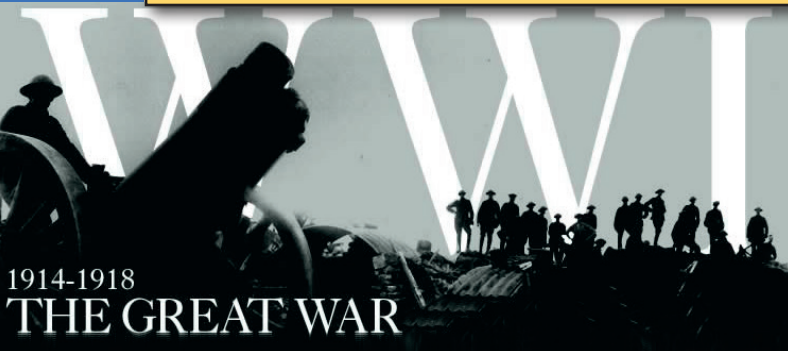
Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

"We will remember them well"

A CALL FROM THE DARDANELLES



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 Feeney**, 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 Feeney 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 FEENEY

Service Number: 254

Rank: Private

Unit: 13th Australian Infantry Battalion

Service: Australian Army

Conflict: First World War, 1914-1918

Date of death: 29 April 1915

Place of death: Gallipoli, Ottoman Empire

Cause of death: Killed in action

Place of association: Fernmount, 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: William Feeney's name is located at **panel 69** in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial

13th Australian Infantry Battalion

The 13th Battalion AIF was raised from late September 1914, six weeks after the outbreak of the First World War. The battalion was recruited in New South Wales, and with the 14th, 15th and 16th Battalions formed the 4th Brigade, commanded by Colonel John Monash.

The Brigade embarked for overseas in late December. After a brief stop in Albany, Western Australia, it proceeded to Egypt, arriving in early February 1915. Australia already had an AIF division there, the 1st. When the 4th Brigade arrived in Egypt it became part of the New Zealand and Australian Division.

The 4th Brigade landed at ANZAC Cove late in the afternoon of 25 April 1915. From May to August, the battalion was heavily involved in establishing and defending the ANZAC front line. In August, the 4th Brigade attacked Hill 971. The hill was taken at great cost, although Turkish reinforcements forced the Australians to withdraw. The 13th also suffered casualties during the attack on Hill 60 on 27 August. The battalion served at ANZAC until the evacuation in December.

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli, the battalion returned to Egypt. While in Egypt the AIF was expanded and was reorganised. The 13th Battalion was split and provided experienced soldiers for the 45th Battalion. The 4th Brigade was combined with the 12th and 13th Brigades to form the 4th Australian Division.

In June 1916, the 13th sailed for France and the Western Front. From then until 1918, the battalion took part in bloody trench warfare. Its first major action in France was at Pozieres in August. In February 1917, Captain W. H. Murray, who had transferred to the 13th from the 16th Battalion, earned the Victoria Cross for his actions during an attack near Gueudecourt. He became one of the most highly decorated officers in the AIF. The 13th Battalion, along with most of the 4th Brigade, suffered heavy losses at Bullecourt in April when the brigade attacked strong German positions without the promised tank support. The battalion spent much of the remainder of 1917 in Belgium advancing to the Hindenburg Line.

In March and April 1918, the battalion helped to stop the German spring offensive. It subsequently played a role in the great allied offensive of 1918, fighting near Amiens on 8 August 1918. This advance by British and empire troops was the greatest success in a single day on the Western Front, one that German General Erich Ludendorff described as ".the black day of the German Army in this war...".

The 4th Brigade continued operations until late September 1918. On 18 September Maurice Buckley, serving as Sergeant Gerald Sexton, was awarded the Victoria Cross for valour near Le Verguier. At 11 am on 11 November 1918, the guns fell silent. In November 1918 members of the AIF began to return to Australia for demobilisation and discharge.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P05927.011.001

At Sea: 25 April 1915: Two Australian servicemen, identified only as "Harry and Bill", on the deck of HMT Ascot (A33) prior to going ashore to the Gallipoli Peninsula on 25 April 1915. The photograph shows the full kit and gear that participants in the landing carried into battle.



WILLIAM FEENEY #254



At Sea, 25 April 1915: Troops on the deck of HMT Ascot (A33) watching the bombardment whilst being transported to Anzac Cove on 25 April 1915. Note: the photograph was not properly exposed resulting in loss of image on the left of the print.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P05927.010.001



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

A05533

At Sea, 24 April 1915: Lieutenant Harold Thomas Watkins, 13th Battalion, AIF, briefing his platoon on the deck of troop transport ship SS Ascot prior to landing at Gallipoli. The other unidentified officer standing (left, back to camera), along with Watkins were both killed on 25 April 1915 at the landing.

D

7461

461
AUSTRALIAN



80
MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

28

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 254 Name FEENEY William
 Unit C 13th Batt
 Joined on 23 Sep 1914

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name? 1. William Feeney.....
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? 2. In the Parish of Boghil..... in or
near the Town of Braidwood.....
in the County of Nswales.....
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a }
Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the }
latter, papers to be shown.) 3. British Subject.....
4. What is your age? 4. 25.....
5. What is your trade or calling? 5. Labourer.....
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, }
where, to whom, and for what period? 6. No.....
7. Are you married? 7. No.....
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) }
..... 8. Father Michael Feeney.....
Ferrmount.....
Bellinger River.....
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? 9. No.....
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His }
Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incor- }
rigible and Worthless, or on account of Convic- }
tion of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servi- }
tude, or have you been dismissed with Disgrace }
from the Navy? 10. 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 11. No.....
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous }
service? 12. Yes.....
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's }
Service? If so, on what grounds? 13. No.....
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? 14.

I, William Feeney..... 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 24 Sep 1914.....
William Feeney.....
 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.

DEFENCE
B.R.

Transferred to

DEFENCE
B.R.

W

D

8241

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

No.

254

Rank

Pvt

Name

Feeney W
13th Batt

Unit

Casualty

27/29/15 Reported Missing M.F.B. 35620/4853 Dated 10/1/15

Previously reported missing now reported killed in action 29/4/16 on authority of Court of Enquiry. M.F.C. 41669/590913 Dtd 5/3/16 also on 29/4/16 Killed in Action at Gallipoli - Court of Enquiry held at Scarpium 6.8.28/4/16. A.F. B. 2090A Received,

DATE

A.F. B. 103 Received PURPORT.

REF. No.

21/1/16
13/5/16

mc adv missing
M.C. 2 Advised Killed in Action 29/4/16

COPY MADE FOR WAR PENSION

318/7

PERSONAL EFFECTS EX. Boona

5.10.17

"Will" to D.P.M. & M.D. 7224726

6.3.18

PERSONAL EFFECTS EX. Narration



3/9/20

614/1916 Star Issued B.R.M. 43/1223/13/7/20
2nd To Comdt. M.D. B.R.M. 614/942.14751

7 SEP 1920

BRITISH WAR MEDAL to Comdt. 2nd M.D.B.R.M. 53/330
VICTORY MEDAL to Father B.R.P.F. 42

Registered Post No. 3355 G.P.O. Melbourne.
color B.R.M. 467368 & Booklet re Graves despatched 1/12/1920

BRITISH WAR MEDAL to Comdt. M.D.B.R.M. 53/330

FINAL NOTICE
112/1322



"WHERE THE AUSTRALIANS REST."
Copies sent to Mr. W. Feeney on 23.5.21

MEMORIAL SCROLL
Father
Mr W Feeney
307469
13/7/21

CARD CHECKED

4/14/15
1514/15

Statement of Service of No. *1514* Name *Severey W.*

Unit in which served,	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Period of service in each rank.		Remarks.
		From--	To--	
	Posted as Missing Now Reported Killed in Action	29/1/15		P/036. 4351 3/5/16

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

FORMAL ACKM.
SENT 11/10/15

no card

12/10/15

W. W. R. + 12/10

Dear Sir: Mrs. Geaney, Glenmount
 would you kindly find out Bellersgr. Drive
 for me if possible, where North Coast.
 my son is I have not heard from him since
 April. Just a few lines here on a post card,
 from the trenches, at the Dardennells -
 yours, faithfully
 Mrs. Geaney.

private W. Geaney:
 No 254 C Company
 10 Battalion 4th Brigade
 2nd Div. I. E. F.
 on active service.



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 } 13TH BATTALION A.I.F. Squadron, Troop, Battery }
or } }
CORPS } } or Company }

Regtl. No. 254 Rank Private

Name FISHER William

Died { Date 29/4/16
Place Gallipoli Peninsula
Cause of Death * Killed in Action

Nature and Date of Report Court of Inquiry held at Serapeum 6-8-23/4/16

By whom made 4th Aust. Inf. Bde. Headquarters

* 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 No report received
Date -
By whom reported -

State whether he leaves a will or not { (a) in Pay Book (Army Book 64) Not yet to hand
(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

Cecil J. Griffiths

Major

Station and Date Alexandria. 11/5/16

Casualty Form—Active Service.

254

Regiment or Corps 13th Battalion

Regimental No. 254 Rank Pte Name FEENEY William

Enlisted (a) 23/9/14 Terms of Service (a) War & 4 Mths 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				
		Proceeded to join MEF Gallipoli	Alexandria	22/2/15 12/4/15	
6/10/15	13th Batt	Missing	Gallipoli	29/4/15	Nom. Roll
15/1/16	do	Missing	do	27 29/4/15	By letter No.13/8 A.R.No.12/1/9 D.O. 5/219 MFC 35620 19/1/16
6/4/16	Proc. of Court of Inquiry B.135	KILLED IN ACTION	do	29/4/15	D.7553 D.O. 36/4351 MFC 41609

Cyril S. Griffiths
Major.
O.C. Australian Records Section.
3rd Echelon, G.H.Q., E.E.F.

(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.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Army Form B. 103.

Regiment or Corps 13th Battalion

Regimental No. 254 Rank Pte Name Feeney William

Enlisted (a) 23/9/14 Terms of Service (a) War & 4 mths Service reckons from (a) 23/9/15

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				
6/10/15	13th Bn	Missing	Gallipoli	29/4/15	Nom Roll.
15/1/16	do	Missing	do	27/4/15	By letter No 13/8 (A.R. No 12/1/9) MFC. 35620 of 19/1/16 5/219
6.4.16	Proc. of Court of Inquiry B135	K. I. A	Gallipoli	29/4/15	D7553 D.O. 36/4351 MFC 41609

PROCEEDED TO JOIN
M.E.F. GALLIPOLI.
254
29/4

(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.

3975

W I L L.

In the event of my death I give the whole of my Property
and Effects to

Mrs M. Feeney,
Fernmount,
Bellinger River,
New South Wales,
Australia.

Date Friday April 16th 1915.

No. 254 Private William Feeney,
Australian Imperial Forces
C. Company, 13th Battalion.

Certified to be a true copy of the will of No. 254 Pte. Feeney, W.
13th Battalion.

R. Know Sgt.,
Estates Branch,
Adm. Hdqrs.,
London.

Checked. *B. Jones* Sgt.,

A.C.

**AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.
KIT STORE.**



110, GREYHOUND ROAD,
FULHAM, LONDON.
S.W.

Telephone:—HAMMERSMITH 1899.

Inventory of Effects of— The Late, 254 Pte Feeney W. 13th Btn A.I.

Forwarded to— (Next of Kin)
(Father)
M. Feeney,
Fernment,
Bellinger River,
N.S.W.

Effects.

Disc. Wallet, Testament, Notebook, Photo. 3 Keys.

Ex Tel-el-Kebir.

No. of Package *2/5 2529*

Checked by

In Memory of

Private

William Feeney

254, 13th Bn., Australian Infantry, A.I.F. who died on 29 April 1915

Remembered with Honour

Lone Pine 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