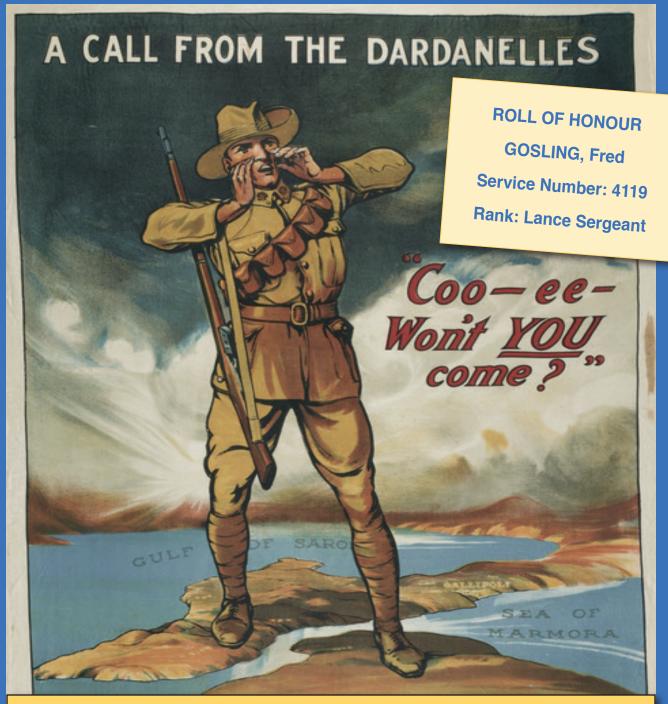
Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

"We will remember them well"



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.





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 **Fred Gosling**, 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.

Fred Gosling 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.

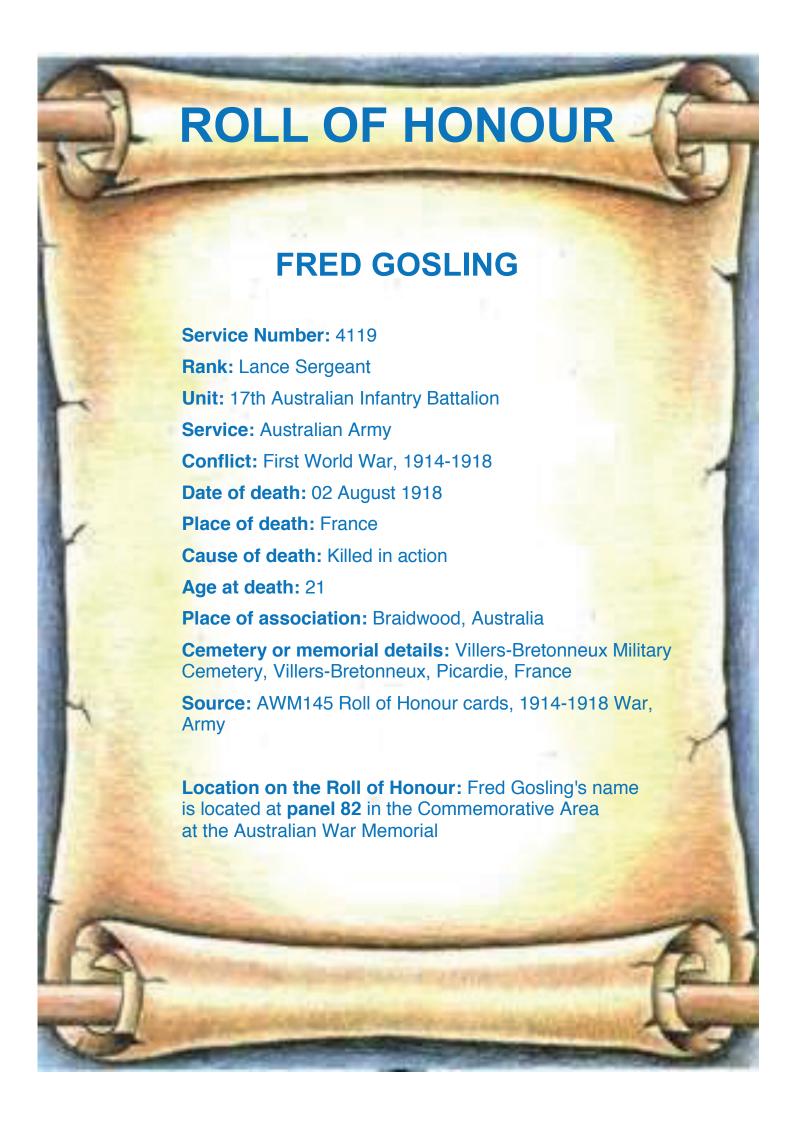
The war was in Europe, the Western Front was in France and Belgium. The Eastern Front was Russia and Austria-Hungary. Africa was another front because of colonial possessions on that continent, and after Turkey entered the war on 1 November 1914, the Middle East became another theatre of war.

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).

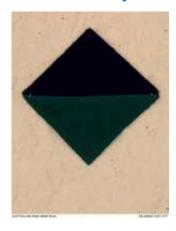
The first Australian troops were sent to Egypt in 1915. The ANZACS – Australian and New Zealand Army Corps – were engaged in battle on the Gallipoli Peninsula against the Turks to control the Dardanelles' and open the way to Eastern Europe with their fateful landing on 25 April 1915.

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.





17th Australian Infantry Battalion



Colour Patch 17 Battalion

The 17th 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 20 August landed at ANZAC Cove.

At Gallipoli the Battalion participated in the last action of the August Offensive ' the attack on Hill 60 ' before settling into defensive routine in the trenches. For a short period part of the 17th garrisoned Pope's Hill, but for most of its time on the peninsular the Battalion was responsible for the defence of Quinn's Post, one of the most contested positions along the entire ANZAC front. The Battalion was evacuated from Gallipoli in December 1915.

After further training in Egypt, the 17th Battalion proceeded to France. Landing there on 22 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, although in a reserve role, between 18 and 28 August. After a spell in a quieter sector of the front in Belgium, the 2nd Division, which included the 5th Brigade, came south again in October. The 17th Battalion was spared from having to mount an attack across the quagmire the Somme battlefield had become, but did have to continue manning the front through a very bleak winter.

In 1917 the 17th was involved in the follow-up of German forces after their retreat to the Hindenburg Line, and was one of four battalions to defeat a counter-stroke by a German force, almost four times as strong, at Lagincourt. The battalion took part in three

major battles before the year was out, 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, 17th
Battalion helped to thwart the German Spring
Offensive of 1918. With this last desperate
offensive defeated, the Allied armies turned to
the offensive and the 17th participated in the
battles that pushed the German Army ever
closer to defeat:

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.

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. Montbrehain was the battalion's last battle. It was training out of the line when the armistice was declared in November 1918, and was disbanded in April 1919.





Published in The Braidwood Dispatch:

"Sergeant Fred Gosling has been killed in action in France on 2nd August, he was a member of the 17th Battalion. Before enlisting the deceased occupied a position in the Premier's office. He was born in Braidwood, received his education at the Public School, he

was a fine manly young man. The flags at the Public School were hoisted half-mast on Wednesday in memory of a school comrade."

Braidwood Letters from the Front, by Roslyn Maddrell



LATE SERGEANT GOSLING.

Mrs. J. Gosling has received a letter from Sergeant-Major Chamberlain from France, stating that her son was killed by a shell on the 2nd August at Villers-Bretonneux, and was buried at Blagny, on the road from that place Amiens. He was buried alongside Captain Bennett ,the adjutant of the regiment, who, with many other Australians, was killed the same day during the heavy fighting at this place. geant-Major Chamberlain was a chum of the late Sergeant Gosling, having left Australia with him.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

C00473

France: Picardie, Somme, Albert: a street in the French town, dominated by the tower of the Basilica of Notre Dame de Brebieres with its 'Leaning Madonna', well known to all soldiers who fought on the Somme. The local people believed that when the Madonna fell, the war would end. In their great spring offensive of 1918, the Germans captured Albert and the 'Leaning Madonna' was brought down by shell fire. (From the collection of 704 Driver Ernest Charles Barnes who served with the 1st Field Artillery Brigade, 21st Howitzer Brigade and 2nd Field Artillery Brigade, 1916.)



MUSTRALIAN



MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

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THE RESERVE		

Unit Special Stamman. Remoterments 1947

_		12-13-14
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	PAY 00-11 No.	2 In the Parish of On aldwood in or
2.	In or near what Parish or Town were you born!	near the Town of 10 A Ou dw 0.0 A
	0	in the County of . MOTAGA
3.	Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.)	8. His.
4.	What is your age?	4 P. R. Glass & Months
5.	What is your trade or calling 1	5. ALLIE
6.	Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice 1 If so, where, to whom, and for what period 1	} e
7.	Are you married !	7. y 23 C
8.	Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated)	How taling of Braidway
9.	Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power!	10 MO. Mother W. 2.20
10.	Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incorrigible 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†	10. No Henderton Control of the Control of the Sydney A & W
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	n. b. Alare de ditia To Tooling
12.	Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service !) 12
13.	Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service! If so, on what grounds!	13. 010 Siles to Trigging
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.	in Regal St
15.	Are you prepared to undergo inoculation sgainst smallpox and enterio fever?	15. Jes mainba N Str. 74/2/2
i I	forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or bey	
31	*And I further agree to allot not less than two	fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during
1	wife and children	Sea it lipling.

DEFENSE Transferred to 日、日、 AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE. Name GOSLING FC Unit C 900 Grown 23 E dated London LIST. Casualty 181277912203 Seed Land an 22/8/ Received B. R. 24 Milled in Action (2,8, 18) SCROLL PURPORT. DATE. 8 103 Received WOV 12 1917 N. O. K. Navious wounded H.O. SADVISED, KILLED IN ACTION 2111 18 10,400,10 COPY MADE FOR WAR PENSIONS CONFIPMATION RECEIVED OF Onlie No. 6218 P2749 Wille 14/164 De DOMAPH OF GRAVE TRANSMITTED TO NEXT OF KIN. B. R. M. Ho. 46/199. Returned to War S.O.V. J. 201. D. A1/686 00. OF KIN. B. R.M. No. 4-57854+ in duplicate Circular B.R.M. 48/1368 & Booklet Pe Graves despatched.... 25. 11.21

(SERVICE AND CASUALTY FORM Part II).

Regiment or Corps Sth-T.Ba. 10/17th Bn

Regimental Number 4119.

"Substantative Rank Dto L/Sgturname GOSLING. Christian Names : Fred.

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	.9.16.	7		Fargo Hosp: INF:.	Ehg: .	THE RESERVE AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON NAMED IN	DO.53/208
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	.10.17.	00.17th Bn.		Sit. roma wing at duty.	France France.	9.10.17	. DO.60/72
	.8.18.	00.17th Bn	· Promotes	ed in Action.	France		DO.49/477

17th Battn. A.I.P.

。 大學學的學科學學學學 GOSLING 8/Major F.4119

He was in D.Coy. and I saw him hit at 3 p.m. in front of Villers
Bretonneux by a stray 42 shell. He had about 20 wounds in back and
was badly wounded near kidneys. He only spoke a few words to ask for
his wallet, which was given him. He was almost helpless and practically unconscious. So it was placed on his breast. He died at the
Dressing Station near Railway arch, near Villers Bretonneux, and I saw him ouried next day near by in a little Conetery on the Amiens-Villers-Bretonneux Road, and everything was in good order. I knew him personally and he was a very straight, clean chap, a

non-smoker and a tectotaller, and he came from New South Wales.

Informant - Greenaway Pte.B.H. 6805 17th Battn. D.Coy. 3rd A.A.H. DARTFORD.

A.B.Priddle 5-11-18 Lendon 19-11-18

P.I.

I saw Sgt. Major Gosling after he had been wounded near Villers Bretonneux in front of Amiens. He was wounded in the lower part of the back by a Shell while he was in a trench. I bound him up and carried him to the Aid Post about 150 yards away and left him there. It happened about neon about Aug.2nd. He was in D.Coy. He was .5 10 or 11, fair, clean-shaven, came from Sydney. The ground was

Informant - Rowan.Pte.J.T. 3083 (Roliable)

Home Address:-Bathurst P.O.

Hew South Wales.

17th Battn.D.Coy.S/B Spec. Mil. Surg. Mosp. TOOTING

E.C.Pard 6-11-18 London 19-11-18

type on copy for Lychney led on

File.

chonkettee s: Braidwood 28.11.19. chajor Lean Dear Sir sta line to thank you for forwarding us Photos of Our Dear Brothers Grave. Late L. Sgt. F. Gosling. Four faithfully M.E.H.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO

THE SECRETARY.

WOUNDED AND MISSING
— ENQUIRY BUREAU

AUSTRALIAN MED CROSS SOCIETY.



AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Tel.: VICTORIA 8576 8577 8578

616.

Pte. A.Boag. 30th Battn. A.I.F.

Ward 29, K. Block, 10th Canadian Hospital, BRIGHTON. 36 GROSVENOR PLACE

(HEAR VICTORIA STATION).

LONDON, S.W 1.

4/12/18.

Dear Sir,

In further reply to your enquiry for 4119 Set. ajor V. Gosling.

17th Bettn. A.I.F. who was killed in action on 2.8.18. We deg to
inform you of the following unofficial reports received from men in
the bettalion. 6805. Pte. Greenaway states:-

"He was in D.Company and I saw him hit at 3 p.m. in front of Villers Bretonneux by a stray 42 shell. He had about 10 wounds in back, and was badly wounded near kidneys. He only spoke a few words to ask for his wallet, which was given him. He was almost helpless and practically unconcious, so it was placed on his breast. He died at the Dressing Station near Railway Arch, near Villers Bretonneux, and I saw him baried next day near by in a little cemetery on the Amiens-Villers-Bretonneux Road, and everything was in good order. I knew him personally and he was a very straight, clean chap, a non-smoker and testotaller, and he came from New South Walles."

3083. Pts J.T. Rowan states:-

"I saw Sgt. Major Gosling after he had been wounded near Villers Bretonneux in front of Amiens, He was wounded in the lower part of the back by a shell while he we in a trench. I bound him up and carried him to the Aid Post about 150 yards away, and left him there It happened about noon on August End." "

1333. Pte.linguire states:-

Sgt. Major Gosling was buried in the Aust. Military Cometery at Petit Blangy, and a cross was erected".

TO SE ADDRESSED TO
THE SECRETARY:
WOUNDED AND MISSING
ENQUIRY BUREAU



OSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Tel.: VICTORIA 8577 8578

88 GROSVENOR PLACE

(HEAR VICTORIA STATION).

LONDON, S.W. 1.

616. Pte. A.Boag. BRIGHTON.

(Continued 2).

4/12/18.

We are now closing our enquiry, but should any further particulars come to hand we will at once advise you.

Once more assuring you of our very sincere sympathy in the loss of your friend, and with all good wishes.

Yours faithfully,

(Wiss)

Vera Beakin (pe & M.)

SEC EFARY.

6240

A.I.F. 17th Betto.

Sgt. F. Gosling, 4119,

"X111ed 2/8/18."

I saw his grave in a French Cemetery in the next village to Glisy towards Villers Bretchneux. Battalich was putting up a cross, but I went specially to see his grave which had only a temporary cross up.

Informant: - 6064 Graham. Ward 39, Harefield.

D.F. Dickson. Lenden 23.11.18. H.C.



JHE.

24 REP 1930

S.C.1.

Dear Madam,

With reference to your recent application please find enclosed herewith official receipt for remittance in payment of one copy of Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery Register containing the particulars of your son, the late No. 4119 Lance Sergeant F. GOSLING, 17th. Battalion, which will be forwarded in the course of the next few days.

It is noted from the correction to the proof slip entry that you have substituted "Monkittee Street, Braidwood" for the address shown, and it is regretted that it will not be practicable to similarly amend the Register entry at this late juncture as the printed copies have already been prepared for publication.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. E. Gosling 19 Royal Street, MAROUBRA, N.S.W.

Officer i/c Base Records.

Ene:

Australian Imperial Force. IWD.



A.I.F. KIT STORE. 110, GREYHOUND ROAD. HAMMERSMITH, LONDON, W. 6.

Inventory of Effects of - 4119 Gosling. F. 17th Btn.A.I.F.

Forwarded to - Father, Mr John Gosling, Monkitte Street, Reardwood, Beardwood, N.S.W.

Effects received from the field. 3.9.18.(3/6078). 1 Parcel(sealed) containing:-

2 Discs, 1 Wallet, 1 YMCA wallet, 1 Bible, Photos, Cards, Badges, 1 Fountain pen.

SARDINIA

D/S. 41475

No. of Package

Checked by

No. 429

1.Ar/4335/1/15

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS A.I.F., 130. Horseferry Road, Westminster, London, S.W.1.

8th Jamuary, 1918.

THE CHIEF PAYMASTER.

(Officer 1/c AF)
Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. Westminster, IONDON. S.W.1.

Re No.4119, Lance Sergeant GOSLING, B., 17th Battn.

This soldier's promotion has formed the subject of investigation and ruling has been made and approved, and promulgation will appear in 17th Battalion (Unit) Part II Order No. 3/B

Subject	This soldier's promotion has formed subject of investigation, and ruling has been made as follows:-		
PROMOTION RECONCILIATION			
D	E.D.P.Sérgeant 8. 3.16. Reverts to Pte 11. 4.16. Prom. T/Cpl 11. 4.16. Reverts to Pte 17.11.16. Apptd. L/Cpl 21. 1.17. Prom. Cpl 1. 9.17. Apptd. L/Sgt 15.10.17.		

Entries referring to soldier's movements and rank from embarkation to 15/10/17 are amended to read in accordance with above ruling.

(Authority:- C.R. 4335/1/ 15 .)

For your information please.

RECORDS.

In Memory of

Lance Sergeant

Fred Gosling

4119, 17th Bn., Australian Infantry, A.I.F. who died on 02 August 1918 Age 21

Son of Elizabeth Gosling, of "Herbertville," Bunnerong Rd., South Kensington, New South Wales, and the late John Gosling. Born at Braidwood, New South Wales.

Remembered with Honour

Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



The Royal Mail Hotel, Wallace Street, Braidwood.

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

AERROWN