

# Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

*"We will remember them well"*

## A CALL FROM THE DARDANELLES



ROLL OF HONOUR

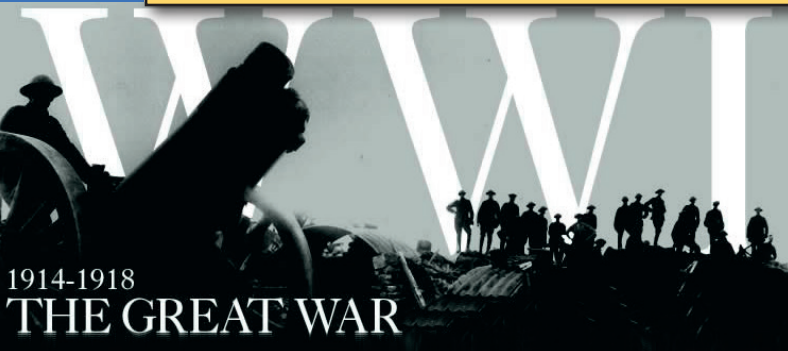
HUGGETT, William

Service Number: 5125

Rank: Private

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

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



1914-1918  
THE GREAT WAR

100  
YEARS OF  
ANZAC

THE SPIRIT  
LIVES  
2014 - 2018

## Introduction

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

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

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

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

This booklet is the available story of **William Huggett**, 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 Huggett** 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 HUGGETT

**Service Number:** 5125

**Rank:** Private

**Unit:** 1st Australian Infantry Battalion

**Service:** Australian Army

**Conflict:** First World War, 1914-1918

**Date of death:** 22 July 1916

**Place of death:** France

**Cause of death:** Killed in action

**Age at death:** 21

**Place of association:** Braidwood, Australia

**Cemetery or memorial details:** Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, Picardie, France

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

**Location on the Roll of Honour:** William Huggett's name is located at **panel 29** in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial

## 1st Australian Infantry Battalion

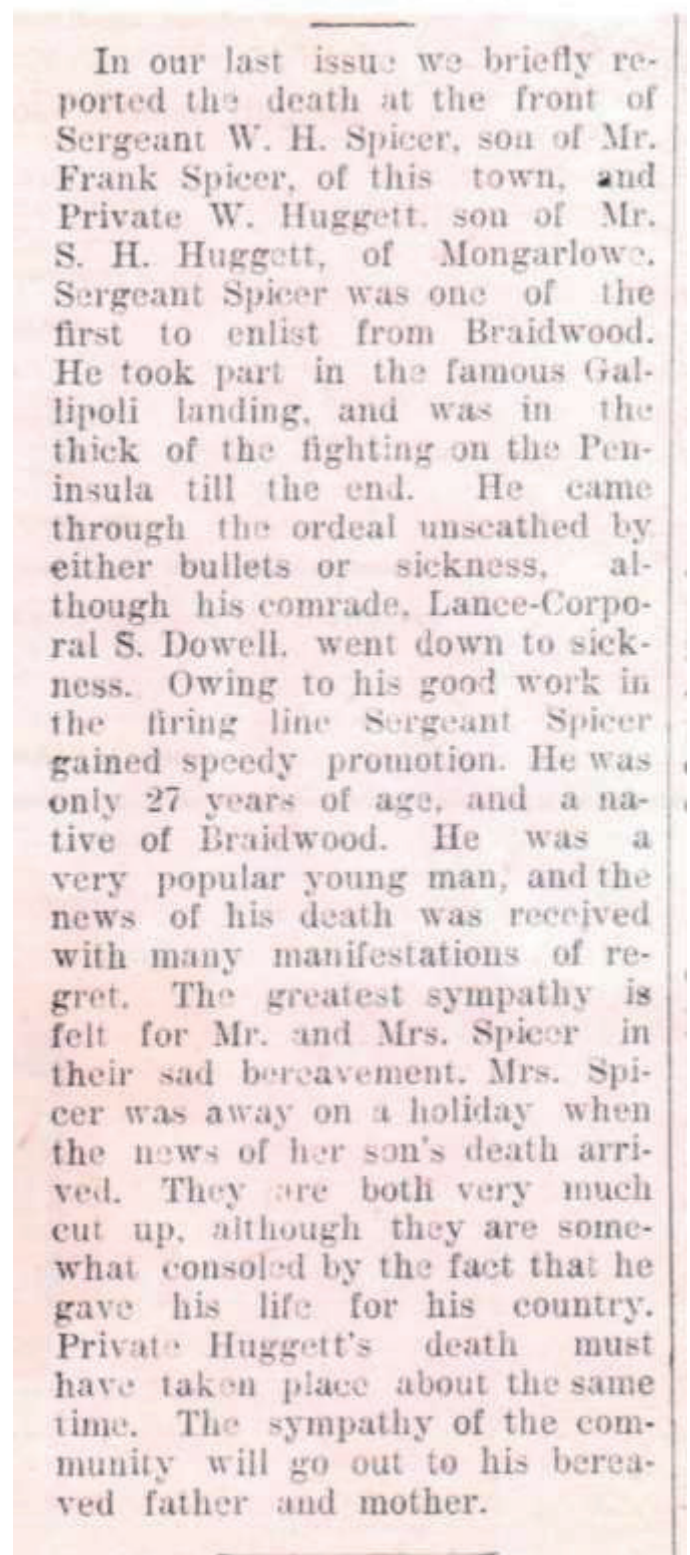
The 1st Battalion was the first infantry unit recruited for the AIF in New South Wales during the First World War.

The battalion was raised within a fortnight of the declaration of war in August 1914 and embarked just two months later. After a brief stop in Albany, Western Australia, the battalion proceeded to Egypt, arriving on 2 December. The battalion took part in the ANZAC landing on 25 April 1915 as part of the second and third waves, and served there until the evacuation in December. Its most notable engagement at Gallipoli was the battle of Lone Pine in August. Two members of the battalion, Captain A. J. Shout and Lieutenant L.M. Keysor were awarded Victoria Crosses for their valour at Lone Pine, Captain Shout posthumously.

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli in December 1915, the battalion returned to Egypt. In March 1916, it sailed for France and the Western Front. From then until 1918 the battalion took part in operations against the German Army, principally in the Somme Valley in France and around Ypres in Belgium. At Bullecourt in May 1917, Corporal G. J. Howell became the third member of the battalion to be awarded the Victoria Cross. The battalion participated in the battle of 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 battalion continued operations until late September 1918. At 11 am on 11 November, 1918, the guns fell silent. The November armistice was followed by the peace treaty of Versailles signed on 28 June 1919. Between November 1918 and May 1919 the men of the 1st Battalion returned to Australia for demobilisation and discharge.

1916: *The Braidwood Dispatch* reporting the death of William Huggett





1916: Goulburn NSW, Group portrait of Troops, taken outside the drill hall at Goulburn Training Camp. Identified is 5435 Private William Joseph Punch, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Third Row, 11<sup>th</sup> from right). (Photo: Australia War Memorial, donor A. Speer)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

PB0537

William Huggett left Sydney on 1 April, 1916 on the SS Makarini. Troops on board SS Makarini prior to departure.

D

655

AUSTRALIAN



MILITARY FORCES.

KILLED IN ACTION  
16TH REINFORCEMENTS  
1ST BATTALION

16th R. Inf's  
1st Battalion

# AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

## Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 5125

1st Batten

Name Huggett William

Unit 1ST. BATTALION

Joined on 2nd December 1915

### Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. What is your Name? .....  | 1. <u>Huggett William</u>  |
| 2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? .....   | 2. In the Parish of ..... in or near the Town of <u>Braidwood</u> in the County of ..... |
| 3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) .....  | 3. <u>British born</u>   |
| 4. What is your age? .....   | 4. <u>21 years 1 mo 2 Nor</u>  |
| 5. What is your trade or calling? .....  | 5. <u>Farmer</u>   |
| 6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? .....   | 6. <u>No</u>   |
| 7. Are you married? .....  | 7. <u>No</u>   |
| 8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) .....   | 8. <u>Father: Stephen Huggett, Margaret Lowe, Braidwood, N.S.W.</u>                      |
| 9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? .....  | 9. <u>No</u>   |
| 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? ..... | 10. <u>No</u>  |
| 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. <u>No</u>  |
| 12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? .....   | 12. <u>Yes</u>   |
| 13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? .....  | 13. <u>No</u>  |
| 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. ....  | 14. <u>Yes</u>   |
| 15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever? .....  | 15. <u>Yes</u>   |

I, William Huggett 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 three-fifths wife and children

Date 20th December 1915

William Huggett  
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.

CARD CHECKED

Statement of Service of No. 5125 Name Huggett, William

Unit in which served.	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Period of service in each rank.		Remarks.
		From-	To-	
"Waratahs" E Coy No. 1 Batta 16 Reif 1st Batta	Private	Dec 3 1915	Dec 18 1915	
	Private	Dec 18 1915		
	Private	1-3-16		
	Dis. at Mansilly ex Caledonia, N.Y. 5.16.			
	reported at 1st Aust. div. Base depot Etaples	20.5.16		Pt 56 5916 29.6.16
	joined 1st Batta from 16th Reif			
	1st Batta. A.I.F.	11.7.16		Pt 69/4391. 16.8.16.
	<b>KILLED IN ACTION</b>			
	Proceeded to join 1st Anzac entrench Batt:	25.6.16		France 12-15/16 P.I 67/6816 5/8/16 6213 h. 265 A.C. 1681.

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

W




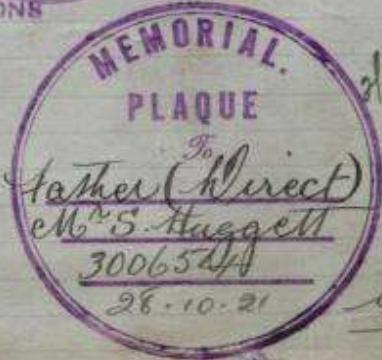
Transferred to

D C

REFERENCE  
N.R.  
D 11069

# AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

No. 5125  
 Rank Private Name Huggett W.  
 Unit 1st Battalion  
 Casualty Killed in action. 22 to 25/7/16 6145 L 265/4764/16  
10d. Com. 10.8.16/16

DATE	PURPORT.	REF. NO.
<p>16.8.16 31.8.16</p>	<p><b>A/F. B. 2090A Received.</b></p> <p>M. O. <u>2</u> <b>Advised</b> <u>Killed in action 22-25/7/16</u>  <b>COPY MADE FOR WAR PENSIONS</b></p> <p>CONFIRMATION RECEIVED OF          Cable No. <u>10/16 265/4764/37/16</u>  <u>Circular C.R.M. 45/1383 &amp; Book 1000 despatched. E. 12/19/16</u></p>	<p>REF. NO.</p> <p><i>Final Notice 20/8/22 m. 4/4/21</i></p>
<p>9.12.21</p> <p>WAR HISTORY INDEX</p> <p>LIST.</p> <p><small>D.F. 4/1.16.—C.942.—10v.</small></p>	<p>BRITISH WAR MEDAL to Comdt <u>2nd</u> <u>M.D.B.R.M. 54/175</u></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">    </div> <p>17.10.21 <b>COPY MADE FOR WAR PENSIONS</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><u>For Father (Direct)</u>  <u>of Mr. S. Huggett</u>  <u>30065/4</u>  <u>28.10.21</u></p> </div>	<p>REF. NO.</p> <p><i>adm</i></p>



**FIELD SERVICE.**

*qm.*

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 } 1ST INFANTRY BATTALION, A.I.F. Squadron, Troop, Battery or Company } 16TH REINFORCEMENTS.

Regtl. No. 5125 Rank PRIVATE

Name HUGGETT William.

Died { Date 22/25th July 1916  
Place (In the Field) FRANCE  
Cause of Death\* KILLED IN ACTION.

Nature and Date of Report Army Form B.213 dated 28th July 1916.

By whom made Commanding Officer 1st Infantry 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.

Burial { Place Not yet to hand  
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]* Signature of Officer in charge of Section Adjutant-General's Office at the Base } *[Signature]* **LIEUTENANT,**  
Officer i/c Records.

Station and Date Rouen France. 18th October 1916.

ANZAC SECTION 3rd Echelon G.H.Q.  
BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

*[Handwritten initials]*

Eleanor St.  
Eastgrove  
Goulburn  
8 Jan 1916

To officer i/c. Base Records.

Sir

Would you  
oblidge me by giving me some information  
respecting ~~the~~ the undamentioned Soldier  
as to whether he is still alive or otherwise  
as I have had no communication from  
him for some time past. his last adress  
was as follows.

Private William Huggett  
No 5169. 16<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements  
14 Battalion A.D.B.D  
Co A.P.O.  
S 17. B.E.F  
France

To Mr. O'Brien  
CORRESPONDENCE  
SECTION  
JAN 11 1916  
RECEIVED  
OK 4 30/11

BASE RECORDS  
RECEIVED  
JAN 17 1916

Awaiting your early Reply

I am Sir

Yours faithfully.

J. H. Huggett

C/o Mrs J A Cunningham  
Eleanor St  
East. Goulburn

Sgt Sanderow  
This is the correct man

Wd  
4/1/16

2,5125

D. 11069

29677

12th January, 1917.

Dear Sir,

In acknowledging receipt of your communication dated 8th instant, I have to inform you the nearest approach to the soldier referred to is shown on the records as No. 5125 Private William Huggett, 16th Reinforcements, 1st Battalion, who enlisted with the Australian Imperial Force at Liverpool, New South Wales, on 20/12/15. He was born at Braidwood, and next-of-kin is shown as residing in that town.

Should the abovesmmed soldier be identical with the subject of your enquiry, I regret to inform you he was reported in a brief cable message as having been killed in action between 22nd and 25th July, 1916.

Yours faithfully,

Major  
Officer i/c Base Records.

Mrs. S. H. Huggett,  
C/o Mrs. G. A. Cunningham,  
Eleanor Street,  
East Goulburn, N.S.W.



Bells Creek  
Fairfield Wood  
Sept 22/22

The Officer in Charge  
Base Records  
Victoria Barracks  
Melbourne

Sir

I have today received a Medal for my late son Wm Huggitt also form to be filled up with particulars for an inscription on his grave.

This letter which was actually posted in Melbourne about the 10<sup>th</sup> of last Feb. was addressed to me at Mongarlowe - where it has been since I do not know, and I think should be required into.

The Post master at Mongarlowe knows very well that I have been away from there for 5 years. He also knows very well my present address, what I give above -

I hope my reply will not be too late for your purpose  
I am Yours affly S. H. Huggitt p. 7d.

FORM OF ACK. SENT 28/9/22.V.I.

BASE RECORDS  
SEP 26 1922  
RECEIVED

DECEASED  
SECTION  
SEP 26 1922

RECEIVED

Miss G... 28/9

In Memory of

Private

# William Huggett

5125, 1st Bn., Australian Infantry, A.I.F. who died on 22 July 1916 Age 21

Son of Stephen Henry and Rosseta Huggett, of Bell's Creek, New South Wales. Born at Braidwood, New South Wales.

Remembered with Honour

Villers-Bretonneux Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

## From Braidwood Dear Braidwood, by Netta Ellis

Editorial comment at the beginning of the war, gave emphasis to the effect of war on such domestic affairs as markets for primary products, and the unemployment caused by the closure of mines and factories as export markets disappeared. Reports of fighting overseas were always optimistic, allied victories being predicted and casualties stated as minimal. However, some weeks after the Dardanelles campaign, as the true number of killed, wounded and missing was reported and that event seen as a failure rather than a success, a fear of defeat and the real tragedy of the First World War, the "Great War", was realised. In 1917 as local boys were casualties to the horror of the trench fighting in France, the conflict was no longer so remote, as letters were received from soldiers recovering in England from wounds.



The people gave their support by contributing large amounts to the war loans, the proceeds of most social events going to this purpose. The women rallied to the Red Cross Society. By 1917, Braidwood women had made 3,756 pounds of jam to aid the war effort; 202 pounds were made in Durran Durra and 304 pounds in Majors Creek and Jembiacumbene!

Nevertheless, the local people voted overwhelmingly in the negative at the referenda in 1916 and 1917 asking for the power to conscript men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five for overseas service to be given to the Commonwealth Government. There was much criticism in the local press of the personality and



actions of Prime Minister William Morris Hughes, who was described as a "tinpot Welsh autocrat", and of the exclusion of voting in the referenda of people with the names of German origin. Perhaps the democracy of the goldfields still permeated the community and conscription was seen as a contradiction of individual freedom. A significant proportion of the population was of Irish origin and some of these had conflicting loyalties. Moreover, by 1917, the rural workforce was seriously depleted. At Easter 1917 the N.S.W. Recruiting Committee issued the following verse:

### Who Rides Today?

**Bending neck to bit and bridle  
Pace the war steeds in their pride;  
Who will fill the empty saddles?  
Who will for Australia ride?  
Who rides today, for Empire rides,  
Where duty leads the way -  
Where brothers fight and die for us  
Who rides, who rides today?  
Will you mount for heroes fallen?  
For your soul's sake in this war?  
There are southern horses waiting?  
On the crimson fields afar.  
They are waiting dumb, expectant,  
Jingling rein and tossing head,  
For the men who'll charge for Freedom  
In the saddles of the dead.  
Hark, the bugle call resounding  
From across the Ocean wide -  
Take the steed that waits a soldier,  
And for dear Australia ride.**

*The appeal to love the Empire, duty, freedom and 'dear Australia' was expected to be more powerful to the young men of the country areas if allied to the bushman's love of riding. But **The Braidwood Dispatch** had already recorded in January 1917 "All the eligible young men who were prepared to go to war have gone."*



*Peace Day, Wallace Street Braidwood, 11 November, 1918.*

## **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