

# Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

*"We will remember them well"*

## A CALL FROM THE DARDANELLES



ROLL OF HONOUR

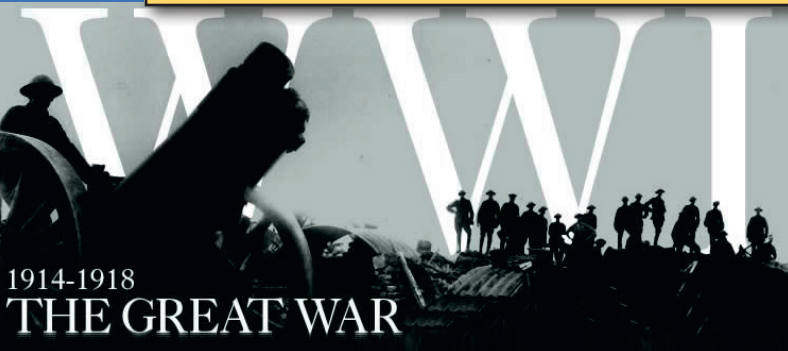
HUNT, John

Service Number: 6091

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 **John Hunt**, 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.

**John Hunt** 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

## JOHN HUNT

**Service Number:** 6091

**Rank:** Private

**Unit:** 18th Australian Infantry Battalion

**Service:** Australian Army

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

**Date of death:** 20 September 1917

**Place of death:** Belgium

**Cause of death:** Killed in action

**Place of association:** Bodalla, Australia

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

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

**Location on the Roll of Honour:** John Hunt's name  
is located at **panel 85** in the Commemorative Area  
at the Australian War Memorial



Centre of portrait is John Hunt with two unidentified men.

## 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.



D

32309

Enlistment Camp 16/8/16

ORIGINAL

AUSTRALIAN



MILITARY FORCES.

# AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

## Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

38

6091

37715

Name

John Hunt

Unit

18th Battalion  
16/8/16

Joined on

JUN 1 1916

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

1. What is your name? *John Hunt*
2. In the Parish of *Araduen* in or near the Town of *Braidwood* in the State of *N.S.W.*
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) *Natural born*
4. What is your age? *22 1/2 yrs*
5. What is your trade or calling? *Farm Labourer*
6. Are you, or have you been, an apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period, *No*
7. Are you married? *No*
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) *Wife, Miss Louisa Hunt, 60, M & E Building, General Post Office, S.W. Coast, N.S.W.*
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? *No*

Enlistment No.

N ~~37715~~ 6091

Date Commenced Duty

16 AUG 1916

Rate of Pay

5/-

Separation Allowance

Allotment

Allottees Name & Address

small-pox and enteric fever?

I, *John Hunt* 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 *three-fifths*

Date

16/8/16

*John Hunt*  
Signature of person enlisted.

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



Transferred to

D C

D 38252

# AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

No. 6091  
 Rank Pte Name HUNT J  
 Unit 18<sup>th</sup> Batta  
 Casualty Killed in Action 20/9/17 659, 21909, 48<sup>B</sup> dated London 11. 10. 17

LIST.

349



DATE	PURPORT	REF. NO.
1-11-17	U.O. 2 ADVISED, KILLED IN ACTION. 20/9/17	
30/10/17	COPIES MADE FOR WAR PENSIONS	
7.1.18	"WILL" to G.P.M. 2 M.D. Location of will M 23/1039	
1.5.18	"WILL" to D.P.M. 2 M.D. 213/1316	
	PERSONAL EFFECTS EX- <u>Boonah</u>	
	No personal effects in kit. B. G. M. No. 23/1256	
	Regular B.R.M. 46 1303 & Booklet re Graves despatched 12/12/19	
29/4/21	BRITISH WAR MEDAL to Comdt ..... M.D.B.R.M. 63,808 52/329	FINAL NOTICE 12/12/19
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <p><b>"WHERE THE AUSTRALIANS REST."</b></p> <p>Pamphlet sent to <u>W. E. L. Hunt</u> on <u>17.5.21</u> <u>Act.</u></p> </div>	



FIELD SERVICE

Army Form B. 2090A.

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

REGIMENT (OR CORPS) 18th BATTALION, A.I.F. Squadron, Troop, Battery or Company

Regimental No. 6091 Rank Private

Surname HUNT Christian Names John

Died { Date 20th September, 1917. Place Belgium

Cause of Death\* Killed in Action.

Nature and Date of Report ARMY FORM B. 213 dated 29.9.17.

By whom made Commanding officer 18th Battalion, A.I.F. B.P.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.

State whether he leaves a Will or not { (a) in Pay Book (Army Book 64) will not received. (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.

Station and Date ANZAC SECTION 3rd RECONSTRUCTION BATTALION, B.P.F. 3rd January, 1918 Signature of Officer in charge of Section [Signature] Adjutant-General's Office at the Base Lieut. Officer i/c Records.

W2088/M1788-500,000-H. & Sr.-5/17-(10489)-Form B/2090A/2.

W I L L

6812

In the event of my death I leave all of my Military pay and deffered pay also my property to my wife Elsie Louise Hunt C of Mr A E Baldwin Central Bodalla

Signature John Hunt  
Rank and Unit Private No 6091 18th Batt  
Date 11th March 1917

Certified to be a true copy of the Will extracted from the Pay Book of No. 6091 Pte. HUNT, John, 18th Bn.

Checked. [Signature]

[Signature] Sgt.,  
Estates Branch,  
Adm. Hqrs.,  
London.



North Street  
Coffs Harbour  
3/6/1918.

J. M. Lean, Major,  
Melbourne,  
Dear Sir,

As I have left the  
place I was residing at before, would  
you kindly address all parcels & letters  
referring to my late Husbands personal  
effects. Mrs E. L. Hunt,



C/o A. McIndyre,  
North Street,  
Coffs Harbour,  
N. S. Wales.

and you will very much oblige,

Yours Respectfully  
Mrs E. L. Hunt.

1. Full name, number, rank, and unit of Member of Forces in respect of whose death or incapacity pension was claimed.	Hunt, Jenn, 6091, Pte., 18th Bn.
2. Full name and address of person for whom pension was claimed.	Hunt, Miss Louisa, Bodalla.
3. Relationship of such person to Member	Widow.
4. Result of Claim	Pension of 22 p.f. granted from 16/12/17
5. Name and address of Trustee (if any)	



BT 7467

ADDRESS ALL LETTERS TO  
THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE,  
BOX 7, G.P.O.,  
SYDNEY.

FOR ORAL ENQUIRIES ASK FOR  
MR. McCarthy

THE PUBLIC TRUST OFFICE



19 O'CONNELL STREET  
SYDNEY, N.S.W.

TELEPHONE: 2 0523

OFFICE HOURS:  
10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

In your reply quote the Estate  
and the initials below.

MJM.3.MC.

10th December, 1965.

\*  
The Officer in Charge,  
Central Army Records Office,  
A Block,  
Albert Park Barracks,  
MELBOURNE.

Dear Sir,

Estate of the late CHRISTOPHER JOHN HUNT.

The Public Trustee is administering the estate of the  
abovenamed deceased, late of Ingleburn, who died on 13th May, 1963.

The deceased's father, John Hunt, is believed to have  
been killed in France during World War I. He was married to Elsie  
Louisa Baldwin on 2nd April, 1917.

It would be appreciated if you would check your records  
and if John Hunt was killed in action would you kindly supply this  
Office with the usual certification of death.

Yours faithfully,

for the PUBLIC TRUSTEE.

30



MB

1914/18

6019

REGISTERED MAIL

E2/ 028453

15 DEC 1965

Dear Sir,

Re: Estate of the late Christopher John HUNT

6091 Private John HUNT (Deceased)

18th Battalion AIF 1914-18

Reference: Your MJM.3.MC. of 6th December 1965.

Herewith Certificate of Death No 4657 issued in respect of the death, on service, of the abovementioned John HUNT, who was "Killed in Action" in Belgium on 20th September 1917.

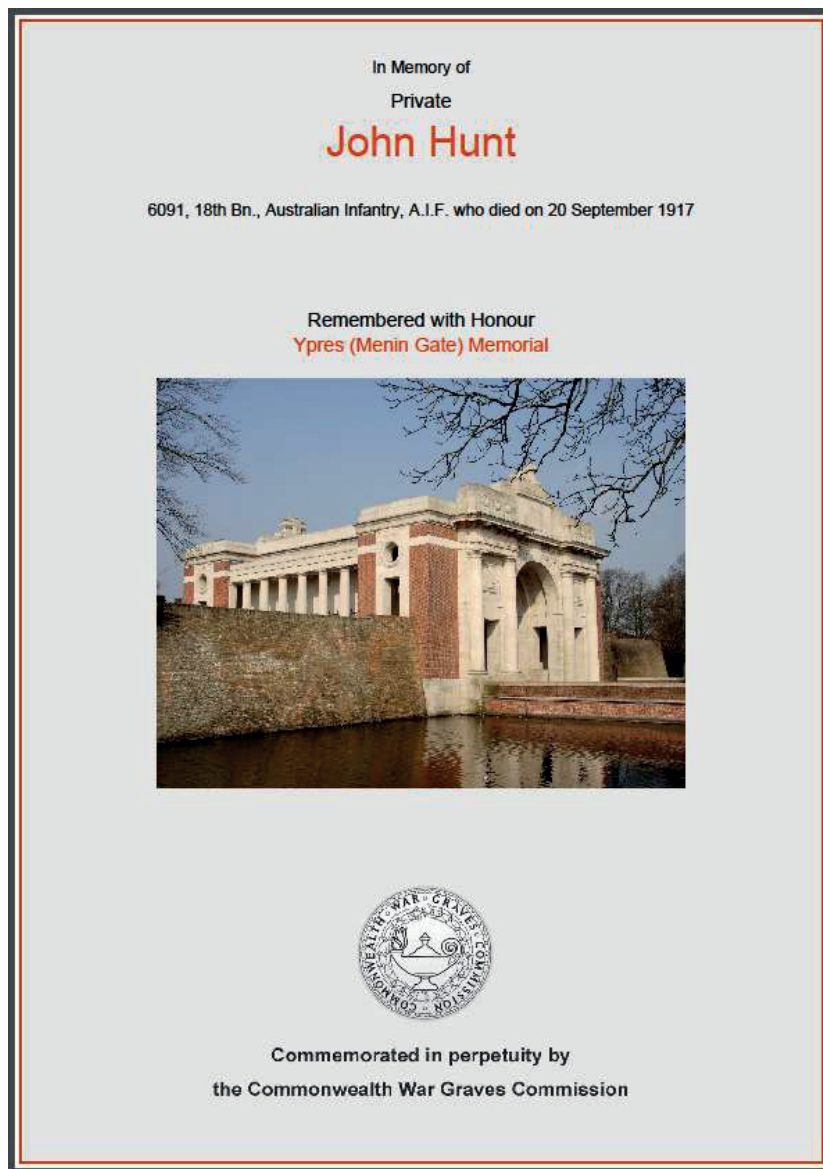
Yours faithfully,

Colonel  
OIC Central Army Records Office

The Public Trustee,  
Box 7, G.P.O.  
SYDNEY, N.S.W.

PA / PA  
G.M./H.





## 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