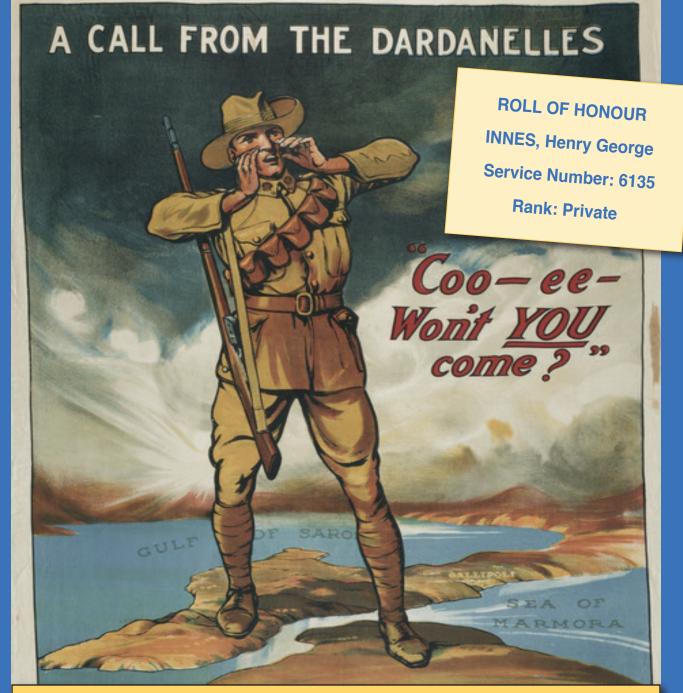
Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

"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 Henry George Innes, 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.

Henry George Innes died for his country, for you and for me. Please pause a moment to remember him.

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.



Lest We Forget.

ROLL OF HONOUR

HENRY GEORGE INNES

Service Number: 6135 Rank: Private Unit: 4th Australian Infantry Battalion Service: Australian Army Conflict: First World War, 1914-1918 Date of death: 15 April 1917 Place of death: France Cause of death: Died of wounds Age at death: 25 Place of association: Bells Creek, Australia Cemetery or memorial details: Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, Picardie, France Source: AWM145 Roll of Honour cards, 1914-1918 War, Army

Location on the Roll of Honour: Henry George Innes' name is located at **panel 40** in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial

4th Australian Infantry Battalion

The 4th Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. Like the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions it was recruited from New South Wales and, together with these other battalions, formed the 1st Brigade.

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. The commander of the 4th Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel A. J. O. Thompson, was killed the next day. At ANZAC, the battalion took part in the defence of the beachhead and in August, along with the rest of the 1st Brigade, led the charge at Lone Pine. The battalion served at ANZAC until the evacuation in December.

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli, 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. The battalion's first major action in France was at Pozieres in the Somme valley in July 1916. Later the battalion fought at Ypres, in Flanders, before returning to the Somme for winter.

4 17th A. I.F. Missing 15.4.17. At Hermies the Germans came over about 3.45 a.m. Innes was on outpost duty and was taken prisoner. It was considered in the Bn. that there was absolutely no doubt that this is a fact. Reference: Pte. F. Brown, 6461. Ho.11 Con. Camp Buchy Hr. Rouen. 16.6.17. 73. 0 ALAN HAND COM

The battalion participated in a short period of mobile operations following the German withdrawal to the Hindenburg Line in early 1917, but spent much of that year fighting in increasingly difficult conditions around Ypres. In 1918 the battalion returned to the Somme valley and helped to stop the German spring offensive in March and April. The battalion subsequently participated in the Allies' great offensive of that year, launched east of Amiens on 8 August 1918. The advance on this day 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 4th Battalion returned to Australia for demobilisation and discharge.

1483 TRALIAN ITARY FORCES IMPERIAL AUSTRALIAN Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad. 6135 LNNCS. H.G. Name 16th 4th A. I.F. Unit Joined on 23-1-16 Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation. 1 Menny Lorge 2. In the Parish of 2. In or near what Parish near the Town of Bracher in the County of 72. S. W. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject (N.B.-If the latter, papers to be shown.) 1 Mat Born t. What is your age? go -- - - - -1. 23 Lers 9 Months a, What is your trade or calling? 6. Are yea, or have you been, an Approximent If so, 1. The where, to whom, and for what period, 7. Are you married I as an an an an an an no mather) Cathe 8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Powerf , 1. The 10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of Have Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incor-rigible and Worthless, or on account of Convie-tion of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servix 10. 100 11. 110 12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous serviced as an or or or or or or or or or 12 9 13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty Service! If so, on what grounds! 13. 110 14. Do you understand that no Separation Allowance with you understand that he separation in beyond an amount which, together with Pay, would reach eight shillings per day?..... It. and white 15. 9 mms 1. . . I. do solemnly declare that the above answers and by me to the allow quantions are true, and I am withing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Multary Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth. "Ang I further agree to allot not loss than two fifths of the pay payable to see from time to time duri my service for the support of my nite three-firtes wife and chuistrin Date 23-1-16 Signature of person endated *Phis classe to be amended where accounty and illuside be struck out in the same of managered men in webowers webcar children ander 10 years of ag

DEFENCE 8.9. Transferred to 2943 AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE 6135 H.G. INNES A-Rank At Batta, 19 " Rifels Unit Casualty 12/4/17 Reported Missing 4199 8843 E LINT. 19-18.17 OIDL2350 1 426 waters Londer Hydricolived B. R. 215-10 now ref. D of water to a fait (15/1/19) A CIBL WAR 4549 A.F. B. 20ROA MADDIVED PURPORT. REF. NO. DATE. A.F. B. 103 Regalvoo 8 MAY 1917 M. O. 2. ADVISED. MISSING. 12/4/17 .5-17 COPY MADE FOR WAR PENSIONS 12/1 pour of loquiry proceedings received - B. R. M. 2.3 51 believe de macualled Gable a 3 2 Haro. Fothing form 28 1918 Penalons advised Per Acentelly ide Statement No. 15 11 11-4-18 M. O. 2 ADVISED. DIED OF WOUNDS. not tricked incrotion 11/2 18 Court of Inquiry proceedings received - B. R. M. S. R. Lang \$ 12 6.10 TO PERLICHAL EFFECTS IN SIT - B.R.M. Mount 22/14 Show N BRITISH WAR MEDAL to Comdt 2nd M.D.B.R.M. 58/178 51 (mg/s 8 4221 "WHERE THE AUSTRALIANS REST. 26 June Si NF.R. Badge No 188391 Seturnedy Jaken on charge

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 ATH INFANTRY BATTALION, A . Is Fairon, Troop, Battery or Company Private. 6135. Rank Regimental No. Henry George. INNES. Christian Names_ Surname Date 15th April, 1917. Place FRANCE. Died DIED OF WOUNDS received in Action. Cause of Death* COURT OF ENGUIRY Nature and Date of Report) held on 16.3.1918. By whom made_ • 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. Date Place Burial By whom reported State whether he leaves (a) in Pay Book (Army Book 64). (b) in Small Book (if at Base). a Will or not (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 P. Sra G., Indian Expeditionary Force, or Field Disbursing Officer, as the case may require, together with the Deceased's Pay Book are with drawal 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 the Apport. tevores. AUSTRALIAN SECTION, 3RD SECHELOMACE Guiden Section and Station and 16th April, 1918 . Adjutant General's Office at the Base) Captain. for Officer i/c Records. (1532) Wt. 5710/M745 400,000 8/16 JFW [E328] Forms/E2090a/2 INNES. 4sh Battalion.

18th Rainfesements. A.I.7.

Hisning

Pte. I.G. No. 6135. Henry Jeorge

Army Form B. 2090A.

Informant described Innas as about 5 ft 3 inches high, fair Aplexion, slight build, aged about 22. Also left Australia in the

Informant states that on 15.4.17 the Battalion was at Lagnicourt in an advanced position. Up to 10 p.m. on the 14th, Informant and others had occupied outposts in front of the main body of the Battalion and at that hour were relieved by another party including Arastrong, Resser, Mern and Innes. Informant now these men actually arrive, they passing in as Informant's party passed out. Five hours later when Informant was in the front line the Gormans attacked and broke through to the left of the 4th Battalion in the portion of the line held by the 11th Battalion. Portion of the Battalion, including Informant advanced to the ridge about 80 yards from the sunken Foat with the intention of relieving the outpost which had been isolated but had to return to the sunken road. Reinforcements were hurried up and eventually the Germans were forced to retire and some of the guns captured by them in the first ruch were receptured and turned on the Cormans. The outpost was afterwards examined but neither bodies nor sounced could be found.

> Ptc. G.A. Smith, Fo. 5774, Infomint: "B" Company, 4th Battalion. At present in "P" Tard, No. 21 Australian Auxiliary Mospital, Coorges Heights, Sydney. "Brondsburg", Forest Rd., Arneliffe. Home address:

> > SYDNEY BURGAU.

Sugar

7.E.G. 20.2.18.

B.R. Form No. 14. AVR AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE. Emt Base Records Office. - 2 - 1918 Melbourne, 14th Feb. 1918 3830% To Officer 1/c Base Records. Mrs. C. Innes, Victoria Barracks. Bells Creek, MELBOURNE. Near BRAILWOOD NSW. (Kindly submit your reply hereunder.) Dear Strank Madam, Dear dis I regret to have to inform enclose a letter you that no further official news has yet been received of from the Red Cross No. 6135 pte. H.G. Innes, ne my son (ho 6 13 5) 4th Battalion. pte. H. S. Imos. also a letter from my other who was reported missing on 15th April, 1917. son at the front I shall be glad if you will return this letter to me with I have had no commenciatoos a statement as to whether you have obtained any news of the twee from Henry Seorge soldier from any other source. self, anice he was If letters or post cards from the soldier have reached you SINCE THE DATE THAT HE WAS messi ned POSTED MISSING, the last you have received should be enyour Faithfully closed; it will be returned to you. Innes If you have received from Bell: Creek soldiers or others reports that the soldier is dead or a pris-Braidwood oner of war, you should state the names and addresses of the h. N. W. people who informed you; if they were soldiers you should give their names, numbers, and regiments; if they sent you 8. Calwar letters, the letters should be forwarded. Any letters you send will be returned to you in due course. mas (Signature) J. M. LEAN, Major. 18-2- 18 (Date) Officer i/c Records. CODE:

12th June, 1918.

Tear Madam,

10006

Dear Madam,

RM

In reply to your communication of 7th instant, I have to state the following cable messages contain all the information that has been received to date regarding your son, No. 6135, Pte. H.G. Innes, 4th Battalion.

"Reported Missing, 15/4/17, cable dated - London, 3/5/17"

"Previously reported missing, now reported killed in action, 15/4/17."

"Now reported Died of Wounds, 15/4/17."

It is requested you forward to this Office the letter written by No. 2394, Pte. C.F. Izzard, 3rd Brigade, Machine Gun Company, in which he states your son is a Prisoner of War. On receipt of same, should such action be considered warranted, investigations will be made, and the result communicated to you.

Yours faithfully

Officer i/o, Base Records.

Mrs. C. Innes, Bells Creek,

Via Braidwood. N.S.W.

Belli Creek my mont The officer in 6 harge, ffice, 200, (6135, Pte. H. D. Iman 4th . I have received reported missing 15-4-17 - yoas recem ficial reports. The first Stating that he had been killed in action le second, I received 29 thay 1918, statis he had died of wounds 15 18. 24 informed correct, why was not he had In the mean-time a friend of mine rec more received a letter from 6. J. Inard who is a prisoner of War in Sernany, dated Debruary 1918. He said that he had been makingquisie abore he could 16135. Pte. H. S. mes.) from my son is a prison of war makeou lough some - where in Demany of he had not seen him himself, J will be thankfu if you will make futher enquires, as " as loubt there are a lot of the sussing mon,

have not been discovered. (In Beltibreek bia Braidwood He Szyardi addessis :no 2394 Private 6 de Izard Semboy. Prisoner of War Ichniedemühll por Germany.

le Officer jar Charge Base kecords Office, Belloung 16 Greet 2 lin Os that ne por 2. Cert ha. S. Insa. 4 135 , wound 11th een au Pect. ierson aur Lo be for me le al,) G. 12) 5 breek big Braiduos D A. J. W.

COPY.

Bells Creek, 1. 6.18.

The Officer 1/c Base Post Office, LONCON.

Sir,

I an forwarding you an envelope which has been returned to me through the deed Latter office. I took it to Victoria Barracks in Sydney and asked the officer i/o the meaning of the words "Hospital 25.6.17." and he said it appeared as though the soldier had been in Hospital on that date and advised me to send it to you. I would very much like to know if such was the case as (No.6125 H.C.HNES, 4th Bh) who is my Brother was reported Missing 15.4.17) on the lat of April 1918 we were advised that he was officially reported "Killed in Action 15.4.17.". The on 29th May we hid enother official report that he had "Died of Tounds 15.4.18" In the meantime a friend of mine received a latter from Pta.C.F. IZZARD who is a Prisoner of wer in Germany stating that from enquiries he had made he believes H.T.HNFF: to be a Prisoner of war somewhere in Germany, sithough he had not seen him himself. I would be thankful if you could give me any inform that and you will oblige.

Yours feithfully, (Sgd) (Miss) M.Innes, Bells Creek, Vie Breidwood, N.S. 7.AUSTRILIA.

Mr. Izzerds eddress is: No. 2394 Pte C.F.ISMARD, 5th Aust.M.G.Coy, Prisoner of War, Schnie cauhl, Posep, Schnie cauhl, Posep, Schnie Cauhly.

10th June 1952

Hon Secretary, R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. Young, N.S.W.

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter dated 27th May 1952, concerning the ownership of Mearest Female Belative Badge No 188591, and have to advise that it is the property of Mrs Catherins Innes, mother of No6135 Pts H.G.Innes 4th Bn, A.I.F. 1914 -18, Killed in action 15.4.1917. Mrs Innes is now deceased,

I must ask you to return the badge to this office for safe keeping.

Yours faithfully,

A/Officer I/o Base Records.

The Returned Sailors Imperial League

· · ·

Soldiers and Airmen's of Australia

(N.S.W. BRANCH) -INCORPORATED YOUNG.

SUB-BRANCH.

lease turn and

President: N.F. BREMNER. Hon. Treasurer: A. C. ASHLEY. Hon. Secretary: F.E. ROBERTS.

FER/118.

Bog 142 P.O., YOUNG.

27th May 1952.

The Officer In Charge, A.I.F. Records, Victoria Barracks, SYDNEY.

2. M.D

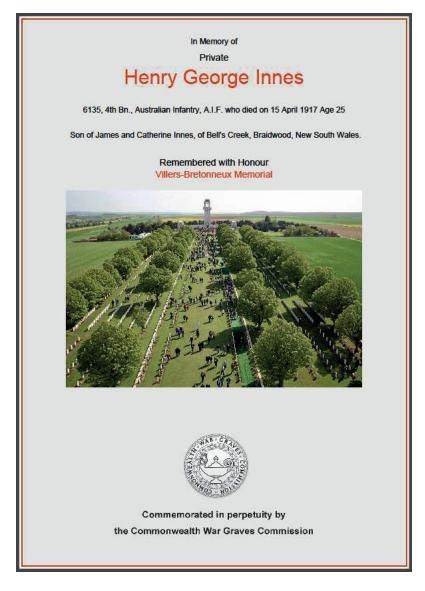
Dear Sir,

CARO

I have this day been handed a badge on which is inscribed, " Issued by Dept. of Defence. To Women of Australia . For Duty Done. ", and on the back of which the number 188391 is stamped. The badge design is sketched hereunder.

I would be very grateful if you would advise the name of the owner of this badge, which, incidentally, was found buried deep in a rubbish heap in a local resident's backyard, and I will see that the badge is returned to its rightful owner.

Yours faithfully,



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 RROWN 14 8 **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