

# Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

*"We will remember them well"*

## A CALL FROM THE DARDANELLES



ROLL OF HONOUR

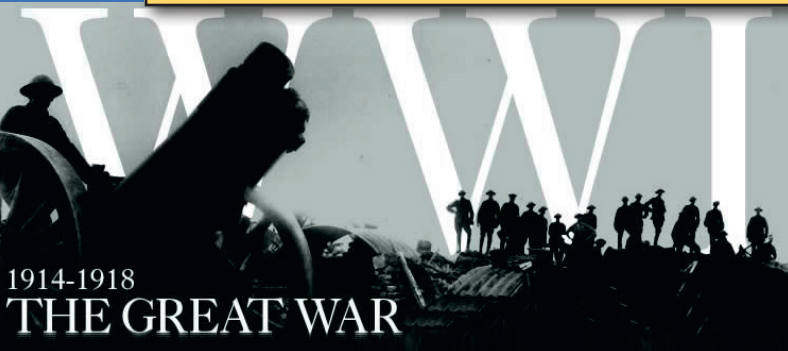
LYNCH, James Joseph

Service Number: 2700

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 **James Joseph Lynch**, 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.

**James Joseph Lynch** 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

## JAMES JOSEPH LYNCH

**Service Number:** 2700

**Rank:** Private

**Unit:** 39th Australian Infantry Battalion

**Service:** Australian Army

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

**Date of death:** 31 August 1918

**Place of death:** France

**Cause of death:** Killed in action

**Age at death:** 24

**Place of association:** Wollongong, Australia

**Cemetery or memorial details:** Peronne Communal Cemetery Extension, Peronne, Picardie, France

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

**Location on the Roll of Honour:** James Joseph Lynch's name is located at **panel 131** in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial

## 39th Australian Infantry Battalion



39<sup>th</sup> Colour Patch

The 39th Battalion was formed on 21 February 1916 at the Ballarat Showgrounds in Victoria and drew most of its recruits from the state's Western District. It became part of the 10th Brigade of the 3rd Australian Division. Sailing from Melbourne on 27 May, the battalion arrived in Britain on 18 July and commenced four months of training. It crossed to France in late November and moved into the trenches of the Western Front for the first time on 9 December, just in time for the onset of the terrible winter of 1916-17.

The 39th fought in its first major battle at Messines, in Belgium, between 7-9 June 1917. During its march to the start-line for this operation the battalion suffered heavily from a German gas bombardment and less than a third of the troops earmarked to attack actually did so. The battalion, however, captured all of its objectives. The 39th fought in another two

major attacks in this sector - the carefully planned and executed battle of Broodseinde on 4 October, and the disastrous battle of Passchendaele on 12 October.

Belgium remained the focus of the 39th Battalion's activities for the next five months as it was rotated between service in the rear areas and the front line. When the German Army launched its last great offensive in the spring of 1918, the battalion was rushed south to France and played a role in turning the German drive aimed at the vital railway junction of Amiens.

The Allies launched their own offensive on 8 August 1918, but the 10th Brigade was the 3rd Division's reserve on this day so the 39th did not play an active role. It was involved, however, in an ill-conceived attack that failed to capture the village of Proyart on 10 August. Not daunted by this experience, the battalion continued to play an active role throughout August and early September in the 3rd Division's advance along the Somme Valley.

The 39th participated in its last major action of the war between 29 September and 2 October 1918 as part of the Australian-American operation that breached the formidable defences of the Hindenburg Line along the St Quentin Canal. Along with much of the AIF, the 39th was resting out of the line when the war ended in November. It was disbanded in March 1919.

39th Btn.

LYNCH, J.J.  
Pte. 2700

Killed in Action 31/8/18.

He was killed at Clery, outright, by shrapnel through the head. I was alongside of him when casualty happened. He was buried on the spot but a fortnight later, his body with several others, was removed and reburied in the Military Cemetery at Curlu. The later burial being conducted by Bds. Officers. I was one of the party who brought the body for reburial.

Informant:- Pte. W.C. Ireland, Nos 1323,

Private address:- Young Street,  
East Melbourne.

Bds. Robertson  
H.M.A.T. "Rio Pardo",  
2/6/19

*[Handwritten signature]*  
Scribble

KIAMA <sup>4000</sup>

**D** 51585

IAN



MILITARY FORCES.

# AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

## Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 2670 2700 Name James Joseph LYNCH  
37314 Unit Improvement 29 Battalion  
 Joined on MAY 23 1916 15/8/16

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

1. What is your name? James Joseph Lynch
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? In the Parish of Imbriacumbene or near the Town of Braidwood in the Shire of Wentworth
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 yrs
5. What is your trade or calling? 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) (Father) Thomas Lynch Dept Home Office James Bay Wentworth Shire N.S.W.
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? No
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? 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 No
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? Yes
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? No
14. Do you understand that, as Separation Allowance will be issued in respect of your service beyond an amount which, together with Pay, would reach eight shillings per day? Yes
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against small-pox and enteric fever? Yes

I, James Joseph Lynch 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 parts wife and children

Date MAY 23 1916 15-8-1916 Signature of person enlisted. J. J. Lynch

\*This clause to be inserted where necessary and should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 16 years of age.

Transferred to

DEFENCE  
B. 1.

D 69113

# AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

No. 2700

Rank Pte

Name

LYNCH J. J.

Unit

59<sup>th</sup> Btn.

LIST

Casualty

Wounded

28/72  
2.8.18 1972/197 31/10/17

Killed in Action

31/8/18

With 25, 1233 killed in action Received B.M.

**"WHERE THE AUSTRALIANS REST."**  
Program sent to Mr Lynch on 25.5.21

MEMORIAL  
SCROLL

To  
Lance

Mr J Lynch

35/634

DATE

B.F. B 103 Received PURPORT

SEP 10 1918  
3-10-18

2 killed, killed in action.  
COPY MADE FOR WAR PERIODIC

31/8/18

19/12/18  
Resp 12/22/18

WAR HISTORY INDEX

CONFIRMATION RECEIVED OF

Cabin No. 68 B.R. 2821 vide 10/360 B. 16/9/18

"Karamah"  
Identity disc as "Karamah"

Circular B.R.M. 46/1368 & Booklet re: was despatched 5/1/25 v.P. 255-20

BRITISH WAR MEDAL to Comdt 2nd M.D.B.R.M. 53/300 10/1



23/1/21

in duplicate  
TRANSMITTED TO NEXT OF KIN U.K.W.M. 24/3/18

(SERVICE AND CASUALTY FORM Part II).

Regiment or Corps 5th-Resinf: 39th Battalion. Regimental Number 2700

\*Substantive Rank Pte. Surname LYNCH Christian Names James Joseph

\*Acting Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
(\* To be entered in pencil to facilitate alteration.)

*Enlisted 23.5.16.*

To be folded on this line.  
Nothing to be written in this margin.

W.1889-PP.150 500,000  
G.W.P.Co(3490)

| (A)<br>Report |                     | (B)<br>Authority of Part II. of Orders | (C)<br>Record of promotions, appointments, reductions, casualties, transfers, postings, &c. All acting as well as substantive promotions to be shown, for method of entry of which see A.C.I. 1816 of 1917. Corps and unit to which transferred and posted to be invariably named. | (D)<br>Place of casualty | (E)<br>Date of promotion, reduction, reversion, casualty, &c. | (F)<br>Remarks, and initials and rank of an officer |
|---------------|---------------------|--|--|--------------------------|---|---|
| Date.         | From whom received. |  |  |                          |   |   |
| 1.            |                     | O.C. Troops                            | A.24 "Benalla" Embkd.  | Sydney                   | 9/11/16   |   |
|               |                     |  | Disembkd   | Devonport                | 9/1/17  |   |
| 2.            | 14/1/17             | B.213 10th Tng.Bn.                     | M/in from O/seas   | England                  | 10/1/17   | DO 36. / 30 117                                     |
| 3.            | 28/3/17             | O.C. No.10 Tng.Bn.                     | Proceeded O/Seas, France<br>ex 10th Tng. Bn.Larkhill   | F'stone                  | 28/3/17   | DO 186. / 31 317                                    |
| 4.            | 31/3/17             | C.O. 3rd A.D.B.D.                      | M/in from England  | Staples                  | 29/3/17   |   |
| 5.            | 31/3/17             | do.                                    | M/out to Unit  | do.                      | 31/3/17   |   |
| 6.            | 6/1/17              | C.O. 39th Bn.                          | Taken on Strength ex.3rd<br>A.D.B.D.   | Field                    | 2/4/17  | DO 18/1577  |
| 7.            | 13/7/17             | 39th Btn.                              | To Hospital sick   | Field                    | 11/7/17   | DO 30/2963  |
| 8.            | 14/7/17             | 11th A.F.A.                            | Adm (Contact G.S.A.C.)   | "                        | 11/7/17   |   |
| 9.            | "                   | "                                      | Disc. to duty  | "                        | 14/7/17   |   |
| 10.           | 31/8/18             | C.O. 39th Battn.                       | Rejoined Battn. from<br>Hosp.  | "                        | 14/7/17   | DO 37/3929  |

*JM*

| (A)<br>Report |                     | (B)<br>Authority of Part II. of Orders | (C)<br>Record of promotions, appointments, reductions, casualties, transfers, postings, &c. All acting as well as substantive promotions to be shown, for method of entry of which see A.C.I. 1816 of 1917. Corps and unit to which transferred and posted to be invariably named. | (D)<br>Place of casualty | (E)<br>Date of promotion, reduction, reversion, casualty, &c. | (F)<br>Remarks, and initials and rank of an officer |
|---------------|---------------------|--|--|--------------------------|---|---|
| Date.         | From whom received. |  |  |                          |   |   |
| 13/10/17      | 10th A.S.B.H.Q.     |  | Wounded in Action  | Field                    | 12/10/17  | V.L.511 (11)  |
| 20/10/17      | 39th Bn.            |  | <del>Adm (Cont) To A.T. 20</del><br>Wounded in Action  | do.                      | 21/10/17  | DO. 44/4973 (12)                                    |
| 14/10/17      | 44th C.C.S.         |  | Adm. (Cont) To A.T. 20   | do.                      | 13/10/17  | (13)  |
| 13/10/17      | 14th Gen. Hosp.     |  | Adm (Cont. Lumbar misoles)   | Wimer-<br>aux            | 13/10/17  | (14)  |
| 17/10/17      | do.                 |  | Trans. to 1st. Con. Depot  | do.                      | 17/10/17  | (15)  |
| 17/10/17      | 1st Con. Depot      |  | Admitted   | Boulogne                 | 17/10/17  | (16)  |
| 22/10/17      | do.                 |  | Disc. to B/D.  | do.                      | 22/10/17  | (17)  |
| 25/10/17      | 3rd A.D.B.D         |  | M/in ex Hospital   | Rouelles                 | 25/10/17  | (18)  |
| 4/11/17       | do.                 |  | M/out to Unit  | do.                      | 2/11/17   | (19)  |
| 10/11/17      | 39th Battn.         |  | Rejoined Btn. ex Hosp.   | Field                    | 4/11/17   | DO 47/5448 (20)                                     |
| 16/3/18       | C.O. 39th Btn.      |  | Granted leave England  | Field                    | 11/3/18   | (21)  |

Nothing to be written in this margin.

(SERVICE AND CASUALTY FORM Part II).

Regiment or Corps \_\_\_\_\_ Regimental Number \_\_\_\_\_

\*Substantive Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_ Christian Names \_\_\_\_\_

\*Acting Rank \_\_\_\_\_

(\* To be entered in pencil to facilitate alteration.)

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Nothing to be written in this margin.

W.1889-PP.150 500,000 5/18 G.W.P.Co.(3490)

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|---------------|-----------------------|---|--|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Date.         | From whom<br>received |   |  |                             |   |   |
| 22. 6/4/18    | C.O. 39th Btn.        |   | Rejoined Bn. ex leave  | Field                       | 4/4/18  |   |
| 23. 1/9/18    | H.Q. 10th A.I.B.      |   | Killed in Action   | Field                       | 31/8/18   | V.L.825   |
| 7/9/18        | C.O. 39th Bn. (B.213) |   |  | France                      |   | DO 38/4396  |

Australian Section,  
3rd Echelon G.A.S.,  
B.E.F. 18/9/18.

(Sgnd) H.T. Crawford, Capt.,  
For Officer i/c Records.

M.A.  
**Australian Imperial Force.**



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

Inventory of Effects of - 2700. LYNCH, J.J. 39th Btn. A.I.F.

Forwarded to - Father:-

Mr. Thomas Lynch,  
Aitchson Street,  
Wollongong,  
NEW SOUTH WALES.

➤ Barambah ➤

Effects received from the field (3/10196). 15.11.18.  
One Parcel (sealed) containing:-

1 Note book, Wallet, 1 Religious emblem, Photos, Cards, 2 Maps.

No. of Package D/S.

46019

Checked by





Hibernian Australasian Catholic Benefit Society.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

St. Francis Xavier's Branch, No. 596.

Wollongong, 21. 11. 1918

To Office in Charge

Base Records

Melbourne

Address communications to—  
J. J. HANNAN,  
Fig Tree, Wollongong.

Kindly supply certificate of death  
of private James Lynch reported killed in  
action 31. 8. 18. Next of kin Thomas Lynch  
father atehrein Street Wollongong N.S.W.  
Certificate is necessary to obtain payment  
of funeral allowance due to parents

*For Mr. Ann  
12/11/18*

Yours faithfully  
J. Hannan Secretary



9-12-18

Dear Sir

I have been patiently  
 waiting expecting some further  
 news regarding my son  
 The J. J. Lynch, No. 2700 5439 Batt  
 reported killed <sup>(in action)</sup> on 31 August 1918  
 I am very anxious to know how  
 and where he was killed I will  
 be very thankful if you can  
 give me any information or  
 tell me where I can apply for  
 same I am informed that it is  
 usual to be told the place or  
 battle where men who were killed  
 in action met their death

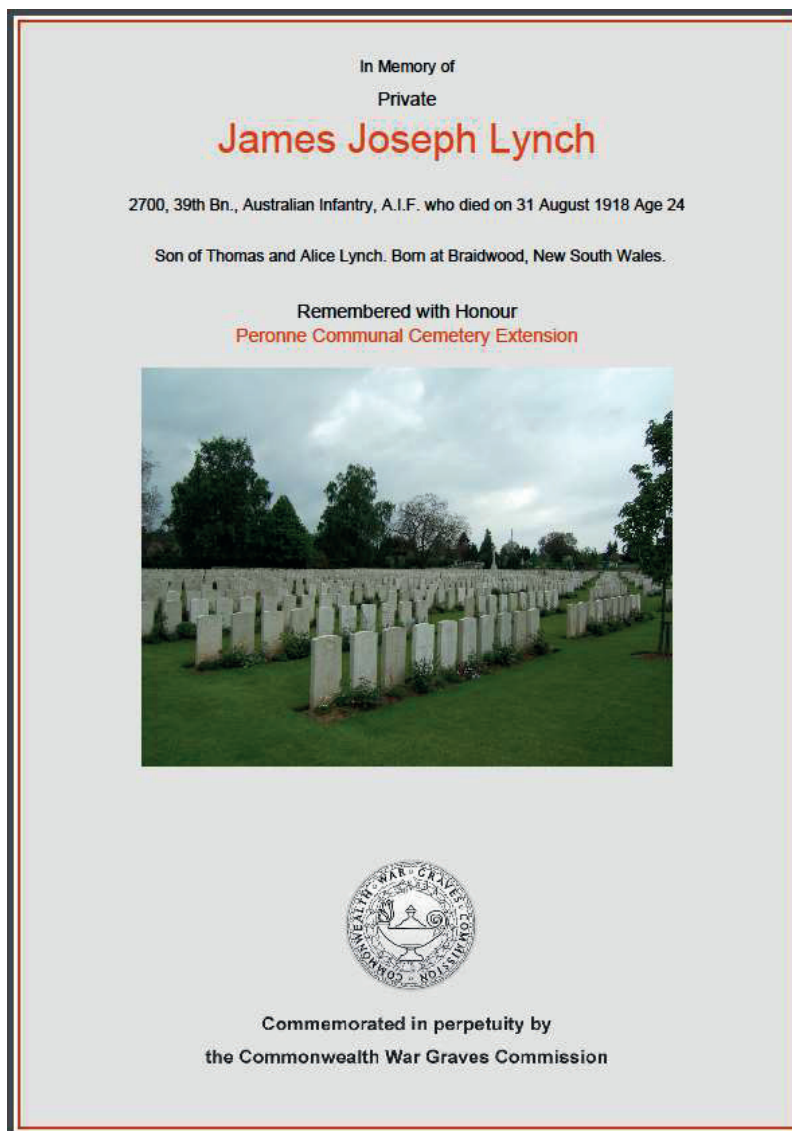
Thanking you in anticipation  
 Yours sincerely

J. J. Lynch  
 Atchison St  
 Wollongong

Officer in Charge  
 Base Records Office  
 Melbourne



*[Faint handwritten notes]*



## 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