

Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

"We will remember them well"

A CALL FROM THE DARDANELLES



ROLL OF HONOUR

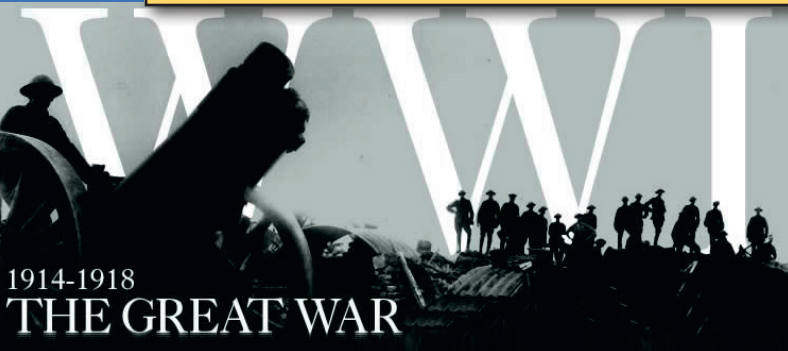
O'REILLY, John

Service Number: 1365

Rank: Trooper

*"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 O'Reilly**, 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 O'Reilly 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 O'REILLY

Service Number: 1365

Rank: Trooper

Unit: 2nd Australian Remount Unit

Service: Australian Army

Conflict: First World War, 1914-1918

Date of death: 20 February 1916

Place of death: Egypt

Cause of death: Illness (Pneumonia)

Place of association: Bungendore, Australia

Cemetery or memorial details: Cairo War Memorial
Cemetery, Cairo, Egypt

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

Location on the Roll of Honour: John O'Reilly's name
is located at **panel 184** in the Commemorative Area at
the Australian War Memorial



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P10491.008.001

1916: Egypt: Maadi "One of A Squadron horse lines. Maadi. 2nd Australian Remount Unit lines in the background." (From an album of the 1st Australian Remount Unit in Egypt.)

Mr. J. O'Reilly, of Braidwood, has received the sad intelligence from the Defence Department of the death of his son, Private John O'Reilly, from measles, at Heliopolis, Egypt, on Feb. 20. The information was sent through the Rev. T. G. Kelleher. To the bereaved family this paper extends its heartfelt sympathy.

1916: The Braidwood Dispatch reporting the death of John O'Reilly



best copy
J. O. W. J.

AUSTRALIAN



MILITARY FORCES.

J. O. W. J.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 1365

Name J. O. REILLY, J.
Unit No 5 Squadron 2nd Cavalry Unit
Joined on 9-10-15

J. O. W. J.

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1. What is your Name? .. | <u>J. O. Reilly</u> | 1. | <u>John</u> |
| 2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? .. | | 2. In the Parish of .. | <u>Bungudore</u> in or near the Town of .. <u>N.S.W.</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>Yes</u> .. | |
| 4. What is your age? .. | | 4. <u>35 years</u> .. | |
| 5. What is your trade or calling? .. | | 5. <u>Brown</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>Wife</u>) .. | <u>Mr John O. Reilly, Oxaidwood, 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 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. <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, John O. Reilly 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 11 October 1915

Signature of person enlisted. J. O. Reilly

*This clause to be amended 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.R.

W

38498

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

D

7419

No. 1265

Rank Pte Name O'Reilly J

Unit 2nd Reinmt Unit

Casualty *eczema (mild)* Admitted 5-2-16. 2nd A.S.H. *Shazinch*. Cel Cairo 51/5130 = 27-9-2-16

Died Pneumonia & Measles 20/2/16 Heliospolis. C.P.B. Cairo 121/5265. D. 21/2/16

Died of pneumonia & measles 27-2-16 208/5271 22/2/16

eczema (mild) Admitted 18-2-16. 4th Aux Hosp. Cel Cairo 122/5285 = 23-2-16

Excess, bronchitis, pneumonia, measles severe *Shazinch* Heliospolis 125/5305 = 24/2/16

eczema. Admitted 5-2-16. 2nd A.S.H. *Shazinch*. C.P.B. Cairo 121/5265. D. 21/2/16

DATE	A.F. B.103 Received	PURPORT	Ref. No
------	---------------------	---------	---------

14.2.16 Not advd for Hosp by Reginald Sick.

20.2.16 Pte. 2 ad - Had pneumonia & measles.

26.2.16 COPY MADE FOR WAR PENSIONS

15.5.16 Bank Pags Book to R.P.M. and M.D.

20.2.16 Died of Pneumonia & Measles at No 4 Australian Hospital, Cairo. A.F. B. 2000A Replied.

CONFIRMATION RECEIVED OF Cable No. 121/1101 20/5/19

19/2/16 admitted to 1st A.S.H. Pneumonia? Measles? *eczema*. Ac. Bronchitis 746/777/41 to Cairo 1/2/16.

18.7.16 PERSONAL EFFECTS EX. *Shazinch* 8/431

18.7.16 Advice of dispersal of Personal Effects received. B.R.M.

22.5.16 PERSONAL EFFECTS EX. *Shazinch* Port macquarie

19/5/16 Circular B.R.M. 46/1368 & Booklet re Graves despatched 19.12.19.19.14 14.7.20.14

19/3/20 PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE, in duplicate, TRANSMITTED TO NEXT OF KIN. O.R.M. No 43713729

10/10/29 To Comdt. *Shazinch* M.D. B.R.M. 52/406

10/10/29 or issued B.R.M. 231/1277... *Shazinch* Lup Roll/92 88 24607



X LIST 104

CARD CHECKED

Statement of Service of No. 1365

Name

John O'Reilly

Unit in which served.	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Period of service in each rank.		Remarks.
		From—	To—	
1st Regt Coast Artillery	ADMITTED HOSPITAL NO. 2. A.S.H. Died at No 2 A.S.H. 20/2/16 ✓	5/3/16		# 40 63 17/3/16 # 46 250 17/3/16
	Gonorrhea admitted	10/2/16		R2321 6x8
	Gonorrhea + Strone Pneumonia Serious	15/2/16		R2653 80014
	measles + Pneumonia Died	20/2/16		
1st Regt - Remount Dept	Buried at R.R. Camp Det. M. Grave No 102 by Chaplain P.J. Griffin	21. 2. 16.		# 2/ 3/16 15/1/17

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

Chas. J. [Signature] Lt

11

30 9 21

BRITISH WAR MEDAL to Comdt *David*

M.D.S.F.M. 53/100 1939

"WHERE THE AUSTRALIANS REST"
Plaque sent to *Mr J O'Reilly* on *13.10.21*

**MEMORIAL
SCROLL**
Father
Mr J O'Reilly
322655
21/10/21

*Despatched
21/10/21*

**MEMORIAL
PLAQUE**
Father (Direct)
Mr J O'Reilly
322655
11-F-22

VICTORY MEDAL to *Father* B.R.P.F. 42

3 FEB 1923

Registered Post No. *Plat* G.P.O. Melbourne

17 FEB 1931

REGISTER ORDER FORM despatched

re *322655*

ORIGINAL TO A. I. F. HEAD QUARTERS.
Casualty Form - Active Service.

Army Form B. 103.

- 8 MAY 1916

Regiment or Corps 5th Sqdn No 2 Australian Remount Unit,

Regimental No. 1385 Rank Tpr Name O'REILLY JOHN.

Enlisted (a) 9/10/15 Terms of Service (a) Service reckens from (a) 9/10/15

Date of promotion to present rank } Date of appointment to lance rank } Numerical position on roll of N.C.Os. }

Extended _____ Re-engaged _____ Qualification (i) _____

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.	
Date	From whom received					
7/2/16	G/O 2RU	To Hospital	Maadi	5/2/16	AFB 213	A.P. 3751 D/O 1/63
5/2/16	No 2 AGH.	Eczema Admitted	Chezireh	5/2/16	R1962	EX 7
10/2/16	No 1 Aux	Eczema Admitted from No 2 AGH.	Heliopolis	10/2/16	R 2321	EX 8
10/2/16	No 2 AGH.	Eczema Transferred to No 1 Aux: Host:	Chezireh,	10/2/16	R 2318	EX 9
19/2/16	No 1 AUX.	Eczema Transferred to No 1 AGH.	Heliopolis,	18/2/16	R 2792	EX 12
18/2/16	No 1 AGH.	Eczema & Bronchi: Pneumonia. (Serious) Admitted.	Heliopolis,	18/2/16	R 2653	EX 14
18/2/16	No 1 AGH.	Measles & Bronchitis, Transferred to No 4 AUX:	Heliopolis,	18/2/16	R 2653	EX 14
18/2/16	No 4 AUX:	Measles Admitted	Abbassia,	18/2/16	R 2804	EX 14
20/2/16	No 4 AUX:	Measles & Pneumonia, Died at 5-45 A.M.	Abbassia,	20/2/16	R 2806	EX 14
20/2/16	No 4 AUX:	Telegram from G.C. stating "Died Measles & Pneumonia at 5-4" A.M. today, age 35 R.G. - Next of kin Father Mr. J.O'REILLY. Braidwood, N.S.W.	Abbassia,	20/2/16	E 9234 EFG 208 E 9350 W/OList H3192 AP 6751	EX 9 22/2/16 Letter confirming)
21/2/16	AIF H/QRS	Cable No C.E.B. 121 to Sec: Defence Melbourne "Died Pneumonia & measles"	Cairo,	20/2/16	E 9411	EX 15

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.
(b) S.A., Signaller, Shoaling Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties.

(P.T.O.)

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.	
Date	From whom received					
20/2/16	G/O 2RU	Died at No 4 Aux: Host	Maadi	20/2/16	AFB 213 F/R 6 AP. 4840	D/O 1/350-
23/2/16	AIF H/QRS	Confirmation of Cable received dated 22/2/16 E.F.G. 208, "Died of Pneumonia, Measles 20/2/16"	Cairo	23/2/16	R514 AP 6263	EX 29

Lieut:-
for G.C. Australian Records Section,
G.H.Q. 3rd Echelon E.E.F.-

1. 5. 16 *Amal* *depar*
5th Squad, died of Measles & Pneumonia on 20.2.16.
Buried by P. J. Griffin 3126
and buried Section 14.00.02 J
British Cemetery

20.2.16 V. 1206 68 00
Heliopolis
00/2/16

2nd Remount Unit

Army Form B, 2090A.

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 or CORPS } 2ND. AUSTRALIAN REMOUNT UNIT } Squadron, Troop, Battery or Company } No. 5. }
2nd Rem^t Unit

Regtl. No. 1365. Rank Trooper.

Name O'REILLY. John.

Died { Date 20th. February 1916. }
Place No. 4 Auxiliary Hospital. CAIRO. }
Cause of Death* Pneumonia and Measles. }

Nature and Date of Report Telegram from O.C. 4 Auxiliary Hos. 20.2.16

By whom made O.C. No. 4 Auxiliary Hospital.

* 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 _____ }
Date _____ }
By whom reported _____ }
Not yet received.

State whether he leaves a will or not { (a) in Pay Book (Army Book 64) NO }
{ (b) in Small Book (if at Base) _____ }
{ (c) as a separate document No Report. }

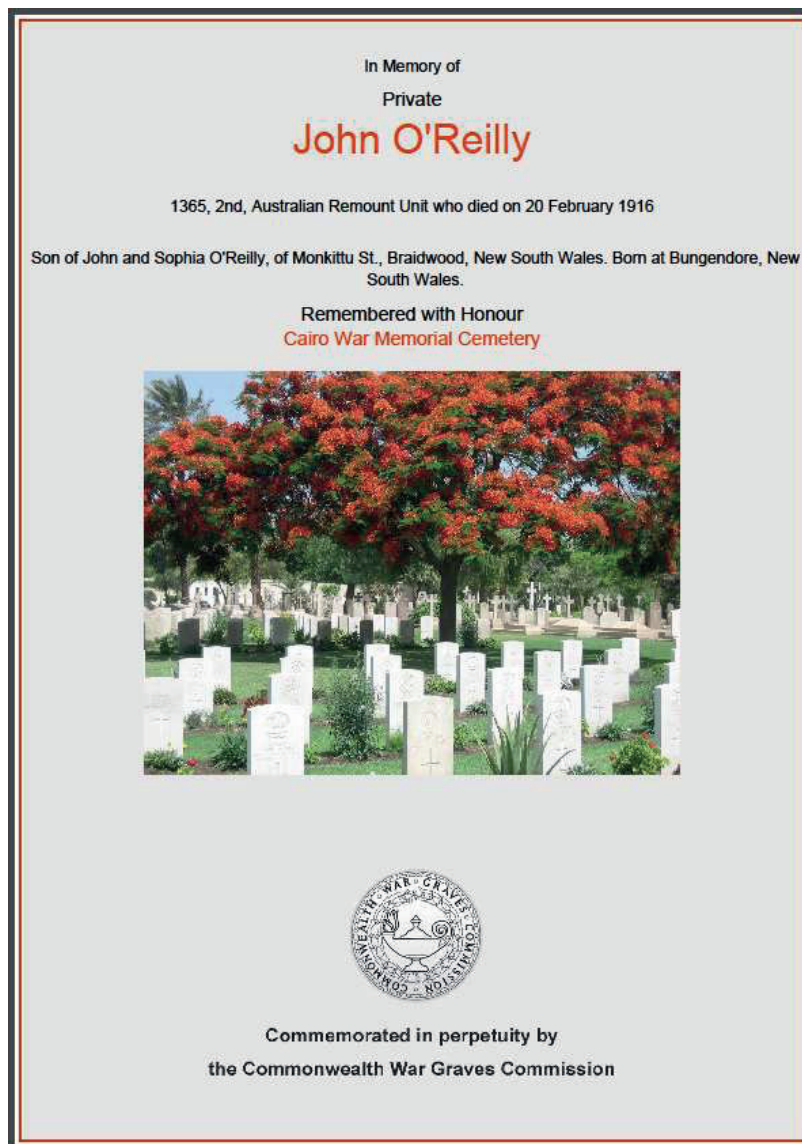
All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital, as well as the Pay Book, should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office.

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 of Officer in charge of Section Adjutant General's Office at the Base Cyril. S. Griffiths Major.

Station and Date Alexandria. 5th. May 1916



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