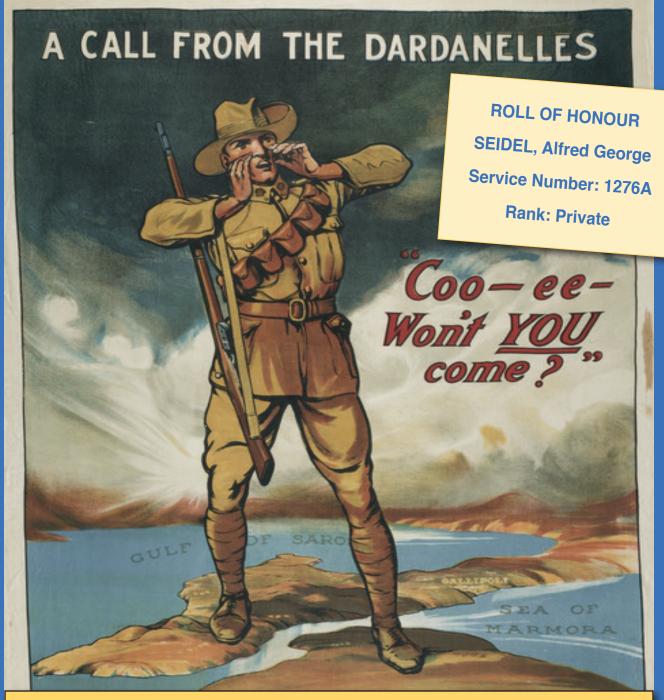
Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

"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 Alfred George Seidel, 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.

Alfred George Seidel 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.

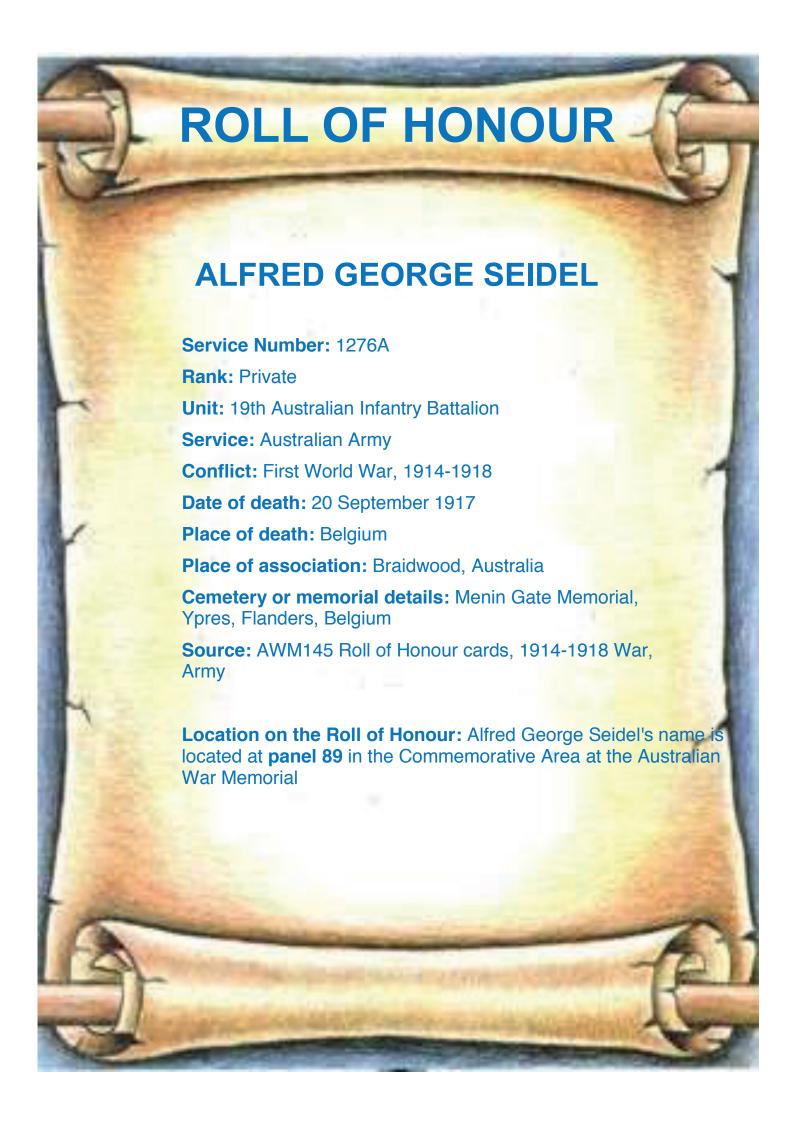
The war was in Europe, the Western Front was in France and Belgium. The Eastern Front was Russia and Austria-Hungary. Africa was another front because of colonial possessions on that continent, and after Turkey entered the war on 1 November 1914, the Middle East became another theatre of war.

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.





19th Australian Infantry Battalion

The 19th Battalion was raised at Liverpool in New South Wales in March 1915 as part of the 5th Brigade. Some of the 19th's original recruits had already served with the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (AN&MEF) in the operations to capture German New Guinea in 1914. The 19th left Australia in late June, trained in Egypt from late July until mid-August, and on 21 August landed at Anzac Cove.

At Gallipoli the Battalion participated in the last action of the August Offensive - the attack on Hill 60 - before settling into defensive routine in the trenches. From mid-September, until its withdrawal from the peninsula on the night of 19 December, the 19th Battalion was responsible for the defence of Pope's Hill.

After further training in Egypt, the 19th Battalion proceeded to France. It took part in its first major offensive around Pozières between late July and the end of August 1916. After a spell in a quieter sector of the front in Belgium, the 2nd Division, which included the 5th Brigade, came south again in October. The 19th Battalion attacked near Flers between 14 and 16 November, in conditions that Charles Bean described as the worst ever encountered by the AIF.

In 1917, the 19th was involved in the follow-up of German forces after their retreat to the Hindenburg Line, and was one of four battalions to defeat a counter-stroke by a German force, almost five times as strong, at Lagincourt. The Battalion took part in three major battles before the year was out, second Bullecourt (3-4 May) in France, and Menin Road (20-22 September) and Poelcappelle (9-10 October) in Belgium.

The spring of 1918 brought a major German offensive that the 19th Battalion helped to stop. For his actions during the fighting around Hangard Wood on 7 April, Lieutenant Percy Storkey was awarded the Victoria Cross. With this last desperate offensive defeated, the 19th 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. Montbrehain was the battalion's last battle. The casualties of 1918, combined with long-term leave for 1914 enlistees, and dwindling new enlistments had sapped the strength of the AIF. On 10 October 1918 the

19th Battalion was disbanded to reinforce other battalions in the brigade.

OUR SOLDIERS.

Mr. Mark McGrath, J.P., of Meroo on Saturday received a wire from the Defence Department announcing that his son, Private E. McGrath, had been wounded in France.

Mr. Seidel, of Mongarlowe, has been advised by the Defence Department that his son, Private Albert Seidel, had been dangerously wounded by a gunshot in the leg.

1916: The Braidwood Dispatch reporting the wounding of Alfred George Seidel.

Mr. E. Seidel, an old resident of Mongarlowe, where he had lived for over 50 years, passed away on Tuesday morning. He was 89 years of age. For many years the deceased was engaged in mining pursuits, and had witnessed many ups and downs on this old goldfield . Two of his sons, Privates George and Henry Seidel, made the supreme sacrifice France, while another son, Private Albert Seidel, returned invalided a short time back having eben severely wounded. He reared a family of ten- five sons and five daughters. The late Mr. Seidel could, therefore, fairly claim to have done his duty to his adopted country. He was a hard-working, industrious citizen, and was generally respected. The funeral took place yesterday in Braidwood, and was well attended.

1918: The Braidwood Dispatch reporting the passing of Alfred George Seidel's Father.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

ARTV01121

Australian recruiting poster depicting a wounded soldier standing triumphantly on a battlefield. In the background are battleships, plumes of smoke indicating their involvement in the battle. The 'Hill' in the title may refer to the battle of Hill 60, August 1915. The fighting for Hill 60 (a low rise in the foothills on the north-western end of ANZAC) together with supporting offensive against the W Hills represented the last major Allied offensive operation on the Peninsula. Conceived as an attempt to consolidate the narrow strip of foreshore connecting British forces at Suvla and established positions at ANZAC. The first unsuccessful attempt to seize Hill 60 on 21 August was hastily planned and poorly arranged; a further attack on 27 August was the prelude for 3 days of intense fighting during which objectives were taken, lost and retaken. British, New Zealand and Australian units (18th Battalion, 9th and 10th Light Horse and composite group from Monash's 4th Brigade) failed to secure the crest, and the costly attacks were called off on 29 August as a tenuous junction had been attained with the Suvla forces. The battle of Hill 60 is often overlooked and rarely examined in detail. It was not a victory that yielded seven Victoria Crosses like Lone Pine, nor has it been accorded the noble tragedy status of the loss of the 3rd Light Horse Brigade at the Nek. It was, however, some of the most fought over real estate on the ANZAC-Suvla front and was the last offensive action of the campaign.

This poster is one of a number of recruiting posters designed by Weston, who, with Blamire Young, had vitalised poster art throughout Australia particularly with their Art Nouveau designs between 1896-1914.



MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Folisted for Service Abroad.
No. N. G. SON BOLL . White Unit
Joined on 30/4/16
Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.
1. What is your name?
2. In or near what Parish or Fown were you born?
2. In or near what Parish ar Town were the born? near the Town of The County of The Co
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.)
4. What is your age?
5. What is your trade of calling?
where, to whom, and for what period
7. Are you married?
8. Who is sour next of kin? (Address to be stated) / MOMGHREOWY
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? 9. 10. BRAIDWOOP. N.S. WALES
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as In- corrigible and Worthless, or on account of Con- viction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Ser- vitude, or have you been dismissed with Dis- grace from the Navy?
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
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous 12
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11
14. Do you understand that an Separation Allowance will be issued in respect of your service beyond an amount which, together with Pay, would reach eight shillings per day?
15 Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against) 15 small-pox and poteric fevery
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 use from time to time during my service for the support of my wife three-fifths
Date 30/4/66 wife and children CAG Signature of person enlisted.

Name Deidel, Al Statement of Service of No. No. Period of service in each rank. Remarks Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c. Unit in which served. 30.4.16 s/5/16 - Drausfere Pte S# Batt Lo Rushing Gransf to 3/7/16 Battery. Menaugle (Sel 'mbarked .. Ceramie'' E. R. 8705 3 y dn ey 21-11-16 Dis mb. rk d Plymouth M. I to Parkhouse from edust Enq 22.11.16 befinee Andover Unit of Bounds Award 14 day De 13 10 10 789 E31/3/ 29.12.16. by bapt 4.6. needs. 31/12/16 Adm to V.D. Hosh. est Sea. 3. 11.16 Afor to 19 Bon from 13 3 H. By congled. 1 5 m. By order. 19th the M fin Aust & to No. 3 bamps 19Br TAKEN ON STRENGTH from Me their bono. Ing. Boy from Was Bde Hol. Parkhouse 10 house 31.3.17 Pla Adm, 1st. A. B. H. Bulford. V. D. Balford. 18.3.17 \$36/3969 Me Moe. O deas to France lese. Die Marched in 25m 13 Stance, 21. 6 17 90 I have examined the above details and find them corre

Transferred to AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE. Rank Unit PLAQUE REMOBIAL other direct SCROLL Ma & Sudel PRINCIPAL THE AUSTLALIANS REST."
PRINCIPAL Sent to ME Sendel on 3.5 M. O.F. PURPORT. A. F. B. 2090A Received, B 103 Received 2 ADVISED, KALSO III ACTION 2019 COPY MADE FOR WAR PENSIONS Av. allenon asing for Efects. CONFIRMATION RECEIVED OF some no bet Bto 190 garde 9/80 Ad 15/10/17 Court of inquiry proceedings received - B. R. M. P. J. Co. NO PERSONAL EFFECTS IN KIT - BANKA Re 23 125 6 Giroular B.R.M. 48 1888 & Ic let ro C aves despatched 19, 12, 19 Rev BRITISH WAR MEDAL to Comdt M.D.B.R.M. 03/88 240. 1014/151 STAR

Application to Enlist in the Australian Imperial Force

1	
at Mittagong	
I, Alfred George Seed hereby offer myself for Enlistment in the Australian Impartable Abroad, and undertake to enlist in the manner prescribe Military Authorities, within one month from date hereo	erial Force for Active Service ed, if I am accepted by the
	sd George Gudel
nonparlowe occupation Bl	acksmith
ia Braidwood Date 2	9 th apl. 1916
(For Identification purposes the above space should be filled in	personally by the Applicant,)
I HEREBY CERTIFY that I approve of the above appenlistment of my son ward for Active Service Abroad.	
Statement regarding Death or Absence of Father's Signature either or both Parents. Mother's Signature	
or	
Guardian's Signature	
PERSONAL PARTICULAR	
Age 23 yrs. 8 mos. Height 5 ft. 6 ins	expanded)—
Married. Widower, Single.	36 inches
PRELIMINARY MEDICAL EXAMI Decision of Medical Authority (FIT for Active Service UNFIT, for the following)	NATION
PRELIMINARY MEDICAL EXAMI	NATION ng reasons:—
PRELIMINARY MEDICAL EXAMI Decision of Medical Authority FIT for Active Service UNFIT, for the following Place Of Mafa	NATION ng reasons:—
Place	NATION ng reasons:— L J Short.
PRELIMINARY MEDICAL EXAMI Decision of Medical Authority (FIT for Active Service UNFIT, for the following Place	NATION Ing reasons:— L. J. Short. Ituat of Medical Authority
PRELIMINARY MEDICAL EXAMI Decision of Medical Authority FIT for Active Service UNFIT, for the following Place Mafay Place 29/4/16 Signo I Concur Place Grandle	NATION ng reasons:— L J Short.
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PRELIMINARY MEDICAL EXAMI Decision of Medical Authority FIT for Active Service UNFIT, for the following Place	NATION Ing reasons: Ly Short. Additional Authority M.O. at Central Recruiting Depot

Casualty Form Active Service.

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Occupatio	on				
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12-16	REAS. Farkhous	e Harehed in From O/squa	England 2	2-11-10	50.18-5/1/17
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7-17	A.I.E. Hors.	Disc.ex Parkiouse ex lot Al	England	3-3-14	44/195/29
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		er 1917.			
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			S. S. Contraction		

FIELD SERVICE.

Army Form B. 2090A.

DEPORT 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.

OR CORPS 19th Battalion, A.I.F.	Squadron, Troop, Battery or Company
Regimental No. 1276A Rank	Private
Surname SEIDEL Christian	Names Alfred George
Died Date 20th September 1917 Place	Belgium
Cause of Death* KILLED IN	ACTION
Nature and Date of Report Army Form B	.213 dated 29th September 1917
	Officer, 19th Battalion, A.J.F.
Burial Place Particulars not yet to	hand Date
State whether he leaves a Will or not (a) in Pay Book (Arm 1 Rock 47 Ct (c) as a separate document	received (h) in Small Book (if at Base)
All private documents and effects received from the f will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office. Any information received as to verbal expressions by reported to the War Office as soon as possible. A duplicate of this Report is to be sent to the Fixed Cer	ront or hospital, as well as the Pay Book, should be examined, and if any a deceased soldier of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be stree Paymaster at Home, or to the D.F.A.G., Indian Expeditionary Force, or with the Deceased's Pay Book (after withdrawal of any will from the se forwarded to the War Office with this Report.
Station and British Expeditional Quic	mondage of Section Tulen Light.
14th October 1917 (1552) Wt. 5710/M795 400,000 8:16 JFW [E328] Formw/B8080A/S	Officer i/c. Records.
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2	
	но. 1276А.
Private Alfred	George Seidel,
19th Bat	talion,
Austr	alian Imperial Force.
mxmxm was killed in action	
mm in Belgium,	20th September, 17.
	Cable No. C.I.B.L.
1909, from the Commandant, A. 1	. F. Headquarters, dated London.
	by Mail from the Commandant.A.I.P.
Mendousytors, dated Tondon 15	th October, 1917, and Army Form B. 2090A

Captain.

10th September, 18.

SEIDEL Alfred George, (Bomber) 1276	nd Rfts L.T.M.B.
Surama Till V CP4 TOHI TO Opther NaGoa # Begimental No.	Unit.
PURFORT.	AUTHORITY.
Embarked at Sydney per H.M.A.T.A40 "Ceramic" on 7/10/16	
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22/11/16. Nrchd in Aust. Ttls No.3 Camp Parkhouse frm O/seas (Sts 1st to 5th p.L.T.M.B.Rfts.)	Lan 1/3-17.
16/3/17 Adm. Bulford Hosp. V.D. (Sts 19th an.) 31/3/17 parched into conv. Thg. Coy. Parkhouse from No.1 Bde.	LON. 36/1-17
Hosp. Farkhouse CRIME 29/12/16 Being out of Bounds.AWARD 14 dys C.B. 31/12/1	LON. 28/3-17 Lon 10/3-17
3/11/16 Adm. to V.D. Isolation Hosp. H.M.A.T "Ceramic" No 40 6/2/17 Tid. from 1/5th L.TM.B. to 18th Btp.	Lon12/1-17 Lon 13/7-17
6/2/17 T.O.S. 19/BN PROM 2/D.T.M.B. (Sts Pte.) ,16-31/3/17 Adm. to 1st A.D.H.Bulford Disc, from Parkhouse	LON 27/3-17
Hosp. Total Period V.D. 16dys/ (Sts.19thBtn.)	LON 48/1-17
DACKEN-COOK ·	

PURPORT.	AUTHORITY
3-4/11/16 Adm. Ships Hosp. "40 H.W.T Coramic V.D.disc.	
Total VD.pe iod 2dys. (Sts 19th Btn.)	LON 53/2-17
29/5/17 Proc.0/S to France via Southampton.	LON 40/7-17
21.6.17 T.O.S. 19th Btn ex Efts L.T.M.BTY	BEFO 55/2-17
3/11/16 Ad. Ships Hosp. "A4OH. M. T: Ceramic" 4/11/16 Disc.	Total
V.D. Period 2 days.	LDN. 53/2-17
20.9.17. KILLED IN ACTION	BEFO. 81.1.17
A CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR	
"	



Russel Street Woonord Bulli cr. S Walles 25. 4. 1918

Dear Sir.

Could you give me any.

Information Conseying No. 1276 Bomber

Of Grenider Agassidel. Whether he

is Still alrive or any Information

or if he is Shill alive or any Information

eordserming him I would be very glad.

No receive I remain yours I will offilly

Agree & B. Smith

Seidel, Alfred Geo., 1276a, Pte., 19th Bn., Seidel, Ellen, 238 Misabeth Str., Sydney.

Hother

Pension of il p.f. granted from 16/18/17. in edd
to pensions alloady granted of 22/6 p.f. in responding the selder and 17/6 p.f. in respect of the selder. (See D/S 175). STRAWBERRY WITH

Full name, number, rank, and unit of Member of Forces in respect of whose death or incapacity pension was claimed.

Full name and address of person for whom pension was claimed.

^{3.} Belationship of such person to Member

^{4.} Result of Chaim

^{5.} Name and address of Trustee (if any)

In Memory of

Private

Alfred George Seidel

1276, 19th Bn., Australian Infantry, A.I.F. who died on 20 September 1917

Remembered with Honour

Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Allies Day, 5th April 1910, Wallace Street Braidwood.

Braidwood people started a Circle Fund that was augmented to help the Belgian people during their fight against the Hun, the German forces invading Belgium in 1914-15. Braidwood raised money in auctions of livestock, Balls etc. The fund raising contributed eighteen hundred pounds to War Funds. On Allies Day a Queen competition was held, finishing with a sports day held at the recreation gound, and in the evening a Ball at the Braidwood Literary Institute, where the Queen was crowned, the winner being Miss Helen Hassall, Mrs L. Chapman and Miss M. Madigan runners up, a wonderful fund raising event, seven hundred pounds in total. (Photo and details from Braidwood Letters from the Front, by Roslyn Maddrell.)

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

AERROWN