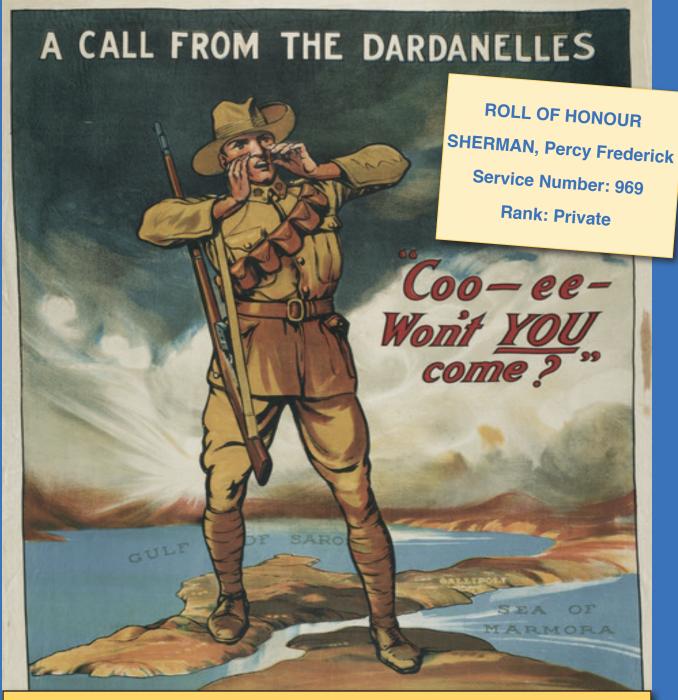
# Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

"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 **Percy Frederick Sherman**, 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.

**Percy Frederick Sherman** 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.

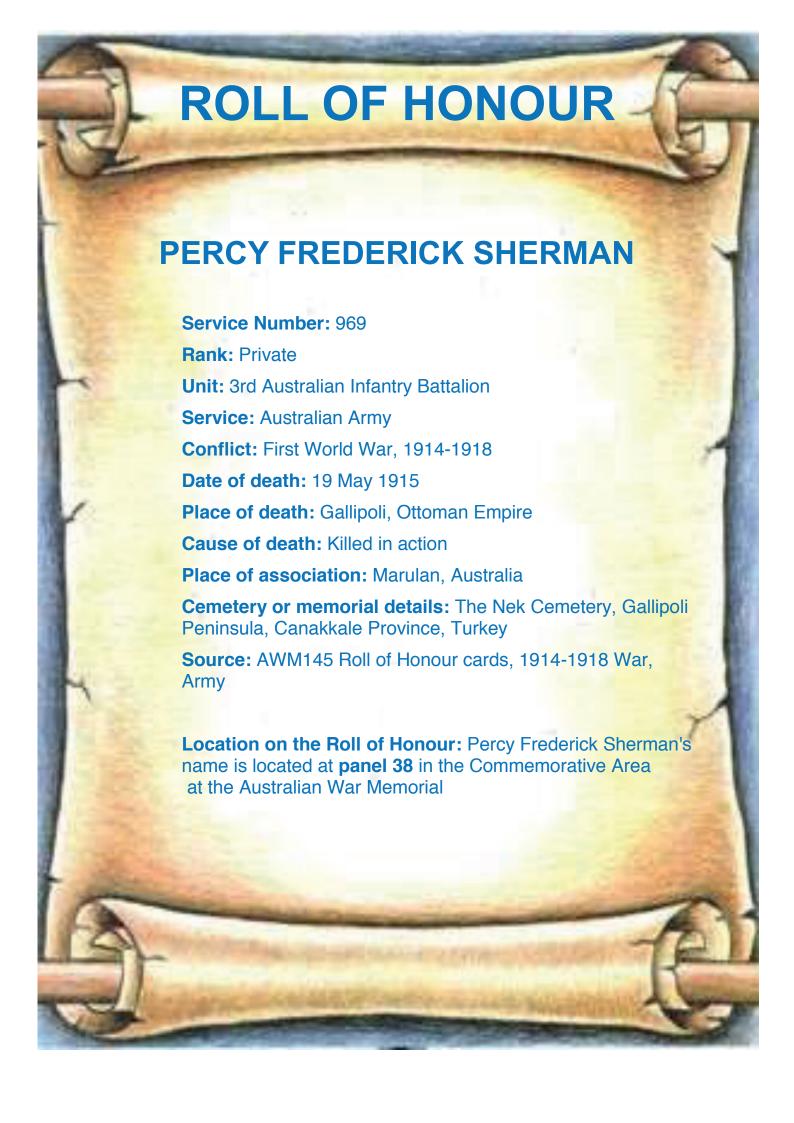
The war was in Europe, the Western Front was in France and Belgium. The Eastern Front was Russia and Austria-Hungary. Africa was another front because of colonial possessions on that continent, and after Turkey entered the war on 1 November 1914, the Middle East became another theatre of war.

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.







AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

4 April 1915: Cairo, Egypt, Members of the 3rd Battalion, 1st AIF, about to board a train to Alexandria where they boarded troopships to take them to Gallipoli. Several soldiers are standing or lying on top of the railway carriages at rear. Both the soldier standing (extreme left) and the man leaning out of the carriage window (left) are smoking pipes. (Photographer: Walter Ormond Stevenson).



26 April 1915: Ottoman Empire: Turkey, Marmara, Chanak, Gallipoli Peninsula: Wounded soldiers arrive at the 3rd Battalion dressing station in Shrapnel Gully, as more wounded come down the valley.(Photographer: Charles Edwin Woodrow Bean C E W).

### **3rd Australian Infantry Battalion**

The 3rd Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. Like the 1st, 2nd and 4th Battalions it was recruited from New South Wales and, together with these 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 and served there until the evacuation in December. In August, the battalion took part in the attack on Lone Pine. For his valorous action in defending Sasse's Sap at Lone Pine on 9 August, Private John Hamilton was awarded the Victoria Cross.

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.

he 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 to 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 3rd Battalion returned to Australia for demobilisation and discharge.



Mr and Mrs F. Sherman, of Betterly Park, Marulan, formerly of Braidwood, have received word their second son, driver Edgar Sherman, died of wounds on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1916 aged 22 years. A brother signaller Percy Sherman was killed at Gallipoli on May 19, 1915, aged 20 years. He sailed on October 18<sup>th</sup> 1914.



Private F Sherman (Doughy) as more familiarly termed in Braidwood was the son of Mr F. Sherman formerly a baker in Braidwood, he was a smart respectable young man, and well liked in the community. The greatest sympathy is felt for his parents in their bereavement.

From: Braidwood Letters From the Front by Roslyn Maddrell

Some doubt was east upon the statement appearing in the last issue of the "Review" that Private P. F. Sherman ("Doughy" Sherman, as he was more familiarly termed in Braidwood) had been killed at Gallipoli. This has been effectively set at rest by the appearance of Private Sherman's name in the official list of killed. Amongst the killed also notice the name of Private C. W. Walter, of Moruya. He was a son of Mr. T. Walter, a prominent member of the G.U.O.O.F., who has visited Braidwood on many occasions as an officer and delegate at the District meetings of this Order.

1915: The Braidwood Dispatch confirming the report of "Doughy" Percy Frederick Sherman's death at Gallipoli

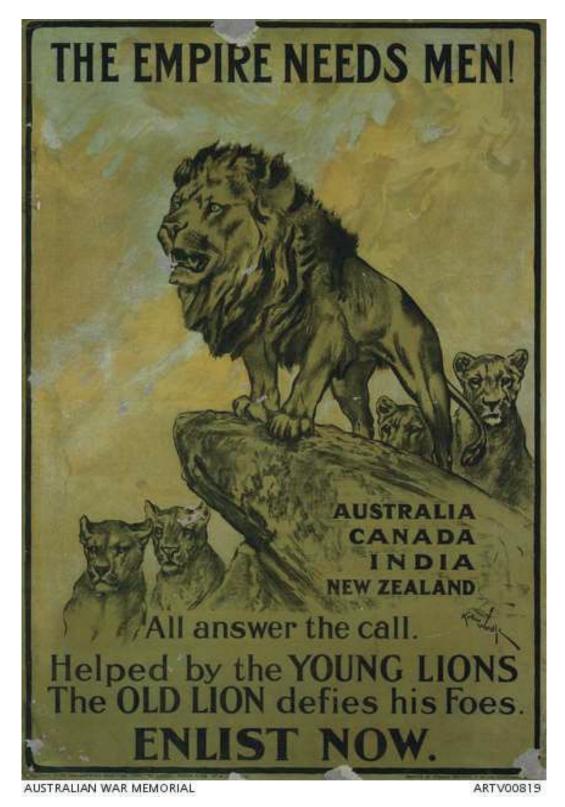


Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey. 6 May 1915. Old Sedd-el-Bahr and the transport ship the River Clyde from the Turkish trenches, looking across the Dardanelles. (Photographer: Charles Edwin Woodrow Bean C E W).



Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey. 15 May 1915. A battleship firing in the Dardanelles. (Photographer: Charles Edwin

Woodrow Bean C E W).



British First World War Recruitment poster (No.58) issued by the Parliamentary Recruiting Committee (PRC). It features a naturalistic drawing by Arthur Wardle, one of Britain's most renowned animal painters of the Victorian era, of an old male lion standing on a large rock surrounded by four younger lions. The old lion is symbolic of Britain, the greatest imperial power at the turn of the twentieth century, calling on her dominions and colonies, the younger lions, to send men to fight in the war. The image fills the majority with the title and message text positioned above and below. Both the image and text are set against a golden yellow background within a black border.

The Parliamentary Recruiting Committee (PRC), was set up following the outbreak of war in August 1914. This was a cross-party organisation chaired by the Prime Minister, Herbert Asquith. It utilised the party infrastructure in parliamentary constituencies to support recruitment - party activists were called upon to distribute leaflets, and organise rallies, processions and public meetings. The PRC commissioned some 200 posters, mostly published before the introduction of conscription, Jan 1916. In Jul 1915, the PRC became the Parliamentary War Savings Committee.

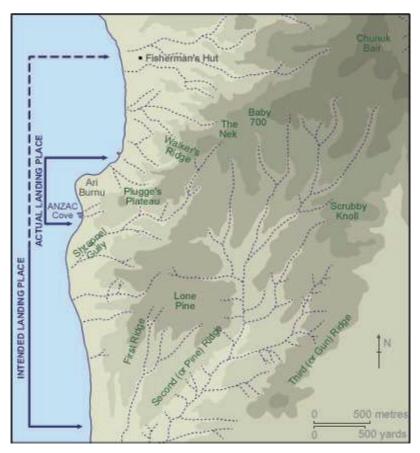
### Gallipoli: The Failed Plan



The Gallipoli campaign was intended to force Germany's ally, Turkey, out of the war. It began as a naval campaign, with British battleships sent to attack Constantinople (now Istanbul). This failed when the warships were unable to force a way through the straits known as the Dardanelles. A third of the battleships were sunk or disabled on a single day, 18 March 1915.



A fresh plan was devised: the army under Sir Ian Hamilton would occupy the Gallipoli peninsula. This would eliminate the Turkish Iand and shore defences and open up the Dardanelles for the passage of the navy. It would involve British troops first capturing the tip of the peninsula on 25 April, then advancing northwards. Meanwhile the Anzacs would land on the western coast north of Gaba Tepe, at a narrow point on the peninsula.



The British and Anzac forces only succeeded in getting a toe-hold on the peninsula. Over the next eight months little progress was made, and the Anzacs were evacuated in December. By January 1916 the last British troops were withdrawn, and the venture abandoned.



#### Map used at the landing

The maps available to the commanders for the landing on 25 April 1915 were barely adequate. This one was carried by Colonel Henry MacLaurin, who commanded the 1st Australian Brigade, and it bears his annotations. MacLaurin was an early casualty, killed by a sniper two days later. RC02689 (Australian War Memorial).



# AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

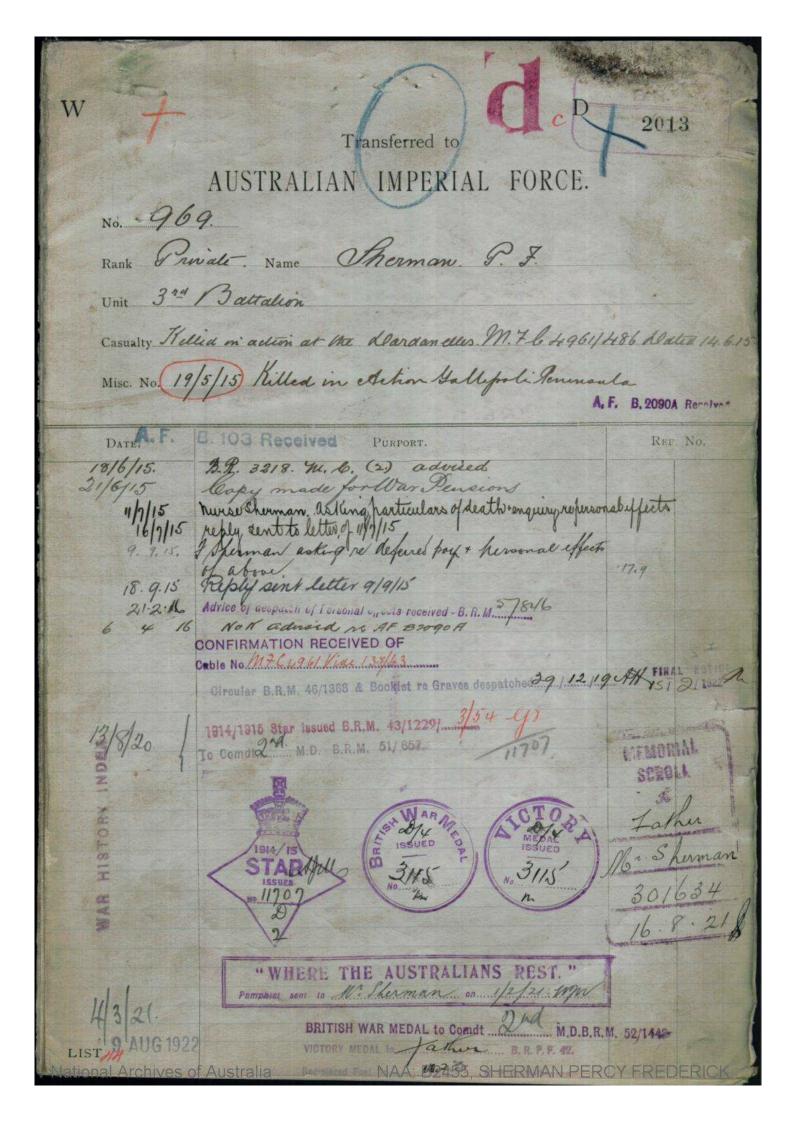
Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

	AN. PERCY. FREDRICK
312 Battal Soll Joined on 21.	
	erson Enlisting before Attestation.
Questions to be put to the re	
1 What is your Name?	1. Percy. Frednick Sherman
	2. In the Parish ofin or
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born !	near the Town of Sraidwood  IV.S.W.
3 Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject ! (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.)	3. Majural Born
4. What is your age?	. # # 20 years
5. What is your trade or calling?	5 Blackswith
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period?	~
7. Are you married \$	7. No
8. Who is your next of kin ? (Address to be stated)	8. Farma Sherman (Mocho) Betterly Dark Marulan NS.W.
9 Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power !	9 there no
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. 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	11 2 yrs Citizen frees D. Cay 43" I
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service?	12. 40
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service i If so, on what grounds i	13. %
14. (For married men and widowers with children)—  Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued to you either before or after embarkation during your term of service?	14.
by me to the above guestions are true, and I am willing and Common wealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the	do solemnly declare that the above suswers made hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth.
And further agree to allot not less than two-fifths	of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service
Date 27. 8:14	Percy Fredrick Therman Signature of person enlisted.
D.377/2.140.10220. *This clause should be struck out in the case of unmar	ried men or widowers without children under 18 years of ays.

CAND III

Name Ferry Fredrick Sherman Statement of Service of No. 969 Unit in which served. Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c. 3rd Battalion 21/8/14 12 LE 2298 31715 Blo II gbg. 19 to 15

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



#### SERVICE.

2013.

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.

(	MENT or 3rd	Battalion, A.I.F	Squadron, Troop, Battery or Company	*D* Coy.
Regtl.	No. 969	Rank P	rivate	
Name	She	rman, P.F.		
1	Date	19/5/15.		
Died	Place	Gallipoli.		
	Cause of Death*	Killed in ac	tion.	
* Speciall	y state if killed in action, o or e	r died from wounds received in ac exposure while on military duty, or f	tion, or from illness due to rom injury while on milita	o field operations or to fatigue, privation, ry duty.
		(a) in Pay Book (Arn	ny Book 64)	No.
State whether he leaves a will or not		(b) in Small Book (if	at Base)	No
		(c) as a separate docu	iment	No.
	All private documer	ats and effects received f	rom 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 Paymaster at the Base (see Field Service Regulations, Part II.), 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

G. H. Q. 3rd, Echelon M. E.

Station and Date Alexandria, 16/6/15.

(2035) Wt. W 5806/863. 150m. 10/14. C. P., Ltd.

Molong Private Hospital Forbesthed. Darlinghurst Sydney The Minister for Define. Fam writing to ask I Jujou could give me any particulars concerning the death of boy bother who was killed in action on the 16 of June we had word. He was signathered of the 3" Battalion D. Comp. 1st Exped force. Percy F. Therman. Do you think we could get any memento of his. My. Poor Parents would be so gratiful as he movas the eldest boy All we had we gover for the Country. yours sincerely crows theiman





16th July 1915.

Dear Madam,

In reply to your communication of the 11th inst., I regret the only information I am able at present to give you is contained in a cable message from Alexandria to the effect that your brother, No. 969 Private P.F. Sherman, 3rd Battalion, is reported as having been 111 killed in action.

The date, place, etc., of death will not be known until official confirming documents have been received from the Front, when his next-of-kin will be immediately notified.

As regards your brother's personal effects, arrangements have been made for these to be taken over by Messrs Thomas Cook & Son and forwarded direct to the next-of-kin or to any legatee mentioned in a Will, or other testamentry direction, that may be discovered amongst his belongings.

Yours faithfully,

Nurse Sherran,

Wolong Private Hospital,
Forbes Street,

Darlinghurst, N.S.W.

Officer i/chase Records

Buthe by Park. Instration Imperial Zoree Dear Lia not heard anything west back from their fra am we not contitted to and anything belonging to him I would be thankful for any imformation for could give me I an though



18th September. 5.

Dear Madam,

I am in receipt of your letter dated 9th inst., concerning your son, No. 969 Private Percy Frederick Sherman, 3rd Battalion, and in regly regret to inform you the only information received is that contained in a brief cable message from Alexandria to the effect that he is reported as having been killed in action, at the Dardanelles

The exact date, place, etc., of death will not be known until receipt at a later date of the necessary official confirming documents from the Front, when all such information which may then come to hand will be available to you as next-of-kin.

In respect to the question of any moneys due, this will be settled by the District Paymaster, Victoria Barracks, Paddington, N.S.W., upon receipt from the Staff Paymaster, Egypt, of your son's pay-book and cash statement of accounts.

Arrangements have been made for his personal effects, if any, to be taken over by Mesers Thomas Cook & Son and transmitted direct to you or to any legatee mentioned in a Will or other testamentary direction which may be discovered amongst his belongings.

Yours faithfully,

Officer i/c Base Records.

Mrs. F. Sherman, Betterley Park, Marulan, N.S. V.



6th April

6

Dear Madam.

regrettable loss of the late No. 969, Private P. F. Sherman, 3rd Battalion, I am now in receipt of advice which shows that he was killed in action at Callipoli, on the 19th May 1915.

These additional details are furnished by direction, it being the policy of the Department to forward all information received in xonnexion with deaths of members of the Australian Imperial Force.

Yours faithfully,

Officer i/c Base Recorde

and

Mrs. E. Sherman, Betterley Park, Marulan, N.S.W. Ma

88548

11th September

6

Commanding Officer,
45rd Infantry,
Drill Hall,
Goulbourn, N.S.W.

In accordance with M.O. 563/1914, please forward to this office as soon as possible Resord Book C.M Form M.7. relating to No. 969 PRIVATE SHERMAN, Percy Frederick, 3rd Battalion, Australian Imperial Force, and formerly of your Command, reported as :-

Killed in Action, 19th May, 1915.

The above is required to complete entry servereice M.7. already being held here.

Officer 1/c Base Records.





Dear Hadam.

21st February, 1917.

Your son, the late No. 969 Private P. F. SHREMAN, 3rd Pattalion. Australian Imperial Force, was prior to enlisting for Active Service a member of the 43rd Infantry, Goulbours, under the Universal Training Begulations, and while so serving was issued with a Peco d of Service Book (Khaki cover). This book is now required to complete entry of service, and I should deem it a favor if you would forward same to this office at your earliest convenience.

The Commanding Officer 43rd Infantry has been communicated with and he informs me the Record Book was in your sen's pessession at date of onlistment.

Yours faithfully,

Officer i/c Pase Fecords.

D2013.

JEM/EG

56331

Ra

24th April,1917

Commanding Officer. 43rd Infantry. Goulburn, E.S.W.

Forwarding under separate cover Record Book C M Form M 8 (M 7 unobtainable) with A.I.F. service entered, relating to No.969

Private SHEPMAN, Parcy Frederick, 3rd Battalian, Australian Imperial

Force, and formerly of your Command, reported as:- Killed in Action

19th May, 1915.

Please acknowledge receipt hersen.

Officer 1/c Base Records.

# In Memory of

#### Private

# Percy Frederick Sherman

969, 3rd Bn., Australian Infantry, A.I.F. who died on 19 May 1915

## Remembered with Honour The Nek Cemetery, Anzac





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Cockerill's at The Albion Hotel, Wallace Street Braidwood, early 1900s. (Photo 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