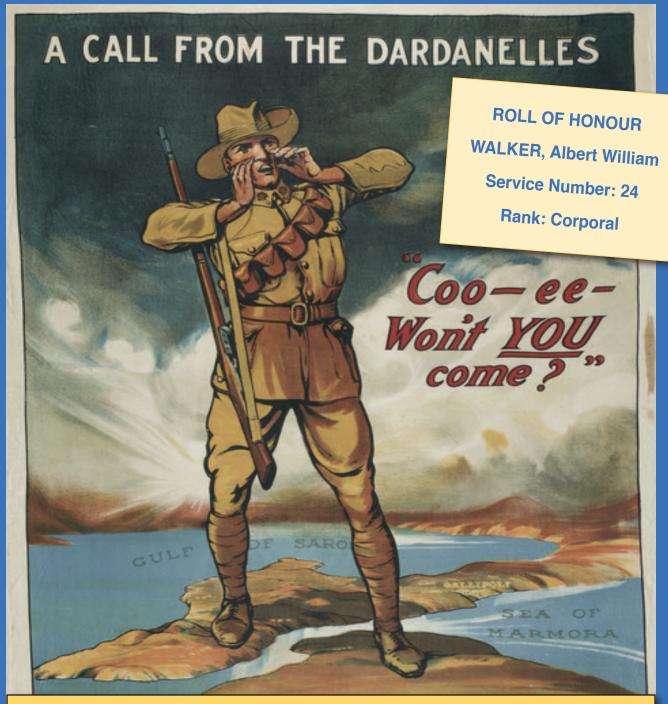
Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

"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 **Albert William Walker**, 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.

Albert William Walker 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.

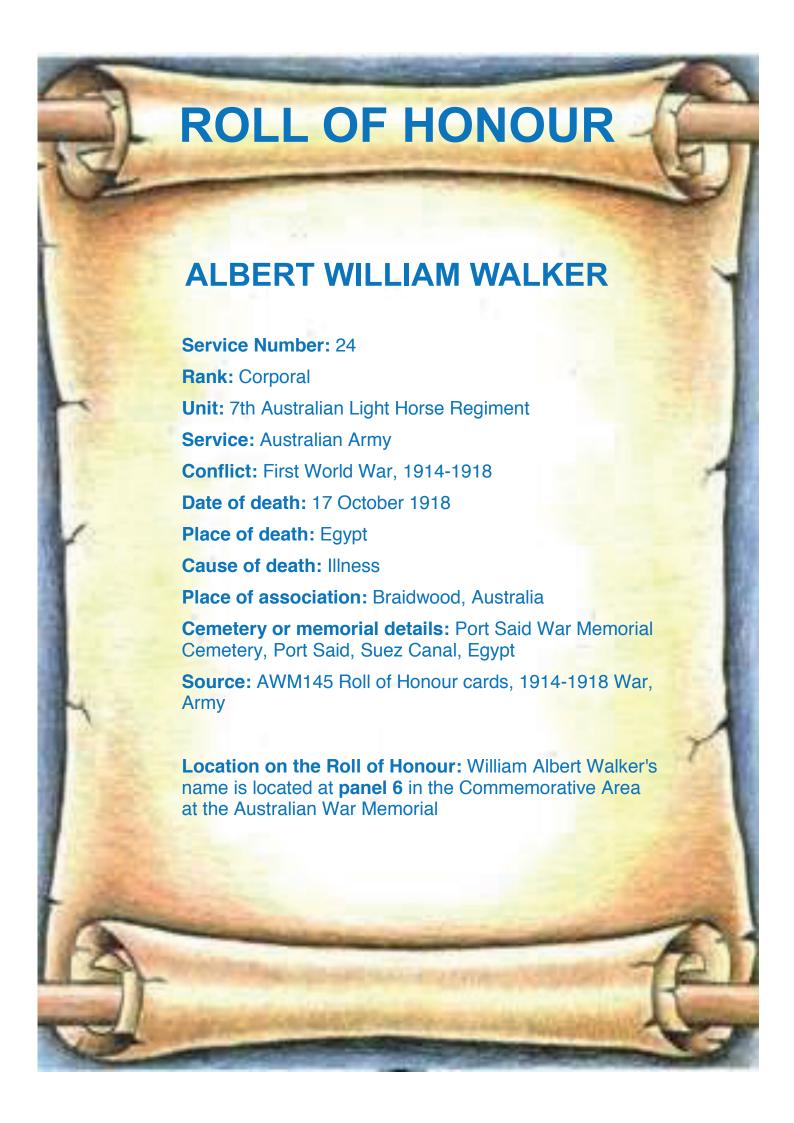
The war was in Europe, the Western Front was in France and Belgium. The Eastern Front was Russia and Austria-Hungary. Africa was another front because of colonial possessions on that continent, and after Turkey entered the war on 1 November 1914, the Middle East became another theatre of war.

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.





7th Australian Light Horse Regiment

The 7th Light Horse Regiment was raised in Sydney in October 1914 from men who had enlisted in New South Wales, and became part of the 2nd Light Horse Brigade. Sailing from Sydney in late December 1914, the regiment disembarked in Egypt on 1 February 1915.

The light horse were considered unsuitable for the initial operations at Gallipoli, but were subsequently deployed without their horses to reinforce the infantry. The 2nd Light Horse Brigade landed in late May 1915 and was attached to the 1st Australian Division. The 7th Light Horse became responsible for a sector on the far right of the ANZAC line, and played a defensive role until it finally left the peninsula on 20 December 1915.

Back in Egypt, the 2nd Light Horse Brigade became part of the ANZAC Mounted Division and, in April 1916, joined the forces defending the Suez Canal from a Turkish advance across the Sinai Desert. It fought at the battle of Romani on 4 August, at Katia the following day, and was involved in the advance that followed the Turks' retreat back across the desert.

The regiment spent late 1916 and early 1917 engaged on patrol work until the British advance into Palestine stalled before the Turkish bastion of Gaza. It was involved in the two abortive battles to capture Gaza directly (27 March and 19 April) and then the operation that ultimately led to its fall - the wide outflanking move via Beersheba that began on 31 October.

With the fall of Gaza on 7 November 1917, the Turkish position in southern Palestine collapsed. The 7th was involved in the pursuit that followed and led to the capture of Jerusalem in December. The focus of British operations then moved to the Jordan Valley. In early 1918 the 7th was involved in the Amman (24-27 February) and Es Salt (30 April-4 May) raids, and helped defeat a joint Turkish-German attack launched on the Jordan bridgehead around Musallabeh on 14 July.



14th July 1918: Ottoman Empire: Palestine: German soldiers captured at Musallabeh, by the ANZAC Division being escorted to a prison camp.



14th July 1918: Ottoman Empire: Palestine: German soldiers captured by the ANZAC Division at Musallabeh, being escorted to a prison camp.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P03569.019

October 1919: Egypt: Suez Canal, Port Said: The original grave marker, covered in flowers, of 24 Corporal (Cpl) William Albert Walker, 7th Australian Light Horse, of Braidwood, NSW. Cpl Walker enlisted on 12 October 1914 and embarked from Sydney aboard HMAT Ayrshire on 20 December 1914. He died of illness in Egypt on 17 October 1918 aged 23 years.



JSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No 24 Name	WALKER William Albert
No. 24 Unit	7th-bight-Herse-Regiment,-A.I.F.
Joine	d on 13-10-14.
Questions to be put to the Per	rson Enlisting before Attestation.
I. What is your name?	I. WALKER William Albert
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born?	2. In the Parish of in or near the Town of Braidwood in the County of N.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. Yes
4. What is your age?	4. 19 yrs 5 mths
5. What is your trade or calling?	5 Stockman
6. Are you, or have you been, an apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period?	6. No
7. Are you married?	7. No Yes (Wife) Mrs.A.D.Walker (8. (Sister)-Walker, Amy-Rachael
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated)	
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power?	9. No Milford House
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 Serviture, or have you been dismissed with Disgrace from the Navy?	Old Winton Road, Andover. Hants. England. CR 646/1/148
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	II. No
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service?	12. Yes
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds?	13. NO
14. Doyouunderstand 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 Property (Section 1)
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever?	15.
Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia * And I further agree to allot not less than t	wo-liths-of-the pay payable-to-me-from time to time

This clause to be amended where necessary and should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children
under 18 years of age.

14-10-14

(Sgd) William Albert Walker Signature of person enlisted.

Transferred to IAN IMPERIAL FORCE. 32114 Name backer Casualty hel as mutes & Hospe Histor #1 7. Cairo 1 57 1 \$ 3 The asnexes 1/4/15 gen the gracular ex to " Somali" M5/196/33 4/c 25/4/15 ached 88/11/15 Beaufast war Hospe Fredpondo gristal M5/516/1 4/2 2. 12.15 convalencent transferred & "minneapolis" 33/11/5 for England ex & Apl - 95/664/11 the 9/10/15 1 healty established LR533 Mc- 15207 15/2/16 p whatherhops Cel 130/5298 84 24/2/16 Cairs, BR41615 al Died of Broncho - Incumonia malaria, 19.10.18 at 14 a.g. H. Fort Shid, CRB01236 3140 lated Care of 1/4 Received B. R. 17/16/18 48 BURIAL REPORT RECEIVED REF. No. A.F. B. 103 Received PURPORT. 19/2/16 n 014 adve in hosp. Bristol in hosp Gibraltan 1/11/15 transferred to 26 rep. 4 sur Daid 119 1 9 1 9 1 14 88 3149 Thomas 20.10.18. 24.001.18 21.00110 11.0 2 Advised died, 19/0/18, broncho preimonia smilaria To Comdt. 12 1000 & Econtor to C at 1000 M. Tolay 1918 Otar toored to Day 2011 M. D. B.R.M. 52/1489

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Casualty Form Active Service.

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THE REAL PROPERTY.	Report	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, caoualties, &c. during active service, as reported on Army Form B.38, Army Form A. 56, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B.213, Army Form A.51,
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1st March 1916

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Dear Madam,

Advice has now been received by post which shows that your brother No.24 formerely 174 Corporal W.A. Walker, 7th Light Horse Regiment, was admitted to General Hospital, Gibraltar, from the Hospital Ship "Somali" on 7/11/15 suffering from jaundice. He was convalescent, and left for England by the "Minneapolis" on 23/11/15. On his arrival at England five days later he was admitted to Beaufort War Hospital, Fishponds, Bristol.

Upon receipt of any further information you will be promptly communicated with.

Yours faithfully,

Capt.

Officer i/c Base Records.

De la company

Miss A.R. Walker, Post Office, Braidwood, N.S.W.

Reference Number

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AUSTRALIAN	IMPERIAL	FORCE.	A.CR

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F.CR /

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Certifoled true Copy,
Capt.,
O. 1/c Records,
Australian Headquarters Egypt.

WILL.

Name in full.	I. William Albert Walker		
Unit.	Regimental Number 24 serving in 7th Light Horse Regt.		
	of the Australian Imperial Force do hereby revoke all former Wills made by me and		
	declare this to be my last Will.		
Name and Address of person or persons to whom it is to go.	I DEVISE and BEQUEATH all my real estate unto		
	absolutely, and my personal estate I bequeath to (Wife)		
Name and Address of	Mrs Alice Dorothy Wulker		
person or persons to receive personal	"Milford House" Old Winton Road,		
estate. (See Note).	Andover, Hants, England.		
Fill in Date.	IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this Fourteenth		
	day of January A. D. 1918		
	W.A. Walker. (Signature).		
All alterations to be initialed by Testator and Witnesses.	Signed by the said Testator as his last Will and Testament the same having been read over and explained to him, in the presence of us both present at the same time who at his request and in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as Witnesses.		
FIRST WITNESS.	Signature of Witness H.J. Price A/Sgt.		
	Address and Occupation No 641 7th L.H.Regt. A.I.F. Bricklayer.		
	Signature of Witness G.J.McDonald		
SECOND WITNESS.	Address and Occupation 375 S.Q.M.S. 7th L.H.Regt. A.I.F. Painter.		
	N.B.—Personal Estate includes Pay, Effects, Money in Bank, Insurance Policy, in fact everything except Real Estate.		

MEDICAL CASE SHEET.

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^{*} The first and last entries will be signed, and transfers from one Medical Officer to another, attested by their signatures.

Wt. W 6504/M 2870-1,500,000-8/17-H. & Sp. (10938). Forms/I, 1237/12. (E239)

35

MILITARY FORCES OF THE COMMONWEALTH

TELET

City 10900 2ND MILITARY DISTRICT

3004 CY

Victoria Barracks, Sydney-

18th November, 1918. (Date)

The Officer in Charge, BASE RECORDS.

Please note that Miss A. R. Walker, next of kin of the late No.24/174 Corporal William Albert Walker, 7th Light Horse Regiment, is now living Care Mr. Ferguson, Victoria Street, Goulburn. N.S.W.

Wallace From

Lieut.Colonel. A.A.G. 2nd Military District.

ational Archives of Australia

NAA B2455 WALKERWA



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL ART9310

1918: George Washington Lambert: Ottoman Empire: Palestine: **The road to Jerusalem**, Depicts a gorge with mounted light horse men crossing the road and camel train on the left.

COPY to Wife, Mrs. A. D. Walker, "Grovelyna", Crown Street, Surrey, Eng.

KT.

5th March, 1919.

Dear Madam,

With reference to the regrettable report of death of your brother, the late No. 24, Sig. Corporal W. A. Walker, 7th Light Horse Regiment, I am now in receipt of advice which shows he was admitted to 14th Australian General Hospital, Port Said, on 5.10.18 suffering from broncho pneumonia and malerdent, where he died on 17.10.18. He was buried on 21.10.18 in Port Said Military Cemetery, Grave No. 72B, Chaplain the Rev. H. J. Clarke officiating.

DESPATCHED

The utmost care and a tention is being devoted, where possible, to the graves of our fallen soldiers. It is understood photographs are being taken as soon as practicable for transmission to next-of-kin.

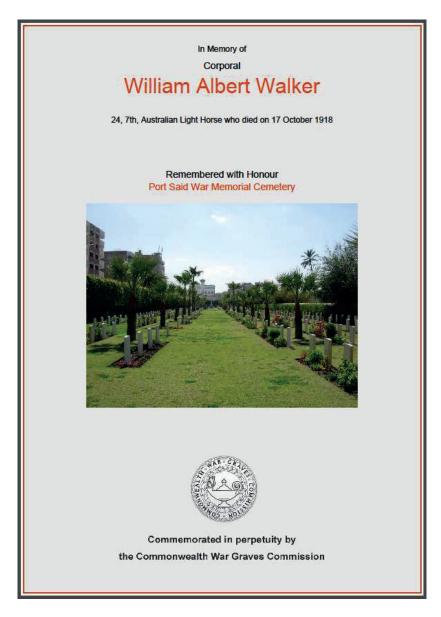
These additional details are furnished by direction, it being the policy of the Department to forward all information received regarding deaths of members of the Australian Imperial Force.

Yours faithfully,

Miss A. R. Walker, C/o Mr. Ferguson, Victoria Street, GOULBURN, N. S. W. Officer in Base Records.

Vational Archives of Australia

NAA B2455, WALKER WA



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