

VICTORIA CROSS (VC)

Thomas Leslie Axford

Born: 18 June 1894
Carrieton, South Australia
Australian

Age joined up: 22 years old

Occupation: Labourer,
Boulder City Brewery Co Ltd,
Kalgoorlie, Western Australia

Award: Victoria Cross
4th July 1918
Hamel, Western Front

Died: 1983, Age 89



Photo courtesy Australian War Memorial AWM2939.030

Lance Corporal Thomas Leslie Axford VC
16th Battalion, Australian Imperial Forces

Why was Axford awarded the VC?

Although his own platoon was safe, Axford assisted another platoon stuck in coils of wire. Axford attacked an enemy machine-gun position with bombs and bayonet. He killed ten Germans and captured six. His 'stuck' platoon could then move forward.

He later said, "I must have been mad!"

(This wasn't Axford's first act of bravery – he'd already won the Military Medal)



Victoria Cross and Military Medal

**Bravery
Initiative
Gallantry**

Battle of Hamel, 4th July 1918, The Western Front

The battle was planned by Australia's General Monash. Instead of sending soldiers in first, he used tanks to invade the German trenches. The battle was a 'brilliant success'. It lasted only 2 hours, with just 90 allied casualties. The Germans sustained 1500 casualties.



American and Australian Troops, Battle for Hamel. Photo courtesy Australian War Memorial AWM_E032690)

Axford's Military Career

- ❖ Arrived in France. 1916
- ❖ Treated for shell shock on arrival
- ❖ Military Medal 1918
- ❖ Victoria Cross 1918
- ❖ Served in Western Australian Headquarters in Second World War
- ❖ Died on a plane to Australia after a Victoria Cross reunion, in London 1983

Axford's Victoria Cross Citation

London Gazette, 17 August, 1918

No. 3399 L.Cpl Thomas Leslie Axford, M.M, A.I.F.

For most conspicuous bravery and initiative during operations.

When the barrage lifted and the Infantry advance commenced, his platoon was able to reach the first enemy defences through gaps which had been cut into the wire. The adjoining platoon being delayed in uncut wire, enemy machine guns got into action, and inflicted many casualties, including the Company Commander. Lance-Corporal Axford, with great initiative and magnificent courage, at once dashed to the flank, threw his bombs amongst the machine-gun crews, jumped into the trench, and charged with his bayonet. Unaided, he killed ten of the enemy and took six prisoners: he threw the machine gun over the parapet, and called out to the delayed platoon to come on. HE then rejoined his own platoon, and fought with it during the remainder of operations.

Prior to the incidents above mentioned, he had assisted in the laying out of the tapes for jumping off position, which was within 100 yards of the enemy. When the tapes were laid he remained out as a special patrol to ensure the enemy did not discover and unusual movement on our side. His initiative and gallantry undoubtedly saved many casualties, and most materially assisted towards the complete success of his company in the task assigned to it.

<http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/30849/supplements/9660>

KOMBUMERRI MEMORIAL

This memorial at Burleigh was the first memorial to Indigenous people who served in defence of Australia.

It is situated next to the Bora ring and was erected by the Kombumerri Aboriginal Corporation for Culture. This memorial is listed on the Gold Coast Heritage Register.



WHAT THE PLAQUE SAYS:

MIBIN WALLA LMUNDINDEHLA NALINAH DHACAN

YUGUMBEHIN DEFENCE OF OUR COUNTRY

THIS ROCK IS PLACED HERE FOR THE YUGUMBEH MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED IN THE DEFENCE OF THIS COUNTRY.

YUGUMBEH FAMILY GROUPS INCLUDE KOMBUMERRI, WANGERIBURRA, MINGUNBURRA, MUNALJAHLI, GUGINGIN, BIKINBURRA AND OTHERS

WE HONOUR THOSE WHO SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES AND THOSE WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE.

THE SYMBOLISM OF THIS ROCK SERVES TO HIGHLIGHT THE ROLE PLAYED BY ALL INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS IN DEFENCE OF THIS COUNTRY.



ERECTED BY THE KOMBUMERRI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION FOR CULTURE WITH THE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE OF THE GOLD COAST CITY COUNCIL.

VICTORIA CROSS (VC)

Hugo Vivienne Hope Throssell VC

Born : 26 October 1884
Northam WA
Australian (Scottish Heritage)

Age joined up: 30 years old

Job Prior: Farmer,
Western Australia

Unit/Rank: 10th Light Horse
2nd Lieutenant

Award: Victoria Cross
30 August 1915, **Hill 60, GALLIPOLI**

Died: 1933, Age 49



Photo courtesy Australian War Memorial A03688

2nd Lieutenant Hugo Vivienne Hope
Throssell VC, 10th Light Horse

Why was Throssell awarded the VC?

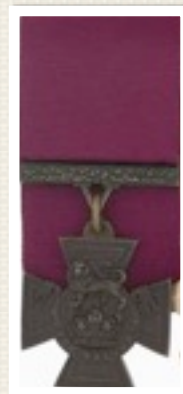
Throssell's unit was trying to push back the enemy past Hill 60 on Gallipoli. There was a fierce bomb fight all night. Many ANZACS were killed.

Throssell was severely wounded. He refused medical help. Despite the pain, he remained fighting and continued shouting encouragement to his men.

Throssell was the only Australian Light Horseman awarded a Victoria Cross.



Throssell recovering
from Gallipoli wounds
Photo courtesy AWM

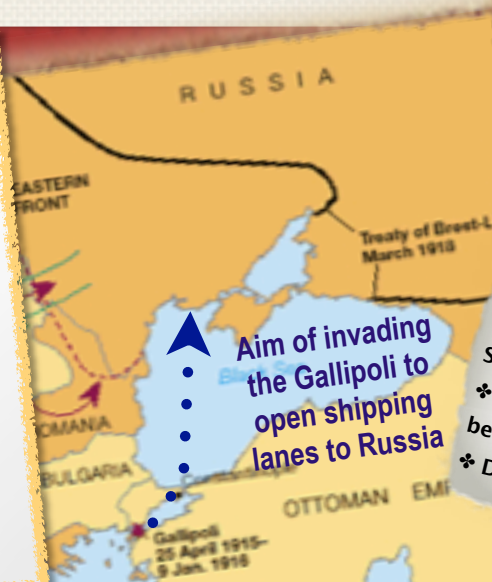


Victoria Cross

Bravery
Devotion to duty
Courage
Kept up spirits

3 Reasons for Gallipoli:

1. Distract the Turkish army from other battles.
2. Access for ships to attack the Turkish capital, Constantinople (Con-*stan-tin-opal*).
3. Ships be able to sail to the Black Sea to support our Russian allies.



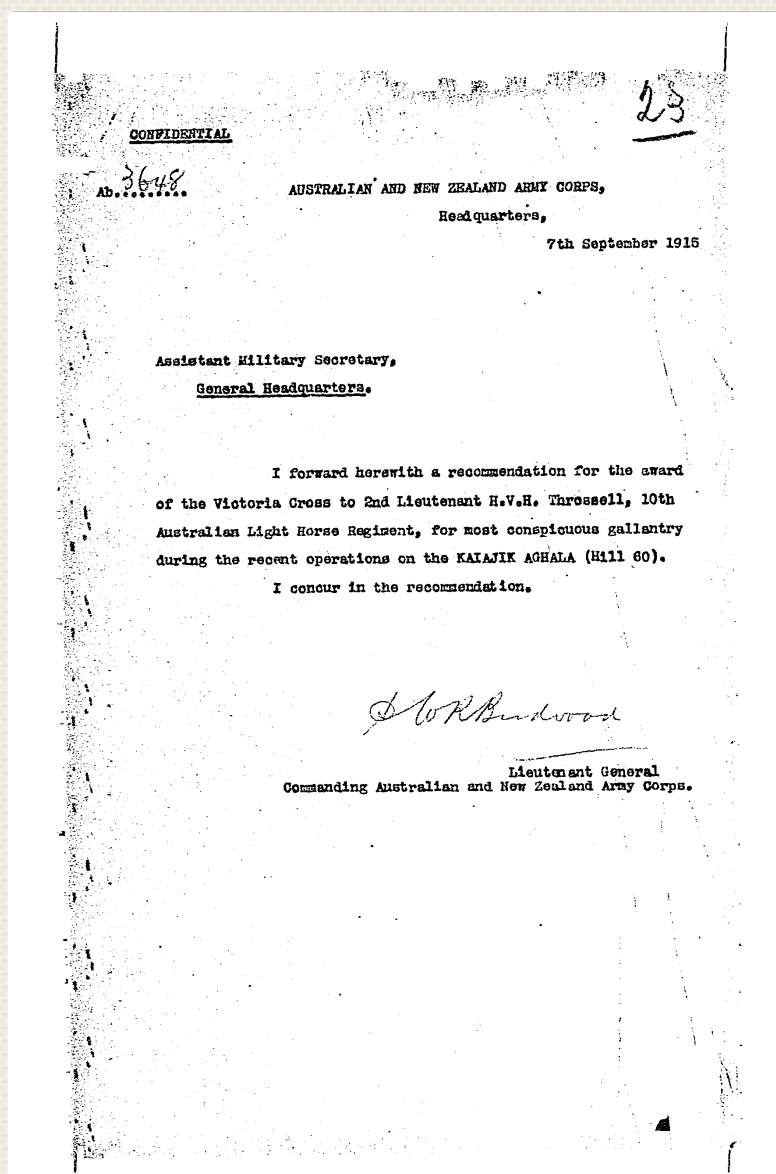
Aim of invading
the Gallipoli to
open shipping
lanes to Russia

Throssell's Milestones

- * Arrived in Egypt, 1914?
- * Landed Gallipoli 25 April 1915
- * 1915 Victoria Cross 1
- * 1917 Wounded in battle 2nd Gaza where his brother was killed. Hugo was made a captain.
- * After the war he married author Susan Prichard
- * Very disillusioned after the war - became a socialist & peace activist
- * Died 1933

Citation Throssell VC

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty during operations on the Kaiakij Aghala (Hill 60) in the Gallipoli Peninsula on 29th and 30th August 1915. Although severely wounded in several places during a counter-attack, he refused to leave his post or to obtain medical assistance till all danger was passed, when he had his wounds dressed and returned to the firing-line until ordered out of action by the Medical Officer. By his personal courage and example he kept up the spirits of his party, and was largely instrumental in saving the situation at a critical period.



VICTORIA CROSS (VC)

Leslie Cecil Maygar VC

Born : 27 May, 1868
Kilmore, Victoria

Age joined up: 33 years old, 1901
46 years old, 1914

Job Prior: Farmer, Euroa

Unit/Rank: 5th Victorian Mounted Rifles 1901
8th Light Horse
Major (Commander)

Award: Victoria Cross
23 November 1901
Transvaal, Boer War

Died: 1917, Age 49



Photo courtesy Australian War Memorial AWM P01285.001

Major Leslie Cecil Maygar (1872-1917),
c1903, unknown photographer

Why was Maygar awarded the VC?

Maygar was awarded the VC in the Boer (Bore) War. He rescued another man whose horse had been shot from under him. Maygar pulled the wounded man onto his own horse, then got off and insisted the soldier gallop to safety. Maygar returned on foot under heavy fire.

Maygar was also awarded a Distinguished Service Order Medal (DSO) in WWI, 1917 in Egypt, (Magdhaba). He was killed in action in Beersheba.

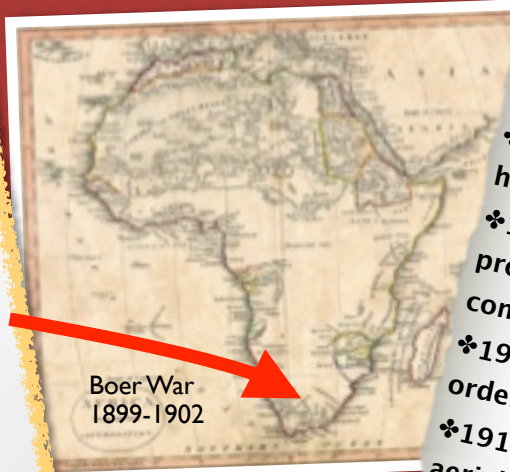
Victoria Cross, Distinguished Service Order, and campaign medals. (Notice the artists in Maygar's portrait above painted the medals in the wrong order AWM REL/03067)



Gallant
Devotion to Duty
Inspired his men
Bold Leader

What's a Boer?

Boer is the Dutch word for farmer. The war was between the British and Dutch settlers in the South of Africa, 1899-1902. There was gold in the Dutch territories. Australia helped Britain. Our troops fought on horseback mainly as part of the Mounted Rifles. Six VCs were awarded during the Boer War.



Boer War
1899-1902

Map: Circle 7 Framing

Maygar's Milestones

- ✦ 1902 awarded VC. Boer War. After war returned to farming
- ✦ 1914 Joined the 8th Light horse - appointed Captain
- ✦ 1915 Fought at Gallipoli, promoted Lt Colonel, given command of 8th LH
- ✦ 1917 Awarded Distinguished order medal, Magdhaba Egypt
- ✦ 1917 Wounded in German aerial attack Beersheba. Died next day.

Citation

14917	MAJOR Lancers (1st A.)	Henry Blanchard SWINBURNE WARD	Performed his duties as a 9501 until he left en route for India on 16.4.14 with the greatest zeal and energy, his work at all times has been most thorough and helpful he was awarded a bar to his DSO on June 3rd 1914 for services prior to his appointment as Lt. O.L. Aust. Hld. Des	GOC AND Ment Ment Long 16/11/18
"	R.A. CAPT	William Henry Jeff THORNTON (late RAQM)	For continuous good work until appointed to Staff at Bantford on 3.5.17 was of great assistance in the formation of the Division and the organization of its transport	GOC AND MC Awarded MC Long 11/18
"	AAMC MAJOR	Myles Wyman CAVE	Devotion to duty and excellent work in the evacuation of wounded from the field during the battles of Gaza	ADMS AND MENT
5-10-17	11th ALH REGT	LIEUT William MANNING	For the gallant and determined manner in which he led a party of scouts during a reconnaissance of the Wadi el Euphrate on Oct 2nd 1917 although under heavy fire for about 200 yards he landed his scouts coolly and gained valuable information of the enemy's dispositions and of the water facilities in the Wadi he led the whole party back to safety without casualties his work on previous reconnaissances has always been of great value	GOC AND MC Awarded MC Long 11/18
"	10th ALH T. Cdr (3rd ALH)	LT Col Leslie Cecil MAYGAR	For conspicuous gallant conduct and services rendered in	GOC AND BREV MAJ
"	16th ALH C. M.F.	V.C. DSO VO	Egypt Gallipoli and Sinai	AM.D. CMF
"	11th ALH Regt Cdr (16th ALH) C.M.F.	LT Col (I.D.G.) William GRANT DSO	For conspicuous gallant conduct and services rendered in Egypt Gallipoli and Sinai	" BREV COL CMF
"	14th ALH Regt (14th ALH) CMF	MAJOR George James RANKIN	For conspicuous good work in the field between 30th April 1914 and the present date included in the above officers work in the field was a successful operation carried out by him in KHASIF on 1st July 1917 which has already been reported in A.I.F. EGYPT Order NO 10 dated 16/8/17	OC AND BREV MAJOR CMF
"	11th ALH REGT (3rd ALH) CMF	MAJOR Percival John BAILEY	For good work done in the field during the occupation of the Sinai Peninsula and Palestine	OC AND BREV MAJOR CMF
"	11th ALH REGT (unattached) CMF	1st Lt. Col (CMF) John William PARSONS DSO	Continuous good work at Gallipoli, Sinai and Palestine including operations at GAZA on 19th April 1914.	GOC AND BREV MAJOR CMF
"	12th ALH REGT (12th ALH) CMF	MAJOR Philip Andrew CHAMBERS	Operation 19.4.14 GAZA. For conspicuous gallantry and general good work in the field	OC AND BREV MAJOR CMF
"	ROYAL GROVE HUSSARS	2nd Lt Robert Henry WILSON	On night of 19/16 Oct 1917 this officer was in charge of a party of 7th DRs who concealed themselves in a small hut at 400 yds E of Wadi UM. SIRR at 0200 their horses having been watered to the nearest support 2 1/2 miles away By this officers action in skillfully keeping his parties presence unsuspected by the enemy by the great grasp of the situation when discovery was inevitable the ambush successfully surprised at which Cavalry Patrol killing one and capturing two of whom one was wounded	OC AND BREV MAJOR CMF

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER DSO

Lachlan Chisolm Wilson

Born : 11th July, 1871
Logan River, Qld

Age joined WW1: 43 years old (1914)

Job Prior: Lawyer
Commissioned Officer
15th Light Horse

Unit/Rank: 3rd Light Horse Brigade
Brigadier General

Award: Distinguished Service Order
Es Salt, Jordan, 1917

Died: 1947, Age 76, New Farm



Photo courtesy Australian War Memorial P01541.016

Brig. General Lachlan Wilson CMG,
DSO , c1917

Why was Wilson awarded the DSO?
Wilson led the Third Brigade (2,000 men) to success at Es Salt, a town near Jordan. When the Turks counter attacked, he quickly took his men to safety. Wilson's success enabled the rapid take over of the town. He was awarded the DSO because of the dashing manner that he handled his brigade.

Wilson was awarded a number of medals in the war:
Companion of Bath, Companion of the Order of St Michael & St George, French Croix de Guerre



Distinguished
Service Order,

**Dashing
Manner**

Gallantry

**Care of
troops**

**Unceasing
attention**

Wilson's Milestones

- ❖ 1893 admitted to Bar
- ❖ Joined Qld Mounted Infantry Boer war, Corporal
- ❖ 1901 Prisoner of War
- ❖ 1903 Married Nelle Hartley,
- ❖ 1904 Commissioned 15LH
- ❖ 1915 Seized 'Wilsons' Lookout, Gallipoli
- ❖ 1917 Brigadier General Commander 3rd LH Brigade
- ❖ 1918 DSO Es Salt, Jordan
- ❖ 1923 Aide de Camp Gov. Gen.
- ❖ Director AMP & legal practice



AWM B02758

Queensland Spear Pump

Wilson introduced the Queensland spear pump into the Light Horse. It was portable and raised water quickly from underground for watering the horses.

Citation

Colonel (temporary Brigadier-General) Lachlan Chisholm WILSON, ✓
G.M.G. - Commanding 3rd Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Has commanded his Brigade with conspicuous success during the period under review, especially did he distinguish himself in the dashing manner he handled his Brigade, which led to the rapid occupation of ES SALT on May 1st 1918.

Previous awards:-
G.M.G.

approved

Recommended for D.S.O.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER DSO AND DSO BAR BEERSHEBA

William Grant

Born : 30 September 1870
Stawell, Victoria

Age joined WW1: 45 years old (1915)

Job Prior: Commissioned Officer/
Farmer

Unit/Rank: 4th Light Horse Brigade
Brigadier General

Award: Distinguished Service
Order and Bar to DSO

Died: Aged 69 May 1939
Southport, Qld



Brig. General William Grant CMG DSO &
Bar AWM H00020

Why was Grant awarded the DSO?

Grant led the column of Light Horsemen across trackless dunes, at night in the fog, arriving at the exact spot to attack.

Grant earned the Bar to the DSO for commanding the 4th Light Horse Brigade in the charge at Beersheba.

Grant was also awarded Companion of Bath, Companion of the Order of St Michael & St George, French Croix de Guerre



Distinguished Service
Order, and Bar

Dash & Energy
Incredible
sense of
locality and
direction

Fairness
Reliability

Kept up spirits



Charge of Beersheba: A huge success for the Light Horse, a turning point for WW1 and last mounted cavalry charge in history.

Grant's Milestones

- ♣ 1893 Engineer, Melbourne Uni
- ♣ Farmer Darling Downs
- ♣ 1897 Married Eve Woolcott
- ♣ 1901 Commissioned Qld Mtd Inf.
- ♣ 1915 Commend 11th LH Reg.
- ♣ 1915 Gallipoli, Hill 60
- ♣ 1916 DSO Mahgara
- ♣ 1917 Bar to DSO Beersheba led the charge and seized the wells.
- ♣ Returned to farming in Qld
- ♣ 1939 Died suddenly – heart attack

Citation

Date	Unit	Rk	Name	Action for which recommended	Remarks	By
6.9.17	B Batt H.A.C.	MAJOR	The Hon Richard Preston DSO	During the circumstances caused out by the Lindisfarne formation on Sept 1st 1917 S. & of Birr Lake Major Preston was accompanying a patrol. When in the Wadi Imbach the patrol was suddenly fired on at very short range. The patrol galloped away but one horse ridden by Pte Hodgson came down and got loose when about 200 yds yards away Major Preston saw Pte Hodgson on his feet and went back and picked him up on his own horse under fire.	G.O.C. 16 R. 8.0 308	
19.9.17	A.S.C.	Major Stephen Lt Col. ROBINSON	ROBINSON	Devotion to duty as a Lt Col. he has consistently done good work (Sept 6. 1917)	G.O.C. awarded DSO London 1/1/18	
	4TH Hussars	Capt	Arthur Thomas McKinnon KAVANAGH	Has carried out his duties at G.S.O. 2 with conspicuous success and zeal	" awarded MC 1/1/18	
	A.I.F. Chaplain	Chaplain 3rd Cl. Rev GORDON	Hugh Speith GORDON	Has done fine work especially after the action of apt 19th when he was of greatest service and helpfulness to a large number of wounded (Sept Despatch during Roman's operations)	awarded MC MENT London 1/1/18	
	AMND F.D.S.G.D. RE	Capt Tem. Major FORD YOUNG	archibald FORD YOUNG	This officer has greatly assisted me during formation and being of the Squadron his organization of parties mentioned and carried out were largely responsible for the successful and rapid mobilization of Turkish Railway during operations May 21st 22nd 1917	awarded London 16/1/18	
27.10.17	Royal G. Hussars Yeomanry	2nd Lt	Herbert Pearce ELLIS	When heavily pressed by 3 enemy troops on his front and expended by a machine gun he held to his post in a most determined manner after being wounded. He showed great gallantry coolness and devotion to duty and set an example to his troop until reinforced and enemy were driven back. This occurred on 25th Oct 1917 when Regt was holding an outpost line BUQQAR RIDGE to 630 Yds ELLIS had his troop on the R. of his squadron section at IMLEH Hill with his right flank exposed to 400 yds held by enemy.	G.O.C. 1/1/18 awarded MC 1/1/18	
1.11.17	11th ALH. ALH. BDE	LT COL. (S. B. GEN.)	William GRANT DSO.	On the evening of Oct 21st 1917 when ordered to attack BEERSHEBA he led his troops in a most determined manner in the manner he landed his troops in the ground to his quick appreciation of the situation and prompt action in putting his order into effect that caused the town to be taken and occupied.	G.O.C. 1/1/18 awarded DSO 1/1/18	
2.11.17	4TH L.H. REGT	LT COL.	William BOURCHIER	For the gallant and capable manner in which he led the 4TH L.H. REGT. he personally directed his Regt into action in the attack on BEERSHEBA on 21/10/17. His efforts by the skillful handling of his Regt and by his magnificent example of courage and determination was very largely instrumental in the success of the attack and the capture not only of the town of Beersheba itself but also of upwards of 400 prisoners with arms and captured machine guns. When his reserve squadron charged Pte BOURCHIER himself accompanied them and shot to death with his revolver and continued to encourage them fighting whilst able directing his Regt in the action over several times of an intense battle of arms between.	G.O.C. 1/1/18 awarded DSO 1/1/18	
2.11.17	12TH L.H. REGT	LT. Col.	Donald CAMERON	For the conspicuous able and determined manner in which he directed the attack by his Regt the 12th L.H. on the defense of BEERSHEBA on 21/10/17 and in connection with the 11TH L.H. REGT. was instrumental in the successful success of the action and the capture of the town as well as the several field guns machine guns and about 400 prisoners. This Regt was provided with several very strong defense positions and redoubts and the wholly successful attack by the Regt itself great credit on the skillful and courageous leading by LT. Col. CAMERON.	G.O.C. 1/1/18 awarded DSO 1/1/18	

DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL DCM

Francis Patrick Curran

Born : October 1886
Australian

Age joined up: 28 years old (1915)

Job Prior: Canter (Farm worker)
Tenterfield NSW

Unit/Rank: 7th Light Horse Regiment

Award: Distinguished Conduct Medal, Gallipoli
1st January 1916

Died: 7 August, 1916 Age 29
Romani, Sinai Desert



There is no photo available of Francis Patrick Curran. The photo above shows an ambulance of the 4th field ambulance with an Egyptian, his camel and a member of the unit on the camel.
Photo courtesy Australian War Memorial P01815.019
Photo WL Nickson

Why was Curran awarded the DCM?

Curran was a bomb thrower in Gallipoli. He held back the enemy, on his own in a trench. He smothered bombs with one hand while throwing bombs with the other, while his head was exposed under heavy fire.

After Gallipoli Currie worked as a mounted stretcher bearer in the desert battles. At the battle of Romani, he single handedly carried and rode in seven injured men as bullets rained down. He was killed in action there.



Distinguished Conduct Medal

Single-handed

**Greatest
bravery & skill**



'Tibby' Cotter was another mounted stretcher bearer. He was a test cricketer – a bowler, for the Australian Cricket team. He assisted wounded VC winner **Throssel** and his brother. At Beersheba a group of Turks surrendered to Tibby. One of the Turks had a hidden pistol and shot him in the back. Tibby fell from his horse dead.

Photo of Tibby Wikipedia Phanto 282



Can you make out the camel here? This is a Cacolet (cas-o-lay). Two stretchers rest on the camels back, one each side of its hump. This is one of the ways wounded were carried through the desert.

AWM J02848

Citation F.P. Curran

7th LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT, A.I.F.

391/3/100 10A

Recommendations and Awards

1st Lt F.P. Curran

Name	Rank	Regt	Unit	Service	Remarks	Order of Merit	Remarks
Curran, F.P.	1st Lt	7th	1st Lt	1st Lt	Excellent conduct as a barrack therapist in that he single-handedly on the 1st August, stopped the Turks' hand fire in the trenches. At the beginning of the barrack therapist's work was done and then he stayed on by himself thousands of yards with one hand's assistance and the other, thus pre- venting many deaths by gas. There was no loss of time and he was exposed as he was hurrying on the front and in the trench all around him.	D.C.M.	No previous recommendation

G.O. 7th Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.

MILITARY MEDAL MM

John 'Jack' Kissock McDowell

Born : 1870
Ayrshire, Scotland

Age joined up: 46 years old (1917)

Job Prior: Taxi Driver (Horse drawn),
Mackay

Unit/Rank: 10th Light Horse
Private

Award: Military Medal
Sailly-Le-SEC, The Somme

Died: 1933, Age 49



Jack McDowell with wife Mary with one of their eleven children (No military photo)

Why was Jack awarded the MM?

Jack was a Light Horseman before joining up for WW1, but ended up serving as a cook on the Western front. A hot meal was the only thing the boys in the trenches had to look forward to each day, and Jack was determined to get it to them as hot as possible. To do this, Jack often made the kitchen fire as close to the action as possible. It earned him the title the 'Mad Cook'.

On this day, shelling was fierce. Jack had set up in a ruined barn. Jack's assistants had taken shelter, but Jack kept cooking. A shell took out the barn, but Jack survived that time.



Military Medal

Bravery

Devotion to
duty

Admired by
men

Fine soldierly
bearing

Cooking in the trenches

Keeping the troops fed in the trenches was difficult. Usually field 'kitchens' were set up away from the front lines. Food was transported in hay boxes, but was usually cold and inedible by the time it reached the troops. The added danger for cooks was that often the enemy would take pot shots at the cooking fires



A field 'kitchen' somewhere in the Somme, France

Jack's Milestones

- ❖ 1870 Born Scotland
- ❖ At some stage he emigrated to Australia. He married his wife Mary and had 11 children.
- ❖ Worked as a taxi driver driving a horse drawn cab in Mackay
- ❖ Member of the 27th Light Horse
- ❖ 1917 joined the AIF and was a cook in the battlefields of the Somme
- ❖ 1918 May, awarded Military Medal
- ❖ 1918 late May Killed in Action

Citation

10

[M342] W7670/15618 2000m 9/17/ 191 G & S E.1728. Form W.3121/5

Date Recommendation passed forward. Army Form W.3121.

Received Passed
 Brigade 15 18 18 18
 Division 15 18 18 18
 Corps 15 18 18 18
 Army 15 18 18 18

11th Aust. Inf. Brigade Third Australian Division Australian Corps

Schedule No. (to be left blank)	Unit	Regt. No.	Rank and Name (Christian names must be stated)	Action for which commended (Date and place of action must be stated)	Recommended by	Honour or Reward	(To be left blank)
	42nd. Battalion. A.I.F.	1888	Private John Kippock McDOWELL.	<p>On 30th. March, 1918, in SAILLY-le-SEC, ^{S. CALBERT} No. 1268 Private McDOWELL was engaged in preparing a hot meal for the troops in the trenches. His position was heavily shelled and his comrades sought shelter. This man continued to prepare the meal and make arrangements for its distribution, which owing to his devotion to duty and courage was possible even during the lulls in the enemy attack.</p> <p>His conduct is much admired by the men of his Company, and it was only due to his example and fine soldierly bearing that the hot meal was able to be served to the troops immediately the enemy attack had been defeated. There was no Officer or M.C.O. who could supervise this important duty, and his example to the other men of his kitchen is worthy of commendation.</p> <p><i>Major General,</i> G.O.C. Third Australian Division</p>	<i>H. H. Bannan</i>	Military Medal	

RR 5353

MILITARY MEDAL MM

Alice Ross-King

Born : 5 August, 1891
Ballarat, Victoria

Age joined up: 33 years old (1914)

Job Prior: Theatre Nurse,
Private hospital, Melbourne

Unit/Rank: 1st Aust. General Hospital
Head Sister

Award: Military Medal
Armentieres, The Somme

Died: 1968, Age 76



Alice Ross-King

Photo sourced from www.anzacday.org.au from Mark Appleford's collection

Why was Alice awarded the MM?

Alice was serving near the trenches in France in a Clearing station. This is where the wounded are first treated. The station was bombed. There was great horror and many were staff and patients were killed. Alice worked bravely and tirelessly to assist the wounded.

Alice was also awarded the Associate Royal Red Cross, and a Florence Nightingale Medal by the International Red Cross.



Royal Red Cross Medal

Great
Coolness

Devotion to
duty

Nurses in WW!

Seven Military Medals were given to nurses in the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps. Over 2,286 served overseas, more than 423 served in Australia, and 25 died while serving.

Conditions for nurses were terrible. They often worked 18 hour days, and saw as much of the horrors of war as the men in the trenches.



Photo Alice Mills AWM P03253.004

Alice's Milestones

- ❖ 1914 Arrived Egypt as a nursing sister with 1st Australian General Hospital
- ❖ 1916 1st A.G.H sent to Rouen, France
- ❖ 1917 Clearing station near trenches, Armentieres. Awarded Military Medal
- ❖ 1918 Associate Royal Red Cross
- ❖ 1919 Married Dr from the ship home
- ❖ 1942 Commissioned Major Australian Army Women's Medical Service
- ❖ 1949 Florence Nightingale Medal
- ❖ Ross-King annual award established

Citation

Royal Red Cross (R.R.C.) - contd.

Bar to R.R.C.

Conyers, Matron-in-Chief E. A.

Military Medal (M.M.)

Cawood, Sister D. G.
Corkhill, Staff Nurse P. E.
Deacon, Sister O.
Derrar, Staff Nurse M. J.
Kelly, Sister A. M.
Pratt, Sister R.
Ross-King, Sister (t/Head Sister) A.

Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.)

Wilson, Principal Matron G. M.
Conyers, Matron-in-Chief E. A.
Davidson, Matron E. S.
Gray, Matron E.
Kellitt, Matron A. M.

Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.)

Ross, Matron G. L.

Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (M.B.E.)

White, Principal Matron J. Mc. H.

Medaille des Epidemies (en Argent).

Campbell, Matron B. A.

Medaille des Epidemies (en Vermeil).

Keys, Head Sister G. M.
Sorenson, Matron G.

Greek Medal for Military Merit. 4th Class.

White, Principal Matron J. McH.

Order of St. Sava. 5th Class.

White, Principal Matron J. McH.

MILITARY MEDAL MM

Dr Phoebe Chapple

Born : 31 March 1879
Adelaide

Age joined up: 38 years old (1917)

Job Prior: Doctor,
Prince Alfred College, Adelaide

Unit/Rank: Women's Auxiliary Army Corp
Doctor

Award: Military Medal 1918
Rouen, France

Died: 1967, Age 87



Phoebe Chapple, M.B.,B.Sc. graduating
State Library of South Australia, SLSA: B 25677/34

Why was Phoebe awarded the MM?

Dr Phoebe Chapple was inspecting womens' camps on the Wester Front. She and 40 women sheltered in the trenches during intense bombing. A bomb landed in the trench killing nine and injuring others. Dr Chapple attended to the wounded.

Dr Chapple was the first woman doctor ever be awarded the Military Medal



Military Medal

Gallantry

Devotion

Attended needs of others regardless of own safety

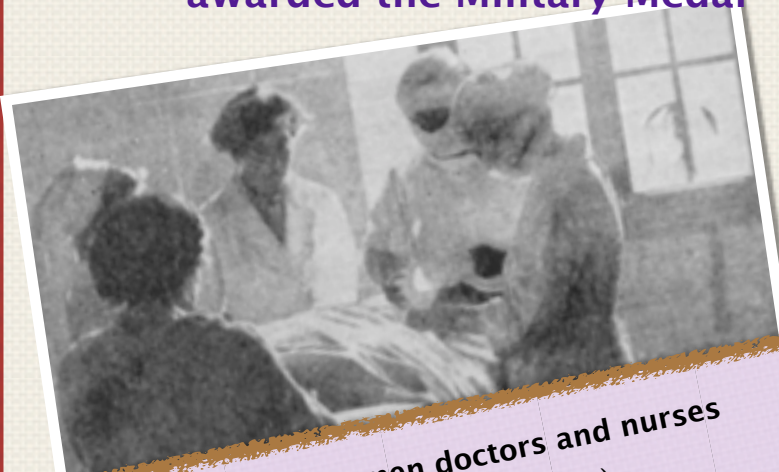


Photo depicts women doctors and nurses operating WW1 (Imperial War Museum)
'The military 'squeezed women dry like an orange'. Dr Phoebe Chapple

Milestones

- ❖ 1904 MD University of Adelaide
- ❖ 1905 House Surgeon Adelaide Hosp'l
- ❖ 1917 Left Adelaide when Australian Army refused to appoint female doctors.
- ❖ 1917 In England joined the Royal Army Medical Corps as surgeon, then Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps
- ❖ 1918 Awarded Military Medal
- ❖ She was a feminist and worked as an obstetrician. She practiced medicine from her home, Norwood until 85. Known as 'Auntie Doc' by her family.

INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are warned that this poster contains images of the deceased.

It is difficult to know how many aboriginal people served in the first world war. At the start, indigenous people were not allowed to join up. Some did join by saying they were Indian or Islander. The estimate is that 500-800 Indigenous Australians served in WWI, and at least 44 died.

Private Richard Martin

A local Kombumerri man, Richard Martin joined up in 1914. To be allowed to join up, he said he was a New Zealander, but really he was born on Stradbroke Island. He served in Gallipoli, then France. Martin was wounded three times during the war. He was killed in action March 1918. It is unclear where Martin was buried, but he is named on the memorial at Villers-Bretonneux, France.



Private Richard Martin

Frank Fisher Senior

Frank Fisher Senior served in the 11th Light Horse. He was the father of Rugby League player Frank Fisher (Junior) who has been called the 'Wally Lewis' of Aboriginal Rugby players. Frank Senior is also the Great Grandfather of Cathy Freeman.

Frank Fisher Junior was refused entry into the AIF in World War 2.

**4 Aborigines
Not Allowed
To Join A.I.F.**

Four patriotic Australians of splendid physique cannot join the A.I.F. They are Frank Fisher, Jack Edwards, J. Hegarty, and B. Turner. Barambah footballers. The reason given officially is that they are not of sufficiently European origin.

Extract Courier Mail Brisbane, Qld July 3rd 1915

This memorial at Burleigh was the first memorial to Indigenous people who served in defense of Australia.

It is situated next to the Bora ring and was erected by the Kombumerri



"...WE HONOUR THOSE WHO SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES AND THOSE WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE. THE SYMBOLISM OF THIS ROCK SERVES TO HIGHLIGHT THE ROLE PLAYED BY ALL"

WOMEN ON THE HOME FRONT

At the start, everyone thought the war would be over 'before Christmas' - only four months away. But the war continued for four years. This left women alone to raise families (often of 10 children). Women directly helped soldiers at the front in many ways through knitting socks and beanies, baking and fund raising. Writing letters was a huge part of the support they gave from a distance. A number of women were actively working for peace - to bring the war to an end so their 'boys' could come home



Womens Relatives Badges

These badges were issued to the nearest female relative to the soldier serving. This was to honour the duty done by women.

What's ANZACs got to do with Australia Day?

In 1915 Mrs Ellie-Wharton-Kirke established the first Australia day - 30th July 1915. Australia Day was created to raise money for the troops through sale of ANZAC ribbons. It was a big success. Gallipoli Medalets were also sold. Ellie was awarded a gold cast medalet for her efforts. Only four gold medalets were made - the rest went to royalty. Ellie had four sons serving in the war. The eldest was killed in 1916.



Australia Day

At the time of World War one, The celebration of the landing of the first fleet on 26 January was called Foundation Day. It was only in the 1930s that this day was renamed Australia Day.



Gold Medalet awarded Mrs Ellie Wharton-Kirke for her fund raising efforts. An inexpensive version of this was sold to raise funds.

The War

by Dame Mary Gilmore (Australian Poet)

Out in the dust he lies;
Flies in his mouth,
Ants in his eyes ...

I stood at the door
Where he went out;
Full-grown man,
Ruddy and stout;
I heard the march
Of the trampling feet,
Slow and steady
Come down the street;
The beat of the drum
Was clods on the heart,
For all that the regiment
Looked so smart!

I heard the crackle
Of hasty cheers
Run like the breaking
Of unshed tears,
And just for a moment,
As he went by,
I had sight of his face,
And the flash of his eye.
He died a hero's death,
They said,
When they came to tell me
My boy was dead;
But out in the street
A dead dog lies;
Flies in his mouth,

WOMEN WHO TOOK THEMSELVES TO WAR

The Australian government would not allow women to go to war. They could only go if they were a nurse. Not even female doctors could join. However, there were many women who were determined to go. They made their own way there and helped how they could. These women have never been properly recognised by Australia for their courage and efforts. Below are the stories of two such women.

Olive King – Ambulance Driver

Olive was born in Croydon Sydney in 1865. She was an adventurer and mountain climber. She was in England when the war broke out and decided to assist the volunteer field ambulance in Belgium. She bought her own truck and fitted it out as an ambulance to carry 16 stretchers.

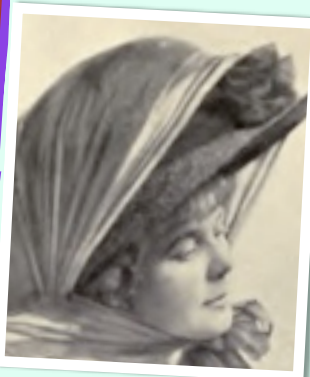
In 1915 Olive went to Serbia with The Scottish Women's hospital. It was there that Olive received a Serbian Silver Bravery medal for helping people escape to safety. A year later she was awarded a gold medal for zealous conduct.

Olive stayed after the war convincing her father in Australia to fund canteens in Serbia to help people in the war torn country get back on their feet. Olive was awarded Samaritan Cross and cross of the Order of St Sava by the King.

Back in Australia Olive was active in the Girl Guides



Louise Mack – 1st female War Correspondent



Louise Mack was born in Hobart Town in 1870. She was a regular contributor to The Bulletin and joined the Bulletin staff in 1889. In 1914 Louise went to Belgium as the first female war correspondent. She gave an eyewitness account of the invasion of Antwerp in her book 'A Woman's Experience in the Great War' published 1915.

5 steps to Wold War 1

1. Murder a Hungarian prince. (By a Serbian student)
2. Retaliate by making really tough demands – or war would happen. (Austria-Hungary)
3. Agree to demands (Serbia)
4. Invade anyway (Austria-Hungary)
5. Get your really tough friend (Germany) to invade a neutral country (Belgium) near England.

PIONEER SPIRIT

They say that the ANZAC legend was forged on the spirit of the early pioneers. In 1914, Australia was a young country. Many of its pioneers had come from the other side of the world to Australia. This new land was very foreign to what they knew. They faced a country that was hot, with vast distances, and many hardships. Pioneer men and women relied on courage, perseverance, great horsemanship and bush survival skills. Their spirit is embodied in the ANZAC Legends.

Local Pioneers who served

The local pioneers who served and died in World War 1 are honoured at the Mudgeeraba War Memorial. The pioneers are honoured there too.

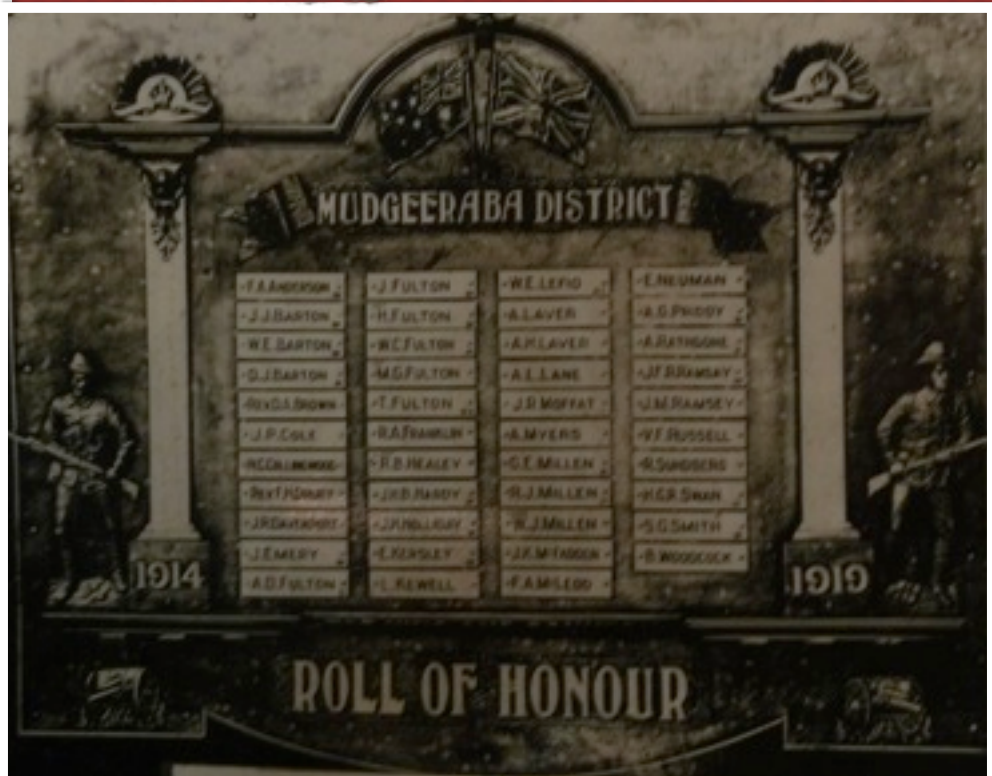


Below: Roll of honour - those from Mudgeeraba who gave their lives in WWI. This was from the Mudgeeraba Community hall burnt down in 1994.

HELP FROM THE HOME FRONT
DURING WORLD WAR I, THE
MUDGEERABA PATRIOTIC FUND
WAS FORMED. CHAIRMAN WAS ISAAC ANDREWS AND FELLOW
MEMBERS WERE JAMES LYNDON, W. H. LAVER, J. WILSON,
J. McNAMARA, A. TOBIN AND J. SPILLANE. THEY MET
REGULARLY AT THE HALL NEXT TO LAVER'S EXCHANGE
HOTEL AND THEIR PURPOSE WAS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR
QUEENSLAND'S WOUNDED SOLDIERS.

Australia's total population in 1914 was only 4,000,000. That's the number of people who live in just this corner of Queensland today.

Over 300,000 served in WWI and 60,000 died.



THE HORSES (WALERS)

The Waler is a type of Australian stock horse. Its origins trace back to the First Fleet to Australia in 1788.

'Waler' is a shortening of 'New South Wales' – where the horses come from. It is a hardy horse that can endure long periods without food and water. Walers are used by the Light Horse, stockmen, bushrangers and explorers to Central Australia.

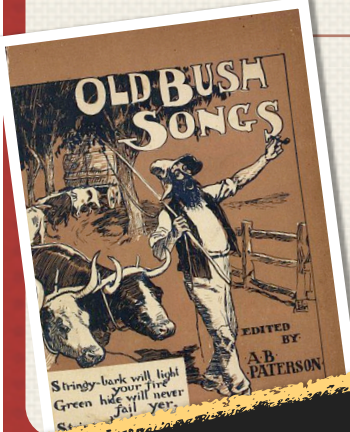
Bill the Bastard

The most famous Waler was Bill the Bastard. He was Major Shannahan's mount. Bill was known for bucking when pushed to gallop.

There are many stories of Bill the Bastard, but this rescue is the most heroic. The major found four men surrounded by Turks. He gathered them onto Bill's back. Bill galloped all four men, plus the major, back to safety through 75 Kilometers of soft sand. Three were on Bill's back, and one man was in each stirrup. Bill didn't even think about bucking.

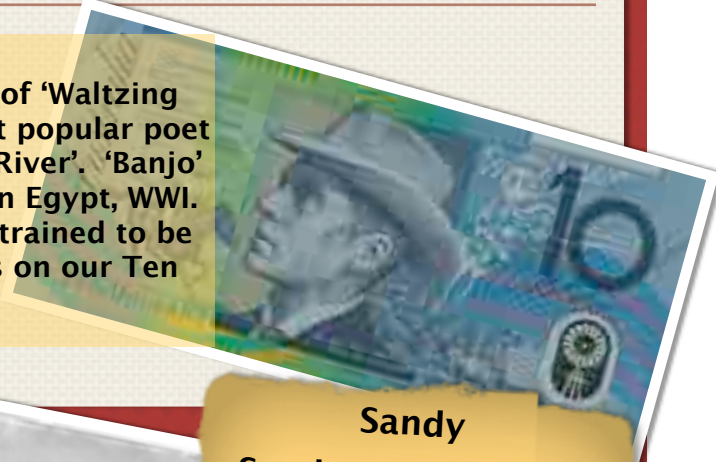


There was no medal for Bill the Bastard, but he's remembered in this Light Horse monument at Murrumburra.
Photo by Roger Johnson Monument Australia



Major 'Banjo' Paterson

Best known as the author of 'Waltzing Matilda' and Australia's most popular poet with 'The man from Snowy River'. 'Banjo' ran the Remount Depot in Egypt, WWI. This is where horses were trained to be war horses. Banjo's face is on our Ten Dollar note.



Left Behind
Australia supplied 136,000 Walers in the First World War. 39,000 served Australia's military. At the end of the war the British command ordered the horses be sold or destroyed. This devastated the Light Horsemen. Only one horse came home...



Sandy the War Horse, AWM P05290.001

Sandy
Sandy was the only horse to come home from WWI. Sandy belonged to General Bridges who was killed in action at Gallipoli. There is a photo of Sandy's hoof in the museum.