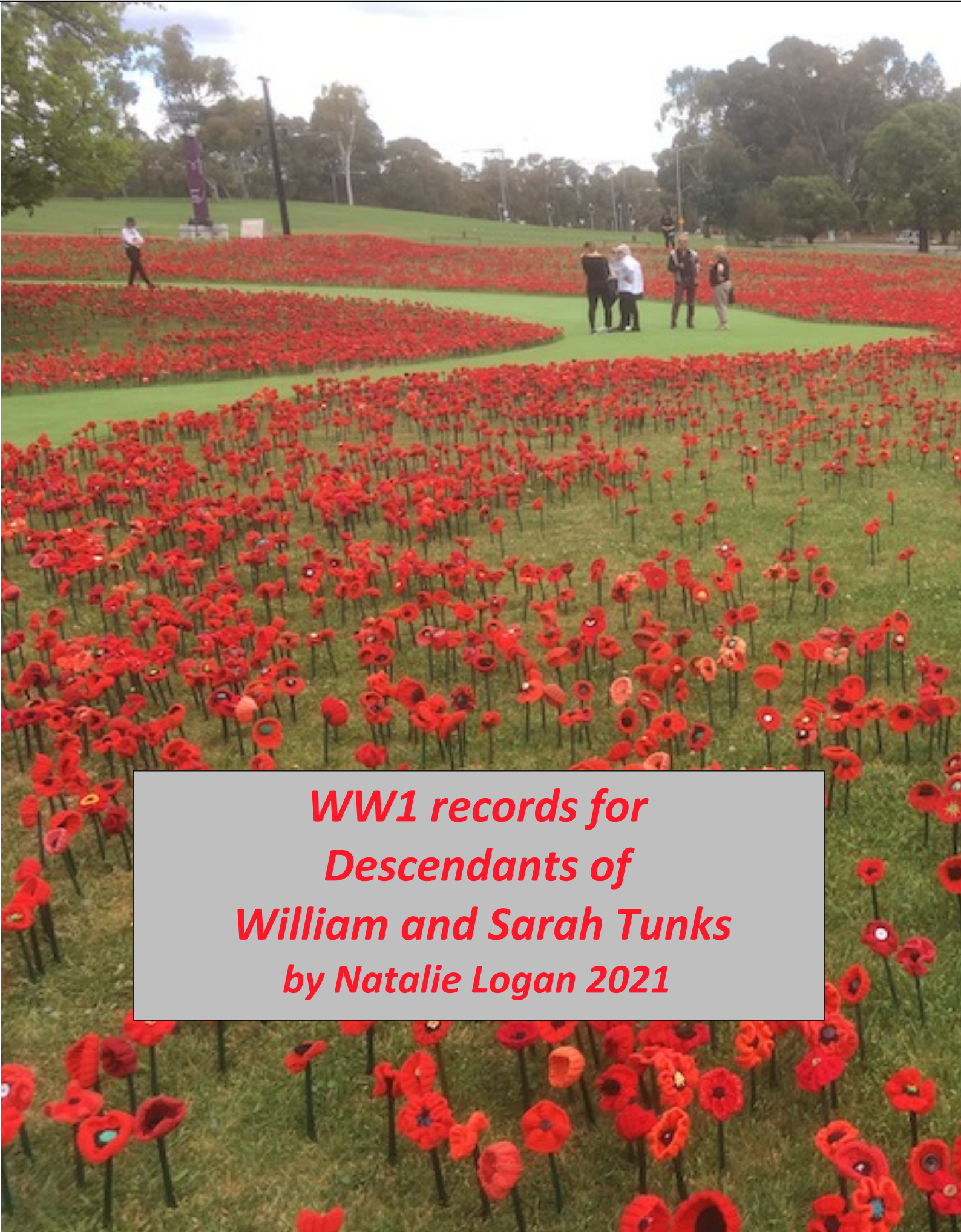


Lest We Forget



*WW1 records for
Descendants of
William and Sarah Tunks
by Natalie Logan 2021*

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Background Information

This booklet is a compilation of World War 1 records and stories about the descendants of William and Sarah Tunks. I have found 42 World War 1 service records but it is possible that more will be found in the future. The primary sources for information are online records at the National Archives and the AIF Project.

The ages of the 42 servicemen at enlistment ranged from 16 to 52. Five servicemen altered their ages in order to enlist. Nine, possibly ten were married at the time of enlistment and two were married overseas. One enlisted using an alias.

Six soldiers died during their war service.

*James Henry Hewitt Tunks KIA at Gallipoli, on the 30th April 1915 aged 43.

*Thomas Stanley Taylor KIA at Poziers, on the 26th July 1916 aged 22.

*Herbert Edwin Cowell KIA at Lagnicourt, on the 15th April 1917 aged 23.

*Norman Frederick Tidyman KIA Harbonnieres, France on the 11th August 1918 aged 34.

*William George Slogrove died from influenza, on the 26th October 1918 aged 18 on his way overseas. He is buried in Sierra Leone.

*William George Bragg KIA at Bullecourt, on the 4th May 1917 aged 19

The 42 records show that 5 descendants were from Ann Tunks and John Andrews, 17 from John Tunks and Esther Arndell and 20 from John Tunks and Phoebe Tomlinson

The Tunks family were perhaps luckier than many families of that era, with 36 out of 42 servicemen returning home from their war service. The ongoing health issues of those who returned is not known and may well have lasted for the remainder of their lives.

The roles of women during World War 1 were mainly in the field of nursing, medical support roles or in Voluntary Aid Detachments. Other women volunteered in comfort and fund raising roles such as for the Red Cross. I have not been able to find any records of Tunks ancestors serving as nurses.

The collection of service records in this booklet varies from basic enlistment information to stories about their service. I would like to acknowledged the sacrifice that they all made during the World War 1. In the Appendix I have included some brief information about three descendants who served in the Boer War, Horatio Tunks Nicholson, Leslie Dagworth Tunks and Peter Charles Moore Steel.

I would also like to acknowledge information written by other people, whose stories have been published in past issues of Tunks Talks or posted to Facebook and are reprinted in this booklet.

Terry Baird in 2011, 2012, 2013

Sarah Steed in 2015

Jan Heath 2012

Ursula Tunks 2014

If anyone has more information to add to any of these records or corrections to the information, I would be very pleased to amend the booklet in the future.

Natalie Logan 2021

World War 1 Service Records Summary

* indicates that their enlistment age was incorrect

Enlistment	Age	Serviceman	Parents	Grandparents	Great g'parents	2 x Great g'parents	3 x Great g'parents	Record
13/8/1914	25	Leonard James Mobbs 1889-1941, married	James Mobbs Winifred Catt	Elizabeth Ogden James Catt	Maria Tunks Samuel Ogden	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons	p 8
21/10/1914	42*	James HH Tunks 1872-1915, KIA Gallipoli	Henry Tunks Mary Tunks	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons			p 10
13/12/14	52*	Sydney Charles Tunks 1862-1934,	William Tunks Margaret Bissecck	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons			p 12
8/2/1915	19	Keith Aubrey Tunks 1895-1981	William Tunks Charlotte Harper	Charles Tunks Lucy Bennett	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 13
4/3/1915	20	Arthur Samuel Ogden 1895-1950	Robert Ogden Mary Hathaway	Maria Tunks Samuel Ogden	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p15
9/3/1915	22	Alfred John Ogden 1892-1952	Robert Ogden Mary Hathaway	Maria Tunks Samuel Ogden	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 16
8/4/1915	27*	Thomas ER White 1891-1956, married	Elizabeth Tunks Frederick White	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons			p 17
1/5/1915	27	George Robert Ogden 1888-1950, married	Robert Ogden Mary Hathaway	Maria Tunks Samuel Ogden	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 18
11/5/1915	22	Thomas Stanley Taylor 1893-1916, KIA Somme	Jane Hadley William Taylor	Thomas Hadley Jane Toner	Thomas Hadley Rosetta Andrews	Ann Tunks John Andrews	William Tunks Sarah Lyons	p 19
26/5/1915	20	Walter Desborough Gates 1895-1938	Phoebe Nicholson Francis Gates	Anne Tunks Thomas Nicholson	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 20
13/6//1915	35	Stanley Francis Tunks 1880-1962	George Tunks Henrietta	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons			p 21
1/7/1915	19	Arthur Raymond Tunks 1897-1966	Arthur Tunks Sarah Cook	Charles Tunks Eliz Kennedy	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 22
1/7/1915	18	Charles Tunks 1898-1961	Arthur Tunks Sarah Cook	Charles Tunks Eliz Kennedy	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 23
5/7/1915	24	Eric Donald Best 1894-1921	Blanche A Nicholson George Henry Best	Ann Tunks Thomas Nicholson	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		
25/7/1915	25	Wilfred Garnet Gates 1890-1967	Phoebe Nicholson Francis Gates	Anne Tunks Thomas Nicholson	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 24
25/7//1915	21	Herbert Edwin Cowell, 1893-1917, KIA Somme	William Cowell Hannah Maher	Sarah Tunks William C Cowell	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 25
13/8/1915	19	Edwin James McCredie 1896-1958	Adelaide Tunks Thomas McCredie	Edwin Tunks Annie Black	William Tunks Margaret Bissecck	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons	p 26
17/8/1915	20	Donald Ernest Mobbs 1894-1949	Winifred Cat James Mobbs	Elizabeth Ogden James Catt	Samuel Ogden Maria Tunks	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons	p 27
25/8/15	16*	Sydney Edward John Tunks 1899-1969	John Tunks Agnes Traynor	Charles Tunks Eliz Kennedy	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 28
8/9/1915	21	Arthur Clyde Watsford 1895-1975, married O/S	Beatrice Tunks George Watsford	John RW Tunks Susan Rispen	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 29
26/10/1915	29	Sydney Henry Matthews 1886-1957, married	Sarah Cowell James Matthews	Sarah Tunks William Cowell	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 30
12/10/1915	25	Albert Hadley Greenhalgh 1888-1972	Rosetta M Laing John TN Greenhalgh	Rosetta Andrews Alexander Laing	Rebecca Andrews John Andrews	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		
9/11/15	24	Norman Leofric Viusseux 1893-1962, married	Emily Tunks Theodore Viusseux	James Tunks Mary A Small	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 31
12/1/1916	16	Herbert Redvers Tunks 1900-1970,	Arthur Tunks Sarah Cook	Charles Tunks Eliz Kennedy	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 32
17/1/1916	18	William George Bragg KIA Somme	Edith H Tunks William Q Bragg	George Tunks Henrietta Barnett	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		
16/3/1916	26	Leonard James Mobbs	see entry for 13/8/1914					
22/3/1916	21	Dagworth Edward Tunks 1895-1968	Albert Tunks Susan Newby	George Tunks Henrietta Barnett	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 33
22/6/1916	18	Charles Robert Forster 1897-1978	Sophia Gooud John Forster	Martha Cowell James Gooud	Sarah Tunks William Cowell	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons	p 35
7/8/1916	22	John Stanley Warner 1894-1946, married	Annie Tunks John Warner	Edwin Tunks Annie Black	William Tunks Margaret Bissecck	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons	p 36

11/9/1916	21	William E H Pearce 1895-1961, married	William Pearce Florence Farrant	Esther Ogden William Pearce	Maria Tunks Samuel Ogden	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons	p 37
8/10/1916	20	John James Forster 1896-1984 married O/S	Sophie Gooud John Forster	Martha Cowell James Gooud	Sarah Tunks William C Cowell	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons	p 38
13/10/1916	38*	Norman Frederick Tidyman 1884-1918 married KIA France	Sarah Dowse Christopher Tidyman	Frances Andrews Thomas Dowse	Ann Tunks John Andrews	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 39
16/12/1916	19	Phillip Cyril Best 1897-1955	Blanche A Nicholson George H Best	Anne Tunks Thomas Nicolson	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		
16/1/1917	22	James William George Christian 1894-1966	Minnie Tunks Andrew Christian	James Tunks Mary A Small	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 40
10/3/1917	21	Arthur Russell Harvey Foulcher 1897-1974, married	Arthur Foulcher Emmy Banks	Sarah Cowell Robert Foulcher	Sarah Tunks William C Cowell	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons	p 41
1/8/1917	19	Cecil Osbourne Hadley Taylor 1898-1965	Jane Hadley William Taylor	Thomas Hadley Jane Toner	Thomas Hadley Rosetta Andrews	Ann Tunks John Andrews	William Tunks Sarah Lyons	p 42
18/8/1917	20	Allan George Mobbs 1897-1977	Winifred Cat James Mobbs	Elizabeth Ogden James Catt	Samuel Ogden Maria Tunks	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons	p 43
3/4/1918	23	Ormond Gillespie Tunks 1895-1980	Sydney C Tunks Emma Pope	William Tunks Margaret Bisseeck	John Tunks Esther	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 45
1/5/1918	18	Maurice Arthur Foulcher 1899-1960	William Foulcher Eleanor Trevitt	Sarah Cowell Robert Foulcher	Sarah Tunks William C Cowell	John Tunks Esther Arndell	William Tunks Sarah Lyons	p 46
29/5/1918	19	Charles Alexander Shepherd 1898-1951	Jessie PM Steel Charles Shepherd	Susannah A Tunks Alexander Steel	John Tunks Phoebe	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 47
6/7/1918	19	William George Slogrove 1900-1918, died Sierra Leone	Phoebe Steel William Slogrove	Susannah A Tunks Alexander Steel	John Tunks Phoebe	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 49
24/9/1918	19	Cecil Edward Andrews 1899-1957	Edwin J Andrews Ellen Kennedy	James T Andrews Harriet Rooney	Ann Tunks John Andrews	William Tunks Sarah Lyons		p 50
28/10/1918	26	Norman Julian Tunks 1892-1934	John RW Tunks Mary Rispen	John Tunks Phoebe Tomlinson	William Tunks Sarah Lyons			p 51

Enlistments of siblings

There were seven families where siblings enlisted. The bond between brothers can be strong during times of war and perhaps some parents gave permission for their sons' enlistments, feeling that they would be able to look out for each other.

Mobbs brothers

Leonard James Mobbs aged 25, was the first ancestor to enlist on 13/8/1914. He served as part of a medical unit for the Naval and Military Expeditionary Force to German New Guinea. He also served in the AIF in France in the Field Ambulance section. Donald Ernest Mobbs aged 20 enlisted in August 1915 and Allan George Mobbs aged 20 enlisted two years later in August 1917. They both served in France.

Ogden brothers

Robert and Mary Ogden had four sons, three of whom served in WW1. The three brothers all served at Gallipoli and in France. Arthur Samuel Ogden aged 20 and Alfred John Ogden aged 24 enlisted in early March 1915. They had consecutive enlistment numbers and were in the same Battalion. They embarked on the 25th June 1915 on HMAT Ceramic. George Robert Ogden aged 27 was married when he enlisted two months later on the 1st May 1915.

Gates brothers

Walter Desborough Gates aged 20 served in Belgium and France. Wilfred Garnet Gates aged 25 also served on the Western Front. They both enlisted within 2 months of each other in May and July of 1915.

Forster brothers

Charles Robert Forster aged 18 enlisted in June 1916 and served his time in England. His brother John James Forster aged 20 enlisted on October 1916. John James Forster was awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the field and was married in France to Bertha Vanquickelberge.

Taylor brothers

Thomas Stanley Taylor enlisted in 1915 aged 22. He served in France and was killed in Poziers on the 26th July 1916. His younger brother Cecil Osborne Hadley Taylor was 18 years old at the time. Cecil then enlisted a year later on the 1st August 1917 aged 19 and served in France.

Best brothers

Eric and Phillip Best were the fourth and fifth sons of Blanche Adelaide Nicholson and George Henry Best. The family were orchardists in Dural and their father had died in a tragic accident in 1902. Eric Donald Best enlisted in 1915 aged 24 and Phillip Cyril Best enlisted in 1916 aged 19. They both served in the Middle East in the 1st Light Horse Field Ambulance.

Tunks brothers

For one family the call to serve their country was particularly strong. Charles Tunks was the first son of John and Phoebe Tunks. His son Arthur married Sarah Cook and they had six sons. The three eldest sons all under the age of 21 enlisted in WW1. They were Arthur Raymond, Charles and Herbert Redvers. I wonder what emotions their parents had when giving consent for their eldest sons to enlist.

Arthur Raymond aged 19, and Charles aged 18, both enlisted on the same day on the 1st July 1915. They were assigned to the same unit and embarked together on the A69 Warilda on the 8th October 1915. They were assigned to the 1st Battalion, 10th Reinforcement, 12th Field Artillery Brigade. They trained at Tel el Kebir and they both served in France.

Their younger brother Herbert Redvers had enlisted in the Navy the year before. Herbert was just 14 ½ and his record of service states his first entry in the R.A.N. was the 24th of September 1914. This was just 6 weeks after Britain declared they were at war. He began with the rating as a Boy on the training ship HMAS Tingira. He was a young lad whose height was recorded as 4ft 10 ¼ inches tall when he began his service. In 1920 his height was measured at 5ft 3 ½ inches tall. He was rated an Ordinary Seaman in February 1917 and then Able Seaman in August 1918 on HMAS Australia. He completed his service as Able Seaman on HMAS Platypus and returned home in 1920.

For Arthur and Sarah Tunks this must have been a difficult time. They would have needed to give permission for their three eldest sons to enlist as they were all under the aged of 21. Charles returned on 27/9/1917 with chronic synovitis of the knee. Arthur Raymond returned on 23/7/1919 and Herbert Redvers in 1920. Their parents no doubt gave a sigh of relief to have them all return home.

Enlistment

WW1 was declared in August 1914 and recruitment began around the British Empire. AIF voluntary recruitment began on the 10th August 1914. Some men in Australia were lured by the opportunity for excitement and adventure and were keen to enlist. For others it was a sense of patriotism and doing their part to help their country. For some it may have been the regular pay as well as provision of meals and uniforms that were an enticement to enlist. At certain times enlistments declined, especially when high casualty rates became known. There were posters, meetings, rallies and marches to induce more men to enlist. There were also two plebiscites to introduce conscription in 1916 and again in 1917. They both failed.

The WW1 service records indicate the initial Brigade or Battalion that the men were placed in on enlistment. If the unit was named as Field Ambulance, then it is noted that this referred to a military unit not a vehicle. Field Ambulance Units were attached to an AIF Brigade.

Using an alias

Sometimes there were reasons that made enlisting more difficult and some men chose to use an alias to hide their true identity. One estimate is that 3.5% of men served under an alias in the AIF. One reason for using an alias was to hide your age if you were too young or too old. The age for enlistment in August 1914 was 19 to 38 years and then changed in June 1915 to 18 to 45 years. Men enlisting under the age of 21 required their parent's permission.

Many people did not have their birth certificates to verify their names and recruitment officers may have been more concerned with ensuring new recruit numbers were increasing and were not always concerned with verifying the information they were given.

There were other reasons for using an alias such as not being fit enough or wanting a fresh start if your background was likely to prevent a successful enlistment. Some men who were estranged from their wives used an alias so that their pay did not go back home to their wives. For some men they just wanted to avoid an argument with their family who were against their enlistment. Men were often not punished for using an alias, which may indicate it was an accepted or common place practice.

One of William and Sarah's descendants, James Henry Hewitt Tunks, enlisted using an alias. His story is complicated and follows on in the next section of this booklet. We will never know the exact reasons why he used an alias nor the impact on his family. Many people take secrets to their grave and we can only now speculate about the truth.

Reading Casualty Sheets

WW1 records usually include the casualty sheet for soldiers. They are often difficult to read due to small indecipherable handwriting and use of abbreviations. The wounded soldiers received help at regimental aid posts, dressing stations and casualty clearing stations. They were moved by stretcher bearers, horse drawn wagons, motorised ambulances, ambulance trains, canal barges and finally hospital ships to England if needed. Where possible they would be returned to their units. Some were sent to convalescent hospitals for further recovery or repatriated back to Australia.

When reading the soldiers war records, I found that some casualty records contained sensitive information. As a result, I have been selective in which injuries or illnesses I have recorded for some of these soldiers. The summaries in the next section are by no means a complete record of their service.

Apart from injuries in the field such as gassing and gunshot wounds, casualty records list many instances of admissions to hospital for illnesses such as influenza and venereal diseases. There are also references to trench feet, trench fever, sprains, nasal obstructions, dislocated pes cavus (foot arch), haemorrhoids, tonsillitis, diphtheria, mumps and dental issues. It is a sobering thought to remember that antibiotics had not been invented then, so minor wounds could prove fatal.




Often the medical sheets for soldiers with venereal disease stated where, when and from whom the disease was contracted. eg “Amiens from a prostitute” as well as the number of days they were being treated.

Sometimes an entry is written with quotation marks such as “sick in the field” and I wonder if this was for soldiers who had general symptoms of headache, fatigue, confusion, nightmares and other symptoms, perhaps as the result of shell shock. These symptoms would now be considered as post-traumatic stress disorder. The horrors of war must have had a profound effect on these men in an era when traumatic induced stress was poorly understood and sometimes considered a result of cowardice.

There were promotions and demotions listed on the service records. Many soldiers had short periods of leave without absence (AWOL) and were admonished or had their pay forfeited for several days. Serious crimes were given lengthy sentences of months and years as was the case for repeat offenders. Some were under close arrest whilst in hospital.

Medals

The information in this table is from the Australian Government of Defence website and refers to the medals that were issued to our servicemen in WWI

Name of medal	Description
<p>1914-1915 Star</p> 	<p>The 1914-1915 Star was authorised in 1918 and was awarded for service in specified theatres of war between 5 August 1914 and 31 December 1915.</p> <p>The four pointed star is bright bronze, ensigned with a crown. The obverse has crossed gladius, overlaid with an oak wreath that is ensigned with the cypher of King George V. A scroll bearing the legend 1914-15 is centrally placed across the crossed blades.</p> <p>The ribbon has the red white and blue colours of the Empire, in shaded and watered stripes. The same ribbon is used for the 1914 Star and the 1914–15 Star.</p>
<p>British War Medal 1914-1920</p> 	<p>The British War Medal 1914-1920 was instituted by King George V in 1919 to mark the end of World War I and record the service given.</p> <p>The medal is cupro-nickel with the effigy of George V on the obverse. The reverse has an image of St George on horseback trampling underfoot the eagle shield of the Central Powers, and a skull and cross-bones, the emblems of death. Above this is the risen sun of victory. The years 1914 and 1918 are contained on the outside edge medal.</p> <p>The ribbon has a wide central watered stripe of orange, flanked by two narrow white stripes, which are in turn flanked by two black pin-stripes, further flanked by two outer stripes of blue. The colours have no particular significance.</p>
<p>Victory Medal</p> 	<p>The Victory Medal was authorised in 1919 to commemorate the victory of the Allied Forces over the Central Powers.</p> <p>The medal is bronze with a winged figure of Victory on the obverse. The reverse has the words 'THE GREAT WAR FOR CIVILISATION' surrounded by a laurel wreath.</p> <p>The ribbon has a 'two rainbow' design, with the violet from each rainbow on the outside edges moving through to a central red stripe where both rainbows meet.</p>

Records and stories of Servicemen

Leonard (Lenard) James Mobbs 1889-1941

Leonard first served in the Naval and Military Expeditionary Force. This unit captured and occupied German New Guinea and Nauru in September 1914. He also served on the Western Front and returned to Australia on 23 June 1919. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for services rendered in France in November 1918. See below for the Citation.



Lenard James MOBBS

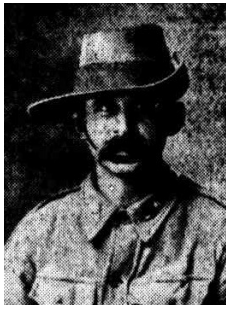
Regimental number	4
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Soldier
Address	c/o Mrs J A Mobbs, Narara, New South Wales
Marital status	Married
Age at embarkation	25
Next of kin	Wife, Mrs L J Mobbs, c/o J A Mobbs, Narara, New South Wales
Enlistment date	13 August 1914
Rank on enlistment	Orderly Room SGT
Unit name	Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (Tropical Unit), Australian Medical Corps
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/112/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A35 <i>Berrima</i> on 19 August 1914
Rank from Nominal Roll	Orderly Room SGT



Leonard James MOBBS

Regimental number	11876
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Military Staff clerk
Address	Paddington, Sydney, New South Wales
Marital status	Married
Age at embarkation	26
Next of kin	Wife, Mrs Elizabeth Mobbs, 43 Goodhope Street, Paddington, Sydney, New South Wales
Previous military service	R Australian Garrison Artillery
Enlistment date	16 March 1916
Rank on enlistment	Hon LT (WO Class I)
Unit name	Field Ambulance 9, Section A
AWM Embarkation Roll number	26/52/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A8 <i>Argyllshire</i> on 11 May 1916
Regimental number from Nominal Roll	Commissioned
Rank from Nominal Roll	Lieutenant
Unit from Nominal Roll	2nd Australian General Hospital
Fate	Returned to Australia 23 June 1919
Medals	Meritorious Service Medal 'For good work and devotion to duty while serving with his Unit in the Field. This Warrant Officer has been most thorough in all his work and has at all times displayed the utmost zeal in carrying out his duties. During the Battle of MESSINES he was Warrant Officer in charge of personnel at the Corps Main Dressing Station at PONT d'ACHELLES . He handled his large and varied staff with skill and judgment and contributed in a large measure to the rapid and successful evacuation of large numbers of wounded. During the Battle of YPRES on 4th and 12th October, 1917, he was in charge of the organisation of bearer parties and reliefs having over 600 bearers constantly coming and going. Mr. MOBBS worked indefatigably and was always in closest touch with his work and seeing to the welfare and comfort of the men. This Warrant Officer served with the Australian naval and Military Expedition to GERMAN NEW GUINEA in 1914-1915.' Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 110 Date: 25 July 1918
Other details	War service: Western Front Medals: Meritorious Service Medal, British War Medal, Victory Medal

James Henry Hewitt Tunks 1972-1915



James enlisted in WW1 using an alias. He was the first child born in 1872 to Henry Tunks and Mary Ann O'Brien and he was a grandson of John and Phoebe Tunks. He had 6 siblings, two of whom died in infancy.

In October 1914 James was 42 and single when he used an alias to enlist in WW1. His age was outside the permissible range and perhaps he thought that he would not pass the medical inspection. No doubt he also wanted to avoid an argument with his family. His enlistment therefore was initially secret from his family. Records show that he used the name

John Thompson and he joined up at Rosehill Camp on the 20th October 1914, just 2 months after recruitment began. A false address for his next of kin was given.

Records from the City of Parramatta publication of veterans who were killed in action, state that he embarked aboard HMAT Themistocles on the 22nd December 1914. His WW1 record then shows that he embarked on the troopship Lake Michigan at Alexandria on the 5th April 1915 bound for Gallipoli. Just 25 days later on the 30th April he was killed in action on the Gallipoli peninsula. Notifying his family began a process that led to the discovery that he signed up using an alias and his family had to provide proof that John Thompson was indeed James H H Tunks. There were 2 statutory declarations made, one from his mother and one from a man called Ernest Shayler who stated that James had enlisted under the alias John Thompson. The local paper on the 17th July 1915 stated that Private Tunks enlisted as J Thompson "so that his mother should not know, but it was not a secret to the family for long that he was going." In December of 1915 his mother requested a copy of the details of the official notification with the amendments. The record now states that J. H Tunks alias J Thompson, 4th Battalion A.I.F., 1st Infantry Brigade, Company B, Regimental Number 1332 with rank of Private was killed in action on the 30th April 1915. There was no trace of burial.

The name at the Lone Pine Memorial is listed as "J Tunks served as J Thompson" but there is an error on the search list for the service number 1332, as it gives the name as John Tunks and not James Tunks, 4th Battalion A.I.F. died 30th April 1915.

Further to this story of James H Tunks with Regimental number 1332, is the war record for a John Henry Thompson with Regimental number 2187. The two war records are almost identical including next of kin addresses. This resulted in the mother for John Henry Thompson, who lived in England, being informed of her son's death at Gallipoli while her son was actually still alive. The explanation for the two war records being so similar was given by the commanding officer investigating the two war records. He concluded that "the only solution of the problem at present apparent to me is that one of the two men, presumably 2187 Thompson, stood on enlistment for both men, was medically examined twice, permitted the man now deceased to represent him in the 4th Battalion, while the man who was actually examined for enlistment was posted to the 3rd Battalion." So, our James Henry Hewitt Tunks went to great lengths to not only enlist using an alias but to also have another man stand in for his attestation and medical examination. We will never know the full reasons he did this.

The effect of James Henry Hewitt Tunks' death on his mother, his four remaining siblings and the family business is unknown. Various records indicate that they ran an orchard and a poultry farm with addresses in Ray Road and Pennant Parade Road in Carlingford. It would seem that the farm was on the corner of those two roads. The 1913 electoral records show

four of the family lived in Ray Road Carlingford and the males are listed as orchardists. I am intrigued as to why James is not listed on the electoral roll for 1913. In 1915 to 1925 the electoral rolls show Pennant Parade Road Carlingford as family addresses. A letter written in 1921 by E.J Tunks, a sister-in-law of James, indicates that Walter, a brother, could be contacted c/- Mr A. A. Tunks, Planet Poultry Farm, Ray Road, Carlingford. In 1930 two of his siblings lived in Hillcrest Avenue, Epping and one brother was still listed as an orchardist in Carlingford. In 1940 the youngest brother Arthur Aubrey Tunks was listed as living in Hillcrest Ave and was a Nurseryman. Over the years the siblings lived close by to each other and remained in similar businesses.



J THOMPSON

**Alias for
James H H Tunks**

Regimental number	1332
Place of birth	London, England
Place of enlistment	Rosehill Camp, New South Wales
Fate	Killed in Action
Miscellaneous details (Nominal Roll)	Name does not appear on Nominal Roll
Date of death	30 April 1915
Place of burial	No known grave
Commemoration details	<p>The Lone Pine Memorial (Panel 23), Gallipoli, Turkey The Lone Pine Memorial, situated in the Lone Pine Cemetery at Anzac, is the main Australian Memorial on Gallipoli, and one of four memorials to men of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. Designed by Sir John Burnet, the principal architect of the Gallipoli cemeteries, it is a thick tapering pylon 14.3 metres high on a square base 12.98 metres wide. It is constructed from limestone mined at Ilgardere in Turkey.</p> <p>The Memorial commemorates the 3268 Australians and 456 New Zealanders who have no known grave and the 960 Australians and 252 New Zealanders who were buried at sea after evacuation through wounds or disease. The names of New Zealanders commemorated are inscribed on stone panels mounted on the south and north sides of the pylon, while those of the Australians are listed on a long wall of panels in front of the pylon and to either side. Names are arranged by unit and rank.</p> <p>The Memorial stands over the centre of the Turkish trenches and tunnels which were the scene of heavy fighting during the August offensive. Most cemeteries on Gallipoli contain relatively few marked graves, and the majority of Australians killed on Gallipoli are commemorated here.</p>
Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial	42
Miscellaneous information from cemetery records	See "TUNKS" true family name
Other details	<p>War service: Egypt, Gallipoli</p> <p>Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal</p>

Sydney Charles Tunks 1862-1934

Sydney Charles Tunks was 52 in 1914 which was outside the enlistment range for WW1. He changed his age to 43 years and 2 months when he enlisted. By then his children were aged 15 to 25. He may also have been separated or divorced from his wife as electoral records indicate they were living at separate addresses in 1906. On his war record he stated he was unmarried and his next of kin listed was his sister. His pay therefore would not have been portioned to his wife. He saw service on Rabaul and was medically discharged on the 17th September 1918 following treatment for malaria. His son Ormond also served in WW1 as a medical practitioner.



Sydney TUNKS

Regimental number	30
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Clerk
Address	c/o Mrs W McLean, Bannockburn Road, Pumble, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	43
Next of kin	Sister, Emily Clara McLean, c/o Mrs W McLean, Bannockburn Road, Pumble, New South Wales
Enlistment date	13 December 1914
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	Australian Naval & Military Expeditionary Force (Queensland Reinforcement)
Miscellaneous details (Nominal Roll)	Name does not appear on Nominal Roll

Keith Aubrey Tunks 1895-1981
by Terry Baird in Tunks Talk 80/2012



Lt Keith Aubrey TUNKS, Regimental No. 1796. Keith Aubrey Tunks was born February 1895. Unfortunately, nothing is known of Keith's life up until he enlisted in the Army on 8th February 1915. At the time of enlistment, he was aged 19 years and 3 months. After enlisting he was posted to 1 Field Ambulance 4th Reinforcements although it is noted on his marriage certificate that he joined the Artillery however there is nothing shown on his Military records that shows this. Within two months of enlisting Keith was aboard the HMAT ARGYLLSHIRE, a Scottish ship on consignment to the Australian Army until 24th January 1918, for the purpose of conveying troops abroad. In Keith's case, this meant Gallipoli. To make a comparison between the troop ships of the early 1900's and today's modern cruise ships, the HMAT ARGYLLSHIRE had a

displacement of 10392 Tons and a top speed of 14 Knots or nearly 26 Kph. The cruise ship Radiance of the Seas, has a displacement of 90,090 Tons and a top speed of 25 Knots or 46.3 Kph plus I am sure the facilities on board the respective ships do not compare. I would not imagine the troop ships having live theatre on board or a bar around every corner nor the choice of 1st class buffets or formal dining rooms where you can order fine wines to go with your steak! I am sure the comfort levels are of no comparison either. These soldiers had to endure cramped conditions for many weeks at a time due to the slow speed of the ship. As most soldiers do, Keith Tunks entered the Army with the rank of Private but it was not long before he started to rise up through the ranks, becoming an ER Corporal on 1 Nov 1916, ER Sergeant on 1 September 1917, ER Staff Sergeant, six months later on 1.3.1918, WO1 5 November 1918, 2nd Lt. 14 January 1919 before finally earning his second "Pip" to becoming a Lieutenant three months later on 14.4.1919. All these promotions were made whilst Keith was serving in London in AIF HQ located in Horseferry Rd London. The term "ER" was only used during WW1 and stood for Extra Regimental. This was because Keith was a member of the Pay Corp which was responsible for Pay matters as well as Finance. Personnel in the Pay Corp did not operate as a formed unit but rather were attached to other units or Regiments to perform those duties hence the term "Extra Regimental". Whilst Keith was a Staff Sergeant he must have let his hair down once too often and got charged with "Drunkenness" which resulted in a dressing down from Major Howard. He also got a slap over the wrist for being late on Parade which is still a big "No No" in the armed forces of today. It appears that he was only in Gallipoli for a very short time before he succumbed to dysentery resulting in him being hospitalised in that region for approximately 6 weeks before being evacuated to 3rd General Hospital London for further treatment, on board the HT Aquitania, which was a Hospital Ship hence the prefix "HT" (Hospital Transport) before the ship's name. The RMS or later HT Aquitania was originally used as a large armed merchant cruiser until after a collision with another ship called the Canadian. It was decided it was too big to be a cruiser so was converted to a troop ship for the Gallipoli campaign but after only three voyages as a troop ship it was again converted to become a Hospital Ship capable of carrying some 3300 wounded. Regardless of his illness, due to him being classified as "Support Staff" he would have been considered an "unnecessary encumbrance" and would have been transferred out anyway. Sadly, whilst on duty in London, his father passed away and there are letters on his file from his sister, Mrs J A Brown advising the Army of this and requesting that his Mother be now listed as his NOK. After returning to Australia on board HT Osterley at the conclusion of the war, Lt Tunks' commission was terminated on 6 October 1920. He was later awarded the 1914/1915 Star

Medal, Victory Medal and the British War Medal for his services to the country. After the war Keith had a very successful career resulting in him being the CEO of Kalamazoo Accounting Systems. Keith passed away on 25 March 1981.

The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, 17 July 1920

Lieut. Keith Tunks, of Parramatta, one of the last left in England, was the honoured guest at a welcome home held on July 7 at the residence of his sister, Mrs. C. Woods, of May's Hill. The decorations were festive and specially the table, which was arranged artistically with the Lieut.'s staff colors. Toasts were given in honour of the King and the forces, and reference was made to the valuable services Lieut. Tunks had rendered to his country and the Empire both in the field and later in the more intricate establishment of the Australian Headquarters Staff, where work was always plentiful and fatiguing; and the least service we could render him was to welcome him heartily and sincerely.



Keith Aubrey TUNKS

Regimental number	1796
Place of birth	Parramatta New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Clerk
Address	Macquarie Street, Parramatta, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	19
Next of kin	W F Tunks Esq, Macquarie Street, Parramatta, New South Wales
Enlistment date	8 February 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	1st Field Ambulance, Reinforcement 4
AWM Embarkation Roll number	26/44/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A8 <i>Argyllshire</i> on 10 April 1915
Regimental number from Nominal Roll	Commissioned
Rank from Nominal Roll	Lieutenant
Unit from Nominal Roll	Australian Army Pay Corps
Fate	Effective abroad (still overseas)

Arthur Samuel Ogden 1895-1950

Arthur served as a member of the Australian Imperial Force and served at Gallipoli and in the UK and France. He returned to Australia on "Warwickshire" and received the Star Medal, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. He died the same year as his brother George in 1950.



Arthur Samuel ODGEN

Regimental number	617
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Butcher
Address	3 Harris Street, Parramatta, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	20
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs Mary Ann Ogden, 3 Harris Street, Parramatta, New South Wales
Enlistment date	4 March 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	19th Battalion, B Company
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT <i>Ceramic</i> on 25 June 1915
Miscellaneous details (Nominal Roll)	Name does not appear on Nominal Roll

Alfred John Ogden 1892-1952

Alfred had a troubled adolescence and was convicted of a petty theft crime in April 1903 aged 11. He was sent to the *Sobraon* Training Ship which was used as a reformatory from 1892 to 1911. The *Sobraon* was sold to the Australian Navy, renamed HMAS *Tingira* and then used as a training vessel until 1927. Alfred was discharged from the *Sabroan* on the 20th April 1910 aged 18. He enlisted in WW1 a few days after his brother Arthur Samuel Ogden.



Alfred John OGDEN

Regimental number	618
Place of birth	Parramatta New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Labourer
Address	William Street, Fairfield
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	24
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs Mary A Ogden, Harris Street, Parramatta, Sydney, New South Wales
Enlistment date	9 March 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	19th Battalion, B Company
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT <i>Ceramic</i> on 25 June 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Driver
Unit from Nominal Roll	4th Battalion
Fate	Returned to Australia 31 May 1919

Thomas Edward Reginald White 1891-1956

Thomas E R White was the youngest of 11 children born to Elizabeth Tunks and Frederick White. When Thomas enlisted, four of his siblings were married and had left home, three of his siblings had died in infancy or early childhood and one brother had died in New Zealand in 1910 aged 25. His father Frederick had also died in 1907. When Thomas enlisted in 1915 he was living at 21 Campbell St Milsons Point with his mother and two unmarried sisters. Although his enlistment age is given as 27 years and 11 months, he was actually 23. It is a puzzle as to why he changed his age to be four years older when the age of 23 did not require his mother's consent to enlist. Thomas married in 1915 sometime between his enlistment and his embarkation. His mother died in 1917 while he was on active service.

Thomas served at Gallipoli where he sustained a gun-shot wound to the thigh. He also served and was wounded in France. The reason for returning to Australia in 1918 was Debility, which some sources indicate that to mean shell shock or what today we would call Post Traumatic Shock Disorder. However, Debility could also apply to a large range of other ailments.



Thomas Edward Reginald WHITE

Regimental number	1587
Place of birth	Sydney New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Clerk
Address	21 Campbell Street, Millsons Point, North Sydney, New South Wales
Marital status	Married
Age at embarkation	27
Next of kin	Wife, Mrs K White, 28 Campbell Street, Milsons Point, North Sydney, New South Wales
Enlistment date	8 April 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	20th Battalion, 1st Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/37/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A35 <i>Berrima</i> on 6 June 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Lance Corporal
Unit from Nominal Roll	20th Battalion
Fate	Returned to Australia 7 June 1918
Miscellaneous details (Nominal Roll)	*Given name Thomas Edward
Miscellaneous information from cemetery records	Plaque in New South Wales Garden of Remembrance
Date of death	15 November 1956

George Robert Ogden 1988-1950



The Biz Fairfield Thursday 7th Dec 1950. Mr George Robert Ogden of 34 Camden Street, Fairfield, collapsed and died in Elizabeth St, Sydney on Tuesday of last week, shortly after leaving a doctor where he was receiving treatment for an illness. He had previously spent some weeks in Yaralla Hospital. Sincere sympathy is extended to the bereaved widow, Mrs Elizabeth Ogden. Born at Parramatta, the late Mr Ogden was a carrier for many years. He enlisted at Parramatta in WW1, serving in the 1st Pioneer Battalion, and was invalided home. He was suffering from the effects of the war until his demise.



George Robert OGDEN

Regimental number	2274
Place of birth	Parramatta, New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Driver
Address	83 Harris Street, Parramatta, New South Wales
Marital status	Married
Age at embarkation	27
Next of kin	Wife, Mrs E Ogden, 83 Harris Street, Parramatta, New South Wales
Enlistment date	1 May 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	4th Battalion, 6th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/21/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A63 <i>Karoola</i> on 16 June 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	1st Pioneer Battalion
Fate	Returned to Australia 10 March 1918
Date of death	27 November 1950
Age at death	52
Place of burial	Smithfield Cemetery, New South Wales

Thomas Stanley Taylor 1893-1916

The war record for Thomas Stanley Taylor gives a few more details about his service. He disembarked in Marseilles on the 23rd March 1916 and was appointed Lance Corporal on the 1st June 1916. He was killed in action between the 26th of July and the 7th of August 1916. The official date is given as the 26th July 1916. He was buried at Gordon Dump Cemetery, Sausage Valley between La Boisselle and Contalmaison, 2 ¾ miles ENE of Albert and ½ mile E of La Boisselle. The personal effects that were sent back to his father on the 12th June 1917 included 2 military books, 1 electric torch, 1 pipe and some letters. A further package was received on the 26th June 1917 that included field glasses in a case, camera in a case, knife, Testament, scissors, wallet, photos, badges and comb.



Thomas Stanley TAYLOR

Regimental number	2790
Place of birth	Marrickville, New South Wales
School	Fort Street School, Sydney, New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Painter
Address	Eldora Coree Road, Artarmon, Sydney, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	22
Next of kin	Father, W E S Taylor, Eldora Coree Road, Artarmon, Sydney, New South Wales
Previous military service	Served in the Irish Rifles (Sydney), Citizen Military Forces.
Enlistment date	11 May 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	17th Battalion, 6th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/34/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A14 <i>Euripides</i> on 2 November 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	17th Battalion
Fate	Killed in Action 26 July 1916
Place of death or wounding	Poizieres, Somme Sector, France
Age at death	22.8
Age at death from cemetery records	22
Place of burial	No known grave

Walter Charles Desborough Gates 1895-1938

Walter's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 5½ inches tall weighing 124 lbs with medium complexion, brown eyes and dark brown hair.



Walter Desborough GATES

Regimental number	1709
Place of birth	Parramatta New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Engineer
Address	245 Church Street, Parramatta, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	20
Next of kin	Mrs P Gates, 245 Church Street, Parramatta, New South Wales
Enlistment date	26 May 1915
Date of enlistment from Nominal Roll	2 June 1915
Rank on enlistment	Corporal
Unit name	20th Battalion, 2nd Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/37/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A61 <i>Kanowna</i> on 19 June 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	20th Battalion
Fate	Returned to Australia 2 January 1919

Stanley Francis Tunks 1880-1962



Stanley's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 8½ inches tall weighing 146 lbs with fresh complexion, hazel eyes and light brown hair.



Stanley Francis TUNKS

Regimental number	2019
Place of birth	Parramatta New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Telephone mechanic
Address	Ross Street, Parramatta, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	35
Next of kin	Father, G Tunks, Ross Street, Parramatta, New South Wales
Enlistment date	13 June 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	17th Battalion, 3rd Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/34/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A54 <i>Runic</i> on 9 August 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	Australian Flying Corps
Fate	Returned to Australia 2 March 1919

Arthur Raymond Tunks 1897-1966



Arthur's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 6 inches tall weighing 140 lbs with fair complexion, grey eyes and dark hair.



Arthur Raymond TUNKS

Regimental number	3123
Place of birth	Sydney New South Wales
Religion	Presbyterian
Occupation	Dentist
Address	Alpine PO, Southern Line, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	19
Next of kin	Father, A Tunks, Alpine PO, Southern Line, New South Wales
Enlistment date	1 July 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	1st Battalion, 10th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/18/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A69 <i>Warilda</i> on 8 October 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	12th Field Artillery Brigade
Fate	Returned to Australia 23 July 1919
Family/military connections	Brother: 3124 Driver Charles TUNKS, 12th Field Artillery Brigade, returned to Australia, 27 September 1917.
Other details	Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal Also served in World War II as Flight Sergeant, Royal Australian Air Force, 1939-45.
Date of death	11 January 1966
Age at death	68
Place of burial	West Wyalong Cemetery, New South Wales

Charles Tunks 1898-1961

Charles' enlistment description states he was 5 ft 6 inches tall weighing 140 lbs with fresh complexion, grey eyes and light hair.



Charles TUNKS

Regimental number	3124
Place of birth	Sydney New South Wales
Religion	Presbyterian
Occupation	Farmer
Address	Alpine PO, Colo Vale, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	18
Next of kin	Father, A Tunks, Alpine PO, Southern Line, New South Wales
Enlistment date	1 July 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	1st Battalion, 10th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/18/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A69 <i>Warilda</i> on 8 October 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Driver
Unit from Nominal Roll	12th Field Artillery Brigade
Fate	Returned to Australia 27 September 1917
Family/military connections	Brother: 3123 Pte Arthur Raymond TUNKS, 12th Field Artillery Brigade, returned to Australia, 23 July 1919.

Eric Best 1894-1921

Eric's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 7 ³/₄ inches tall weighing 146 lbs with dark complexion, brown eyes and black hair.



Eric Donald BEST

Regimental number	9377
Place of birth	Sydney New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Orchardist
Address	Dural, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	24
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs Blanche A Best, Mountain View, Dural, New South Wales
Enlistment date	5 July 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	1st Field Ambulance, Reinforcement 15
AWM Embarkation Roll number	26/44/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A26 <i>Armada</i> on 21 March 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	1st Light Horse Field Ambulance
Fate	Returned to Australia 15 May 1919

Wilfred Garnet Gates 1890-1967



Wilfred's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 11 inches tall weighing 154 lbs with fair complexion, blue eyes and fair hair. He was injured twice during the war with gunshot wounds to both legs and his back. He was awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the field in December 1918. He did not return to Australia straight away as he wanted to avail himself of the AIF Education Scheme.



Wilfred Garnet GATES

Regimental number	11964
Place of birth	Parramatta New South Wales
Religion	Congregational
Occupation	Tailor
Address	Parramatta, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	25
Next of kin	Father, Francis Gates, 245 Church Street, Parramatta, New South Wales
Enlistment date	25 July 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	Field Ambulance 9, Section B
AWM Embarkation Roll number	26/52/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A20 <i>Hororata</i> on 2 May 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	9th Field Ambulance
Fate	Returned to Australia 19 April 1919
Other details	War service: Western Front Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Herbert Edwin Cowell 1893-1917

Herbert's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 7 inches tall weighing 126 lbs with dark complexion, grey eyes and brown hair. On the 17 August 1916, Herbert was in France when he received a gunshot wound to the thigh and was not able to re-join his unit until the end of December 1916. The following year in April 1917 he was killed in action at Lagnicourt on the 15th April. He saw service with the first Australians into action on the Somme and served at the capture of Pozieres. He has no known grave but his name is listed on the Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, France. His personal effects included photos, letters, wallet, calendar, camera, scarf, thermos flask, leather case, housewife kit (sewing kit), handkerchief and the Gospel of St John.



Herbert Edwin COWELL

Regimental number	3722
Place of birth	Erskineville, New South Wales
School	Darlington Public School, Sydney, New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Carpenter
Address	Edinia, Floss Street, Hurlstone Park, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	21
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs H Cowell, Edinia, Floss Street, Hurlstone Park, New South Wales
Previous military service	Nil
Enlistment date	25 July 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	4th Battalion, 12th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/21/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A7 <i>Medic</i> on 30 December 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	4th Battalion
Other details from Roll of Honour Circular	Enlisted 25 July 1915; embarked 6 January 1916; wounded 17 August 1916; returned to units December 1916; killed in action 15 April 1917, Lagnicourt. Saw service with the first Australians into action on the SOMme; served at the capture of Pozieres.
Fate	Killed in Action 15 April 1917
Place of death or wounding	Lagnicourt, France
Age at death	23
Age at death from cemetery records	23
Place of burial	No known grave

Edwin James McCredie 1896-1958

Edwin's enlistment description states he was 6 ft 2½ inches tall weighing 164 lbs with fresh complexion, blue eyes and brown hair. He was wounded in action in France in July 1916 with a gunshot wound to the right buttock. He was also wounded in action in August 1918 with a gunshot wound to the left leg.



Edwin James McCREDIE

Regimental number	3178
Place of birth	Sydney New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Labourer
Address	27 Waverley Street, Randwick, Sydney, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	19
Next of kin	Father, T W McCredie, 27 Waverley Street, Randwick, Sydney, New South Wales
Enlistment date	13 August 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	19th Battalion, 7th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/36/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A29 <i>Suevic</i> on 20 December 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	AIF Depots in the United Kingdom
Fate	Returned to Australia 16 June 1919

Donald Ernest Mobbs 1894-1949



Donald's name is not listed on the AIF project

Donald was 20 years and 10 months old when he enlisted on the 17th August 1915 and his trade was a nurseryman. His medical particulars list him as being 5 ft 6 inches tall weighing 149 lbs with fair complexion, grey eyes and fair hair.

He served in the 1st Pioneer Battalion as a driver and served in France. His regimental number 7559. He embarked on the Euripides on the 2/11/1915

Sydney (Sid) Edward John Tunks 1899-1969
by Ken Tunks



Sydney Edward Tunks was born on the 24/8/1899 and he died on the 8/11/1969 aged 70 years. He joined the AIF on the 25/8/1915 and was assigned to the 10th Field Artillery. He ended up in the 13th Battalion. He gave his age as 18 years. He was actually 16 years and 1 day. Even at 18 he required his father's signature/permission. Whether he had that or forged it, as a family we don't know. After spending three years in the trenches and following the armistice on 11/11/18, he spent about 7 months in the Graves Registration Detachment, recovering and reburying his comrades. One cannot begin to imagine the demons he had to deal with throughout his life. He was discharged from the army in Sydney on the 25/9/1919 aged 20 years 1 month and 1 day.

Sid was a younger brother of my grandfather Leonard (Leo) and was the grandson of Charles Tunks (1832 – 1902). He died in the USA in 1969 whilst visiting his daughter. His daughter Brenda Havel (my 2nd Cousin) is now living in Canberra. She paid for his body to be returned to Sydney. He is buried with his wife at Woronora cemetery.



Sidney Edward John TUNKS

Regimental number	3941
Place of birth	Sydney New South Wales
Religion	Roman Catholic
Occupation	Messenger
Address	Marrickville, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	18
Next of kin	Father, J Tunks, 299 Victoria Road, Marrickville, New South Wales
Enlistment date	25 August 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	13th Battalion, 12th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/30/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A29 <i>Suevic</i> on 20 December 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Corporal
Unit from Nominal Roll	10th Field Artillery Brigade
Fate	Returned to Australia 15 June 1919

Arthur Clyde Watsford 1895-1975

Arthur's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 4½ inches tall weighing 126lbs with fair complexion, blue eyes and fair hair. He was single when he enlisted and later married an English girl on the 15th December 1919. Her name was Elsie May Nicholas from Islington. They were later divorced perhaps in 1927. He went on to serve in the Home Service during WW2.



Arthur Clyde WATSFORD

Regimental number	4605
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Labourer
Address	Sydney Road, Auburn, New South Wales
Marital status	Married
Age at embarkation	21
Next of kin	Father, G F Watsford, Sydney Road, Auburn, New South Wales
Enlistment date	8 September 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	2nd Battalion, 14th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/19/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board RMS <i>Osterley</i> on 15 January 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	2nd Battalion
Fate	Effective abroad (still overseas)

Sydney Henry Matthews 1886-1957



Sydney's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 9 inches tall weighing 9 stone 9lbs with dark complexion, grey eyes and brown hair. He was hospitalised for loose cartilage of the knee and was medically discharged on the 27th June 1919.



Sydney Henry MATTHEWS

Regimental number	2052
Place of birth	Ryde New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Railway driver
Address	Hunters Street, Hornsby, New South Wales
Marital status	Married
Age at embarkation	29
Next of kin	Wife, Mrs. Herma Linda Matthews, Hatton Street, Ryde, New South Wales
Enlistment date	26 October 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	31st Battalion, 3rd Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/48/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A70 <i>Ballarat</i> on 18 February 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	60th Australian Broad Gauge Railway Operating Company
Fate	Returned to Australia 25 March 1919

Albert Hadley Greenhalgh 1888-1972

Albert's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 8 inches tall weighing 131lbs with fark complexion, brown eyes and dark brown hair



Albert Hadley2038 GREENHALGH

Regimental number	2038
Place of birth	Cassilis New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Stockman
Address	27 Cottenham Street, Glebe Point, Sydney, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	25
Next of kin	Father, John Thomas Greenhalgh, Collarenebri, New South Wales
Enlistment date	12 October 1915
Unit name	7th Light Horse Regiment, 14th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	10/12/4
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A57 <i>Malakuta</i> on 16 March 1916
Regimental number from Nominal Roll	2038A
Rank from Nominal Roll	Bombardier
Unit from Nominal Roll	3rd Field Artillery Brigade
Fate	Returned to Australia 12 May 1919
Other details	War service: Western Front Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Norman Leofric Viesseux 1893-1962

Norman's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 8 inches tall weighing 136lbs with fresh complexion, blue eyes and dark brown hair.



Norman Leofric VIEUSSEUX

Regimental number	11422
Place of birth	Quirindi New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Clerk
Address	'Ohpna', Carey Street, Marrickville, New South Wales
Marital status	Married
Age at embarkation	24
Next of kin	Ws, Mrs L P Viesseux, 'Gladstonbury', 94 Molesworth Street, North Melbourne, Victoria
Enlistment date	9 November 1915
Rank on enlistment	Gunner
Unit name	Field Artillery Brigade 1, Reinforcement 14
AWM Embarkation Roll number	13/29/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT RMS <i>Osterley</i> on 15 January 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Gunner
Unit from Nominal Roll	1st Field Artillery Brigade
Fate	Returned to Australia 31 May 1919
Date of death	20 September 1962
Place of burial	Springvale Cemetery

Herbert Redvers Tunks 1900-1970
by Ursula Tunks in Tunks Talk 8/7/2014



Poppa Bert served in both World Wars.

World War I, Australian Navy

During World War I he was a Ship's Boy on board the HMAS Australia to begin with. Poppa's service was unique in that when World War I ended, the allied fleets gathered in Scapa Flow in Scotland to literally divide up the spoils of war. These were all the ships and boats they'd seized from the enemy. What wasn't wanted was scuttled there and then.

Australia received three U-boats that were part of the Allied Bounty. To return these U-boats to Australia they needed to sail them home hugging the coastlines of the world. The Australian Fleet Commanders called for volunteers to sail home a small vessel, the HMAS Platypus and escort the U-boats back to Australia. There were about 20 volunteers. Poppa Bert was one. They took some time getting home to Australia as you can imagine. Along the way the crew were not permitted to go ashore at any of the ports who'd not been allies during the war. As a result, they lacked fresh water, fruit and vegetables and become extremely ill. They almost mutinied. By the time they arrived in Australia many of the crew, including Poppa, spent quite some time in the Naval Hospital in Sydney. The majority were all-but dishonourably discharged for their refusal of orders to not make land at enemy ports along the way.

Note-Herbert Redvers Tunks went on to serve in Word War 2.

NAME <i>Tunks, Herbert Redvers</i>			OFFICIAL NUMBER <i>405</i>					
Name of Ship	List No.	A/c. No.	Rating	From	To	Character	Ability	Date Assessed
<i>Yingora</i>			<i>Boy II</i>	<i>24.9.14</i>	<i>30.9.15</i>	<i>T.G</i>	<i>Sgt</i>	<i>8.10.15</i>
<i>"</i>			<i>Boy I</i>	<i>1.10.15</i>	<i>8.10.15</i>	<i>T.G</i>	<i>Sgt</i>	<i>15.2.18</i>
<i>Gerberus</i>			<i>"</i>	<i>9.10.15</i>	<i>22.11.15</i>	<i>T.G</i>	<i>Sgt</i>	<i>3.12.18</i>
<i>London Depot</i>			<i>"</i>	<i>23.11.15</i>	<i>11.1.16</i>	<i>T.G</i>	<i>Sgt</i>	<i>4.12.19</i>
<i>Australia</i>			<i>"</i>	<i>12.1.16</i>	<i>15.2.17</i>	<i>SAV</i>	<i>Sgt</i>	<i>10.11.20</i>
<i>"</i>			<i>Treaty</i>	<i>16.3.17</i>	<i>15.3.18</i>			
<i>"</i>			<i>Quoted</i>	<i>16.2.18</i>	<i>24.8.18</i>			
<i>"</i>			<i>A.S.</i>	<i>25.8.18</i>	<i>10.3.19</i>			
<i>Platypus</i>			<i>"</i>	<i>11.2.19</i>	<i>10.11.20</i>			

William George Bragg 1898-1917

William's uncle gave consent for William to join up, as his father was an invalid at the time and he was under the age of consent. The personal effects that were sent back to his mother included 2 identity discs, metal mirror, 2 note pads, wallet, photos, letters and cards.



William George BRAGG

Regimental number	5656
Date of birth	11 February 1898
Place of birth	Marrickville, Sydney, New South Wales
School	Dulwich Hill Superior Public School, New South Wales
Religion	Methodist
Occupation	Storeman
Address	Halford, 57 Macarthur Parade, Dulwich Hill, Sydney, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	18
Height	5' 10"
Weight	130 lbs
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs E Bragg, Halford, 57 Macarthur Parade, Dulwich Hill, Sydney, New South Wales
Previous military service	Served in the Cadets (Compulsory Military Training scheme).
Enlistment date	17 January 1916
Place of enlistment	Liverpool, New South Wales
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	3rd Battalion, 18th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/20/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A55 Kyarra on 3 June 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	3rd Battalion
Fate	Killed in Action 4 May 1917
Date of death	4 May 1917
Age at death	19
Place of burial	No known grave
Commemoration details	<p>Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, France</p> <p>Villers-Bretonneux is a village about 15 km east of Amiens. The Memorial stands on the high ground ('Hill 104') behind the Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery, Fouilloy, which is about 2 km north of Villers-Bretonneux on the east side of the road to Fouilloy.</p> <p>The Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux is approached through the Military Cemetery, at the end of which is an open grass lawn which leads into a three-sided court. The two pavilions on the left and right are linked by the north and south walls to the back (east) wall, from which rises the focal point of the Memorial, a 105 foot tall tower, of fine ashlar. A staircase leads to an observation platform, 64 feet above the ground, from which further staircases lead to an observation room. This room contains a circular stone tablet with bronze pointers indicating the Somme villages whose names have become synonymous with battles of the Great War; other battle fields in France and Belgium in which Australians fought; and far beyond, Gallipoli and Canberra.</p> <p>On the three walls, which are faced with Portland stone, are the names of 10,885 Australians who were killed in France and who have no known grave. The 'blocking course' above them bears the names of the Australian Battle Honours.</p> <p>After the war an appeal in Australia raised £22,700, of which £12,500 came from Victorian school children, with the request that the majority of the funds be used to build a new school in Villers-Bretonneux. The boys' school opened in May 1927, and contains an inscription stating that the school was the gift of Victorian schoolchildren, twelve hundred of whose fathers are buried in the Villers-Bretonneux cemetery, with the names of many more recorded on the Memorial. Villers-Bretonneux is now twinned with Robinvale, Victoria, which has in its main square a memorial to the links between the two towns.</p>
Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial	35
Other details	War service: Western Front Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal
Place of burial	No known grave. Commemorated on the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France
Sources	NAA: B2455, BRAGG William George

Dagworth Edward Tunks 1895-1968
by Terry Baird in Tunks Talk 79/2011

Dagworth Edward Tunks was born in Parramatta NSW on 9 August 1895 and died in 1975. He married May Phillips in 1921 and later Ethel Noela (Toms) Hodge. He had two children, Hazel and Gweneth by his first marriage and another daughter, Doreen by his second marriage. The circumstances surrounding his 2nd marriage are unknown so it cannot be established as to whether he divorced his first wife or if she died.

Dagworth joined the 9th Brigade 36th Battalion AIF 2nd Reinforcements on 25 March 1916 at Victoria Barracks, Sydney as a single man.

Prior to joining the Army, Dagworth was a Railway Porter of rather short stature being 5 foot 3 inches tall or about 157.5 cm tall. He returned to Australia on board HMAT (His Majesty's Australian Transport) Malta on the 29 September 1918 and was discharged medically unfit for duty on 22 November 1918 having spent 2 years and 245 days in the Army of which 2 years and 26 days were spent abroad.

The 36th Battalion was raised at Broadmeadow camp near Newcastle in February 1916. The majority of enlistees were the result of a recruiting drive conducted amongst rifle clubs in NSW. It is not known whether Dagworth was a member of a rifle club or not but part of his military service included playing the bugle, an instrument which got him into trouble for not playing when he should have at the officer's mess resulting in being charged on a few occasions for "Conduct to the Prejudice" which landed him being confined to Barracks for varying amounts of time as well as many days of forfeiture of pay. He also seemed to dislike saluting officers, another reason he was admonished by the Colonel and confined to Barracks or fined a number of days on No Pay.

Dagworth was returned to Australia on medical grounds on 31 July 1918. The medical reason shown on his records does not appear to be the current name for the condition as all searches have been inconclusive.

At the conclusion of the war, Dagworth applied for but was denied the awarding of the Victory Medal on the grounds that "He did not serve on the strength of unit in a theatre of war". To qualify for the medal you must have served in an actual theatre of war such as Belgium, France or Turkey. He could have qualified for the British War Medal 1914-1920 however there is no evidence to show that he actually applied for this medal.

Dagworth was posted to the 1st Dermatological Hospital located in Bulford, Wiltshire, located on the south coast of England.

Despite Dagworth passing away only 36 years ago very little is known of Dagworth's life post WW1. His current living relatives know very little about him apart from his existence so regrettably what he did for a living or anything else about his life after the war remains a mystery.

by Sarah Steed in Tunks Talk 90/2015

Dagworth Edward Tunks was known as Doug Tunks. His parents were Susan Jane Newby and Albert Ernest Edward Tunks. He had a sister, Evelyn (born 1898), and a brother (possibly Albert Edward

Tunks born 1891). His mother died in 1908 when Doug was about thirteen, and his father died in 1919. During his WWI service (he was a bugler) Doug was apparently forever in trouble for being late. He was reportedly injured in the head in WWI, and after the war he was, we believe, offered an invalid pension, but refused it. He worked for a children's home, where one of his responsibilities was driving the bus that took children on excursions.

When his sister, Evelyn, was sixteen (c1914) and looking for a job and somewhere to live, she met Ethel Noela Toms (my great grandmother) who was a couple of years younger than Evelyn.

Ethel's mother invited Evelyn to stay with the family, which she did until she married Henry Fenton (c 1923). They owned a hotel (the Trades Hall Hotel) in Sydney and had two daughters, Thelma and Jeannie (who died aged about 12 from an accidental head injury).

Doug Tunks married Ida May Phillips in 1921. They had at least two children: Gweneth May (born and died 1922) and Hazel. They divorced in 1946. Post-WWII, Ethel Hodge (nee Toms) visited her friend Evelyn Fenton (nee Tunks) at the hotel where she met Doug Tunks. Ethel Hodge and Doug Tunks eventually married.



Dagworth Edward TUNKS

Regimental number	1935
Place of birth	Parramatta New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Railway porter
Address	c/o Mrs R Hamilton, Church Street, Parramatta North, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	21
Next of kin	Father, Albert Edward Tunks, Avenue, Blackheath, New South Wales
Enlistment date	22 March 1916
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	36th Battalion, 2nd Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/53/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A15 <i>Port Sydney</i> on 4 September 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	1st Australian Dermatological Hospital
Fate	Returned to Australia 31 July 1918

Charles Robert Forster 1897-1978

Norman's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 4½ inches tall weighing 122lbs with dark complexion, brown eyes and dark brown hair. He was medically discharged with valvular disease of the heart.



Charles Robert FORSTER

Regimental number	3106
Place of birth	Wollongong New South Wales
Religion	Congregational
Occupation	Teacher
Address	Kurri Kurri, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	18
Next of kin	Father, John Forster, Cessnock Street, Kurri Kurri, New South Wales
Previous military service	14th Infantry
Enlistment date	22 June 1916
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	1st Pioneer Battalion, 7th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	14/13/4
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A30 <i>Borda</i> on 17 October 1916

John Stanley Warner 1894-1946

John came before the Childrens Court in 1906 aged 14 and spent time 3 years on the *Sobraon* Training Ship which was used as a reformatory from 1892 to 1911. The *Sobraon* was sold to the Australian Navy, renamed HMAS *Tingira* and then used as a training vessel until 1927.



John Stanley WARNER

Regimental number	6146
Place of birth	Sydney New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Electro engraver
Address	19 Darley Street, Newtown, New South Wales
Marital status	Married
Age at embarkation	22
Next of kin	Wife, Mrs Martha Elizabeth Warner, 90 Church Street, Newtown, New South Wales
Enlistment date	7 August 1916
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	21st Battalion, 17th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/38/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A19 <i>Afric</i> on 3 November 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	21st Battalion
Fate	Returned to Australia 2 January 1919

William Edward Henry Pearce 1895-1961

William's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 8¼ inches tall weighing 146lbs with fresh complexion, blue eyes and tan hair. His casualty record shows he suffered from influenza and trench feet as well as trench fever.



William Edward Henry PEARCE

Regimental number	4351
Place of birth	Parramatta New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Carter
Address	218 Victoria Road, Marrickville, Sydney, New South Wales
Marital status	Married
Age at embarkation	21
Next of kin	Wife, Mrs Teanie Margaret Pearce, c/o Mrs Florence Pearce, 218 Victoria Road, Marrickville, Sydney, New South Wales
Enlistment date	11 September 1916
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	29th Battalion, 11th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/46/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A19 <i>Afric</i> on 3 November 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	5th Machine Gun Battalion
Fate	Returned to Australia 9 December 1918

John James Forster 1896-1984



John's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 8 inches tall weighing 154lbs with dark complexion, brown eyes and dark brown hair. John was awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the field on the 8th January 1919. He was married in France to Berthe Leona Vanquickelberge on the 1st March 1919.



John James FORSTER

Regimental number	31189
Date of birth	22 May 1896
Place of birth	Wollongong, New South Wales
School	Kurri Kurri Public School; Maitland Boys' High School, New South Wales
Religion	Congregational
Occupation	Teacher
Address	Cessnock Street, Kurri Kurri, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	20
Next of kin	Father, J Forster, Cessnock Street, Kurri Kurri, New South Wales
Previous military service	14th Infantry
Enlistment date	8 October 1916
Rank on enlistment	Gunner
Unit name	Divisional Ammunition Column 2, Reinforcement 12
AWM Embarkation Roll number	25/90/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board RMS <i>Orontes</i> on 19 December 1916
Regimental number from Nominal Roll	Commissioned
Rank from Nominal Roll	Lieutenant
Unit from Nominal Roll	36th Heavy Artillery Battery
Promotions	2nd Lieutenant
	Unit: Eductn Service Promotion date: 31 January 1919 Lieutenant
	Unit: Eductn Service Promotion date: 30 April 1919
Recommendations (Medals and Awards) MSM	
	Recommendation date: 12 February 1918
Fate	Returned to Australia 8 August 1919
Other details	Gained a Teachers' College Scholarship, attended Sydney University, graduated BSc (Honours) in Mathematics.
Date of death	25 December 1985
Place of burial	Cremated Beresfield Crematorium, Newcastle, New South Wales

Norman Frederick Tidyman 1884-1918



Norman stated his age at 38 on his enlistment papers but he was only 32. He suffered from mumps and was gassed while serving in France. He was killed in action aged 34 leaving a widow and a daughter. His wife late died in 1920 and his war medals were issued to his mother to be held in trust for his daughter.



Norman Frederick TIDYMAN

Regimental number	7111
Place of birth	Bathurst, New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Carpenter
Address	Brisbane, Queensland
Marital status	Married
Age at embarkation	38
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs S A Tidyman, Ashmead O'Connell Street, Parramatta, New South Wales
Enlistment date	13 October 1916
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	9th Battalion, 23rd Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/26/4
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Brisbane, Queensland, on board HMAT A55 <i>Kyarra</i> on 17 November 1916
Fate	Killed in Action 11 August 1918
Age at death from cemetery records	34
Place of burial	Heath Cemetery (Plot IV, Row G, Grave No. 13), Harbonnieres, France
Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial	57
Miscellaneous information from cemetery records	Parents: Christopher and Sarah Ann TIDYMAN, "Ashmead", O'Connell Street, Parramatta, New South Wales
Other details	War service: Western Front Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Phillip Cyril Best 1897-1955

Phillip's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 8 inches tall weighing 150 lbs with medium complexion, blue grey eyes and brown hair.



Phillip Cyril BEST

Regimental number	2447
Place of birth	Sydney New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Orchardist
Address	Dural, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	19
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs Blanche Adelaide Best, Mountain View, Dural, New South Wales
Enlistment date	16 December 1916
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	February 1917 Reinforcements, Imperial Camel Corps
AWM Embarkation Roll number	11/14/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board RMS <i>Morea</i> on 17 February 1917
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	1st Light Horse Field Ambulance
Fate	Returned to Australia 4 March 1919
Date of death	3 April 1955
Place of burial	Rookwood Crematorium

James William George Christian 1894-1966

James' enlistment description states he was 5 ft 5½ inches tall weighing 117lbs with fair complexion, brown eyes and fair hair. His casualty record indicates he was affected by trench fever in August 1918.



James William George CHRISTIAN

Regimental number	32758
Place of birth	Parramatta New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Chemist
Address	44 Gould Avenue, Petersham, Sydney, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	22
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs M L Christian, 44 Gould Avenue, Petersham, Sydney, New South Wales
Enlistment date	16 January 1917
Rank on enlistment	Gunner
Unit name	Medium Trench Mortar Battery Reinforcement 6
AWM Embarkation Roll number	13/129/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board RMS <i>Osterley</i> on 10 February 1917
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	Australian General Base Depot
Fate	Returned to Australia 6 September 1919

Arthur Russell Harvey Foulcher 1897-1974

Arthur's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 8 inches tall weighing 132lbs with fair complexion, grey eyes and light brown hair.



Arthur Russell Harvey FOULCHER

Regimental number	38387
Place of birth	Sydney New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Bank clerk
Address	Bridge Street, Drummoyne, Sydney, New South Wales
Marital status	Married
Age at embarkation	21
Next of kin	Wife, Mrs Dulcie Alice Maud Foulcher, 'Roslyn', Alexandra Street, Drummoyne, New South Wales
Enlistment date	10 March 1917
Date of enlistment from Nominal Roll	10 May 1917
Rank on enlistment	Gunner
Unit name	Field Artillery Brigade, Reinforcement 32
AWM Embarkation Roll number	13/128/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board SS <i>Canberra</i> on 16 November 1917
Rank from Nominal Roll	Gunner
Unit from Nominal Roll	5th Field Artillery Brigade
Fate	Returned to Australia 4 July 1919

Cecil Osborne Hadley Taylor 1898-1965

Cecil's brother was Thomas Stanley Taylor who was killed at Poziers in 1916. His papers show that both his parents gave consent for him to enlist. That must have been a difficult decision after their eldest son had been killed in action. Cecil's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 7 inches tall weighing 140lbs with dark complexion, brown eyes and dark brown hair.



Cecil Osbourne Hadley TAYLOR

Regimental number	20301
Place of birth	Gladesville New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Carpenter
Address	'Eldora', Corner Road, Artarmon, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	19
Next of kin	Father, William Ernest Stanley Taylor, 'Eldora,' Corner Road, Artarmon, New South Wales
Previous military service	5th AASC
Enlistment date	1 August 1917
Rank on enlistment	Sapper
Unit name	Field Company Engineers, September 1917 Reinforcements
AWM Embarkation Roll number	14/42/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A71 <i>Nestor</i> on 21 November 1917
Rank from Nominal Roll	Driver
Unit from Nominal Roll	3rd Field Company Engineers
Fate	Returned to Australia 1 August 1919
Miscellaneous information from cemetery records	Plaque in New South Wales Garden of Remembrance
Date of death	1 September 1965

Allan George Mobbs 1897-1977

Allan's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 8 inches tall weighing 149lbs with dark complexion, blue eyes and black hair. He also served in WW2.



Allan George MOBBS

Regimental number	53546
Place of birth	Gosford England
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Labourer
Address	Narara near Gosford, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	20
Next of kin	Father, J A Mobbs, Gosford, New South Wales
Enlistment date	18 August 1917
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	New South Wales Reinforcement 3
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/111/5
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board RMS <i>Osterley</i> on 8 May 1918
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	55th Battalion
Fate	Returned to Australia 22 September 1919

Ormond Gillespie Tunks 1895-1980
by Terry Baird in Tunks Talk 83/2013



Ormond Gillespie Tunks was born in Redfern NSW on 9 February 1895. Whilst it is not known what infants and primary schools he attended it is documented that he was educated at Fort Street Boy's High School which today is renowned for its high educational achievements. During his time at Fort Street High School he joined the Australian Commonwealth Coronation Contingent of the NSW Cadets in 1911, at the age of 16. He was lucky enough to attend the coronation of King George V and Queen Mary. Whilst in the Cadets he was promoted to the rank of Corporal and six months later he was again promoted to Sergeant. After graduating from High School Ormond was admitted to Sydney University where he studied medicine achieving a Bachelor of Medicine and a Master's degree in Surgery. He served as a Residential Medical Officer at Sydney Hospital for 6 months

before enlisting in the Army the following year. Being a registered Medical Practitioner, Ormond automatically enlisted at the rank of Captain, a tradition which is still practiced today.

On 17 July 1918 Ormond boarded HMAT Borda, which was an 11,136 Ton cruise ship, one of many that were leased from P&O shipping for transporting troops to overseas destinations during both World Wars, as part of the General Reinforcements. By today's standards the HMAT Borda was only a small ship with a maximum speed of 14 knots or 25.92 kph, a far cry from today's modern cruise liners. He eventually arrived in England on 27 September 1918.

Whilst in the UK he was transferred to the British Regular Army as temporary Captain before being transferred to France for a short period of time. He eventually transferred back to 2 Field Ambulance until hostilities ceased.

Ormond sailed for home on 6 September 1919, on another of P&O's luxury liners, H.T. Berrima which was of similar size and speed to the HMAT Borda.

After wars end, Ormond set up a medical practice in Coffs Harbour NSW from 1920 to 1935. In 1935 he decided to return to England where he became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons. Upon returning to Australia he set up practices in Coogee, Randwick and later Macquarie Street Sydney.

He married Ella May Collins on 8 December 1920 and they had two children Ormond Collins (1923) and Jean (1927) who in turn gave them five Grandchildren. Ormond passed away on 8 September 1980 and his wife Ella May died in 1985.



Ormond Gillespie TUNKS

Place of birth	Redfern New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Medical practitioner
Address	Mosman, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	23
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs E R Tunks, 'Norwood', Rangers Avenue, Mosman, New South Wales
Enlistment date	3 April 1918
Rank on enlistment	Captain
Unit name	Medical Officers
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board SS <i>Malta</i> on 16 October 1918
Rank from Nominal Roll	Captain
Unit from Nominal Roll	Australian Army Medical Corps
Fate	Returned to Australia 6 September 1919

Maurice Arthur Foulcher 1899-1960

Maurice's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 10 inches tall weighing 130lbs with dark complexion, brown eyes and dark hair.



Maurice Arthur FOULCHER

Regimental number	58789
Place of birth	Ryde New South Wales
Religion	Methodist
Occupation	Clerk
Address	Ryde, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	18
Next of kin	Father, W A Foulcher, North Road, Ryde, New South Wales
Enlistment date	1 May 1918
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	10th General Service (NSW) Reinforcements
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/111/5
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A30 <i>Borda</i> on 17 July 1918
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	34th Battalion
Fate	Returned to Australia 22 July 1919

Charles Alexander Shepherd 1898-1951



Charles' enlistment description states he was 5 ft 11 inches tall weighing 136lbs with fair complexion, blue eyes and fair hair. His casualty records show he was hospitalised for bronchitis.



Charles Alexander SHEPHERD

Regimental number	66339
Place of birth	Sydney New South Wales
Religion	Presbyterian
Occupation	Clerk
Address	Mosman, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	19
Next of kin	Father, C Shepherd, Stewart Street, Mullumbimby, New South Wales
Previous military service	17th Infantry
Enlistment date	29 May 1918
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	New South Wales Reinforcement 20
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/111/6
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board SS <i>Zealandic</i> on 5 October 1918
Rank from Nominal Roll	Corporal
Unit from Nominal Roll	57th Battalion
Fate	Effective abroad (still overseas)

William George Slogrove 1900-1918
by Jan Heath in Tunks Talk 80/2012



William George Slogrove was my mother's brother and he died in 1918 aged 19 years. Until now I had never investigated his history in the National Archives but in doing so I was prompted to go a little deeper and together with letters penned by my Grandfather discovered a very sad story.

William George was known as George and was born in Hunters Hill on 29 June 1899. At the time of joining up was working with his father on the family farm at Billinudgel as a farm hand.

He made his application to enlist at Lismore on 6 July 1918. Being under 21 at the time he required parents' consent and one can only imagine how his parents must have felt at the time particularly in the light of the event that was to take his life came to pass. His last leave home was mid-August 1918. With the completion of his initial training he embarked for active service from Sydney 24 September 1918 on the H.M.A.T Bakara.

The voyage was slow as by 25 October 1918 the ship had only reached Sierra Leone. However, 7 days previously George had been admitted to the Ship's Hospital suffering from pneumonia. His official war records show that he died in Sierra Leone Military Hospital, on 26 October, 1918, aged 18 years, while on active service, after having been unloaded ill from a military transport ship into an ambulance on the Sierra Leone Wharf, the day previously.

The AIF Project Database at the ADFA Library corrected its records in September 2014 to reflect the true situation, at my request. Influenza was his cause of death. He is buried in King Tom Cemetery in Sierra Leone.

With the war coming to end 16 days later George would not have been exposed to combat so one can imagine the joy that his family would have had in the belief that he would come through unscathed. However, their suspicions about what had happened to their son were aroused some time following when local people stopped them in the street offering condolences and in the receipt of two letters of sympathy.

In correspondence with the Army dated 12 January 1919 Georges' s father sought formal advice stating that his son's last letter home was dated 27 September 1918 and he had heard nothing since. In a response the Army advised that at the time of George's death Sierra Leone was in a state of panic with the advent of Spanish Influenza and in the confusion the supporting documentation had been held up.

In all George was 112 days a soldier and it took 82 days for formal notification of his death to reach the family.

The family was issued with a Dead Man's Penny.



William George SLOGROVE

Regimental number	58154
Date of birth	29 June 1899
Place of birth	Hunters Hill, New South Wales
School	Public School, New South Wales
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Farmer
Address	Billinudgel, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	19
Height	5' 10"
Weight	144 lbs
Next of kin	Father, G W Slogrove, Billinudgel via Lismore, New South Wales
Previous military service	Nil
Enlistment date	6 July 1918
Place of enlistment	Lismore, New South Wales
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	6th (Queensland) Reinforcements
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/111/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A41 <i>Bakara</i> on 4 September 1918
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	6th General Service Reinforcements
Fate	Died of disease 26 October 1918
Place of death or wounding	Sierra Leone
Age at death	18.4
Place of burial	Freetown (King Tom) Cemetery (Row 2, Grave No. 194), Sierra Leone, Africa
Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial	185
Miscellaneous information from cemetery records	Parents: George and Phoebe SLOGROVE, Billinudgel, New South Wales
Other details	War service: embarked Sydney, 4 September 1918. Admitted to ship's hospital at sea, 18 October 1918 (pneumonia). Died of influenza, Sierra Leone Military Hospital, 26 October 1918. Medal: British War Medal
Sources	NAA: B2455, SLOGROVE William George

Cecil Edward Andrews 1899-1957

Cecil's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 6 inches tall weighing 116lbs with fair complexion, grey eyes and brown hair. He was discharged on the 2/2/1919.



Cecil Edward ANDREWS

Regimental number	21812
Place of birth	Sydney New South Wales
Religion	Roman Catholic
Occupation	Dental mechanic
Address	Penrith, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	19
Next of kin	Father, E J Andrews, Castlereagh Street, Penrith, New South Wales
Previous military service	6th Battalion 20th Infantry
Enlistment date	24 September 1918
Rank on enlistment	Staff Sergeant
Unit name	Dental Details
AWM Embarkation Roll number	26/105/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Adelaide, South Australia, on board SS <i>Boonah</i> on 22 October 1918
Miscellaneous details (Nominal Roll)	Name does not appear on Nominal Roll

Norman Julian Tunks 1892-1934

AIF project record unavailable.

Norman's enlistment description states he was 5 ft 9 inches tall weighing 136lbs with dark complexion, brown eyes and dark hair. He enlisted 28/10/1918 aged 26 years and 7 months and he was a labourer. He was issued with all of his uniform but as there are no other details on his record it would appear he did not see any active service. His regimental number was 96076.

Appendix

Two Tunks descendants served as part of the Australian contingent in the Boer War in Africa. There are very few records available online for either of these two men.

Horatio Tunks Nicholson

Horatio was the son of Anne Tunks and Thomas Lovedale Nicholson. There is a record in the National Archives in Pretoria of the Transvaal Estates Death Index for the death of Haratio Tunks Nicholson in 1912. The Boer War was finished in 1902 so perhaps Horatio continued to serve in the army until his death aged 34 or he may have remained there as a citizen. The spelling error in the death index is a minor one but it does confirm he died in South Africa some 10 years after the Boer War ended.

Leslie Dagworth Tunks

Leslie was the son of Henrietta Barnett and George Tunks. Leslie joined the NSW Lancers as a trooper, was unmarried and he died in Kroonstad South Africa in 1900 of enteric fever aged 25. He sent several letters home which were published in the local paper the "Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate".

Peter Charles Moore Steel

Peter was the son of Susannah Amelia Tunks and Alexander Steel. The following memorial was place in the newspaper in 1906.

Daily Telegraph 31/10/1906

STEEL In loving remembrance of our dear son and brother, Trooper Peter Charles Moore Steel, F.I.D. Scouts, who was killed in action at Bosendarn, near Clanwilliam, South Africa, on October 31, 1901, aged 22 years and three months. Inserted by his mother, step-father, sisters and brothers, S. A. and T. Nicholls, Dulwich Hill. Thy will be done.

References

AIF Project <https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/index.html>

Website information-The AIF database is drawn from a range of official sources, including personal files on the National Archives website, and Embarkation and Nominal Rolls on the Australian War Memorial website. The AIF Project has been assisted over more than twenty years by various helpers without whose efforts the database would not have achieved its current level of detail. Peter Dennis

AIF Project Records are currently unavailable for-

*Donald Ernest Mobbs 7559

*Norman Julian Tunks 96076

*James Henry Hewitt Tunks 1332. However, there is one for the alias he used *J Thompson* 1332 with a note saying “See TUNKS true family name”. There is also a record for John H Tunks 1189 with date of enlistment, rank, unit and Fate that correspond to James Henry Hewitt Tunks.

The Anzac Portal

<https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/wars-and-missions/ww1/military-organisation/medical-treatment>

Website information about medical treatment, Field Ambulance Units and other aspects of WW1

The Dictionary of Sydney website

<https://home.dictionaryofsydney.org>

Website about the various aspects of the history of Sydney

Trove Digital Newspaper website

Specific Articles such as soldiers returning home and death notices.

Australian Government of Defence

<https://www.defence.gov.au/medals/imperial/wwi/>

Website information about medals.

The Australian War Memorial

<https://www.awm.gov.au/>

Website information on enlistment criteria, the role of women and general statistics.