



Name AITCHESON, William Gladstone

Date of birth 27 November 1894

Place of birth Gladstone, QLD

Parents John and Francis Mary (Jones)

School Homebush State School

Occupation Labourer

Date of enlistment

14 February 1916

Place of enlistment

Townsville, QLD

Service No

5977

Rank

Private

Unit

9th Battalion

Place of Death

Passchendaele, Flanders, Belgium

Date of Death

8 October 1917

Age at Death

22

Commemorated at

Panel 17, Ypres (Menin Gate)
Memorial, Belgium

William is also commemorated at the Eton War Memorial, Finch Hatton Digger Memorial, Homebush State School Honour Board, Mackay Cenotaph and Mackay Old Town Hall Honour Board.

William has no known grave.



Name ALBERTZ, Ferdinand
Date of birth 1894
Place of birth "Donmore", Bowen, QLD
Parents Gotlieb & Christina (Mohr)
School Warden Bend State School
Occupation Apprentice Engine Driver

Date of enlistment 30 July, 1915
Place of enlistment Brisbane, QLD
Service No 9611
Rank Gunner
Unit 1st Australian Artillery Division
Place of Death 1st ANZAC Medical Dressing Stn
Date of Death 14 November, 1916
Age at Death 22
Commemorated at II. F. 11. Dartmoor Cemetery,
Becordel-Becourt, Somme, France

MILITARY MEDAL

“During the whole of the operations around Pozieres, from 21 July to 15 August 1916, Gunner Albertz was employed upon linesman duties. In carrying out these duties he was called upon to go out and repair and lay lines both by day and night under heavy shell fire. Owing in no small measure to the work so gallantly and well done by him when up with the Forward Observation Officer at Pozieres, communication was maintained practically continuously with the infantry.”

Major General commanding 1st Australian Division



Name ANDREWS, Robert William

Date of birth 26 October, 1891

Place of birth Proserpine, QLD

Parents Robert & Betsy (Benton)

School Bowen State School

Occupation Farmer

Date of enlistment

4 August, 1915

Place of enlistment

Rockhampton, QLD

Service No

3231

Rank

Acting Sergeant

Unit

11th Aust. Field Artillery Brigade

Place of Death

Peronne, Somme, France

Date of Death

29 September, 1918

Age at Death

24

Commemorated at

I. M. 5. Roisel Communal Cemetery, France

This action occurred during an attack on the German Hindenburg line during the Hundred Days Offensive by the allies.

The Hundred Days Offensive was a series of attacks by the Allied troops at the end of World War I. Starting on 8 August 1918, and ending with the Armistice on 11 November, the Offensive led to the defeat of the German Army.



Name BAKER, Terence James
Date of birth 2 February, 1885
Place of birth Longreach, QLD
Parents Samuel & Catherine M (Lawler)
Occupation Carpenter

Date of enlistment 19 September, 1916
Place of enlistment Bowen, QLD
Service No 7206
Rank Private
Unit 15th Battalion
Place of Death Hebuterne, Somme, France
Date of Death 28 March, 1918
Age at Death 33
Commemorated at Villers-Bretonneux Memorial,
France

The 15th Battalion was involved in stopping the German spring offensive of 1918 at Hebuterne, France.



Name BELL, Henry Thomas
Date of birth 5 July, 1890
Place of birth Charters Towers, QLD
Parents George W & Elizabeth A (Holden)
School Richmond Hill Sate School
Occupation Labourer

Date of enlistment 12 September, 1916
Place of enlistment Bowen, QLD
Service No 6713
Rank Private
Unit 15th Battalion
Place of Death Messines Ridge, Belgium
Date of Death 18 August, 1917
Age at Death 27
Commemorated at I. A. 20. Messines Ridge British Cemetery, Belgium

On 7 August 1917, nineteen underground mines were detonated enabling the allies to capture Messines Ridge.

On 8 August 1917, the 15th Battalion was committed to holding the gains from the attack and to relieve the New Zealanders around “Gooseberry Farm” near Messines, Belgium.



Name	BIDICE, Alexander (Alex)
Date of birth	1896
Place of birth	Proserpine, QLD
Occupation	Stockman

Date of enlistment	10 December, 1915
Place of enlistment	Townsville, QLD
Service No	1627
Rank	Private
Unit	47 th Battalion
Place of Death	Passchendaele, Flanders, Belgium
Date of Death	12 October, 1917
Age at Death	20
Commemorated at	Panel 27, Ypres (Menin Gate), Belgium

“The Australian advance was preceded by several days of heavy rain which turned the shell-torn earth into a sea of thick mud. With rain still falling, the battle took place on 12 October 1917. Advancing at dawn, the attack to seize the neck of the Keiberg Ridge quickly floundered in the horrific conditions of the battlefield. The men were unable to keep up with the artillery barrage, some getting caught in the mud, while others vanished beneath it.

Throughout the day, they were continuously fired on by enemy artillery, further adding to the misery and confusion of the battle.

The attack at Passchendaele cost the 47th Battalion some 350 casualties, with around 100 dead. Among their numbers was Private Alex Bidice, who had been killed in action during his unit’s advance on 12 October 1917.”

Meagan Adams Australian War Memorial

Alex has no known grave.



Name BRUCE, Thomas
Allison

Date of birth 11 January, 1889

Place of birth Bowen, QLD

Parents Thomas & Jane Ann (Whittaker)

School Proserpine State School

Occupation Carpenter

Date of enlistment 1 March, 1916

Place of enlistment Bowen, QLD

Service No 280

Rank Private

Unit 12th Machine Gun Battalion

Place of Death Villers-Bretonneux, Somme,
France

Date of Death 29 March, 1918

Age at Death 29

Commemorated at M. R. 26. Part 1 A-B
Villers-Bretonneux, France

Thomas suffered a severe gunshot wound to the face and left arm on 9 April 1917. He rejoined his company in France on 28 November 1917. Thomas has no known grave.

(A member of the original Masonic Fraternity in Proserpine.)



Name CECINI, Peter James

Date of birth 19 July, 1896

Place of birth Ravenswood, QLD

Parents Peter & Domenica (Nora)

Occupation Farmhand

Date of enlistment

10 January, 1916

Place of enlistment

Townsville, QLD

Service No

5781

Rank

Private

Unit

26th Battalion

Place of Death

Broodseinde, Belgium

Date of Death

4 October, 1917

Age at Death

21

Commemorated at

Panel 23, Ypres (Menin Gate)
Memorial, Belgium

Peter was killed by an artillery shell during the Battle of Broodseinde. He was part of a Lewis gun team.

Peter has no known grave.



Name COOPER, Joseph
Percival (Percy)

Date of birth 29 March, 1898
Place of birth Proserpine, QLD
Parents Joseph & Mary E (Wright)
School Foxdale State School
Occupation Farmer

Date of enlistment 17 June, 1916
Place of enlistment Bowen, QLD
Service No 5800
Rank Private
Unit 26th Battalion
Place of Death Broodseinde, Belgium
Date of Death 5 October, 1917
Age at Death 19
Commemorated at III. H. 1. Sanctuary Wood
Cemetery, Belgium

Percy was killed at the beginning of the Battle of Broodseinde Ridge near Ypres, Belgium. This was the most successful allied attack in the battle of Passchendaele.



Name DAYES, Francis
(Frank)

Date of birth 22 October, 1895

Place of birth Bowen, QLD

Parents Lewis & Mary Ann (King)

Occupation Farmer

Date of enlistment

18 March, 1916

Place of enlistment

Townsville, QLD

Service No

2152

Rank

Private

Unit

47th Battalion

Place of Death

France

Date of Death

9 June, 1917

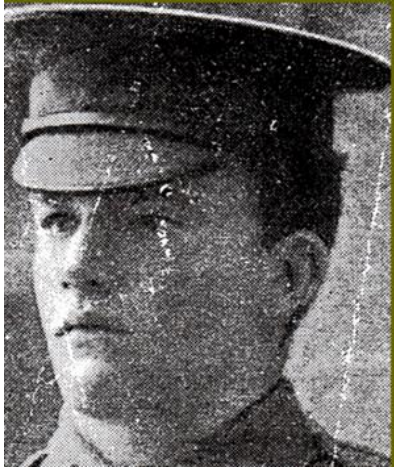
Age at Death

21

Commemorated at

III. C. 164. Bailleul Communal
Cemetery, France

Frank was wounded at the Battle of Messines Ridge and was treated by the 77th Australian Field Ambulance. He was transferred to 2nd Australian Casualty Clearing Station where he died from his wounds.



Name DRAY, Frederick
William (Freddy)

Date of birth 8 August, 1897

Place of birth Walkerston, QLD

Parents Frederick W & Mary Ann (Jones)

School Foxdale Provisional School &
Proserpine State School

Occupation Cane Farmer

Date of enlistment 16 May, 1916

Place of enlistment Bowen, QLD

Service No 5815

Rank Private

Unit 26th Battalion

Place of Death Bullecourt, France

Date of Death 3 May, 1917

Age at Death 19

Commemorated at II. C.19. Grevillers British
Cemetery, France

Fred received a gunshot wound to the abdomen and died of his wounds at 3rd Casualty Clearing Station, France.



Name FLAHERTY, Herbert
Walter (Bert)

Date of birth February, 1886

Place of birth Blackall, QLD

Parents John & Emily (Ellison)

Occupation Station hand & Apprentice
Blacksmith

Date of enlistment

17 September, 1914

Place of enlistment

Bowen, QLD

Service No

37

Rank

Trooper

Unit

5th Australian Light Horse Regiment

Place of Death

Gallipoli, Turkey

Date of Death

25 November, 1915

Age at Death

19

Commemorated at

I. G. 3. Shell Green Cemetery,
Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey

Bert was one of the first six men to enlist from Proserpine. He was also the town's first killed in action - by an artillery shell while on duty in the firing line. Death was instant.



Name	FORSE, John
Date of birth	26 August, 1891
Place of birth	Woodstock, QLD
Parents	Henry J & Bridget (Cryan)
Occupation	Drover

Date of enlistment	3 March, 1915
Place of enlistment	Adelaide, SA
Service No	2148
Rank	Private
Unit	10 th Battalion
Place of Death	Marseilles, France
Date of Death	11 September, 1916
Age at Death	27
Commemorated at	IV. A. 4. Mazargues War Cemetery, Marseilles, France

John served on Gallipoli, Turkey.

He became seriously ill and was admitted to the Stationary Hospital in Marseilles, France. He died of malaria.



Name FRY, William Joseph

Date of birth 2 June, 1894

Place of birth Mareeba, QLD

Parents John & Sarah A (Hill)

Occupation Labourer

Date of enlistment

10 December, 1915

Place of enlistment

Townsville, QLD

Service No

2428

Rank

Private

Unit

52nd Battalion

Place of Death

Messines Ridge, Belgium

Date of Death

10 June, 1917

Age at Death

23

Commemorated at

Panel 29, Ypres (Menin Gate)
Memorial, Belgium

William was killed during an infantry attack after nineteen underground mines were detonated.

William has no known grave.



Name GALVIN, John James

Date of birth 1878

Place of birth Cooktown, QLD

Parents Catherine McDonald

Occupation Railway Lengths Man

Date of enlistment

21 April, 1917

Place of enlistment

Enoggera, QLD

Service No

6794

Rank

Private

Unit

26th Battalion & 52nd Battalion

Place of Death

Dernancourt, France

Date of Death

5 April, 1918

Age at Death

40

Commemorated at

M. R. 26. Villers-Bretonneux
Memorial, France

The German spring offensive of 1918 overran most of the allies' positions. They were subject to the heaviest attack by the Germans against Australia in World War 1.

John has no known grave.



Name GRAHAM, John
Norman

Date of birth 25 September, 1890

Place of birth Normanton, QLD

Parents Thomas & Anne (Tonks)

Occupation Labourer

Date of enlistment 12 January, 1916

Place of enlistment Cairns, QLD

Service No 5387

Rank Private

Unit 12th Battalion

Place of Death Bullecourt, France

Date of Death 10 April, 1917

Age at Death 26

Commemorated at 3rd Echelon, ANZAC Section,
Villers-Bretonneux, France

“He met his death doing one of the most noblest & most dangerous duties that a soldier has to perform, that is stretcher bearing. He was shot in the head and died instantly without any suffering.”

Sergeant E. Huxley

John has no known grave.



Name ISBEL, William Alfred
John

Date of birth 1893

Place of birth Cornwall, England

Parents William H & Mary A (Wilcock)

Occupation Farmer

Date of enlistment 20 March, 1916

Place of enlistment Bowen, QLD

Service No 2187A

Rank Private

Unit 47 Battalion

Place of Death Ypres, Belgium

Date of Death 13 October, 1917

Age at Death 25

Commemorated at Panel 27 Ypres (Menin Gate)
Memorial, Belgium

William was killed in action in the Third Battle of Ypres which started on 12 October 1917 after five days of torrential rain, causing a quagmire. The allied casualties were 13,000.

William has no known grave.



Name KAY, Walter Bradley

Date of birth 22 October, 1888

Place of birth Proserpine, QLD

Parents Charles & Eleanor (Grant)

Occupation Cane Farmer

Wife Norah Elizabeth (Humphries)

Date of enlistment 3 August, 1915

Place of enlistment Brisbane, QLD

Service No 3346

Rank Private

Unit 15th Battalion

Place of Death Pozieres, France

Date of Death 9 August, 1916

Age at Death 27

War Grave Picardie, France

Commemorated at Villers-Bretonneux Memorial

The first major action of the 1st Anzac Corps on the Western Front was the Battle of Pozieres Ridge, which was conducted from 23 July to 3 September 1916. While occupying the position known as Tom's Cut, the 15th Battalion was subject to intense bombing. On the morning of 9 August 1916, Walter was killed instantly by a German shell that landed directly on Tom's Cut.



Name RICHARDSON, Robert
Charles George

Date of birth 1896

Place of birth London, England

Parents Robert Charles & Alice (Wright)

Occupation Fireman

Date of enlistment 20 January, 1916

Place of enlistment Townsville, QLD

Service No 1072

Rank Private

Unit 42nd Battalion, Machine Gun Sect.

Place of Death Bray-sur-Somme, France

Date of Death 26 August, 1918

Age at Death 22

Commemorated at Villers-Bretonneux Memorial,
France

3 July 1917 Gunshot wound to the leg at Messines Ridge.

1 June 1918 Gassed by artillery gas shell near Amiens.

“Pte Richardson was badly wounded (by a shell) in the stomach and fell into the man’s arms dying immediately.” *Cpt. J. Finlay*

William has no known grave.



Name ROSS, Francis Adrian
Oscar Herbert

Date of birth 1 January, 1900

Place of birth Cootamundra, NSW

Parents Edward & Alice (Hargest)

School Proserpine State School

Occupation Farmer

Date of enlistment 10 April, 1916

Place of enlistment Bowen, QLD

Service No 6305

Rank Private

Unit 9th Battalion

Place of Death Polygon Wood, Flanders, Belgium

Date of Death 20 September, 1917

Age at Death 17

Commemorated at Panel 17, Ypres (Menin Gate)
Memorial, Belgium

“Ross was killed beside me. A high explosive shell crushed all his ribs and killed him instantaneously.”

Informant: Arthur McNab for Red Cross Files

Francis lied about his age to enlist. He has no known grave.



Name SALMON, Dudley
Frederick

Date of birth 14 April, 1894

Place of birth Proserpine, QLD

Parents Edward Vidal & Ida Emily T (Bode)

Occupation Station Manager

Date of enlistment 7 May, 1915

Place of enlistment Rockhampton, QLD

Service No

Rank Lieutenant

Unit 47th Battalion

Place of Death Somme, Belgium

Date of Death 8 June, 1917

Age at Death 23

Commemorated at II. B. 23. Messines Ridge British
Cemetery, Belgium

“It seems a pity that so promising a young officer should be cut down because he was acting captain of the company during the big fight and both officers and men had great faith in him as a leader, he was the first over the top and the last to fall.”

Letter from Sgt Thomas to Mrs Salmon



Name	SHAW, Alfred George
Date of birth	20 October, 1892
Place of birth	Bowen, QLD
Parents	Charles H & Sarah A (Cinnamond)
School	Kelsey Creek
Occupation	Labourer

Date of enlistment	23 May, 1916
Place of enlistment	Bowen, QLD
Service No	6416
Rank	Private
Unit	25 th Battalion
Place of Death	Mont St Quentin, France
Date of Death	2 September, 1918
Age at Death	25
Commemorated at	IV. J. 2. Peronne Communal Cemetery, France

Alfred suffered a gunshot wound to his left shoulder on 4 October 1917 and rejoined the battalion on 15th January 1918.

He was killed during the heavy and exhausting fighting during the the Battalion's objective to capture Mont St Quentin. The Australians established a stronghold on the area and forced the complete withdrawal of the Germans from Peronne.



Name SHEPHEARD, Edward Rowland (Ted)

Date of birth 2 March, 1879

Place of birth Surrey, England

Parents John J & Margaret C (Wells)

Wife Mary Louisa (Liddiard)

Occupation Cane Farmer

Date of enlistment 23 March, 1916

Place of enlistment Bowen, QLD

Service No 6361

Rank Private

Unit 9th Battalion

Place of Death Lagnicourt, France

Date of Death 15 April, 1917

Age at Death 38

Commemorated at Villers-Bretonneux Memorial,
France

A large German force utilising 23 battalions attacked at dawn near Lagnicourt and overran the Australians. A vigorous counterattack by four Australian battalions just after 7am recaptured the village and forced a German withdrawal.

Ted has no known grave. He was buried in the field and his body never recovered.



Name	SMAIL, Robert Alfred (Bobby)
Date of birth	18 May, 1891
Place of birth	Hughenden, QLD
Parents	Robert & Bessie (Ralph)
Foster Parents	Robert & Clara Barr
School	Bowen & Mt Marlow State Schools
Occupation	Lighthouse Keeper, Dent Island

Date of enlistment	17 March, 1915
Place of enlistment	Mackay, QLD
Service No	2397
Rank	Private
Unit	12 th Battalion
Place of Death	Poizieres, France
Date of Death	25 July, 1916
Age at Death	25
Commemorated at	Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France

The Battle of Poizieres was classified as an allied victory; however, the Australians suffered 23,000 casualties.

“The Poizieres Battle ridge is more densely sown with Australian sacrifice than any other place on earth.”

Charles Bean



Name TALBOT, Phillip Thomas Walton

Date of birth 29 December, 1886

Place of birth St Lawrence, QLD

Parents Edward H & Maria A (Gooch)

Occupation Farmer/Linesman

Date of enlistment

9 May, 1916

Place of enlistment

Rockhampton, QLD

Service No

Q7161

Rank

Private

Unit

11th Depot Battalion

Place of Death

No. 4 Infectious Disease Hospital,
Rosemont, Qld

Date of Death

11 June, 1916

Age at Death

29

Commemorated at

10. 41. 25. Toowong Cemetery,
Brisbane, QLD

Phillip contracted measles that led to pneumonia causing heart failure.