

Friends of Soldiers Walk Inc: Newsletter

Issue 18 April 2005

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Plaque Dedication April 24th 11:15am

The first 20 new plaques will be dedicated on the Avenue this Sunday. There will be brief speeches and then a simple dedication at each plaque. Parking is best at the car park at the northern end of the old TCA ground.

Plaques will be dedicated for

#8666 Gnr William Patrick **Allan** (5th Bde AFA) Killed in Action on 27th July 1917
#2218 L/Cpl John Desmond **Benger** (52nd Bn) Died of Wounds on 29th August 1917
Lt Lauriston **Brownell** (27th Bn) Died of Wounds on 3rd October 1917
#3467 Cpl Lionel Eric **Chalmers** (K Supply Column AASC) Died of wounds on 25th September 1917
#95 Spr Arthur Edward Watts **Currie** (3rd Field Co Aust Engineers) Killed in Action, Ypres on 20th September 1917
#357 Gnr Richard Henry **Drake** (36th Heavy Artillery Group) Died of wounds on 4th October 1917
#2002 Bmdr Richard Robert **Higgins** (3rd Brigade AFA (9th Battery)) Died of Wounds on 1st August 1915
#6492 Pte Alfred Charles **Hill** (12th Bn) Killed in Action on 19th September 1917
#22352 Cpl Walter John **Livingston** (14th Bde AFA (36th Battery) Killed in action, Menin Road on 4th October 1917
#2417 Pte Frank Wenvor **McGuinniss** (28th Bn) Killed in Action Flers France on 3rd November 1916
#4848 L/Cpl Roy St.Clair **Mason** (12th Bn) Killed in Action, Menin Road on 19th September 1917
#15261 Gnr (Henry) William Charles **Pharoah** (2nd Bde AFA) Killed in Action on 16th August 1917
#1883 Pte Albert Edward **Robertson** (34th Bn) Died of wounds on 13th July 1917
#4734 Gnr Cyril Noel **Seabrook** (11th Bde AFA) Killed in Action on 13th September 1917
#3590 Pte Eric Arthur **Stewart** (52nd Bn) Killed in Action on 23rd September 1917
#12/3185 L/Cpl John Frederick **Watchorn** (1st Bn Auckland Regt, NZEF) Killed in action on 28th September 1916
#3262 Pte Archibald Gilbert **Weeding** (3rd Bn) Killed in Action, Broodseinde Ridge on 4th October 1917
#6797 Pte Ernest Walter **Williams** (12th Bn) Killed in Action on 20th September 1917
#6607 Pte Albert Charles **Woolley** (12th Bn) Killed in Action, Polygon Wood on 8th October 1917
An Unknown Soldier: Originally listed for H H Kennedy but the 'tree' was transferred to the New Town row on planting day. To date, no record has been discovered listing to whom this tree was re-allocated. Research is continuing and a plaque will be placed when an identity has been established

Anzac Day on the Avenue

From 12 noon on Monday Aril 25th, there will be an exhibition at the Gunpowder Magazine. There will also be a barbeque and drinks (gold coin donation). Maps will be available plus a host of Great War and Avenue memorabilia. Anyone who wants to come along and help, please call me Adrian on 6234 4396 and leave a message so I can get back to you. The plaques are already generating much interest and the Mercury supplement should ensure a big turn out on the Avenue.

A wreath will be laid at the Cenotaph on Anzac Day in memory of all the men of the Avenue.

The Fundraising Campaign: April 16th Huon Quays

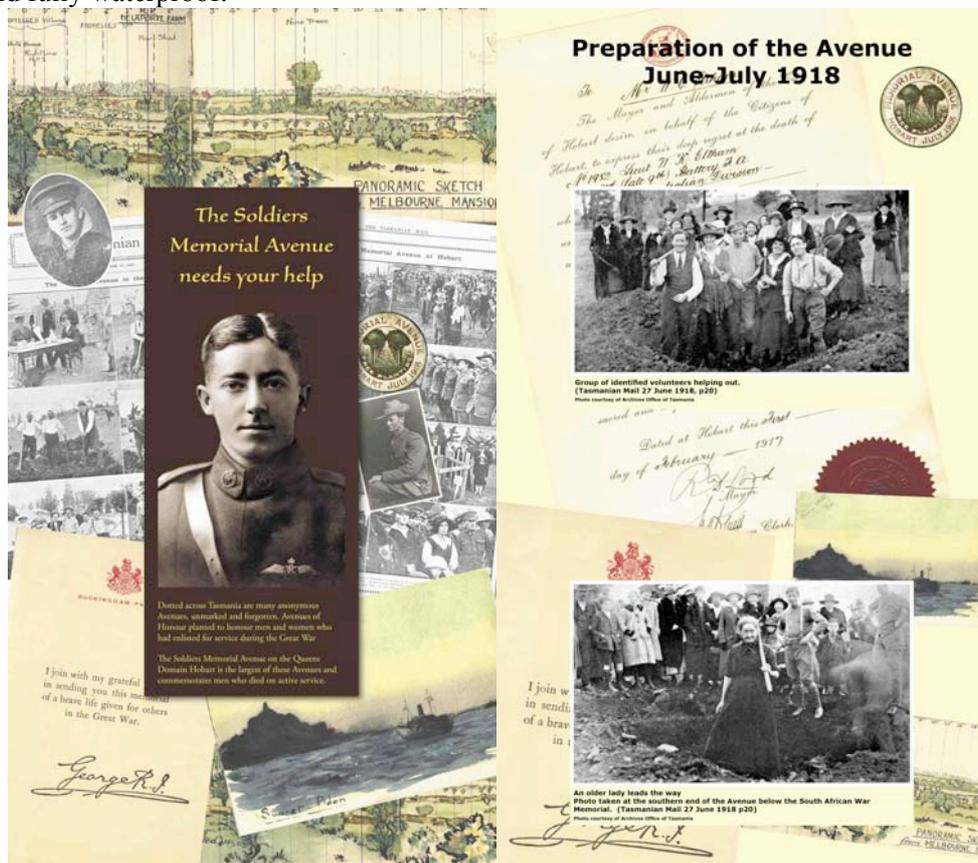
The Launch of the fundraising campaign was a great success with over 110 people in attendance. The 12th/40th Bn RTR provided an honour guard of six soldiers and a piper to greet people on arrival. Our patron, His Excellency William Cox AC RFD ED, Governor of Tasmania, officially launched our campaign, quoting in his speech the words of his predecessor Sir Francis Newdegate at the second planting in February 1919. The Lord Mayor Rob Valentine thanked FOSW for our work, and also apologised for the quality of Council's attention to and maintenance of the Avenue and the removal of trees. John Trethewey provided an extensive display of Great War memorabilia. Six of the new plaques were also on display attracting great interest and approval. The guests included representatives from Hutchins, Collegiate, Friends and Rosetta Primary Schools. A number of defence force officers also attended in full uniform. A slide show of images of the preparation and planting of the Avenue, men commemorated and work on the Avenue over the last few years was also shown. Others among the guests included Duncan Kerr MHR and Doug Parkinson MLC. Included among the guests were a variety of people from the business and legal communities of Hobart as well as many descendants and relatives of men on the Avenue. The event raised nearly \$2000 towards the campaign.

State Government Grant

On Sunday April 17th, David Bartlett MHA presented a cheque for \$5000 from the State Government to help with the campaign specifically to develop exhibition materials and as a contribution towards general costs of our campaign. David spoke about the importance of remembering the sacrifice represented by this Avenue and its potential for education and tourism.

To date, the campaign has raised over \$15,000 to assist with the restoration. Details of many of these significant donations can be found on page 5.

Images of the new banners used for our fundraising campaign and for general exhibition can be found overleaf. The banners are in full colour, are 1.6m high and 0.9m wide and printed on a polyvinyl material and fully waterproof.





Media Watch: Friday April 22nd and Monday April 25th

The Mercury special supplement for Our Anzac Heroes will be published on Monday April 25th. This will include a map of the Avenue and a full listing of the men commemorated with a few lines on each. This is sure to spark much interest and bring quite a few new members out of the woodwork. This will be absolutely fantastic for the Avenue and FOSW. All the material, text and photos related to the Avenue has been provided by FOSW.

On Friday April 22nd watch Stateline on ABC-TV at 7:30pm. Airlie Ward interviewed Darby Quinn (Daniel Quinn 26th Bn Tree #88) and John Wadsley (Lt Len Wadsley 52nd Bn Tree #343) about their Great War ancestors and the memorabilia they have about these men. In John's case, the interview also covered another relative, a nurse who served in India, Persia and Iraq under incredibly difficult conditions for which she was awarded the Red Cross Medal.

Work on the Avenue

Work on the Avenue by members of Project Hahn continues. There have been a few changes in personnel but no change in the levels of enthusiasm and commitment to the project. Brush cutting now



extends along nearly half the Avenue from in line with tree#156 in the southern section to tree#358 above the Magazine on the lower side and tree#333 on the upper side. The whole Avenue is really opening up and once again can be seen as a formal entity. From conversations with users of the path, this change is very well received with the comments 'about time' and 'wonderful' pretty much summing up reactions. The installation of the plaques has also dramatically increased interest. As they were being installed they had their first visitor Simon Webb, pictured right examining the plaque for Spr Currie.



From the left Michael Briggs, Bradley Sproule, Warren ‘Wozza’ Slater preparing to clear one of the felled blue gums in the exhibition section. Wozza is the project supervisor with Project Hahn .



Left: Shane Bailey from Civic Solutions smoothing the perimeter around a newly set plaque. Right: View down the Avenue along the new exhibition section.

Donations and Fundraising

We are now seeking donations from descendants and members of the community to go into the plaque fund. Our first set of plaques to be unveiled on April 24th will be costing \$250 a piece (plus GST) and installation will be covered by Project Hahn. This will not be the case in the future. We will also need funds for interpretation panels along the Avenue, and other works such as placing seats along the way.

All funds from descendants will go into our Gift Account and will only be used to fund plaques and their installation. Additional funding is being sought from the Department of Veteran’s Affairs *Saluting their Service* program, the State government and the Tasmanian Community Fund. Our fundraising efforts will also be seeking contributions from business and corporate sponsors as well as sporting and community groups and citizens of Hobart.

Our first official sponsor is AMS Hire of Moonah, which has donated \$2000 to our plaque fund. Another big donation has been \$1650 from Project Hahn to fund plaques.

PLAQUING ARRANGEMENTS

WHEN A FAMILY PROVIDES FUNDS FOR A PARTICULAR PLAQUE, THE MAIN FAMILY CONTACT WILL BE SENT A RECEIPT AND A SAMPLE TEXT FOR THAT PLAQUE WITHIN A FEW WEEKS.

WHEN THE TEXT IS CONFIRMED BY DESCENDANTS THE PLAQUE WILL BE ORDERED AND CAST TO BE STORED UNTIL INSTALLATION CAN BE ARRANGED,

WHEN WE HAVE A NUMBER OF PLAQUES IN REASONABLE PROXIMITY AND SPARE FUNDS, WE WILL ARRANGE FOR THAT SECTION TO BE INSTALLED.

SAMPLE TEXT AND RECEIPTS WILL BE DISPATCHED TO OUR CURRENT DONOR FAMILIES OVER THE NEXT WEEK.

Please send you donations to Friends of Soldiers Walk Inc (cheques from descendants should be made out to FOSW Gift Account). Please attach the name of the soldier you are related to. If you wish to make a small donation now and further donations in the future feel free to do so. No one is bound to pay any given amount at any particular time, and it is understood that financial circumstances vary considerably. Names of all donors will be acknowledged in the newsletter and on the website.

I would also like to acknowledge families who have already made contributions in memory of

Capt Arthur Harold Appleby (Mrs Betty Hood)

Pte John Desmond Bengier (Beatrice McAlpine)

Gnr Arthur Roy Edwards (Don Edwards and family)

Pte Jim Frier (Geoff Frier)

Gnr Archie Flexmore (Nigel Cross)

Pte Walter Gordon Ibbott (Miss Pat Ibbott)

Sapper Albert Lighten (Greta Reason)

Pte Harry Havelock Morey (Brian Morey)

Sgt Oliver Alfred Page (Alice Cameron and Margaretta Pos)

Lt Len Wadsley (John Wadsley and family)

Pte Gilbert Stanley Young (Paul and Leonie Howard and a vast extended family)

In addition, Rhonda Ewart and Jackson and Tremayne Barristers and Solicitors have made significant donations.

Pte Ernest Charles Mawley Woolley

In the years immediately before the Great War, an English language newspaper in Hong Kong reported “*The flags of the Indo-China steamers, the Associated Wharves and Jardine, Matheson & Co Ltd, were half-masted yesterday owing to news having been received of the death at Chefoo of Captain E S Woolley of the Kingsing [which he had commanded since 1910]. Captain Woolley, who a man of an obliging and genial disposition, joined the Indo-China Co as 2nd officer in October 1899 and gradually rose to a command. We tender our sympathies to his widow who is now in Shanghai, and to his grown up family in Tasmania.*”

The Captain’s son, Ernest, it would seem had a similar disposition. A small part of his life can be pieced together from the following extracts provided by Les Woolley. They include some death notices and an extract from Personal Notes in the Casualty section of the Mercury.

1. Woolley: - in the Greek Hospital, Alexandria, died from wounds on May 28 at 11:30am., Ernest Charles Mawley, born Woolley, croft, Flowerpot, Channel, December 2 1888, third son of the late Captain E S Woolley, ICSN Co., Shanghai, China, and F O Woolley, of Quarry St, Hobart, granddaughter of the late Colonel McTaggart.
2. Private E C M Woolley, son of the late Captain E S Woolley, of the Indo-China S N Company, and brother of the Rev E S Woolley of Hobart, 26 years of age, was an orchardist at Flowerpot, in the Channel district, and an enthusiastic member of the WPL [Workers Political League].
3. Private ECM Woolley, who has died of wounds received in action, was a son of the late Captain E S WOOLLEY of the Indo-China S N Co. He was 26 years of age, and was an orchardist at Flowerpot, in the Channel, where he was born and had resided all his life, with the exception of a few months spent in Victoria some years ago.

An Appreciation - Woolley of Flowerpot

I first saw him working on his ground silhouetted against the setting sun – a quiet, genial, God-fearing man, who lived in peace with all men. One day across his strawberry beds there came a voice, clear, resonant, insistent, “My son, I need you. Come!” he paused and listened, others heard it too, and paused; but they were not quite sure of the speaker; they thought it might be Miss Patriotic Emotion, so went on with their daily round. Again across the field came the voice, Angelus-like, calling him to prayer and duty; “My son, I need you. Come! Come!” His companions heard it, and cried, “It’s the motherland. Come; we must go!” And they went. Camp life and training with its petty trials; then the Dardanelles, with hills of fire and streams of blood. “Dangerously wounded” was the first intimation. “Died of wounds” was the second. His life’s brief day had passed into the everlasting night of a nameless grave, but his spirit is with God. He was the first of the little Flowerpot band to fall, but none can say that he was not ready. After the fierce storm of conflict he sleeps in peace with honour. He died the death of a soldier. What better fate can any man have.

Old Beach, S Tasmania. September 14.

Discovery of old Plaque



Bernard Lloyd from the Glebe holding the plaque recently discovered by his daughter, Tully Rose Lloyd. The plaque was revealed by the recent burn-off adjacent to the southern section of the Avenue just near the old cricket pitch. It was quite close to a commonly used track. The plaque was dedicated to Pte Norman Washington Humphreys (12th Bn) died of wounds 27th August 1916, having enlisted on 24th August 1915. He was educated at St Lukes and lived at 6 Denison St, South Hobart. He was wounded at Pozieres and died at 1st Eastern General Hospital in England. Bernard was one of the art team for the VC Memorial at the Cenotaph. The Lloyds often walk through this area of the Domain and are amazed that it had not already

been found as it was only a few metres from the track. We can only hope that more finds like this will be made over time.

Recent presentations about the Avenue for: War Widows Guild, Sandy Bay Probus, Bellerive Cottage School.

Planned presentations: Vaucluse Village, Friends of the Botanical Gardens,

A big thanks to Duncan Kerr’s office for photocopying

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Cascade Brewery, Globe Hotel



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