

4th Light Horse Regiment Memorial Association

Including 4th Light Horse Regiment Association 1914 - 1919

email: fourlighthorse@gmail.com web site: 4thlighthorse.com

Patron: Dr David Holloway OAM President: Susan Meyer

ESTABLISHED 1919. RECOGNISED AS THE OLDEST MILITARY ASSOCIATION IN AUSTRALIA

Newsletter

Mar - Apr 2026



ANZAC Day March

Saturday 25 April

Assemble behind the banner by 10:15 am

Wattle Park ANZAC Day Service.

Sunday 19 Apr 2026, Wattle Park

Read on for more details of both events.

President's Report

2026 has been off to a good start with a large attendance at our 1 Feb Annual Pilgrimage to the Melbourne Shrine of Remembrance. My sincere thanks to the members of the 4th/8th Light Horse Troop, seven of whom came along in their LH Uniforms to participate in the ceremony. The romance and memory of the Light Horse evoked at such times, their attendance certainly added to our 2026 Pilgrimage. Thanks also to Murray Thompson for giving the 2026 4thLHR Memorial Speech and to Peter McWilliam for his well-received talk at the Purple Cross Horse Trough. Our Vice President John Mansfield again gave his haunting rendition of the Last Post and Reveille. My thanks to Brenda Mansfield for reciting Laurence Binyon's 'The Ode'. Thanks to our two 2026 wreath layers being members Joyce Pepin and Don McGregor. Heather Corrie and Carol Lehman, Rob and Margie Ewart, Maggie Michels, Kerrie McWilliam and Michel Lehman as always assisted with pre-preparations and set up for this annual gathering of members and friends of the 4thLHRMA. A great team effort.



Susan Meyer - President

On a sad note, I was recently informed that Mrs Joyce Pepin, (daughter of John Herbert Brown, 4thLHR 374 one of the originals with the Regiment and then the Bicycle Corp while in France) has passed away. Joyce was one of our wreath layers this year, the red and white floral wreath laid with great meaning and in loving remembrance of her father. We are sad to hear of her passing, but grateful that we got to meet and know her a little. Our sincere condolences to the Pepin and Brown families.

Susan Meyer, President 4thLHRMA



Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, who served on the Turkish side at Gallipoli, penned these moving words, reaching out to the mothers of his former enemies.

They are presented in this monument at ANZAC Cove, and are read out each year at the Dawn Service there.

Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives.

You are now lying in the soil of a friendly country.

Therefore, rest in peace. There is no difference between the Johnnies & the Mehments to us where they lie side by side, here in this country of ours.

You, the mothers, who sent their sons from far away countries,

wipe away your tears. Your sons are now lying in our bosom, and are in peace.

After having lost their lives on this land they have become our sons as well.

4thLHRMA ACTIVITIES FOR 2026 – Put these in your calendar right now!

Sunday 19 Apr ANZAC Wattle Park Service

A full ANZAC Day service will again take place under the Wattle Park's own Lone Pine

Always the Sunday afternoon prior to ANZAC Day, this service is a significant ANZAC event. It is perfect for those who cannot attend the Melbourne ANZAC Day March.

Featuring music from the Melbourne Tramways band, guest speakers, and a large crowd of attendees, the service is held under the shade of a Gallipoli Lone Pine and under the auspices of the Camberwell Pompey Elliott RSL.

Each year are featured the banners of the 4th Light Horse along with the 7th, 14th, 22nd, 24th and 37th Battalions from WW1, those of the 2/7th and 2/24th from WW2 and from the RARs of Vietnam.

Afterwards, the band plays a recital in the park entitled "ANZAC Tunes". So bring along a chair or a blanket or even table and food & drink and make an afternoon of it.

All are welcome, even if you cannot come, please spread the word. Hope to see you there!

More information as to start time, etc will be announced on the 4thLHRMA Facebook page closer to the date.

Saturday 25 April ANZAC Day March to The Melbourne Shrine of Remembrance

Please come and join us in participating in the 2026 Melbourne ANZAC March.

No need to RSVP, just be there at the appointed place and time ready to step off, led by our own large 4thLHRMA banner and the two original flags of the 4thLHR.

March timing can be quite flexible. So far the requirement is to for us to be assembled by 10:15 am, ready to step off at 11:00 am. We will be gathering in Flinders St (east end) and on the south side of the road. So, from about 10:00 am onwards please look out for our famous, large 4thLHR Memorial Association Banner. It will be located near to the NGV Ian Potter Gallery, Flinders St entrance.

This year we will be very early in the WW1 order of the March, right behind the 'Division 1 Gallipoli and France' marchers, and as per tradition, we will be the first Light Horse Regiment group to step off.

(Last year there was some confusion and the banner of a South Australian Light Horse unit was put ahead of us. Thanks to our representatives who attended a ANZAC March planning session earlier this year it was made plain to the March coordinators why the 4th always goes first and why this is very important to all of us in the Memorial Association).

As usual all are welcome after the March at the lunch at the Rising Sun Hotel, South Melbourne. (Please advise if you wish to come to lunch, as we will need to book a table or two well in advance.)

AGM

Here is advance notice that in June, at a date still to be advised, we will hold our Annual General Meeting.

The where and when will be announced on the 4thLHRMA Facebook page closer to the date.

Warning: Hoax "Picture" Emails - They're Back!

There seems to be always someone on the internet trying to get the better of you. Lately we have seen a return of the hoax emails that were a worry a few years ago.

These emails look like they are coming from names you associate with the Memorial Association. A clue is the actual sender address often looks quite strange.

The headings are variations on wording like "Here are some more pictures I have found".

1: If you get one that is an obvious hoax - just delete it.

2: If you open one, **DO NOT** click on any links. Clicking can release sneaky software into your system.

It's better to be safe than sorry. If you are concerned about a suss looking email message - bin it. You can always check with the person you think might have sent it, in a separate message.



The Holloway brothers in uniform, Percy standing, Roy seated.

How was the first ANZAC Day commemorated in Egypt?

This is an extract from a letter Pte Roy Holloway (327) of the 14th Battalion sent to his sister Lottie;

18/4/1916 – Suez Canal, ‘I have met a terrible lot of Redan¹ boys over here that I used to go to school with’. ‘Well Lottie, Perc² is leaving here for home. He will be home before this letter reaches you. I wish to God we were all coming home. I am just fed up with this life’...

In the same letter, ‘I was with Ern and Ray Dawson over here, they are looking well. Ern was in the hospital with Perc. We have sports here, plenty of races in the water. It is like Henly on the Yarra. We are holding a big sports meeting on the 25th April. It is called Anzac Day. It’s a good job it isn’t like the real thing. I don’t want to see any more like that.’

A sentiment I think many of the survivors of Gallipoli would agree with!

1 – Redan, now a suburb of Ballarat, probably nearly a town in its own right in 1916

2 - 421 Tpr Percy Holloway, Roy’s brother, an original enlistee with the 4th Light Horse. He was repatriated due to wounds and health issues.

Read his story on the 4thLHRMA website, www.4thlighthouse.com:

https://www.4thlighthouse.com/stories_percy_holloway.html

What of the 4thLHR in 1916?

1916 was a significant year. The Regiment was split in two.

After Gallipoli, survivors of the 4thLHR who had recovered, retrained and been remounted were joined with a large number of fresh 4thLHR reinforcements. The need to support the war effort on the Western Front and a strong supply of men saw the creation of an additional Squadron. It was designated as “D” Squadron. Along with the existing “B” Squadron and a 4thLH Regimental HQ, they were transferred to France, with their horses. This party retained the White Over Red colour patch. The remainder, comprising of A, B and C Squadrons, now wearing the new ‘Two Blues’ patch on their shoulders stayed in Egypt. They were tasked with exercising the horses in the desert sands, undertaking the odd skirmish, protecting the Suez Canal and carrying out a considerable number of patrols throughout 1916.

Colour patch : 4 Australian Light Horse Regiment, AIF



“B” Squadron 4thLHR was the first Australian Light Horse unit to go to France. Arriving at Marseilles on 27 Mar 1916. A fact which amounts to another “FIRST” for the 4thLHR, as after Gallipoli, “B” Squadron is the first sub-unit of the AIF to reach Europe. Upon arrival in France, horses and men endured a five mile march to a rest camp, followed the next day by a 58 hour train journey, then off the train for a

Colour patch : 4 Light Horse Regiment, AIF



seven mile march to their billets in Strazeele where they stayed until April 23, the day they moved to Sercus. There they awaited the arrival of “D” Squadron, who had to undergo a similar journey of ships, train trips and miles of long marches leading their horses.

Important to note that on 6 Jul 1916, the 4thLHR’s ‘B’ and ‘D’ Squadrons, together with one Squadron of the Otago Mounted Rifles, the 5th Division Cyclists Battalion, and the 7th Motor Machine Gun Battalion were all formed into the 2nd ANZAC Mounted Regiment. Their role was to act as the 2nd Australian Corps mounted troops.

On 22 Jul six officers and 150 men were in the trenches at Fleurbaix (Fromelle), attached as reinforcements to the 53rd Battalion of the newly arrived 5th Australian Division.

On 6 Aug the 4thLHR’s first casualty in Europe was Trooper Charles Guppy (557). While on duty in the forward trenches he was hit by a German sniper.

Other 4thLHR casualties in 1916, such as Troopers John Thomson (1160) and Charles Hough (1246) occurred while manning forward listening posts, a dangerous and courageous duty that involved hours spent isolated and vulnerable, hoping to hear or observe early signs of German advances.

Bill McKissack, of the 4thLHR described this activity in his diary: “Patrols of two to four men would go out into no man’s land nearly every night, to test the entanglements, or go over to Fritz’s wire for information. We also had what was called a listening post out about fifty yards from our trench. Two men would be out in this post at different times through the night.” (Holloway, Endure and Fight, Port Melbourne, 2011, p.422.)



Tpr Charles Guppy

And what of the Australian Soldier in general in 1916?

This is an extract from General Birdwood's message to the Australian and New Zealand Forces, dated March 1916
"Now that we are proceeding to France, I am republishing Lord Kitchener's message to the troops of the British Expeditionary Force which was originally issued to the Australian and New Zealand Forces before their departure from home in 1914. I feel that it is hardly necessary for me to emphasise to all ranks how sincerely I trust that they will bear in mind all that Lord Kitchener says, and do their utmost to live up to the ideal which he has placed before you.

Since the Australian and New Zealand Forces left their respective countries, you have made for yourself a national reputation as good fighters, which has earned for you the esteem of our comrades, alongside of whom we will shortly be fighting. The training that you have had will, I hope, enable you to utilise your fighting qualifications to advantage. But, in addition to those two qualifications, there is still a third which is essential to success - DISCIPLINE; and it is the greatest of the three, for without discipline the best fighting troops in the world will fail at the last to achieve success.

You will undoubtedly be faced with temptations in France, for we shall probably have to pass through and be billeted in densely populated French villages. Drink will, I'm afraid, be obtainable, while villages will mostly be full of women and children, whose fathers, husbands and brothers are fighting for their country in the trenches against our common enemy ..."

(From what we now know about some of the soldiers the song "How 'Ya Gonna Keep 'Em Down on the Farm?" comes to mind.)

A Trooper From The 4thLHR Wins The 1920 Stawell Gift

With the running of the 2026 Stawell Gift soon to take place at Easter, it is timely to remember that the 4thLHR has a link to this famous foot race. On his return to Australia, the 4thLHR's Tpr Barney Cashmore (932) became a champion sprint runner winning the 1920 Stawell Easter Gift.

The Stawell Gift began in 1878 at the end of the Victorian gold rush, as the "Easter Gift", with prize money of £24 (several thousands in today's dollars). The event was conducted by the Stawell Athletic Club in a program of seven races, most run in multiple heats. It has been raced every year since, except for four years during the Second World War, and in 2020 due to the world-wide COVID-19 pandemic.

Mrs. Arthur (Elizabeth) Cashmore had six sons and three daughters. Three of her sons enlisted in The Great War together on the 27 Nov 1914. Arch known as Barney (932), John known as Jack (933) and Edward, known as Ted (934). All three brothers were designated to the 4th Australian Light Horse/5th reinforcements. Ted was later to serve in France with the 12th Field Artillery Brigade. Elizabeth's husband Arthur enlisted later in 1917. As 12387, he was a driver with the A.A.S.C. (Australian Army Service Corps).

Barney and Jack loved to run against each other, whether this be in a race or working the land at home, and this continued at Gallipoli. They would race each other, not only to keep fit but also to save themselves from the boredom of just sitting around.

Later on in the war, in the Middle East, Barney went on to win the Championship of Egypt, a sprint race. Barney always dreamed of winning The Stawell Gift, Australia's premier sprint race. He did this in 1920. (It is believed his record still stands as the only soldier to win the race) and this despite him running against a very good "ring in". The winnings helped him establish his butcher shop in Gunbower.

In 2005, prior to ANZAC Day, the Melbourne Herald Sun printed a centre page lift out on the Cashmores. This provided a good amount of information about Barney and Jack, from fighting at Lone Pine to Arch being wounded (nearly having his hand blown off) and later became dangerously ill and having to be evacuated.

Both Arch and Jack charged at Beersheba. Apparently many at the time believed Arch should have won a VC but a lack of solid evidence did not allow this case to progress.

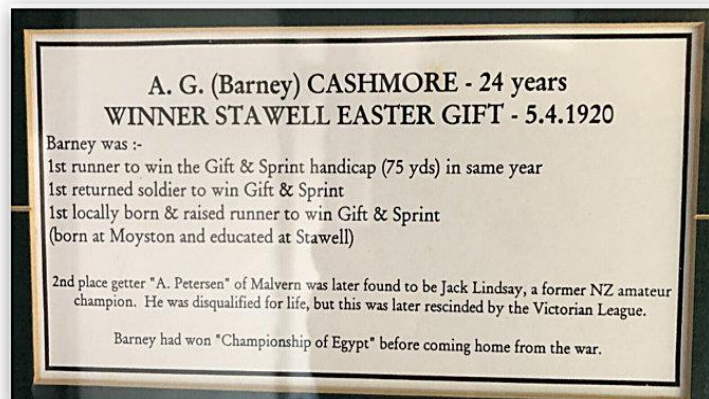


Tpr Barney Cashmore

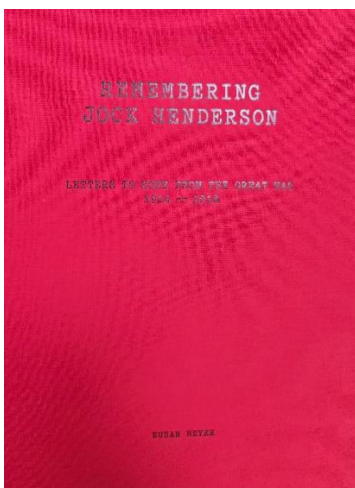


Barney wearing his 1920 Gift winner's sash

We plan to have a “Pictures & Stories” web page about Barney ready on www.4thlighthorse.com in time for Easter.



“Remembering Jock Henderson - Letters to home from the Great War 1914 – 1918” compiled by Susan Meyer



At the 2025 Ballarat ANZAC Day Service Mr Bruce Roberts made a plea for everyone with a service man or woman in their families to “Please do your best to make our war heroes immortal”. “... find their names, know their stories. Everyone has two deaths, the day they take their last breath and the last time someone says their name.”

Susan Meyer explains, “[Jock](#) and Charlie Henderson's letters from the Great War were carefully preserved by their mother, sister and niece for 100 years. It wasn't until 2012 that efforts began to sort, transcribe and understand the logistics of the two brothers' service in WW1. These letters capture their experiences and perspectives on what they witnessed during the war. This book provides a personal, first-hand account that not only enriches the Henderson family history but also offers insight into the lives of a trooper and a soldier who nobly volunteered for duty.”

The first 200 books arrive in early April. Be ready to snap up your copy. Keep watching the 4thLHRMA Facebook page. The price will be only \$40, plus \$10 postage if required.

It is still a case of **FALL OUT THE OFFICERS!***

in “Pictures and Stories” on the website www.4thlighthorse.com.

Since the last Newsletter, when we first raised this matter, we have now posted the stories of six Troopers, one Lance Corporal, one Corporal, three Sergeants, one Squadron Sergeant Major, one Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant and even one horse (*Sandy. The War Horse*) but still no Officers.

Come on! There must be families out there who are proud that their father, grandfather, uncle or whatever held a commission in the 4th Light Horse?

Send in your pictures and recollections so we can provide your man the recognition he deserves.

(* *In the Australian Army, at the conclusion of ceremonial parades this command gave officers the opportunity to leave the parade ground while the other ranks continued to endure the drill movements.*)

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Memorial Association

421 Tpr Percy (Percival Charles) Holloway

Percy was an original enlistee with the 4th Light Horse. He was a 5ft 7ins, 10¹/₂ stone, Presbyterian, 24 year-old labourer from Lexton (a town north of Beaufort) when he enlisted on 20 Aug 1914. A few months later, on 19 Oct, he sailed for Europe on the Wiltshire but found himself in Egypt, en-route to Gallipoli. During the August offensive on Gallipoli he suffered multiple wounds to both legs and was evacuated to hospital in Malta.

Our President, Susan Meyer, notes that "Percy was best mates with my Great Uncle Jock Henderson, they enlisted together (Jock was given 423 and Percy was allocated 421) and served on Gallipoli together. During the August Offensive attack, when the 4thLHR was conducting diversionary assaults on the Turks, Percy was injured by shrapnel wounds to both thighs." In a letter home to his father in April 1916 Jock hoped that Percy was OK. "Has he made it home to Australia yet? I carried him down to the CCS (Casualty Clearing Station) on the beach the day he got injured."

Percy's military "Crime" sheet might have shown a few episodes of forfeitures of pay and a couple of remand sessions but he served his country at Gallipoli and in Egypt and was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

After being released from hospital Percy was expecting to be deployed to France. However, due to the combination of his leg wounds, the continuing issues resulting from frost bite and persistent health problems affecting his eyes it was decided he should be returned to Australia. He left Egypt on 11 Apr 1916 and returned home on the hospital ship Runic. He was discharged as 'medically unfit - contracted muscle left thigh' in September 1916.

Reunited after the war, Jock Henderson and Percy continued their close association. Susan Meyer explains "Even three generations later the Hendersons and Holloways are friends still, some personal links are timeless!"

Percy married Ellen Kemp and fathered Roy, Eunice, Gordon, Douglas, Bruce, Graham and Ian. Percy and Ellen share a headstone in the Ballarat Cemetery.

Many years later and after surviving Gallipoli, unfortunately Percy made the 1953 Easter headlines. The Age of Wed 8 Apr reported "14th Holiday Crash Death."

"Percy Holloway, 52, of Sabatopol Street, Ballarat, died in hospital yesterday from injuries received on Monday night when a utility truck in which he was a passenger crashed into an electric light pole at Gong Gong.

The two other men who were in the truck 'are in hospital. The men were returning from a fishing trip. Mr. Holloway's death brought the total of road deaths in Victoria during the holidays to 14."

Percy is buried in the Ballarat New Cemetery - Area: Private G, Section 5, Row 2, Grave 11. He is commemorated by Tree 165 in the Ballarat Avenue of Honour and is listed on the Redan State School Roll of Honor (sic). (Redan is a suburb of Ballarat).

Proudly submitted by Susan Meyer to honour her Great Uncle's good mate

Tpr Percy Holloway standing beside his younger brother Pvt Roy V Holloway (257). Enlisting at age 17, Roy served with the 14th Battalion, and was one of those who landed on Gallipoli on the first day. Later, when serving on the Western Front, Roy was taken prisoner at the 1st Battle of Bullecourt, 19 Apr 1917. He had to serve the next 30 months at Sallins P.O.W. Camp in Northern Germany. Percy and Ellen named their first born son Roy.

There are no known details for this photo, other than it was taken on Gallipoli. Susan Meyer says that it always reminds her of Jock carrying the wounded Cobber, Percy, to the aid station.

The WW1 Roll of Honour from Percy & Roy's old primary school

Percy & Ellen's headstone

IMPORTANT

Do this for your Light Horseman

Pictures & Stories On Our Web Page

Families have the opportunity to tell the story of their Light Horseman in the Pictures & Stories section of the Association's website – 4thlighthorse.com

It is a chance to explain the whole person, not just his life in uniform but what he did before and, hopefully, after WW1.

The latest story is Tpr Percy Holloway.

So far there have been 13 soldiers remembered. Twelve really because one story was not about a human but about Sandy the "War Horse".

Email your information and pictures to neddywaler4@gmail.com.

Don't worry too much about writing a "composition". Send in the info you have and we can tidy up the wording to present your hero in the best light.

Intellectual Property

The identifying devices and the names of the 4th Light Horse Regiment Memorial Association (the Association), and of the 4th Light Horse Regiment Association and the 4th Light Horse Regiment, including but not limited to the Membership Badge, the "Endure and Fight" motto, any representations of the "Red & White" and the "Two Blues" colour patches, guidons, pennants & flags and the ANZAC March banner, remain the property of the Association and may not be reproduced, neither in whole nor in part, without the written permission of the Association.

Join Us Now, Get the Deal

The Membership year starts in May (after the AGM). New members who join up now get the months before the AGM included in their 2026/27 period for no extra cost. The Membership form is the last page of this newsletter.

They went through hell to earn one of these badges: Members can honour their memory by wearing one of these:



Badges are available to paid-up members for only \$15.



4th Light Horse Regiment Memorial Association

Including 4th Light Horse Regiment Association 1914 - 1919

Membership Application Form 2026-27

We welcome membership applications from both:

- Descendants of those who served in the Regiment, and
- Anyone who has an interest in keeping alive the memory of the Regiment

Membership of the Association is still only \$10.00 per year

Renewing membership fees fall due in May each year (after the AGM)

Please complete each section, and please print clearly One form per person

Name:

Address:

.....

..... Postcode:

Phone: **Email:**

Please tick one: **Continuing Member** **New Member**

My Light Horseman *(if applicable)*

His Name:

His Regimental Number *(if known)*: **How Related:**

Email a scan of the completed form and bank transfer to: *fourlighthorse@gmail.com*

Or mail to

The Secretary 4th Light Horse Regiment Memorial Association PO Box 56 Doreen Vic 3754

Pay on line - BSB 083 298 Account 046900661 **with your first initial & surname**, or

Cheques to - *4th Light Horse Regiment Memorial Assoc*

www.4thlighthorse.com