

2435 C./Q./M./S. W. F. P. Ryan, 14th Bn., Aust. Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty north-west of St. Quentin on 18th September, 1918. Seeing the company held up by machine-gun fire from a small wood, he led his men with initiative and rushed the position. In the later fighting in the enemy lines he, again at the head of the company, outflanked an enemy machine-gun nest, killing four of the occupants himself.

6388 Cpl. F. Saffin, M.M., 24th Bn., Aust. Infy.

During the attack on Montbrehain, on 5th October, 1918, he acted as signalling corporal to his company and showed conspicuous gallantry. Under very heavy fire he carried an important message. On his return to the line he established a lamp and transmitted to Battalion Headquarters several important messages. Later, he assumed command of the platoon, and showed able leadership.

7316 Pte. J. L. Schmidt, 14th Bn., Aust. Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty near Ascension Wood on 18th September, 1918. The gallantry of this stretcher-bearer, and his untiring devotion to his comrades under heavy and accurate enemy fire, was one of the most marked features of the whole operation. He was seen moving deliberately along the front attending to the wounded, and although severely wounded in the hand refused to leave, and carried on for 72 hours.

3719 Pte. R. Scobie, 54th Bn., Aust. Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry at Peronne on the 1st and 2nd September, 1918. As a scout, this man reconnoitred and patrolled throughout the advance, displaying great courage and initiative and capturing many prisoners. Later, he reconnoitred the approaches under exceptionally heavy artillery and machine-gun fire, returning with most valuable information.

2384 Sjt. E. G. Sheldon, 33rd Bn., Aust. Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during the attack on Road Wood on 31st August, 1918. He took charge of the platoon when his officer became a casualty, and, organising the attack, he entered the wood and captured a machine gun and 18 prisoners. At the exit from the wood he again encountered and captured a machine gun and crew.

2250 Sjt. F. Sheppard, 13th Bn., Aust. Inf.

During the advance on the 18th September, 1918, near Le Verguier, he displayed great courage, initiative and resource. His company commander having been killed he took charge of a small party and moved forward. He cleared a trench, killing and wounding 11 and capturing seven of the enemy. He gave a most inspiring example of coolness, initiative and contempt for danger.

12064 Pte. J. A. J. Siggers, 9th Fd. Amb., Aust. A.M.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to

duty on the morning of 22nd August, 1918, north of Chipilly. He took a car up to the R.A.P. through heavy artillery bombardment and gas shells, clearing a number of wounded. A few days later, finding a car full of wounded, with both driver and orderly wounded, he put his own car under cover and drove this car under intense shell-fire.

2247 L./C. O. W. Smith, 53rd Bn., Aust. Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and determination in action at Peronne, 1st September, 1918. He was sent to get in touch with the brigade on the left and had to cross open ground swept by machine-gun fire. On the way he was held up by a machine-gun post which opened fire. He at once shot the observer, killed the crew of six and captured the gun.

1363 Sjt. T. T. Smith, 12th Bn., Aust. Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and leadership at Lihons on 11th August, 1918. This N.C.O. took a patrol into Lihu Wood and bombed an enemy post. Running out of bombs he returned for more, and, in face of strong opposition, again attacked the post, causing the garrison to withdraw.

896 Pte. W. H. Southerland, 3rd Bn., Aust. Pioneers.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on 6th September, 1918, when his company was held up by machine-gun fire east of Buire Wood. He located and crawled up to the nearest post, bayonetting one of the crew and, seizing the gun, turned it on the remainder. His daring initiative saved the lives of many of his comrades, and he showed the same spirit throughout the day's fighting.

690 Sjt. W. G. Speechley, M.M., 22nd Bn., Aust. Inf.

During the operations of 7th/9th October, 1918, in the advance from Geneve to Busigny, he guided two companies to the assembly point under difficult conditions and heavy fire. During the attack he was, by his gallant leadership, directly responsible for the killing and capturing of a number of the enemy with their machine guns.

3265 Sjt. J. Stanton, 7th Bn., Aust. Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry at Lihons, 11th August, 1918, while commanding a platoon. He reached the objective with few casualties, and inspired all ranks by his initiative during the counter-attack. His skilful placing of his Lewis gun kept the enemy down, while he went out and bombed a post and killed the occupants.

1742 C./S./M. R. Stewart, M.M., 56th Bn., Aust. Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and energy during the attack on Peronne, 1st September, 1918. By his cool judgment and cheerfulness he inspired confidence and kept his company well organised. On 2nd September all his officers became casualties; he assumed command, and in the face of very heavy machine-gun fire, dug in a defensive position and maintained the line.