

Colin Russell Chisholm

Private Colin (Russell) Russell Chisholm

5/40th Australian Infantry Battalion, 10th Brigade, 3rd Division

Service Number 2556

1894 – 1917

By: Caitlin Midson



Quick Facts:

Date of birth: 26 February 1884, Australia: Tasmania, Ulverstone (family resided at Leith)

Parents: First child to Colin Alexander Chisholm & Katherine (Kate) Chisholm (nee Ducie)

Siblings: Oldest child of seven

Education: Evandale School

Religion: Presbyterian

Marital Status: Single

Enlistment Date: 30 September 1916

Unit name: 5th Reinforcement to the 40th Battalion, AIF

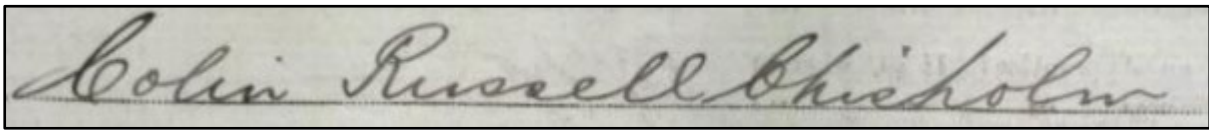
Age at Date of Enlistment: 22 years, 6 months old. Enlisted at Claremont, Southern Tasmania

Address: He lived with his parents and siblings at Murry Street, Evandale Tasmania. His address changes during the war to Hillwood, Mount Direction, Tasmania (however, he would not have lived at this address, it just becomes a forwarding address for correspondence as the family moved)

Occupation prior to Enlistment: Surveyor's Chainman

Embarkation: Melbourne, His Majesty's Australian Transport A38 *Ulysses* 25 October 1916

Relationship to author: Great-Great Uncle



1916 - Enlistment

Russell Chisholm signed up to reinforce the 40th Battalion at 22 years of age for the duration of the war plus 4 months. He was deemed fit for service, with a distinctive mark noted as a scar across the middle of his right shin. The blue-eyed, auburn-haired man recorded a previous conviction for having ridden a bike at excessive speed. He stood 5 feet, 7 inches tall (170cm), weighed 140 pounds (63.5kg) and had a chest measurement of 37 inches (94cm). The Mercury published C R Chisholm's name on Monday October 2 along with other names of men who entered the Claremont camp on Saturday 30 September 1916. Interestingly, his address was printed as Huon. 331 men entered the camp in September which was 709 short of the quota set for the state for the month. This reflects the decline in voluntary enlistments that was noted in mid-1916, perhaps due to daily newspaper reports of heavy casualties at Gallipoli, the Middle East and the Western Front which were suggested to bring about a decline in optimism and in volunteers. The Prime Minister at the time, Billy Hughes, strongly supported conscription during World War 1. He tried to introduce it on two occasions; the first referendum was defeated by a narrow margin on 28 October 1916. The second referendum was held on 20 December 1917 and Australia voted 'no' again. Up until this time, the Defence Act allowed conscripts to fight only on Australian soil and not overseas.

Below is a poster that was designed to encourage Australians to vote 'yes' to conscription. Such posters would have been on display at the time when Russell contemplated enlisting.

Below: Posters displayed in Australia to influence voting about conscription



Russell attended the Claremont Military Camp for a little less than one month before departing for Europe via Port Melbourne. He was in Evandale on 21 October and during this time he penned a last Will and Testament bequeathing all possessions to his mother. On 25 October 1916, Russell boarded the armed merchant ship, HMAT *Ulysses*, bound for the Western Front. It sailed via The Cape of Good Hope to avoid German submarines. During the sailing, on 1 November 1916, Russell became ill with influenza and bronchitis and required hospitalisation for eight days.

It is interesting to consider what Russell may have been feeling as he departed Australia. The fact that he penned a last Will and Testament suggests that he was well informed of the dangers. Many soldiers reported excitement to be involved in something so important and saw the war as an opportunity to explore the world.

Colin Russell Chisholm



Above: Photographs from the Josiah Barnes Collection – taken at Port Melbourne of troops boarding the HMAT Ulysses on 25 October 1916.

Below: First World War Embarkation Roll (Australia War Memorial)

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE—NOMINAL ROLL—continued.																
Serial	Name On Roll	Rank	Age	Trade or Calling	Special Regt.	Address in Date of Enlistment	Place of Birth and address	Religion	Date of Enlistment	A.I.F. Regt. Number	Pay					Remarks
											John Chisholm	After Discharge	Only After Discharge	After Discharge	Only After Discharge	
											a.	d.	a.	d.	a.	d.
6th INFANTRY BATTALION, 6th BRIGADE, 1ST DIVISION—continued.																
2643	Columbin, Jack	Private	26	Hairdresser	S.	Warrack, Tasmania	Father, William Columbin, Warrack, Tasmania (C. of E. 28.2.16)		28.2.16	50	23.10.16	50	3 6	1 6	1 0	
2644	Ode, William George	Labourer	26		S.	Perth, Tasmania	Father, Henry William Ode, Perth, Tasmania (C. of E. 28.2.16)		28.2.16	50		50	3 0	0 0	1 0	
2645	Ogden, Michael	Miner	27		S.	Warrack, Tasmania	Father, John Ogden, Warrack, Tas. (R.C. 28.2.16)		28.2.16	50		50	4 0	1 0	1 0	
2646	Ogden, James	Farmer	26		S.	Perth, Tasmania	Father, John Ogden, Warrack, Tas. (R.C. 28.2.16)		28.2.16	50		50	4 0	1 0	1 0	
2647	Childs, Herbert Henry	Farmer	27		S.	Perth, Tasmania	Father, William Augustus Childs, Old Beach, Tasmania (C. of E. 1.10.16)		1.10.16	50		50	2 0	0 0	1 0	
2648	Oatfield, Henry Edward	Butcher	21		S.	Hobart, Tasmania	Mother, Mrs. Emma Oatfield, 87 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point, Tas. (C. of E. 3.10.16)		3.10.16	50		50	4 0	1 0	1 0	
2649	Clark, Albert Edwin	Stocker	18		S.	Hobart, Tasmania	Mother, Madeline Clark, 3rd Barrington Street, Hobart, Tasmania (C. of E. 28.2.16)		28.2.16	50		50	3 0	0 0	1 0	
2650	Covey, Joseph Patrick	Labourer	28		S.	Beidnorth, Tasmania	Father, William George Covey, Bridgeness, Hobart, Tasmania (R.C. 4.10.16)		4.10.16	50		50	3 0	0 0	1 0	
2651	Chadwick, Hadley William	Labourer	23		S.	Dalhousie, Tasmania	Mother, Mr. Fanny Chadwick, Dalhousie, Tasmania (C. of E. 7.10.16)		7.10.16	50		50	3 0	0 0	1 0	
2652	Curtis, Arthur Henry	Gardener	21		S.	Hobart, Tasmania	Father, Henry Curtis, 1 The Terrace, Hobart, Tasmania (C. of E. 16.4.16)		16.4.16	50		50	3 0	0 0	1 0	
2653	Cook, Albert James	Labourer	25		S.	Central District, Tasmania	Father, James Edward Cook, Central District, Tasmania (R.C. 10.10.16)		10.10.16	50		50	3 0	0 0	1 0	
2654	Coward, Frank	Labourer	29		S.	Mount Direction, Tasmania	Father, George John Coward, Mount Direction, Tasmania (C. of E. 30.9.16)		30.9.16	50		50	4 0	1 0	1 0	
2655	Collins, Robert William	Surveyor's chainman	25		S.	Nahvela, Tasmania	Father, James Collins, Nahvela, Tas. (C. of E. 5.10.16)		5.10.16	50		50	3 0	0 0	1 0	
2656	Chisholm, Colin Russell	Surveyor's chainman	23		S.	Ervadale, Tasmania	Father, Colin Chisholm, Ervadale, Tas. (C. of E. 30.9.16)		30.9.16	50		50	3 0	0 0	1 0	
2657	Dunn, Sydney John	Railway employe	18		S.	Franklin, Tasmania	Father, Charles George Dunn, Franklin, Tasmania (C. of E. 3.10.16)		3.10.16	50		50	3 0	0 0	1 0	
2658	Crosswell, Arthur	Farmer	23		S.	New Norfolk, Tasmania	Father, David Crosswell, New Norfolk, Tasmania (C. of E. 28.2.16)		28.2.16	50		50	3 0	0 0	1 0	

England: December 1916 – April 1917

Chisholm disembarked A38 Ulysses in Plymouth, England on 28 December 1916. He marched into the 10th Training Battalion for training at Durrington Camp on the Salisbury Plain. Whilst in camp, Chisholm committed an offence by failing to obey an order given by an NCO (Non-Commissioned Officer), giving a false name and number. Consequently, he was penalised 21 days detention. On 2 March, Russell spent a total of 19 days hospitalised at Parkhouse Hospital, ill with mumps.

April 1917 - France

Proceeded overseas to France on April 25, 1917 (Anzac Day), disembarking from Folkstone. Marched in from England to Etaples on 26 April. Etaples, northern France. Marched out to unit on 30 April 1917.

May 1917 – Messines, Belgium

1 May – Chisholm was taken on strength in the field by the 40th AIF, Messines, Belgium. The 40th were preparing for a raid near the Douve River.

Colin Russell Chisholm

6 May – the 40th Battalion relieved the 39th Battalion in Ploegsteert – St. Yves Sector. This was considered their first big operation (Green, p. 44). This is apart of the Ypres Salient and is located around the Belgian village that the Australian Diggers called ‘Plugstreet’.

7 May – 16 casualties were recorded after the German’s registered certain points along the 40th’s front with smoke-shell and opened a heavy bombardment with artillery and trench mortars. The 40th retaliated and held off the German’s who may have been going to raid the trenches. 105 reinforcements arrived the following day. Artillery fire remained heavy. Trench mortar shoots took place several times daily with ‘plum puddings’ sent to the enemy front, which they would respond by sending “minnies”. Patrols explored No Man’s Land and made reconnaissance of the River Douve. Sniping was active and both sides played a game of periscope-smashing. Canadian Tunnellers featured in this sector and had spent months tunnelling and laying some 930,000 pounds of high explosives in over 20 mines. During the 10 days spent at the front line, the 40th reported 6 killed and 43 wounded.

15 May – the Battalion was relieved by the 37th and proceeded to hutments at Oosthove Farm, near Nieppe. Working parties continued, including constructing gun emplacements, unloading artillery ammunition from trains, carrying trench mortar ammunition up the line, burying communication cables, constructing dugouts and assembly trenches. It is likely that Chisholm (and all other members of the 40th) also visited Petit Pont which was a large model of the area surrounding Messines. It revealed enemy trenches and defensive positions. The country was studied and explained fully so that the attack was well coordinated, and objectives could be met. Reclaiming Ypres was strategically necessary, however, impossible due to the higher ground held by the German’s in the Messines-Wytschaete Ridge.

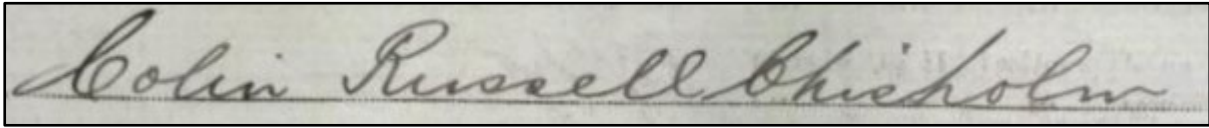
Below: Australian Troops viewing the instructional model at Petit Pont prior to the Battle of Messines, Belgium 1917 (Australia War Memorial)



27 May – the Battalion left and went to hutments known as Regina camp, near Romarin, where working parties proceeded as before. Additional jobs included sewing patches onto backs of uniforms to designate/communicate roles during the attack, raiding parties seeking prisoners from the enemy, and sharpening and blackening bayonets.

June 1917

4 June – the enemy provided heavy gas-shell bombardment on all the batteries around Romarin. It was a very still evening and consequently the gas hung around Regina Camp necessitating box



respirators to be worn. Orders were made to relocate to the fields for the night. At 5am they attempted to return to camp, however, gas lingered, and they were delayed until 8am. This was the first heavy gassing experienced by the 40th and casualties amounted to 36, taking between 3 days and 6 months for injured soldiers to recover.

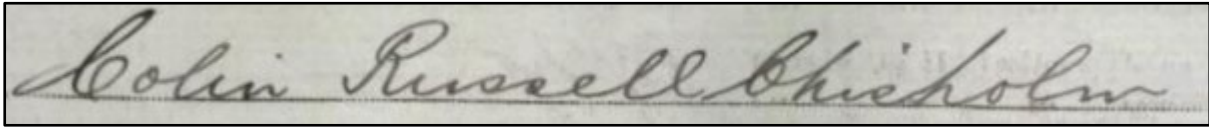
6 June – the 40th received a coded message to advise that the attack would begin on 7 June at 3.10am. Working parties were recalled, a hot meal served, and sleep encouraged. Frank Green writes that everyone seemed “too excited to rest” in anticipation for their first major battle.

7 June – just before midnight, the 40th Battalion moved closer to the front. The Germans launched gas shells and box respirators needed to be worn. These were uncomfortable on a dark, hot night with men loaded with ammunition, arms, and equipment. There were heavy casualties due to wounding and gassing. The men had to leave the fallen behind to ensure they were in position by 3.10am as the success of the whole operation depended upon it. At 3.10am 19 of the mines were detonated, virtually destroying the fighting capacity of the German front line. This was accompanied by a creeping barrage of heavy artillery followed closely by the Australian infantry troops. The Australian 3rd Division advanced on the right flank of the British 2nd Army’s assault on Messines Ridge. The 40th had to cross the River Douve which was wired on both banks. They carried and placed six light bridges over the river near the German front-line as soon as the attack commenced and proceeded for the German trenches (see image below). By 3.30am, the 40th Battalion objective had been won. Chisholm suffered a shell wound to his right foot and was evacuated for medical attention.

8 June - Chisholm was admitted to Wimereux hospital, France and required emergency surgery. A telegram was sent to Colin Chisholm (father) advising them that Private Colin Russell Chisholm was wounded. On July 18, Father wrote to Base Records Office requesting further information about his son’s wounds and whereabouts, clearly concerned about his wellbeing. On 28 July a response from the Major Officer in Charge of Base Records advised they could offer no further detail than what was provided in the previous correspondence. They informed Chisholm’s parents that it was usual practice for overseas authorities to only inform of a worsening condition, and that no communication suggested favourable progress/recovery. Chisholm was one of 274 wounded men (plus 26 NCOs and 6 officers). 46 men and NCOs were killed in action or died of wounds. 7000 prisoners and 70 guns were captured. Frank Green pays tribute to the stretcher-bearers at Messines who performed very well with the magnitude of work and whilst sustaining serious casualties. The stretcher-bearers for the 40th were the regimental bandsmen.



Above: A wooden plank bridge placed across the Douve River by the 40th Australian Infantry Battalion immediately after the attack opened at Messines, in Belgium, on 7 June 1917. (Australian War Memorial)



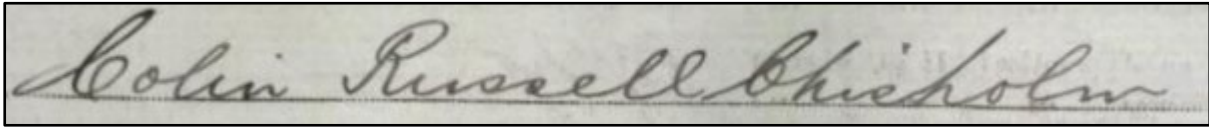
August 1917

After a period of convalescence, Chisholm returned to his unit on 3 August. During this time, the 40th were occupying trenches on the ridge immediately north of Messines. They were burying cable, improving and digging trenches for support and communication. This work was under constant heavy-shelling and they had heavy rain. The shelters were flooded and the trenches became running streams of water. On 4 August, the 40th were relieved of their support role and moved to the bivouac area at Neuve Eglise amid heavy rain. After one night, the Brigade went to "The Tankadrome" which was on the edge of the wood where they lived in tents in boggy conditions. The 40th were exposed to heavy night bombing at this location, as bombs targeted the railway-line that ran past the camp. They were also targeted by long-range high-velocity gun-shelling. They moved again by foot and train transport to end up at a rest area; Becourt near the town of Desvres, 18 miles from Boulogne. Hard training began in preparation for the next offensive; rifle, Lewis gun, tactical exercises; and marching. The soldiers were allowed leave after parade hours and went to the village to bathe and to enjoy the regimental band which performed for the villagers and soldiers. A new tactical weapon was employed by the enemy – pill boxes. These were small forts built low to the ground out of concrete to house machine guns. They could only be destroyed by heavy artillery and changed the strategy of attacking. The new attack strategy was practiced and had been heavily criticised, largely due to shenanigans of the 40th after a rabbit appeared during a practice and the sporting, competitive Australian nature took over as they shot the rabbit. The discipline missing in practice was never missing in combat. Orders came to move out ready for an upcoming attack and the 40th marched towards Ypres to take part on the Battle of Broodseinde.

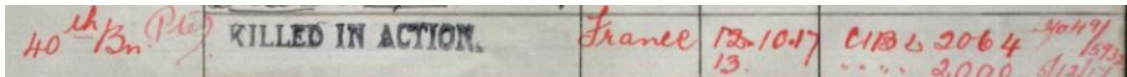
October 1917

Chisholm's unit was tasked with the final objective of the attack at Broodseinde. The 40th followed other battalions and advanced by running and taking cover in shell holes. Pill-boxes inflicted heavy machine-gunning and this and the mud slowed down the 40th. They faced a line of pill-boxes, wire and trenches making it a very strong defensive position to come up against. Frank Green says they took it with 'sheer determination'. They captured 300 prisoners and 17 machine guns. The battle was described as a great victory and if the weather didn't turn, may have had more far-reaching results. There was a sense of regret among the 40th that the advance did not continue immediately.

It rained and winter was upon them, their camp at Vlamertinghe described as a hopeless bog. A lot of fighting stopped on the Western Front over the winter months as the conditions were too difficult. Preliminary orders were received by the 40th on October 7 for a future attack. The 40th had been penned to participate in Phase 5 of the attack on 12th October at Passchendaele Ridge. Phase 4 opened on October 9th and they made little gain by the time the 40th found them three days later when Phase 5 arrived. At 5.25am, the barrage opened and the 40th went forward. The enemy had been tipped off by a British deserter and the German's were prepared for the attack. The artillery had not been able to get their guns forward to support the advance – due to the mud. There were heavy casualties reported with bodies strewn by this wave of attack, adding to those who were injured or killed in Phase 4, who had advanced 3 days earlier. Shell holes were filled with mud and water, making it impossible to avoid danger of going into one and not coming out. Snipers used telescopic-sighted rifles and the 40th could not return fire as their weapons were clogged with mud. The New Zealand left flank had been completely wiped out by the Germans and the 40th found



themselves under fire from the front, left flank, and left rear, and were almost entirely left without artillery support. The 40th attempted to dig in, but mud filled the holes as quickly as they dug. German planes came over and shortly after the position of the 40th came under heavy shelling – seemingly their location was reported by the planes. Communication was reliant on runners who had an impossible task in the bog and without support. Withdrawal commenced, however, the muddy conditions made it difficult to carry the wounded out. In the early morning of 13 October, stretcher bearers from both sides went about their work. The condition of the wounded was very bad. Green describes them “lying in shell-holes of mud and water, and some hopelessly stuck in the mud” (p. 91). Some had been there for four days, and their wounds were rotting. Colin Russell Chisholm died this day, falling into the mud on this battlefield with 78 others. In addition, 168 were wounded and one taken prisoner.



Above: Service records showing Chisholm was killed in action

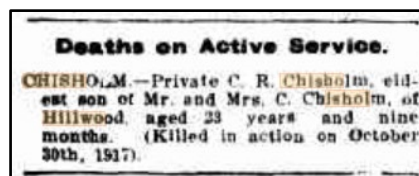
Below: Image showing a line of infantry marching along a corduroy (timber) muddy track strewn with debris



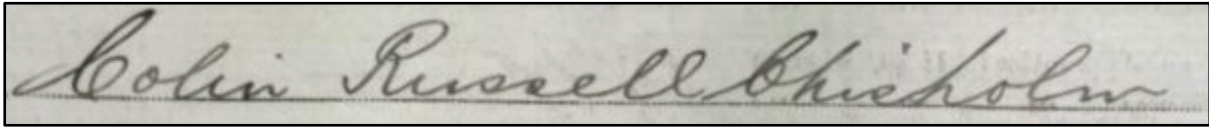
November 1917

On November 6, Colin Chisholm received communication from the Base Records Office to advise that Russell had been reported wounded in action, 2nd occurrence. The distraught parents wrote seeking further information about their son’s fate, learning that he was in-fact killed in action, with no further information forwarded and no grave site ever recorded.

There was confusion as Chisholm’s date of death was initially recorded as 12 October, then changed to 13th October. Interestingly, the newspaper printed it as 30th October.



Above: The Examiner, Friday 30th November 1917



Below: First World War Nominal Roll (Australian War Memorial)

						CHISHOLM	
	Major	CHISHOLM	Alexander	2nd L.H.Rgt	20/8/14	R.T.A.	26/7/19
307	Pte	CHISHOLM	Alexander	23rd Battalion	22/2/15	R.T.A.	10/8/16
2296	2/Cpl	CHISHOLM	Alexander	36th Battalion	6/10/16		
10818	Dvr	CHISHOLM	Alexander	3rd Div Train	21/7/15	R.T.A.	4/7/19
18	Spr	CHISHOLM	Archibald	2nd Tqn Coy	22/7/16	R.T.A.	20/8/19
5818	Pte	CHISHOLM	Albert Everard	27th Battalion	24/8/15		
845	Cpl	CHISHOLM	Archibald Frank	20th Battalion	25/2/15	R.T.A.	24/6/16
72	S/Sgt	CHISHOLM	Alexander James	A.C.C.S.	19/8/14	R.T.A.	24/9/18
576	Sgt	CHISHOLM	Archie McLennan	60th Battalion	17/2/15	R.T.A.	5/1/19
	Lieut	CHISHOLM	Alan Rowland	A.C. Sig Coy	28/12/15	R.T.A.	9/5/19
14934	Pte	CHISHOLM	Allister Roderick	3rd A.G.H.	4/1/15	R.T.A.	19/6/19
1860	Pte	CHISHOLM	Alexander Sanderson	13th P.C.E.	18/8/15	R.T.A.	1/8/19
22647	Spr	CHISHOLM	Alan William	1st Div Sig Coy	10/1/18	R.T.A.	1/4/19
7526a	Pte	CHISHOLM	Albert Joseph	15th Battalion	11/9/17	R.T.A.	16/3/19
675	L/Cpl	CHISHOLM	Charles	14th Battalion	1/10/14	K.I.A.	27/4/15
4322	Pte	CHISHOLM	Clement	48th Battalion	7/3/17	R.T.A.	3/9/19
1640	Pte	CHISHOLM	Colin	28th Battalion	14/2/16	R.T.A.	23/7/18
3620	Pte	CHISHOLM	Charles David	46th Battalion	2/7/17	R.T.A.	12/12/18
3284	Sgt	CHISHOLM	Cecil Mervyn	49th Battalion	15/8/16	R.T.A.	13/1/19
2556	Pte	CHISHOLM	Colin Russell	40th Battalion	20/9/16	K.I.A.	13/10/17
845	Pte	CHISHOLM	Cyril Roy	18th Battalion	7/5/15	R.T.A.	26/8/15
					15/1/15	R.T.A.	2/1/19

The Australian Imperial Force Kit Store dispatched an inventory of effects to C.R. Chisholm's father, Colin Alexander Chisholm, Hillwood, Mount Direction TASMANIA on 18 March 1918. The effects contained two wallets, letters, cards and a French booklet. The items were received on October 2, 1918, at Base Records Office, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne. Kate Chisholm acknowledged receipt with a reply letter on 16 October 1918.

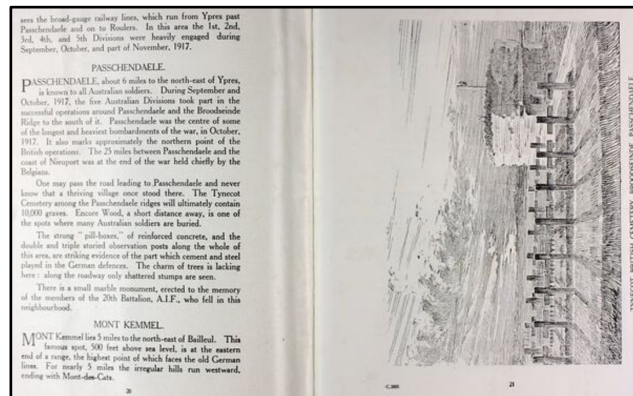
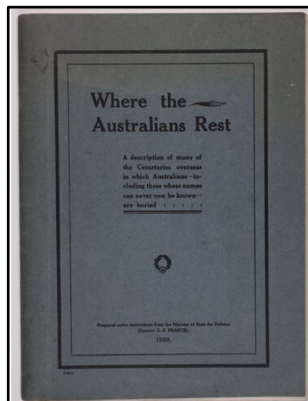
1920 - Application for War Gratuity in respect of a Deceased Soldier

Filed on 18 May 1920, in Hillwood by Kate Chisholm of Mount Direction. It was found that gratuity was payable from 24 Nov 1916 until 28 June 1919 £73:7:- (73 pounds 7 shillings 0 pence). The Application for War Leave Payment in Respect of Deceased Soldier was determined according to the period of service abroad (11 months 19 days), entitling a payment of 15 days at 6 shillings a day with total payment equalling £4:10:- (4 pounds 10 shillings 0 pence).

1921 – “Where the Australian’s Rest”

“Where the Australian’s Rest” pamphlet sent to Colin Alexander Chisholm on 18/5/1921. This book provides a description of many of the Cemeteries overseas in which Australians – including those whose names can never now be known are buried.

Of particular interest would have been the following pages:



Colin Russell Chisholm

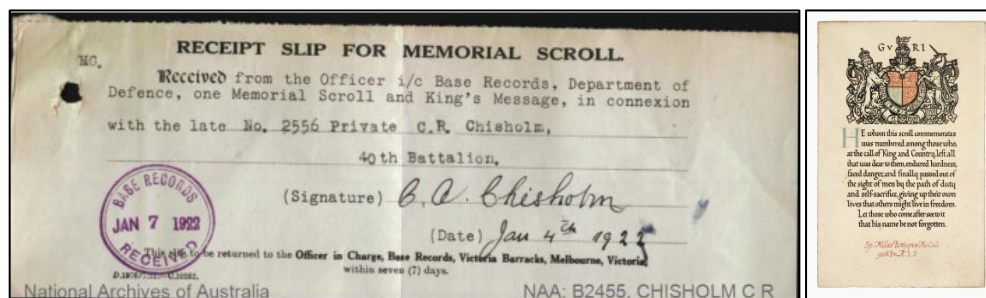
For families in Australia, it was highly unlikely that they would ever be able to travel in person to see the places their loved ones had fought, died, lay buried or memorialised. To allow the families to connect with Menin Gate, in 1927 Australian artist Will Longstaff painted 'Menin Gate at Midnight' which depicts ghostly soldiers marching across a field in front of the Menin Gate war memorial. Menin Gate bears the names of British and Commonwealth soldiers who were killed in the Ypres Salient and whose graves are unknown, including Colin Russell Chisholm. Many soldiers marched through Menin Gate on the way to the front. This painting toured Australia and is now on display in the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.



Above: Photograph of Menin Gate at Midnight, on display at the Australian War Memorial. Image to left shows a close-up of the detail, with ghost-like figures representing the soldiers with no known grave in Belgium.

1922 – Receipt of a Memorial Scroll

In 1922 a Memorial Scroll was presented to the next of kin of those soldiers, sailors, and nurses who died while serving in the Australian Imperial Force or RAN during the First World War. Russell's father took receipt of the Memorial Scroll on Jan 4, 1922. The Scroll bears the Royal Coat of Arms and a message paying tribute to the soldiers who gave up "their own lives that others might live in freedom".



1923 – Next of Kin Memorial Plaque

Later, Chisholm's parents were presented with a Next of Kin Memorial Plaque. On 26 June 1923, Colin signed for the plaque. This was a round bronze plaque with a diameter of 120mm. It shows Britannia and a lion on the front and bears the inscription: "He died for freedom and honour". The full name of the deceased soldier is engraved on the right-hand side of the plaque. Interestingly, no rank, unit or decorations are shown, befitting the equality of the sacrifice made by all casualties. The shape and appearance (not size) of the plaque earned it nicknames such as the "Dead Man's Penny".

Colin Russell Chisholm

39745

RECEIPT FOR MEMORIAL PLAQUE.

Received from the Officer i/c Base Records, Army Head-quarters,
one Memorial Plaque in connexion with the late
No.2556 Pts. C.R. Chisholm,
40th Batta.

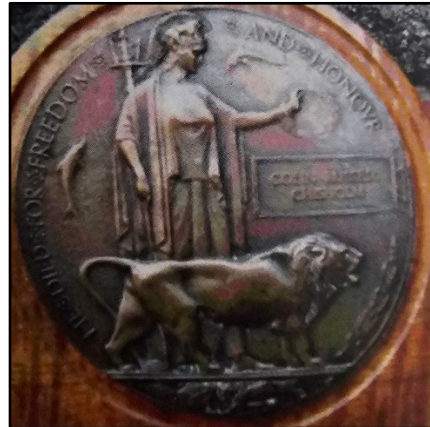
Signature *C R Chisholm*

Date *Jan 26 - 1923*

This slip to be returned to the Officer in Charge, Base Records, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne, Victoria,
within seven (7) days.

B.2556, 935-C.11300-14.

National Archives of Australia NAA: B2455.CHISHOLM



Memorials

Evandale Cenotaph (image below) and Evandale Memorial Hall, Roll of Honour (top right), Evandale St Andrews Presbyterian Church Roll of Honour (bottom left) and Evandale State School Roll of Honour (bottom right).



Hillwood Fire Station, Hillwood and Mount Direction Roll of Honour (unveiled by Chisholm's mother on June 3, 1918). The Hillwood 'avenue' has three English Oak trees planted in 1918 on the grounds of the former Hillwood School to commemorate three former residents Killed in Action (image below). The 'avenue' was the first established in the Tamar Valley. These were opened officially with a ceremony on Empire Day 1921. Plaques were attached to the trees, which were lost over time and

Colin Russell Chisholm

during the 1980s, new plaques were funded by the residents of Hillwood, displayed on the Hillwood Fire Station to this day.

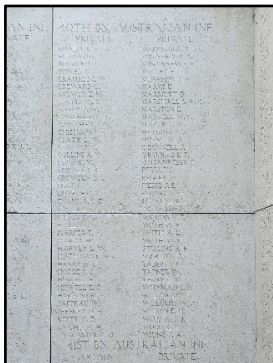


Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour (image below)



Minin Gate, Ypres, Belgium.

Left: Names of the 40th Battalion who died in Belgium and have no known grave, including Chisholm. Middle: Myself with Frank Bear (prize mascot) in front of 40th names at Menin Gate, Chisholm's name above my head. Right: Members of the 2023 Frank MacDonald Memorial Prize participating in wreath laying at the Last Post Ceremony at Menin Gate, April 2023.



Colin Russell Chisholm



Left: An image of myself with a grave at Tyne Cot Cemetery, Belgium. This was the site I selected for my pilgrimage. After sharing Chisholm's story, I left a laminated copy next to the grave marked 'unknown Australian soldier' along with a memorial cross and Australian Flag.

Right: An arial image of Tyne Cot Cemetery, Belgium. It is likely that Chisholm rests here in an unknown grave.