

Trench Photo Soldier Identification

Introduction



Figure 1 'Auckland infantry in trench near Flers', URL: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/auckland-infantry-trench-near-flers>, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 14-Sep-2016

Catalogue number: Q194

Department: Photographs Part of MINISTRY OF INFORMATION FIRST WORLD WAR
OFFICIAL COLLECTION

Production date: 1916-09-15

Subject period: First World War

Alternative names:

Object name: photograph

Object category: Photography

Creator: Royal Engineers No 1 Printing Company

Category: Photographs

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The above photo was taken on the 15th September 1916 in the battle of Flers-Courcelette. This photo is usually captioned as being Auckland infantry. Research carried out concludes that the soldiers are from the 2nd Company Canterbury Section New Zealand Machine Gun Corps.

It is available on several internet sites, but is claimed by British Imperial War Museum and can be viewed here

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/205193935>

It is part of a collection taken by the Royal Engineers No.1 Printing Company. It is one of a series of photos taken at the Flers-Courcelette Battle on the 15 September 1916. The circumstances under

which the photo was taken are explained later in connection with one of the other photos found, which is also in the series.

Solders Identities

The soldiers are identified as follows, from bottom right to top left.

Number soldiers right to left. With soldier lower right as number 1. Middle is number 5. High Left is 10

1. Private Henry James Gluyas (9/2173)
2. Lieutenant Henry Holman Hayhurst (11/1761)
3. Officer Commanding Captain John Bertrand Parks (10/90)
4. Sergeant George Watson Clark (9/550)
5. Lance Corporal Douglas Rawei McLean (6/1917)
6. Private Thomas Lindsay Hazleton (6/3035)
7. Sergeant Ernest Carr (6/754)
8. Private Cyril John Dugdale (7/1737)
9. Corporal Neil McKenzie McQueen (6/1920)
10. Private Gorge Harry Coup (6/3667)

Evidence

The evidence to back up this conclusion comes from several sources.

Canterbury Section 2nd Company New Zealand Machine Gun Corps Photo

In the possession of Douglas McLean, were several photos of the Canterbury Section 2nd Company New Zealand Machine Gun Corps, taken at the end of August 1916. A few weeks before the start of the Flers- Courcellette Battle, which started on the 15th September 1916. Two copies of this photo can be found in the Alexander Turnbull Library collection and can be viewed online at

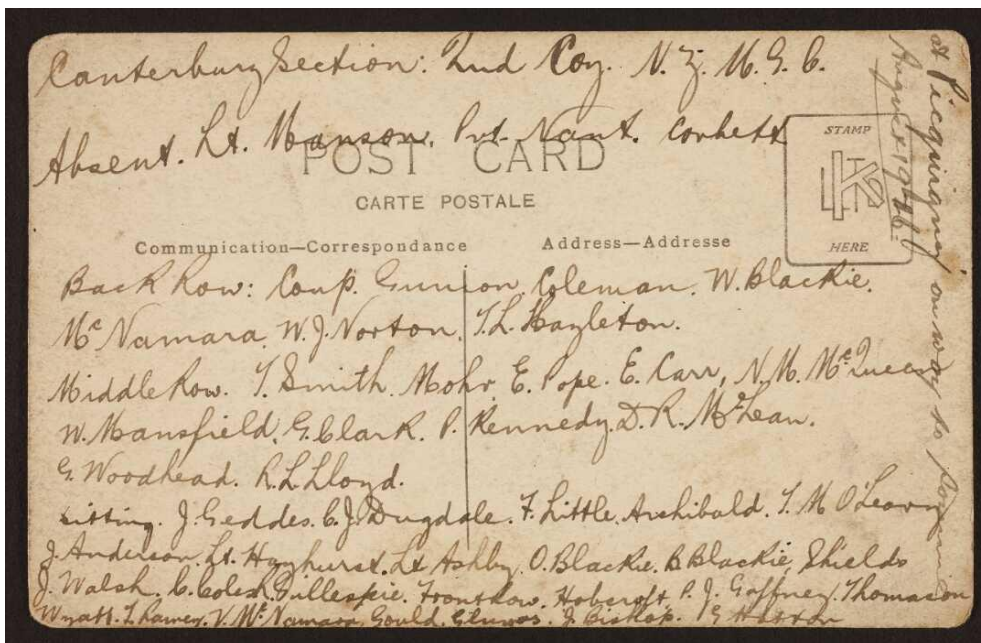
<https://natlib.govt.nz/records/22894582>

The picture identifies most of the soldiers in the trench photo. On the back of one of the copies are listed the names of the soldiers in the photo, so the names of the soldiers can be determined. A search on the Auckland Museum Cenotaph site of the soldier's identities, their service number and link to their service records at Archive NZ can be obtained, where further information on the soldiers can be found.



Figure 2 Canterbury Section, 2nd Company NZMGC, August 1916. Letters to family. Ref: MS-Papers-6406-2. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. /records/22894582

On the back of one of the copies



Canterbury Section 2nd Coy N.Z.M.G.C

Absent Lt. Mawson, Pvt Nant, Corbett.

Back Row Coup, Gunion, Coleman, W Blackie.

McNamara, W. J. Norton, T. L. Hazleton.

Middle Row, T. Smith, Mohr, E Pope, E. Carr, N. M. McQueen,

W. Mansfield, G Clark, P. Kennedy, D. R. McLean,

G Woodhead, R. L. Lloyd.

Sitting J Geddes, C. J. Dugdale, F Little, Archibald, T. M O'Leary

J Anderson, Lt Hayhurst, Lt Ashby, O. Blackie, B. Blackie, Shields

J Walsh, C Coles, R Gillespie. Front Row. Hobcroft, P. J. Gaffney, Thomason

Wyatt, T Rainey, V McNamara, Gould, Gluyas, J Bishop, G Hatton

At Picquigny on way to Somme

August 1916

Soldier Identification

By using the names from the back of the photo and service records online. The following soldiers have been identified from the photo.

Back Row		
Coup	6/3667	Gorge Harry Coup
Gunion	9/1117	Victor Hugh Jameson Gunion
Coleman		
W Blackie	6/3253	Walter Palmer Blackie
McNamara	7/1758	Donald Wallace McNamara
W. J. Norton	7/1879	William James Norton
T. L. Hazleton	6/3035	Thomas Lindsay Hazleton
Middle Row		
T Smith	6/1720	Thomas Percival Smith
Mohr	13/3185	Keith Mohr
E. Pope	6/327	Edward George Pope
E. Carr	6/754	Ernest Carr
N. M. McQueen	6/1920	Neil McKenzie McQueen
W. Mansfield	6/868	William Henry Mansfield
G. Clark	9/550	George Watson Clark
P. Kennedy	7/1371	Patrick Kennedy
D. R. McLean	6/1917	Douglas Rawei McLean
G. Woodhead	6/575	George Woodhead
R. L. Lloyd	1/1935	Richard Lynch Lloyd
Sitting		
J Geddes	6/2138	Joseph Geddes
C. J. Dugdale	7/1737	Cyril John Dugdale
F Little	15/144	Joseph Frank Little
Archibald	6/3240	John Archibald

Trench Photo Soldier Identification (version 5)

T. M. O'Leary	6/3420	Thaddeus Mathew O'Leary
J. Anderson	6/401	James Anderson
Lt Hayhurst	11/1761	Henry Holman Hayhurst
Lt Ashby	7/2580	Paul Claverley Ashby
O. Blackie	6/2937	Owen Campbell Blackie
B. Blackie	6/3252	Bernard Blackie
Shields	6/3460	Richard Shields
J Walsh	6/2790	John James Walsh
C Coles	6/2108	Charles Henry Coles
R Gillespie	6/2631	Robert Fraser
Front Row		
Hobcroft	9/1572	Edward William Hobcroft
P. J. Gaffney	7/1845	Patrick John Gaffney
Thomason		
Wyatt	6/3520	John Wyatt
T Rainey	6/4130	Thomas Alexander Rainey
V McNamara	6/3808	Victor McNamara
Gould		
Gluyas	9/2173	Henry James Gluyas
J Bishop	6/3992	James Butler Bishop
G Hatton	24/1390	Gordon Hatton
Absent		
Lt Mawson	10/3147	Joseph Bibby Mawson
Pvt Nant	6/4637	William Louis Nant
Pvt Corbett	6/2404	James Stewart Corbett

Rawei's Gun Team

This photo is in the possessions of Douglas McLean. It is of his Gun Team, taken about late April early May 1916. Several copies of this photo were sent to members of his family and on the back of one of the copies the soldiers in the photo are named.

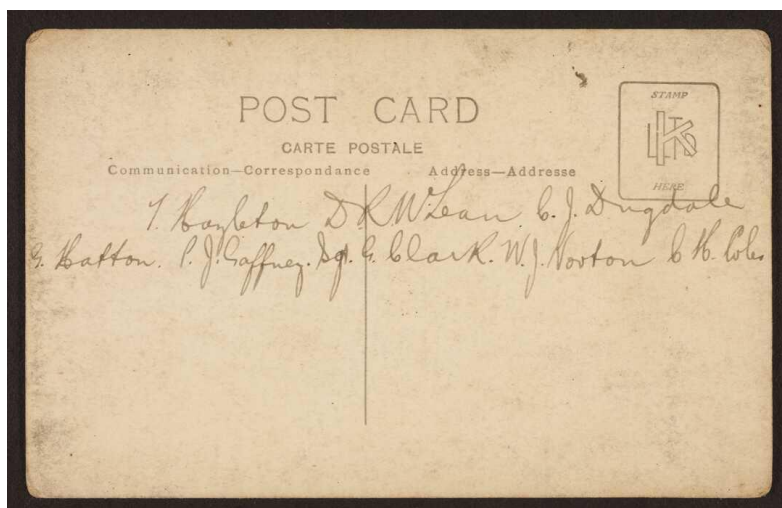
A copy of this photo can be found in the Alexander Turnbull Library collection and can be viewed online at

<https://natlib.govt.nz/records/22812140>



Figure 3 D.R. McLean's Gun Team, Military ephemera. Ref: MS-Papers-6406-4. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. [/records/22812140](https://natlib.govt.nz/records/22812140)

On the back



Details of Soldiers in Photo

Several of these soldiers can be identified in the Canterbury Section 2nd Company NZMGC photo and also in the Trench Photo. By looking up each soldier's service records, the following can be determined for each of the soldiers in the photo.

From left to right

Gordon Hatton (24/1390)

Not Huston as written on a latter copy. Gordon Hatton before joining the 3rd Reinforcements was a motorcycle mechanic from Timaru. Joined the NZMGC from the 2nd Battalion NZRB on its inception in March 1916. He survived the war as a sergeant, settled in Palmerston North and re-joined for WW2.

F Hazelton (6/3035)

A Thomas Lindsay Hazleton was killed on the 15/9/16, at the start of the Fler - Courcellette battle, so this is probably him. He can be identified behind Rawei in the Canterbury Company photo that follows. Originally from Waimate, so Rawei probably new the family. He was a prison warden before he joined the Canterbury Infantry Regiment in June 1915, at the age of 30. Transferred to the 2nd Coy NZMGC in March 1916.

Patrick John Gaffney (7/1845)

Patrick John Gaffney joined the NZMGC on its inception in March 1916. Born in Waimatie, so Rawei may have known the family before the war. In March 1917 transferred to the 1st Battalion Canterbury Infantry Regiment. Mentioned in dispatches and recommended for the Military medal. Survived the war as a corporal and died in June 1968.

Douglas Rawei McLean (6/1917)

He was a member of the 4th Reinforcements that left NZ on the 17th April 1915 on the HMNZT 21, Willocha. He served with the 2nd South Canterbury Company, Canterbury Infantry Battalion on Gallipoli, until evacuated to Alexandra, Egypt in December 1915. Transferred to the 2nd Company New Zealand Machine Gun Corp, where he served on the Western Front until April 1917, ending up being promoted to Corporal. After training at Grantham, England, he was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant in June 1917. He continued serving with the 2nd Company NZMGC until September 1918, when he was detached to the UK and returned to NZ on Tofua in November 1918, after being promoted to Lieutenant.

Sgt. Clark (9/550) (seated)

George Watson Clark was wounded on the 16/9/16. The same day Rawei was wounded, so probably one of the 4, Rawei mentioned in his letter of the 24th February 1917 (see later). He was eventually evacuated to England, but died of his wounds on 5/1/17 at Chelsea Hospital London and buried at Brookwood Cemetery, England. Originally from Lumsden, Southland, he joined the Otago Mounted Riles on enlistment at the age of 30, in August 1914. Transferred to 2nd Coy NZMGC at its inception in March 1916, after serving at Gallipoli and being promoted to Sergeant.

Not to be confuse with Percy John Clark (32/36) who was in the 3rd Company NZMGC and also a Sergeant, killed, after being promoted to 2nd Lieutenant, on the 11/10/17.

W. J. Norton

William James Norton (7/1879). Originally from the Canterbury Mounted Rifles, he joined the 2nd Coy NZMGC before leaving Egypt. He transferred to the Canterbury Infantry Regiment in March 1917, then transferred back to the 2nd Coy NZMGC. Wounded on the 14/6/17 with a gun shot wound to the right thigh. Evacuated to England at the end of October 1917. Spending time at Brockenhurst and Hornchurch, before returning to NZ in May 1918 and discharged. He died in November 1971.

C. Dugdale

Cyril John Dugdale (7/1737) originally from the Canterbury Mounted Rifles, was wounded on the 16/9/16. The same day Rawei was wounded, so probably one of the 4, Rawei mentioned in his letter of the 24th February 1917 (see later). Dugdale was only 19 at the time and was eventually repatriated to NZ and discharged unfit for military service.

C. Cole

Charles Henry Coles (6/2108) was originally in the Canterbury Infantry Regiment and transferred to the NZMGC when it was formed after the Gallipoli campaign in Egypt in December 1915. Promoted corporal in late September 1916 and later Sergeant in October 1917. He was killed in action on 10 December 1917.

Not to be confused with Charles Henry Cole (3/1386) who was in the New Zealand Medical Corps

Rest In a Shell Hole photo (The Photo Rawei sent to his father)

The photo below was found on the internet from the British Imperial War Museum photo collection. It can be viewed here.

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/205191371>

It is one of a series of photos taken by the Royal Engineers No.1 Printing Company, at the Flers-Courcelette Battle, on the 15 September 1916. It closely resembles the one described in one of Douglas Rewei McLean's letters home. The photo had been lost from his collection, but had been published in the London papers (See **The British Press**). A transcript of the letter describing it follows.

From the description in the letter, this photo is an earlier shot of some of the members of the same unit photographed in the trench photo.

The photo, like the trench photo, is labelled wrongly and should read "Troops of the 2nd Company, Canterbury Section, New Zealand Machine Gun Corps"



Figure 3 Troops of the 2nd Canterbury Battalion, New Zealand Division, rest in a shell hole, Battle of Flers-Courcelette, 15 September 1916

Catalogue number: Q 184

Department: Photographs Part of MINISTRY OF INFORMATION FIRST WORLD WAR OFFICIAL COLLECTION

Production date: 1916-09-15

Subject period: First World War

Alternative names:

Object name: photograph

Object category: Photography

Creator: Royal Engineers No 1 Printing Company

Category: Photographs

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Letter to Father Describing Photo

France, 24th February 1917

My Dear Dad,

Your letters of 12th Nov and 17th Dec arrived a few days ago and I was glad to learn that all was well with you. The papers you send come to hand alright. My photo certainly makes me look thin but the fact that I was wearing a tunic made for a six foot two man has something to do with that. I am far from being thin now.

Enclosed is a photograph which first appeared in the London papers. It was taken on the morning of the 15th in Switch Trench which the 2nd Brigade had just taken from the Huns. The Rifle Brigade had just gone on to take more trenches in the direction of Flers. We had just dumped our gear in this shell hole and were having*

something to eat while the officer in charge discovered where he wanted our guns put. There were nine of us there with two guns we had only lost one man getting there but it was at a spot about two hundred yards to the right that four of us got hit next day. The men in the photo are Pvt. Coup (afterwards killed) Cpl. McQueen (a 4th reinforcement now sergeant) and Lt. Hayhurst (our section officer, now Capt. Second in Command of the Coy) the infantry man walking behind went up in the air before he went many yards further. The war correspondent who took the photo was a cool hand, big shells were landing all around him, earlier in the morning he had taken the first photographs of the tanks in action. The sector we are in just at present is very comfortable as far as we are concerned. The trenches and dugouts are dry and as we have a trolley running close by we do not even have to carry our gear in and out of the trenches.

Until a few days ago it was freezing hard here but now a thaw has set in and I suppose we may say that winter is over now and must look forward to a month or two of mud before the weather finally clears up, and then the push.

We have just heard that our NZ mail has been sunk in the Channel, hope it is not true.

Trusting this finds you all in good health and spirits.

Your affectionate son,

Rawei

The photo is now displayed with the letter on the web site setup by Rawei's granddaughter Jenny Smith.

<http://drmcleansanzacletters.blogspot.co.uk>

Some of the four that got wounded have been identified. There was of course Rawei, who was lightly wounded with Shrapnel wound to the left thigh. Two others from his original gun team (see above), Sergeant Clark and Private Cyril Dugdale, both severely wounded. Clark later died of his wounds at Chelsea Hospital London on 5/1/17. Dugdale was eventually repatriated back to NZ and discharged. The fourth has yet to be identified, but is not one of the other original gun team.

There is the mention of Pvt. Coup (afterwards killed), but there is no record of him in the NZMGC records, which lists all that were killed. There is a Gorge Harry Coup 6/3667 in the Canterbury Infantry Battalion C Company who was killed on the 29th September 1916, which is probably him, so he was probably seconded to the NZMGC and killed before officially transferred.

The next soldier mentioned Cpl. McQueen (a 4th Reinforcements now sergeant), Neil McKenzie McQueen (6/1920). His service number is only 3 away from Rawei's, so probably joined up at the same time. He was originally from the West Coast and survived the war eventually as a 2nd lieutenant. He later served as a Lieutenant in WW2 at Waipukurau, but gave an address of Mangaaohē Te Kuiti in November 1920, so may have been in contact with Rawei after the war.

The officer mention Lt. Hayhurst (Henry Holman Hayhurst 11/1761) from Temuka, had originally joined the Canterbury Mounted Rifles 8th, South Canterbury Squadron and only just been seconded to the NZMGC. He survived the war as a Captain and later as a Major in the Queen Anne's Own Wellington West Coast Mounted Rifles.

From reading the account of the battle in the book *With the Machine Gunners in France and Palestine* by Major John Hector Luxford¹, the Officer in charge mentioned in the letter is probably the OC of the 2nd Company, Captain J. B. Parks.

As you can see from the date on the letter this description was written 5 months after the picture was taken, but describes the events leading up to the photo and events after the photo was taken.

With the Machine Gunners in France and Palestine by Major John Hector Luxford¹

This book has section on the NZMGC participation in the Flers-Courcelette Battle. The text is expected to be based on the war diaries for the units involved.

Several paragraphs are relevant to identifying the soldiers appearing in the Trench photo and matching events in the letter Rawei wrote to his father.

Page 39

The 2nd Machine Gun Company co-operated with the 2nd Brigade in the first phase of the attack, and the 3rd Machine Gun Company co-operated with the Rifle Brigade in the second, third and fourth phases.

Capt. Parks kept the guns of the 2nd Company assembled behind the original front line for quick movement after the 2nd Brigade captured its objective, as it was decided not to send any guns forward with the assaulting battalions. It seems that the decision to keep the 2nd Company unemployed during the first phase was unsound. With bold handling, the guns of 2nd Company could have been pushed ahead of Switch Line during its consolidation, and inflicted heavy casualties on the large enemy movement that was observed after the crest line had been passed.

From this passage it can be deduced that the 2nd Machine Gun Company provided machine guns to consolidate Switch Trench.

Pages 40 - 41

When the Switch Line had been captured, Capt. Parks (2nd Company) received orders to send forward six guns to assist in its consolidation. The six guns went forward at 7 a.m., and succeeded in reaching the Switch Line with few casualties. It was decided to form three strong posts in the Switch, with two guns in each, and the gunners quickly got to work, and in a comparatively short time had their guns in position.

At 3 p.m., when the left flank was threatened by the German counter-attack, a section of four guns went forward from the reserve guns to strengthen the left flank of the Switch Line. The guns from the Switch Line were actively engaged during the afternoon against many favourable targets, and were able to get observation of their fire. Although in exposed positions, these guns were excellently worked, and suffered very slight casualties.

The first objective having been taken and the guns of the 2nd Company being employed in its consolidation, the guns of the 3rd Company began their work.

Page 44

¹ <http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-WH1-Mach-t1-body-d1-d4.html>

The dispositions of the Companies during the night of 15th/16th September were as follows:—

- *3rd Company.—Five guns in Blue line; two guns in Brown line; three guns (and one German gun) forward of Brown line, laid to bring down overhead fire to protect the Division's flanks; four guns in Brigade reserve (two guns having been destroyed).*
- *2nd Company.—Six guns in Blue line; ten guns in the Switch. Capt. Parks, commanding 2nd Company, was wounded early in the morning of the 15th, and Capt. J. W. D. McKnight assumed command.*

It can be deduced from these passages that 2nd Company NZMGC was assigned to the 2nd Brigade that took the first objective, Switch Trench.

That Captain Parks was probably leading the 6 gun teams sent to defend the Switch Trench at 7 am.

Captain Parks was wounded early in the morning of the 15th.

The Auckland Regiment by Second Lieutenant Ormond Edward Burton²

This book has a section on the 2nd Auckland Regiment participating in the Flers-Courcelette Battle. The text is expected to be based on the war diaries of the units involved.

A passage is relevant in pin pointing where the 2nd Auckland troops were after taking Switch Trench.

Pages 108 -109

The fourth wave, under the company commanders, came in, and at once a start was made with the consolidation of the position. Generally speaking, the new line was taken up about fifty yards in front of Switch Trench.

The Rifle Brigade passed through and went on to the more distant objectives, a few of the Aucklanders going with them. Indeed, Lieutenant Tuck and some of his men had made no stop at all, but pushed on through the barrage, until they saw before them the ruins of Flers.

2/Auckland dug for dear life. It was well they did so, for the German fire was extremely heavy all day long. During the period of consolidation the Battalion lost some of its best officers. Captain Armstrong started off, his walking stick in one hand, his overcoat thrown over his arm, walking coolly through the bursting shells. He reached his company objective, and, with magnificent coolness and an utter contempt for danger, was directing his men where to dig in, when he was hit through the arm and chest, and fell mortally wounded. He was a man who, if he had lived, would have risen high.

From this passage it can be deduced that the 2nd Auckland troops after taking Switch trench, were busy digging new defensive positions 50 yards in front of Switch Trench. After capturing Switch Trench the 2nd Brigade Troops were employed digging another defensive trench in front of Switch Trench and therefore were not present in Switch Trench after the attack.

² <http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-WH1Auck.html>

IWM photos Q191 and Q193 are of this event.

The IWM photos Q184 – Q195 seems to document the NZ Divisions involvement in the first phase of the Flers – Courcellette Battle.

In fact, 2 of the soldiers featured in the trench photo can be identified in one of the other photos in the series (Q188) – Sergeant Clark (9/550), standing foreground centre and Private Dugdale (7/1737) head is seen between the legs of the soldier crossing the trench. (See Advancing Reinforcements Photo)

Sequence of Events

By analysing all the evidence, this is the likely sequence of events that took place to the taking of the photos.

15 September 1916

1. 6.20 am - 2nd Brigade (including 2nd Auckland Battalion) start first Phase of attack at 6.20 am
2. 6.50 am - Switch Trench is taken and order goes to Captain Parks of the 2nd Company NZMGC to provide 6 gun teams for Switch Trench. The 2 gun teams lead by the commanding officer Captain Parks move forward to Switch Trench.
3. The 2nd brigade starts digging a defensive trench 50 yards in front of Switch Trench. The photos Q191, 193 were taken of this.
4. 7.15 am (approx.) – The 2 gun teams reach switch trench with one casualty. While the 2 teams rest, Captain Parks scouts the area for best position to set up guns. The photo Q184 – Soldiers “Rest In a Shell Hole” is taken.
5. 7.30 am (approx.) After Captain Parks returns and the guns are set up; the photo Q194 - soldiers in a trench is taken.
6. After 7.30 am Captain Parks is wounded and Captain McKnight takes over command.
7. Later in the day Private Thomas Lindsay Hazleton is wounded and later dies of his wounds.

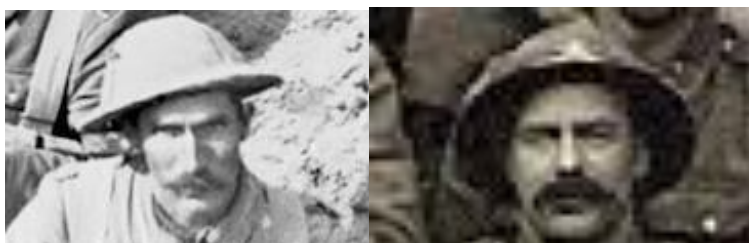
16 September 1916

8. The next day Rawei’s gun team is hit by shell fire. All 4 are wounded

Photo Identification of Soldiers

Number 1 Soldier

Identified as Private Henry James Gluyas (9/2173) from the Canterbury Section 2nd Coy NZMGC photo



Henry Gluyas had served in the South African war. He did not sign up until December 1915 and joined the NZMGC in France in July 1916. He survived the war and served again in WWII.

Number 2 Soldier

Identified as Lieutenant Henry Holman Hayhurst (11/1761) from the Canterbury Section 2nd Coy NZMGC photo and "Resting in a Shell Hole" photo.



From Temuka, he had originally joined the Canterbury Mounted Rifles, 8th South Canterbury Squadron and only just been seconded to the NZMGC. He survived the war as a Captain and later as a Major in the Queen Anne's Own Wellington West Coast Mounted Rifles.

It is interesting to note Lieutenant Hayhurst had only just been seconded from the Canterbury Mounted Rifles, when this photo was taken, so was still wearing the uniform of Canterbury Mounted Rifles, 8th South Canterbury Squadron.

Number 3 Soldier

Identified as Officer Commanding Captain John Bertram Parks (10/90) from his photo in "With the Machine Gunners in France and Palestine."

From the Rawei letter, he said *"We had just dumped our gear in this shell hole and were having something to eat while the officer in charge discovered where he wanted our guns put."* Officer in charge is determined to be Captain Parks and he was leading the gun team, so this is likely be him in the same team of 10. (The 9 in Rawei's letter and Captain Parks). Captain Parks was later wounded earlier in the morning, so this photo must have been taken even earlier.



Before the war John Parks was a Sergeant Major from the Grenadier Guards, employed as a Machine Gun trainer in New Zealand. At the outbreak of war he joined the Wellington Infantry Regiment and served at Gallipoli. When the NZMGC was formed he had been commissioned as an 2nd Lieutenant in the Essex Regiment and therefore became a temporary Captain in the NZMGC commanding the 2nd Company.

He was wounded shortly after the photo was taken.

He survived the war, as a temporary Lieutenant Colonel with the MC. He re-joined the British Army after the war.

Number 4 Soldier

Identified as Sergeant George Watson Clark (9/550) from Canterbury Section 2nd Coy NZMGC photo and from Rawei's Gun team photo.



George Watson Clark was wounded on the 16/9/16. The same day Rawei was wounded, so probably one of the 4, Rawei mentioned in his letter of the 24th February 1917. He was eventually evacuated to England, but died of his wounds on 5/1/17 at Chelsea Hospital London and buried at Brookwood Cemetery, England. Originally from Lumsden, Southland, he joined the Otago Mounted Rifles on enlistment at the age of 30, in August 1914. Transferred to 2nd Coy NZMGC at its inception in March 1916, after serving at Gallipoli and being promoted to Sergeant.

Number 5 Soldier

Identified as Lance Corporal Douglas Rawei McLean (6/1917) from Canterbury Section 2nd Coy NZMGC photo and personal photo that had been sent to his mother.



He was a member of the 4th Reinforcements that left NZ on the 17th April 1915 on the HMNZT 21, Willochra. He served with the 2nd South Canterbury Company, Canterbury Infantry Battalion on Gallipoli, until evacuated to Alexandria, Egypt in December 1915. Transferred to the 2nd Company New Zealand Machine Gun Corp, where he served on the Western Front until April 1917, ending up being promoted to Corporal. After training at Grantham, England, he was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant in June 1917. He continued serving with the 2nd Company NZMGC until September 1918, when he was detached to the UK and returned to NZ on Tofua in November 1918, after being promoted to Lieutenant.

Number 6 Soldier

Identified as Private Thomas Lindsay Hazleton (6/3035) from Canterbury Section 2nd Coy NZMGC photo and gun team photo.



A Thomas Lindsay Hazleton was killed on the 15/9/16, at the start of the Fler - Courcellette battle, so this is probably him. He can be identified behind Rawei in the Canterbury Company photo that is above. Originally from Waimate, so Rawei probably new the family. He was a prison warden before he joined the Canterbury Infantry Regiment in June 1915, at the age of 30. Transferred to the 2nd Coy NZMGC in March 1916.

Number 7 Soldier

Identified as Sergeant Ernest Carr (6/754) from Canterbury Section 2nd Coy NZMGC photo.



Ernest Car was wounded on the 20/9/1916 eventually evacuated to England and spent time at Brokenhurst and Codford hospitals recovering. Eventually post to the Machine Gun Depot at Grantham in January 1917. Repatriated to NZ in April 1918. Discharged on return, but went on to serve in WWII. Died May 1966.

Number 8 Soldier

Identified as Private Cyril John Dugdale (7/1737) from Canterbury Section 2nd Coy NZMGC photo and gun team photo.



Cyril John Dugdale (7/1737) originally from the Canterbury Mounted Rifles, was wounded on the 16/9/16. The same day Rawei was wounded, so probably one of the 4, Rawei mentioned in his letter of the 24th February 1917 (see above). Dugdale was only 19 at the time and was eventually repatriated to NZ and discharged unfit for military service.

Number 9 Soldier

Corporal Neil McKenzie McQueen (6/1920) from Canterbury Section 2nd Coy NZMGC photo and the "Rest In a Shell Hole" photo.



He is mentioned in the letter, that Rawei sent to his father. Cpl. McQueen (a 4th Reinforcements now sergeant), Neil McKenzie McQueen (6/1920). His service number is only 3 away from Rawei's, so probably joined up at the same time. He was originally from the West Coast and survived the war eventually as a 2nd lieutenant. He later served as a Lieutenant in WW2 at Waipukurau, but gave an address of Mangaaohe Te Kuiti in November 1920, so may have been in contact with Rawei after the war.

Number 10 Soldier

Identified as Private Gorge Harry Coup (6/3667) from Canterbury Section 2nd Coy NZMGC photo and the "Rest In a Shell Hole" photo.



There is the mention of Pvt. Coup (afterwards killed) in the letter, that Rawei sent to his father (above), but there is no record of him in the NZMGC records, which lists all that were killed. There is a Gorge Harry Coup 6/3667 in the Canterbury Infantry Battalion C Company who was killed on the 29th September 1916, which is probably him, so he was probably seconded to the NZMGC and killed before officially transferred.

Advancing Reinforcements Photo

The following photo is in the same series as the other IWM photos. It is described as being, British reinforcements crossing the old German front line during the advance towards Flers on 15 September 1916 during the Battle of the Somme. Even though this is technically correct, they are New Zealand soldiers, who were under British Command.

The soldiers filing across the trench are probably from one of the battalions of the New Zealand Rifle Brigade getting in position for 2nd wave of the attack.

What is interesting in this photo is that 2 of the soldiers watching the advance in the trench, can be identified as being 2 of the soldiers in the Trench Photo.



Figure 4 British reinforcements crossing the old German front line during the advance towards Flers on 15 September 1916 during the Battle of the Somme.

Catalogue number: Q188

Department: Photographs Part of MINISTRY OF INFORMATION FIRST WORLD WAR OFFICIAL COLLECTION

Production date: 1916-09-15

Subject period: First World War

Alternative names:

Object name: photograph

Object category: Photography

Creator: Royal Engineers No 1 Printing Company

Category: Photographs

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Sergeant George Clark (9/550) is standing in the middle, facing the camera, with a pipe in his left hand.

Private Cyril John Dugdale (7/1737) head only can be seen between the legs of the soldier crossing the trench.

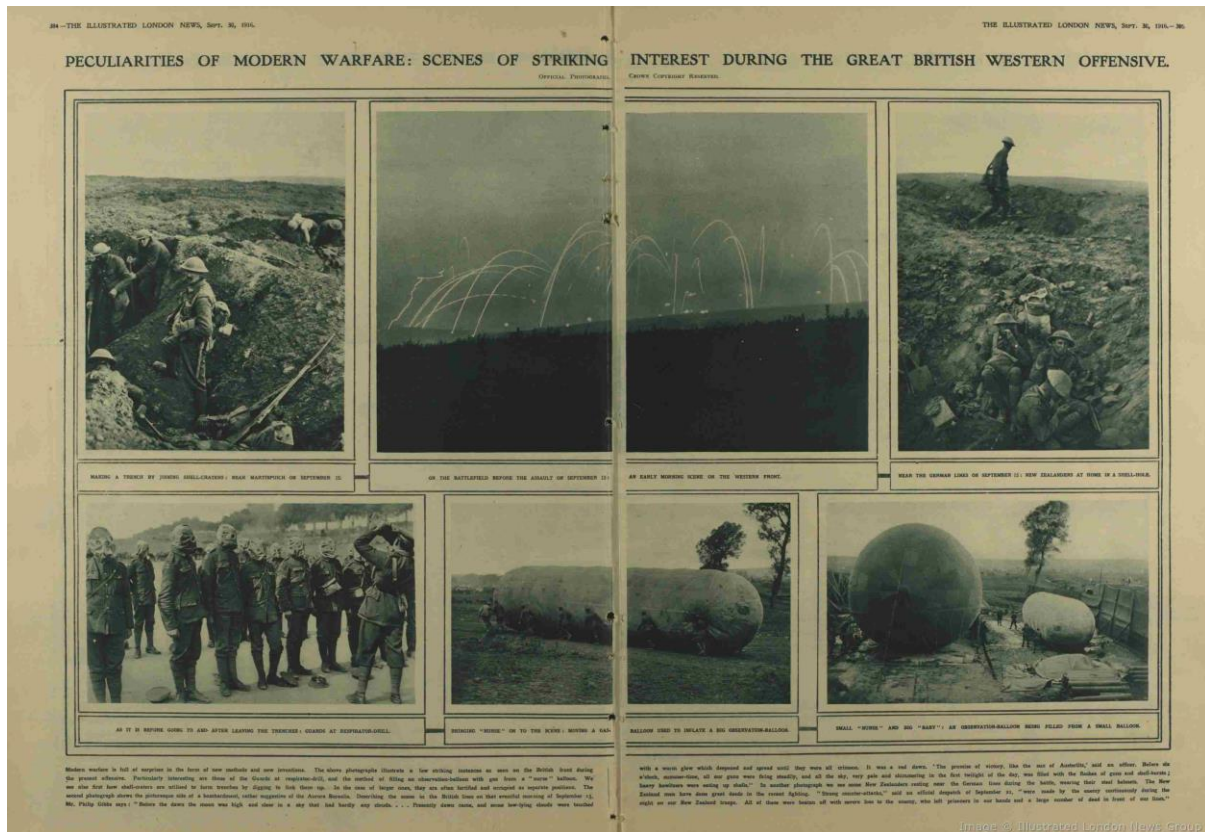
The other soldiers in the trench with their backs to the camera and can be seen in front of the legs of the soldier crossing the trench, but are too small to be recognised, are probably also soldiers from the Trench Photo.

This photo was probably taken just before or just after the Trench Photo.

The British Press

The trench photo and “Rest in a Shell Hole” photos, both appeared in the British press, probably on more than one occasion.

A search of the British paper archives found one occurrence of “Rest in a Shell Hole photo” and the Trench photo. It can be assumed there were others.



The Illustrated London News September 30 1918 Photo Top Right

