



Club member who made the supreme sacrifice 1914-1919

The Story Behind the Name

The 'Allen' Brothers



ERNEST



JAMES EDWARD



JOSIAH



Private Josiah ALLEN

11 February 1890 - 7 June 1917

Club members who made the supreme sacrifice 1914-1919

The Story Behind the Name



Private Josiah ALLEN

11 February 1890 - 7 June 1917

PRE-ENLISTMENT:

- Josiah was born 11 February in Gin Gin, Bundaberg, Queensland
- He was the third son of William ALLEN and Sarah Jane CHILDS
- He was educated at Gin Gn State School
- His occupation was that of a grazier.
- He was a keen sportsman and an excellent horseman.

SERVICE:

- Service Number 2614
- Josiah enlisted on 5 July 1916 in Bundaberg, Qld the same day as his 2 brothers, Pte Ernest Service Number 2615 & Pte James Edward Service Number 2616.
- They joined the 49th Infantry Battalion.
- On 7 October 1916 he embarked with the AIF, on the HMAT A40 Ceramic, from Sydney, with his two brothers.
- They disembarked Plymouth, England, on 21 November 1916.
- On 8 January 1917 he embarked Folkestone to join the British Expeditionary Force in France.
- 8 January 1917 Josiah 'Marched in', 4th Australian Divisional Base Depot, Etaples
- 15 January 1917 he was 'Taken on Strength', by the 49th Bn.
- 24 March 1917 he proceeded to the School of Instruction in the field
- 9 April 1917 he re-joined 49th Bn.
- Private Josiah ALLEN was 'Killed in Action' on 7 June 1917 in Messines, Belgium aged 27 years, the same day as his brother, James Edward.

CEMETERY &/OR MEMORIAL:

- No known grave - "Known Unto God"
- Memorials: Menin Gate Memorial (Commonwealth Memorial to the Missing of the Ypres Salient)
- Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour
- Gin Gin War Memorial

MILITARY HONOURS & AWARDS:

- British War Medal
- Victory Medal





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INDIVIDUAL SHOOTING:

- Josiah was a member of the Gin Gin Rifle Club.
- In 1910 he won Gin Gin Rifle Club 5th Cup Shoot, 2nd Round at 200, 200 and 600 yards with a score of 26, 29, 26 and a handicap of 17 gaining the top score of 98
- Then in 1911, he was leading his brothers for the Club's Match Rifle with Jos Allen 189, E. Allen 184 and J. E. Allen 182

ARMISTICE CENTENARY WAR MEMORIAL

Commemoration Service

- Remembrance Day 2018 Service Booklet was listed along with his two brothers, James Edward and Ernest.
- ANZAC Day 2021 Keynote Address Ian Errington

LEAVING A LEGACY



A legacy of the Allen brothers can be found near Gin Gin. It is this wooden bunkhouse they once slept in at the back of the family homestead. It now forms part of the Kookaburra Park eco-village.



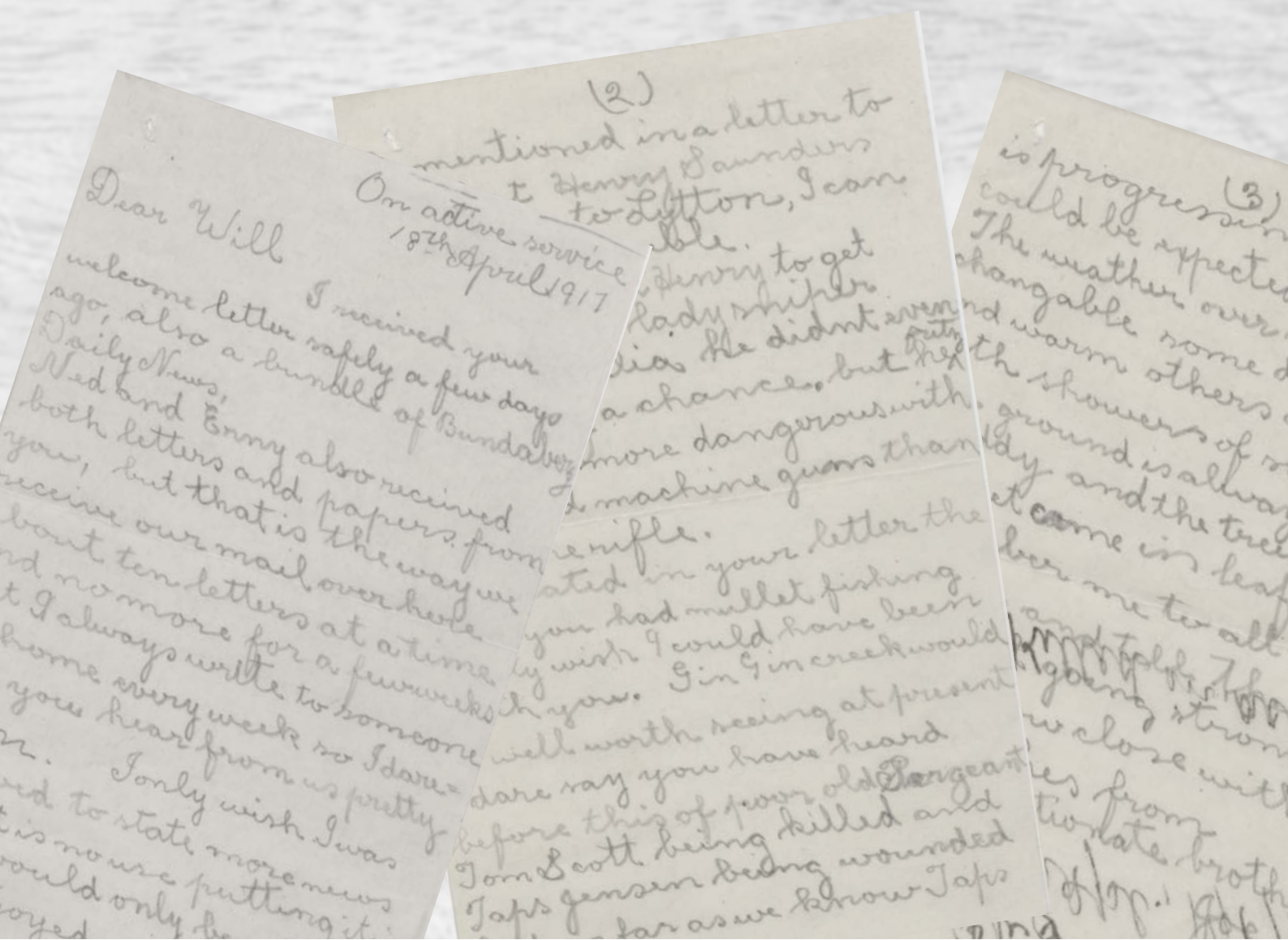
Private Josiah ALLEN

11 February 1890 - 7 June 1917

LETTERS HOME

The Australian War Memorial has preserved a Collection of letters relating to the First World War service of the three Allen brothers: 2615 Private Ernest Allen, 2614 Private Josiah Allen, and 2616a James Edward Allen, all of the 49th Battalion. The collection consists of 28 letters written by the brothers between 1916 and 1918 to another brother at home, William (Will) Jr. Also included are 6 letters written to Will by other soldiers, 3 news clippings, and biographical notes on the 3 Allen brother, all of whom were killed in action. This Collection provides an amazing insight into the day to day lives of three Queensland riflemen who enlisted for King and Country.

This is a letter written by Josiah (Jos) to Will in April before he died in June of that year.





Private Josiah ALLEN

11 February 1890 - 7 June 1917

REFERENCES:

LINKS FOR Josiah ALLEN

- vwma.org.au/explore/people/110955
- aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=3276
- ACWM ANZAC Day 2021 Keynote Address, Ian Errington
- awm.gov.au/collection/R1667000 View Circular
- Queenslanders Who Fought in the Great War – 1914-1918
- Shooting results - 3 brothers Sat 19 Mar 1910
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/216816044?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Shooting results - 3 brothers Thu 6 Oct 1910
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/216873560?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Shooting - 1st Jos, E & J.E. listed Wed 19 Oct 1910
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/216865829?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Shooting results - 3 brothers Wed 2 Nov 1910
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/216872528?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Bundaberg Shoot - J.E & Jos listed Tue 9 May 1911
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215671647?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Shooting results - 3 brothers Wed 26 Jul 1911
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215663108?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Shooting results - 3 brothers Thurs 17 Aug 1911
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215670674?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Shooting results - 3 brothers Thurs 31 August 1911
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215668663?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Shooting results - 3 brothers Tue 12 Dec 1911
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215784406?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen



Private Josiah ALLEN

11 February 1890 - 7 June 1911

REFERENCES Continued

- Club Champ - J.E., E 2nd, Jos 4th Sat 20 Jan 1912
 - [trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215767544?](http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215767544?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen)
[searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen](http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215767544?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen)
- Club representatives against Wallaville - 3 brothers listed - Fri 2 Feb 1912
 - [trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215777827?](http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215777827?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen)
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- Shooting results - 3 brothers Tue 10 Sept 1912
 - [trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215514250?](http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215514250?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen)
[searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen](http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215514250?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen)
- Shooting results - 3 brothers Wed 23 Oct 1912
 - [trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215516950?](http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215516950?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen)
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- Joe wins Shaw Trophy, J.E 4th, E 5th Mon 8 Sept 1913
 - [trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215536562?](http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215536562?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen)
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- Wallaville Shoot - 3 brothers listed Fri 20 Mar 1914
 - [trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/220573749?](http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/220573749?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen)
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- Shooting results - 3 brothers Sat 28 Mar 1914
 - [trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/220584876?](http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/220584876?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen)
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- A.W. Lund Trophy winner - J.E. Tue 1 Dec 1914
 - [trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215700892?](http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215700892?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen)
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- Shooting results - 3 brothers Tue 15 Dec 1914
 - [trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215686947?](http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215686947?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen)
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- Enlistment of 3 brothers Thu 13 Jul 1916
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- Letters Home awm.gov.au/collection/C92603
- Bungalow couriermail.com.au/news/queensland/bundaberg/we-remember-tragedy-takes-three/news-story/d6870cc8193859868b4236ca3b914822



KILLED IN ACTION - 7TH JUNE 1917

- DISTRICT HEREOS

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searchTerm=Private%20Allen%2C%20gin%20gin
Sat 26 Oct 1918



Allen Family of Gin Gin Queensland pictured 1912 from the back left: Fanny, John, Edith, Ernest, Agnes, Josiah and Edward. Front from left: Willie, William snr., Mrs. Allen and Lily. The three sons standing at the back right were all killed in World War 1. Ernest the eldest (back middle) age 34, died in 1918, and the Josiah and James Edward standing together (back right) were both killed at Messines in Belgium on the same day, June 7 1917.

The three sons all enlisted the same day and all served with the 49th Battalion AIF.

Photograph is held by John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland