



Club member who made the supreme sacrifice 1914-1919

The Story Behind the Name

The 'Allen' Brothers



ERNEST



JAMES EDWARD



JOSIAH

QRA members who made the supreme sacrifice 1914-1919



Private James Edward ALLEN

11 March 1886 - 7 June 1917

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The Story Behind the Name



Private James Edward ALLEN

11 March 1886 - 7 June 1917

PRE-ENLISTMENT:

- James was born on 11 March 1886 in Ox Hill, Gin Gin, Bundaberg, Qld.
- He was the second son of William ALLEN and Sarah Jane CHILDS.
- He was educated at Gin Gn State School.
- His occupation was that of a grazier and stockholder in company with his brothers, and had large holdings in the Gin Gin district.
- He was a very keen sportsman and a successful trainer of a local racehorse.

SERVICE:

- Service Number 2616 and 2616a.
- 5 July 1916 he enlisted in Bundaberg, Queensland with his brothers Pte Ernest Service Number 2615, and Pte Josiah ALLEN Service Number 2614, with all three having consecutive Regimental Numbers.
- The three brothers enlisted in the 49th Infantry Battalion.
- 7 Oct 1916 he embarked as a Private in the 49th Infantry Battalion, on HMAT Ceramic, Sydney, aged 30 years, along with his two brothers.
- They disembarked at Plymouth, England, on 21 November 1916.
- He later embarked Folkestone and joined the British Expeditionary Force, France 8 January 1917.
- He 'marched in' to 4th Australian Divisional Base Depot, Etaples on January 1917.
- He was 'Taken on Strength', by 49th Btn, on 15 January 1917.
- He was allotted the letter 'A' to his Regimental number on 13 March 1917.
- James 'marched in' to the School of Instruction, in France on 24 March 1917.
- He re-joined his unit on 9 April 1917.
- Private James Edward ALLEN was 'Killed in Action', on 7 June 1917 in Messines, Belgium. Aged 31 years. His brother, Josiah was also killed that day in Messines.

CEMETERY &/OR MEMORIAL:

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

MILITARY HONOURS & AWARDS:

- British War Medal
- Victory Medal





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INDIVIDUAL SHOOTING:

- James was an active member of the Gin Gin Rifle Club.
- He was a splendid marksman winning several valuable trophies.
- One prominent win was that of a Gold Medal on Saturday 16 May 1909.
- He scored more than one possible at 500 yards.

ARMISTICE CENTENARY WAR MEMORIAL Commemoration Service

- Remembrance Day 2018 Service Booklet was listed along with his two brothers, Ernest and Josiah.
- 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 James Edward ALLEN

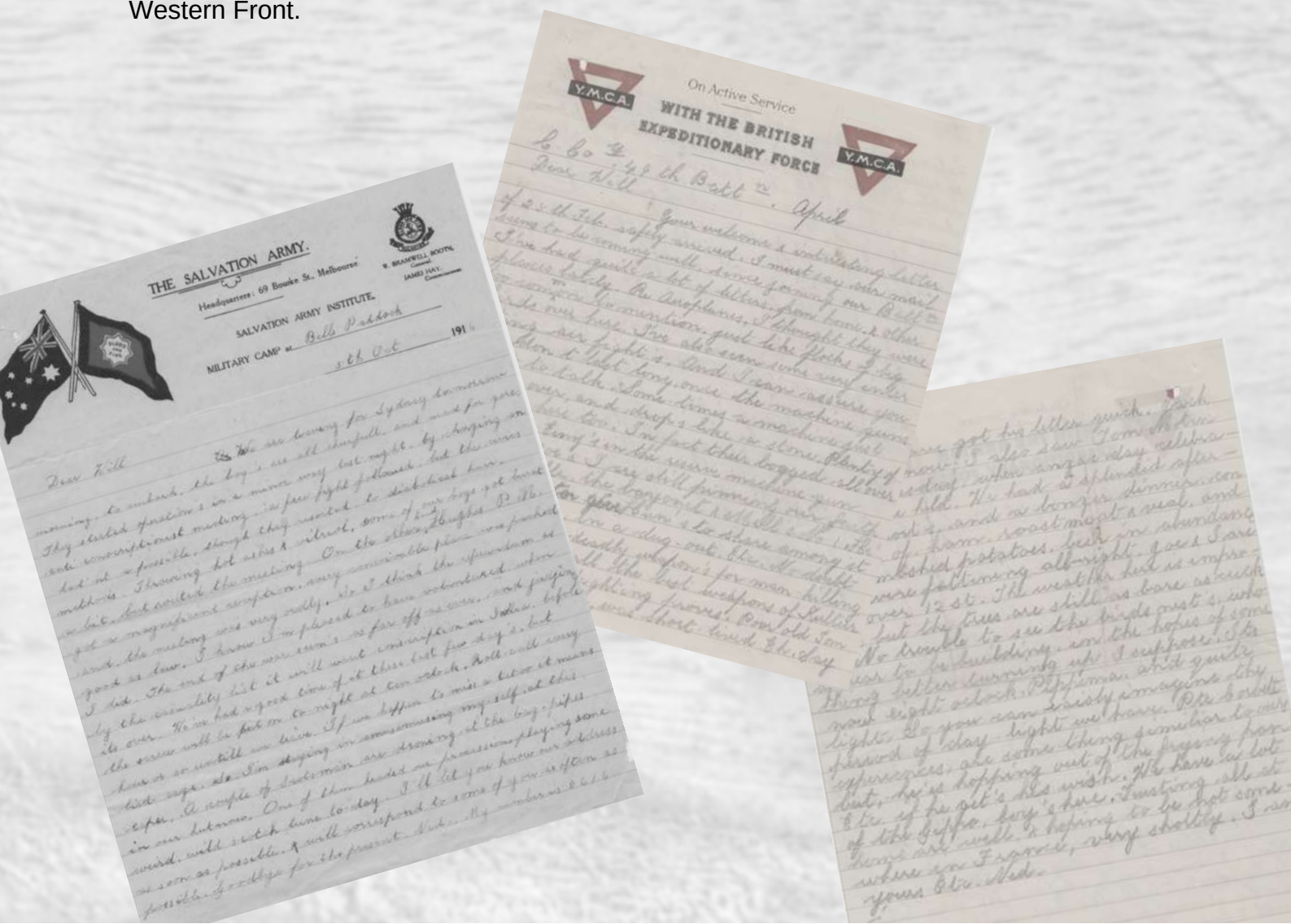
11 March 1886 - 7 June 1917

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.

These are two letters written by James Edward (Ned) to Will. The first in October 1916 and the second, just after ANZAC Day, 1917 about a month before he was killed on the Western Front.





Private James Edward ALLEN

11 March 1886 - 7 June 1917

REFERENCES:

LINKS for James Edward ALLEN

- vwma.org.au/explore/people/369074
- aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=3300
- ACWM ANZAC Day 2021 Keynote Address, Ian Errington
- Queenslanders Who Fought in the Great War – 1914-1918
- awm.gov.au/collection/R1666916 'View Circular'
- Gold Medal Win - J. E. Sat 22 May 1909
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215732174?searchTerm=Gin%20Gin%20rifle%20Club%2C%20Allen
- Shooting results - E & J.E. Sat 29 Jan 1910
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/216817092?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- 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
- Winner - Jos, Listed E & J.E. 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
- Shooting Prize Winner - J.E. Fri 30 Dec 1910
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/216882124?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Shooting Results - J.E. & Jos Tue 7 Mar 1911
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215653806?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Bundaberg Shoot - J.E. & Jos 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
- 3 Allen brothers in top 3 shots Tue 1 Aug 1911
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215674312?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



Private James Edward ALLEN

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REFERENCES Continued

- Prize Shoot - 3 brothers listed Thu 31 Aug 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
- Club Champion - J.E. Sat 20 Jan 1912
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215767544?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Wallaville - 3 brothers Club Reps Fri 2 Feb 1912
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215777827?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Shooting results - 3 brothers Tue 10 Sept 1912
 - 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?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Shooting results - E winner, J.E. listed Mon 12 May 1913
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215531938?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Shaw Trophy - Joe 1st, J.E. 4th, E 5th Mon 8 Sept 1913
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215536562?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Wallaville Shoot - 3 brothers listed Fri 20 Mar 1914
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/220573749?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Shooting results - 3 brothers Sat 28 Mar 1914
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/220584876?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- A.W.Lund Trophy - J.E. Winner Tue 1 Dec 1914
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215700892?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Shooting results - E, & J.E Tue 20 Apr 1915
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215696980?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- Enlistment of 3 brothers Thu 13 Jul 1916
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/215639544?searchTerm=gin%20gin%20rifle%20club%2C%20allen
- **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
 - trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/216946621?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