



FIRST WORLD WAR CENTENARY
BATTLEFIELD TOURS PROGRAMME

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
PROGRAM
AMIENS 100
AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE
CADETS**

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TASK 1: AUSTRALIA'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE LEAD UP AND IN THE BATTLE OF AMIENS THE SOMME CAMPAIGN

Divisions involved

1st, 2nd and 4th Divisions

Casualties

- German: 500,000
- British Empire: 420,000
- French: 200,000

Progression

- Began 01 Jul 1916
- Constant heavy shelling had been ordered on the morning of the attack
- Some 250 000 shells were fired on the Germans in little under an hour
- The barrage was so intense it could be heard from London
- Gave the Germans an indication that an attack was imminent
- Some 70 000 allied troops were wounded or KIA
- Scale of attack led to the Germans transferring 2 divisions and 60 heavy guns from Verdun
- French more successful due to
 - the element of surprise
 - an increased experience of offensive action
 - a larger number of heavy guns
 - an effective use of counter battery fire
- In 4 months, some 3 million fighters left 1 million dead and all that was achieved was a stalemate some 10 kms into German territory
- First implementation of tank warfare

Map of conflict



BATTLE OF VILLERS BRETONNEUX

AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONS INVOLVED

- 33rd to 36th, 43rd, 50th to 52nd, 57th to 60th Australian Infantry Battalion

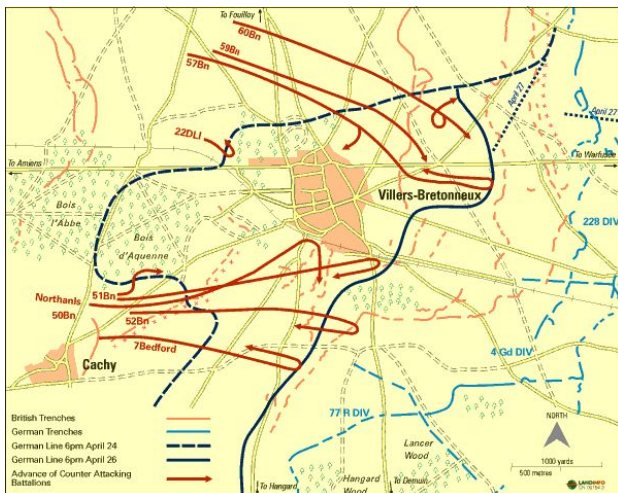
CASUALTIES

- German: 8000-10400
- Australian: 2473
- Britain: 9529
- French: 3500

PROGRESSION

- In the winter of 1917, the Bolshevik Revolution meant that one of Germany's adversaries was eliminated. In the period which followed, the German army scrambled to re-deploy hundreds of thousands of troops to the Western Front before the US could fully establish themselves.
- The German offensive 'Michael' had begun on 21 March 1918 in an attempt to capture the strategic area of Amiens.
- In a few short days, the Germans had broken through British lines after the British wrongly thought the attack would be spread out rather than concentrated in one area.
- The Germans were nearly clear of allied troops and free to take Amiens
- The Battle of Villers Bretonneux was a desperate act by the Allies to halt the successful German offensive
- It was split into 2 battles
 - The first was fought from the 30th March - 5th April 1918
 - Also called the second Battle of the Somme, during this offensive, the Germans regained all of the land they lost in the Somme and were 10 miles away from Amiens. They wanted to gain Villers Bretonneux
 - The second was fought from the 24th - 25th April 1918
 - The town of Villers Bretonneux was recaptured and the Germans halted their offensive
- During these battles the Australians were instrumental in plugging the hole created by the weary British defence and to halt the offensive in their sector of Villers Bretonneux which they succeeded in doing
- They forced the German retreat away from Villers Bretonneux
- The town now celebrates ANZAC Day every year and has a sign written in one of their schools saying "Do not forget Australia"

MAP OF BATTLEFIELD



BATTLE OF HAMEL

"The quiet was interrupted on July 4th by the Battle of Hamel, one of the most remarkable-if largely forgotten because comparatively bloodless-operations of the war"

G.J. Meyer-A World Undone

AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONS INVOLVED

- No. 3 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps
- 21st to 25th, 27th, 42nd, 43rd Australian Infantry Battalion

CASUALTIES

Allied-1400

German-2000 (of which 1600 were taken prisoner)

ROLE OF THE AFC

- Fourth Army approached 3 SQN to develop an airborne ammunition resupply system
- RE-8 bomb racks were modified and thus munitions could be delivered with relative accuracy
- 04 Jul 18 some 90 boxes of ammunition dropped to machine gunners

presented themselves. Bombs were dropped on battery positions and living targets and altogether things were made most unpleasant for the enemy. An experiment was tried on this day of dropping ammunition by parachute from aeroplanes. No. 9 Squadron took this in hand working from this Squadron's aerodrome. About 90 boxes of S.A.A. were dropped just behind our new front line totalling altogether about 11400 rounds of ammunition. This enabled the attacking forces to be well supplied with small arm ammunition and thereby saved much fatigue work and carrying parties

Enemy batteries engaged by Zone call	- 3
Batteries neutralised	- 17
Artillery Patrols	- 20
Contact Patrols	- 3
Counter attack patrols	- 11
Plates exposed	- 108
Bombs dropped	- 138

M.G.Rounds fired	- 9590
Zone Calls sent	- 80
Total flying times	- 79 hrs. 55 min.

A truly "glorious fourth".

-An account of the days efforts as provided by the unit diaries of Number 3 SQN AFC

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CONFLICT

- What was learnt from them?
 - Hamel served as a proof of concept, that Monash's revolutionary approach to warfare actually worked and could be highly successful
 - The life of the fighting soldier must be preserved at all costs
- How did it shape the decision-making process?
 - Highlighted the necessity for meticulous planning and the consideration of every detail

"I wonder if it is possible for you to realise the scope and scale, the dynamic splendour of a modern battle. No mere words can convey any idea of it or of the complexity of the organisation required to coordinate the action of the twenty thousand people and all their different weapons."

-Monash

"Hamel has been called the first truly modern battle. It became the model for later British operations, a brochure describing Monash's tactics was distributed to every officer in the BEF [British Expeditionary Forces]"

-G.J. Meyer A World Undone

BATTLE OF AMIENS

'The most planned operation in the history of warfare'

-Roland Perry OAM

LEAD UP TO AMIENS

- Conducted guerrilla warfare
- Silent night time raids on German trenches-Australians earned the title of ghosts
- Psychological warfare - Monash stressed that they must gain a psychological advantage over the enemy as well as a tactical advantage, however this also proved to have a significant effect on his own men's psychological state as well as the enemies
- Had a dehumanising effect on the Australians
- Germans retaliated with massive gas attacks

AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONS INVOLVED

- No. 3 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps
- 13th Australian Light Horse Regiment
- 1st to 60th Australian Infantry Battalion

CASUALTIES

Australians-3000
Other allies-9000
Germans-27000

ROLE OF AFC

- Kept the Australian Corps HQ supplied with information-annotated maps
- Flew low over the enemy lines to drown out the noise of the advancing tanks
- Lay smoke screens and attacked machine gun nests
- Called in and directed artillery fire

took place. Lieut. H.S.POALE, Pilot, and Lieut. F.A.SEWELL, Observer, whilst on a Contact Patrol were attacked by an E.A.two-seater who was brought down after a short fight. Lieut. J.GOULD-TAYLOR, Pilot, and Lieut. B.G.THOMSON, Observer, had three combats during their patrol but by skilful manoeuvring and clever tactics managed to beat off the attacks until our scouts came to their assistance. Altogether everyone had a strenuous day and but for the inclement weather during the early part of the day, the records would have been much bigger. / The following is a summary of the day's work -

Artillery Patrols	-	7
Zone Calls sent	-	15
Contact Patrols	-	6
Counter attack patrols	-	5
Special bomb dropping flights	-	6
Plates exposed	-	54
Bombs dropped	-	92
Combats, decisive,	-	1
" indecisive	-	2
S.A.A.fired into various targets	-	3500.

-An account of the days actions from the unit diaries of No 3 SQN AFC

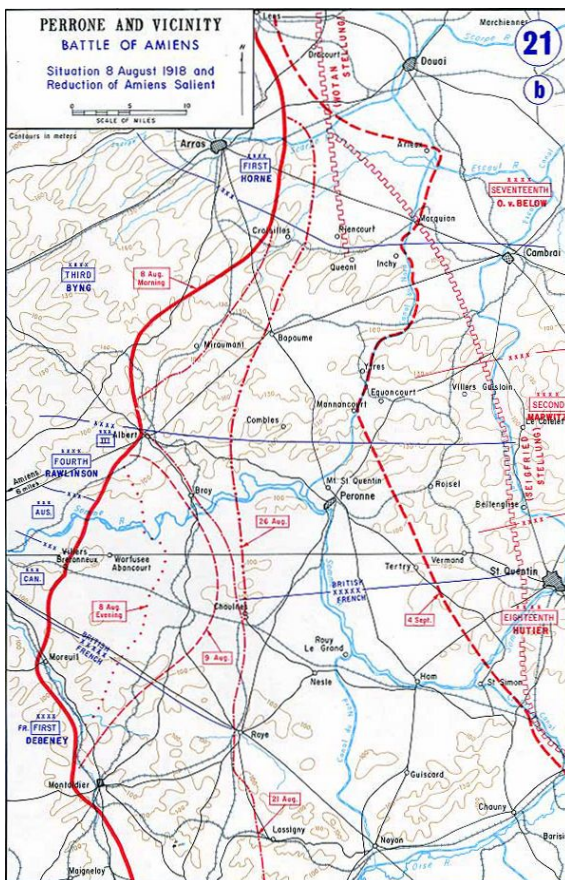
PROGRESSION

- 100 000 troops and over 100 tanks formed up in absolute silence
- Aerial reconnaissance conducted to locate exact positions of enemy artillery
- Opening salvo of 2000 guns destroyed said artillery
 - Element of surprise - guns were aimed precisely using mathematics rather than sighting rounds that would have given away the attackers position, succeeded in aiming and hitting target first time.
- Heavy ground mist concealed advance
 - Coupled with smoke shells
- The offensive was a complete and utter surprise
- German responses were inadequate and disorganised
- A gap almost 20 km wide had been driven through German defences
- This was the beginning of the allied advance that would see 116 towns liberated throughout North Western France, pushing the German line back past Montbrechain and the infamous stronghold of Mont Saint-Quentin
- Hundreds of field guns were captured

EFFECT

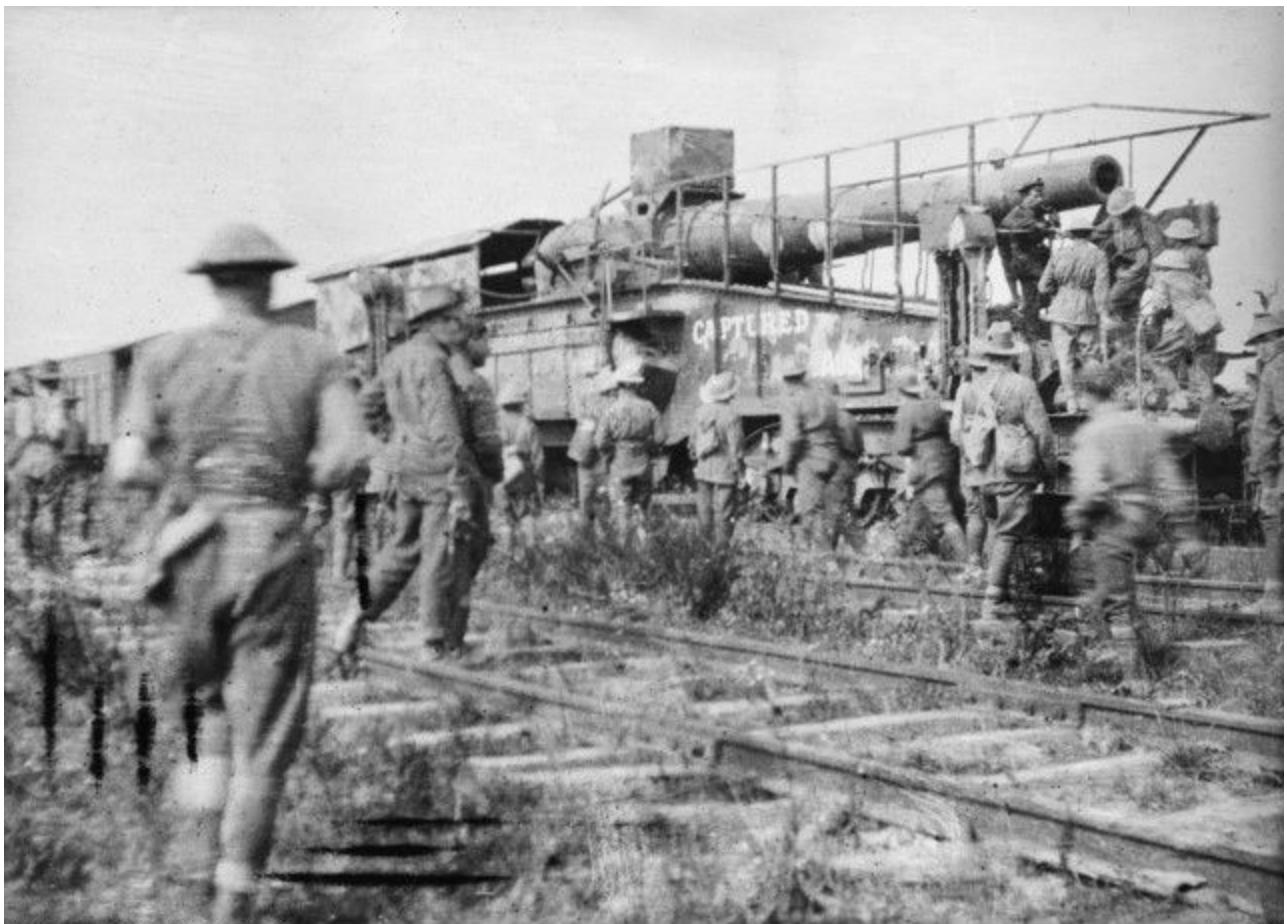
The 8th of August 1918 was called “*de Schwarzer tag des deutschen heeres*”- “*The black day of the German Army*” (General Erich Ludendorff). This was the day more reasoned of German High Command realised that the fighting machine that was the German Army was irreparably broken.

MAP OF BATTLEFIELD



SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BATTLE

- Although this battle was not fought in Amiens, it was the Battle dedicated to protecting the town of Amiens. Amiens was a strategic position that housed a railway leading straight into Paris; the Allies fiercely protected this position and the Germans fought desperately for it as they knew it was the Allied forces source of supplies and also would leave Paris and the adjoining ports very vulnerable. Whoever held this position was set to have the pivotal strategic position in France and could ultimately decide the outcome of the war.
- The Battle of Villers Bretonneux put a stop of the blistering German offensive whilst Amiens was viewed as the 'beginning of the end' for the German advance.
- In 100 days from the date of this battle, there would be an armistice signed and the Germans would declare surrender.
- Significance of tactics -
 - Major General Heinz Guderian studied Monash's tactics from the Battle of Amiens and turned it into what would become known as Blitzkrieg-Lightning Warfare.
 - The style of mobile warfare that proved successful in these battles is still used today in modern warfare.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

A00006

-28cm railway gun know as “Amiens Gun” captured 08 Aug 1918 near Harbonnieres, Somme Valley

INDIVIDUAL STORY

LT JOHN GOULD-TAYLOR



SERIALS

Name: John Gould-Taylor

Rank: Lieutenant

Regimental Number: 30589

Born: 15 June 1897

Enlisted: 19 years 3 months

Occupation at Enlistment: Student (Not an apprentice)

Marital Status: Single

Religion: Presbyterian

Location of Enlistment: Young, NSW

FAMILY

Father: Deceased on enlistment – Rev. W Gould-Taylor

Mother (NOK): Marion (Mary) Gould-Taylor (nee Paterson)

Only son of Mrs Gould-Taylor

Lived at 11 Grand View Grove

Upper Hawthorn VIC

Originally from Young, NSW

EARLY LIFE

-John 'Jack' Gould Taylor was born in Young, New South Wales on 15 June 1897 to parents the Reverend William Gould-Taylor, and his wife Marion Gould-Taylor (nee Paterson).

ENLISTMENT

-Enlisted 18 Sep 1916

-Upon enlistment, Gould-Taylor was studying at the at the University of Melbourne and had previously been a member of the Citizen's Forces University of Melbourne regiment.

-The decision to enlist came at the halfway point of the war.

-His mother consented for her only son to enlist (top left page 12)

-Father had no say in his enlistment due to passing away in 1905

-Was mustered into Field Artillery Reinforcements in Maribyrnong 2 Oct 1916

-Became a driver within the 22nd Reinforcements to 1st DAC (Divisional Ammunition Column)

-On 23 Nov 1916, Departed Australia from Melbourne onboard HMAT Hororata bound for England (top right page 12)

-Disembarked Plymouth, England 29 Jan 1918, over a month after embarking in Melbourne

-Transferred to the Australian Flying Corps (AFC) 1 Aug 1917. Graduated as a pilot 30 Nov 1917, appointed Flying Officer (Pilot), which was at that stage equivalent to a 2LT in the AIF.

-Subsequently promoted to LT 12 Apr 1918

MERITORIOUS ACTIONS

-Awarded DFC posthumously 2 Nov 1918. As quoted from *War Honours for the A.I.F*

-On the 28th August, when on reconnaissance this officer was attacked by five Fokker biplanes, with characteristic boldness and skill he drove them off, shooting down one out of control. He then continued reconnaissance, sending out calls on three hostile batteries (which were neutralised), six parties of transport, and two trains. During recent operations this officer has rendered most valuable service in sending down calls, displaying keenness of observation and great power of endurance. While on this duty he never hesitated to attack the enemy as opportunity occurred.

DEATH

-After departing for a 6am artillery patrol on 3 Oct 1918, LT Gould-Taylor and his navigator LT B. Thomson were allegedly struck by an enemy shell

-No conclusive proof was recovered until 6 Oct 1918, when the R.E.8 being flown by Gould-Taylor was found crashed at Foleprise Farm

-It was unclear from the crash scene what the cause of the crash was

-Bodies of Gould-Taylor and Thomson were buried beside the aircraft

-SGT Gyngell of Ward 9, Harefield made a statement confirming Gould-Taylor as KIA on 3 Oct 1918 (see bottom, centre image of page 12)



31st Aug. 1916

I hereby give my full
consent to my son
John Gould-Taylor
aged 19 years & 2 months
enlisting for Active
Service with the A.I.F.

*Verify this is M. Gould-Taylor (mother
of John Gould-Taylor)
Upper Hawthorn
Melbourne
Father deceased*



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

PB0437

A.I.F. Flying Corps.

Lieutenant B. G. Thomson.
Lieutenant J. Gould Taylor.

"Killed in Action 3-10-18".

Killed by shell. I saw the graves just outside Estrees, near
Bouvincourt: they were just buried beside their machine and tempor-
ary marks put up.




Informant:- Sgt. Gyngeil,
Ward 9, Harefield.

D. P. Dickson,
London,
24-11-18

X

Off. M.
K in A.

TASK 2: HOW IS THE FIRST WORLD WAR REMEMBERED IN OUR COUNTRY – PHOTO JOURNAL

Picture	What does it mean?	Suggested Caption	URL
	<p>Shows our strong traditions of commemoration for those who have fought, served and sacrificed in war. This particular image highlights the young supporting the old.</p>	<p>From one generation to the next, passing the memories of sacrifice, courage, hardship and loyalty.</p>	<p>http://i.daily-mail.co.uk/i/pix/2016/04/25/08/3383045600000578-3556576-image-a-3_1461570007981.jpg</p>
	<p>A chance to reflect, to remember their fallen friends and to hope that their sacrifice shall not be in vain</p>	<p>We will remember them.</p>	<p>https://www.defence.gov.au/commemoration/customs-and-ceremony/poppies</p>
	<p>This image shows the commitment of Australians to honouring those who came before, who gave their todays so we might have a tomorrow</p>	<p>A solemn promise is uttered at every commemorative ceremony, A three word promise never to let history repeat itself, Lest We Forget</p>	<p>https://www.defence.gov.au/commemoration/speeches/anzac-day-day-11-nov-2017</p>

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Somme Offensive Information

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/E158/>

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/RCDIG1069922/>

Map of Somme Battlefield

'The Battle of the Somme - Brusilov On His Own I THE GREAT WAR - Week 102

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nusfSkjJnAw&list=PLB2vhKMBjSxMIRYolbA2ohBUkaT24d21h&index=27>

Battle of Hamel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=88fJG3pmzc4>

The Australian Victories in France in 1918-Monash

<http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks13/1302421h.html>

Battle of Villers Bretonneux

<http://www.awmlondon.gov.au/battles/villers-bretonneux>

<https://www.awm.gov.au/visit/exhibitions/1918/battles/dernancourt>

http://www.historyofwar.org/articles/battles_villers_bretonneux.html

<https://www.awm.gov.au/visit/exhibitions/1918/battles/michael>

<https://www.awm.gov.au/visit/exhibitions/1918/battles/dernancourt>

<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/story/s3784919.htm>

Battle of Amiens

<https://anzaccentenary.vic.gov.au/westernfront/history/key-battles/amiens/>

Map of Amiens

The Department of History, United States Military Academy

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Amiens_\(1918\)#/media/File:Battle_of_Amiens_Hundred_Days_Offensive.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Amiens_(1918)#/media/File:Battle_of_Amiens_Hundred_Days_Offensive.jpg)

LT Gould-Taylor

ADFA AIF Research File

<https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=115296>

Commonwealth War Graves Grave Listings (Prospect Hill Cemetery Gouy)

<https://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/18203/PROSPECT%20HILL%20CEMETERY,%20GOUY>

National Archives Service Record Digitised

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Gallery151/dist/JGalleryViewer.aspx?B=4669008&S=1&N=92&R=0#/SearchNRetrieve/NAAMedia/ShowImage.aspx?B=4669008&T=P&S=1>

Image of HMAT Hororata (located in LT Gould-Taylor folder)

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/PB0437/>

Gould-Taylor/Thomson Grave Info:

<https://archive.cloud.cwgc.org/archive/doc/doc2147559.JPG>

CWGC LT Gould-Taylor Commemorative Certificate

[Download commemorative certificate \(PDF\)](#)

CWGC Cemetery Listing

<https://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead/casualty/182227/gould-taylor.-john/>

SA Red Cross Information Bureau (via State Library of South Australia)

<https://sarcib.ww1.collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/additional-soldier/john-gould-taylor>

Trove Papers relating to LT Gould-Taylor AIF AFC DFC

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/work/210540028?q=gould-taylor&c=collection&versionId=231087419>

Gould-Taylor AWM Files:

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/P10079471>

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/P10202839>

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/P10191949>

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/P10144014>

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/P10593319>

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/P10880281>

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/P10236778>

SGT Lewis Oswald Gyngell (Eyewitness Account of Crash) :

<https://sarcib.ww1.collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/eyewitness/lewis-oswald-gyngell-0>

Number 3 SQN AFC

<http://www.3squadron.org.au/indexpages/history1.htm#WW%20I>

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/C1338818>

Information on various aspects

<https://iview.abc.net.au/show/monash-and-me>