

St. Mary's Churchyard
Easebourne, Chichester,
West Sussex, England
War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



CAPTAIN

EGERTON CLUNIES ROSS

KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES

27TH SEPTEMBER, 1918

Henry Egerton (Gert) CLUNIES-ROSS

Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was born at Bathurst, New South Wales on 5th September, 1891 to parents William John Clunies-Ross & Hannah Elizabeth Clunies-Ross (nee Tilley). His birth was registered in Bathurst with name listed on NSW Births, Deaths & Marriages website as "*Henry E. C. Ross.*"

Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross attended Newington College, NSW before attending University of Sydney, NSW where he studied Arts.

The 1913 Australian Electoral Roll for the Ashfield – Bland Street Polling Place recorded Henry Egerton Clunies Ross, Journalist, of 52 Alt Street. Also listed at the same address was Hannah Elizabeth Ross, Domestic duties & William John Clunies, Professor of Chemistry.

William John Clunies-Ross, father of Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross, died on 7th November, 1914 at Ashfield, Sydney, New South Wales.

Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was a 23 year old, single, Journalist (with *The Sydney Morning Herald*) when he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.) on 11th January, 1915. His religion was Presbyterian & his next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Hannah Elizabeth Clunies-Ross, "Thalia" 88 Beach Road, Darling Point, Sydney, NSW.

Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross applied for a Commission in the Australian Imperial Force. He was appointed Second Lieutenant on 5th May, 1915.

Second Lieutenant Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Ceramic (A40)* on 25th June, 1915 with the 5th Infantry Brigade, 19th Infantry Battalion – "A" Company & arrived at Suez on 24th July, 1915.

Second Lieutenant Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was admitted to No. 1 Australian General Hospital at Heliopolis on 30th August, 1915 with Gastritis. He was invalided to Australia on 14th September, 1915 & embarked from Suez per *Beltana*. He disembarked at Melbourne, Victoria on 13th October, 1915 (Vomiting & Diarrhoea)

19th Battalion

The 19th Battalion was raised at Liverpool in New South Wales in March 1915 as part of the 5th Brigade. A large number of the 19th's original recruits had already served with the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (AN&MEF) in the operations to capture German New Guinea in 1914. The 19th left Australia in late June, trained in Egypt from late July until mid-August, and on 19 August landed at ANZAC Cove.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Second Lieutenant Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was appointed Lieutenant from 8th October, 1915.

A Medical Report was completed on Lieutenant H. E. Clunies-Ross, 19th Battalion, at No. 4 Australian General Hospital, Sydney, NSW on 18th November, 1915. His disease / disability was listed as Gastroenteritis (Convalescent) which had first originated in May, 1915 at Liverpool. "*Diet & strain incidental to camp life. Had enteric in 1905 & 1910. Feels weak & nervous, suffers from insomnia. Bowels regular.*" His disability was not permanent & the minimum duration was listed as 1 month. The Medical Officer in charge of the case recommended that Lieutenant Clunies-Ross have "*1 month in Tasmania then return to duty.*" The Medical Board "*concur partially with report of M.O. It finds that Lieut Clunies-Ross is suffering from weakness following gastro-enteritis, and recommends two months' leave.*"

Staff Officer, Deputy Director General Medical Services, wrote to Commandant, 2nd Military District, on 9th December, 1915 with the following: "*.....Proceeding of Medical board herewith dealt as follows: - Lieutenant Clunies Ross H. E. 19th Battalion. Referred for treatment and further report in two months. Egyptian Board to be attached. Extension of pay for two months from 23/11/15 has been approved.*"

The Staff Officer, Returned Soldiers, 2nd Military District, Sydney, NSW, advised Base Records, Melbourne, Victoria on 23rd December, 1916 that Lieutenant H. E. Clunies-Ross, 19th Battalion, had returned to duty on 27th January, 1916 & re-embarked in May, 1916.

A Medical Report had been completed on Lieutenant Ross, 19th Battalion, at Sydney on 24th January, 1916 where the recommendation was for him to *"return to duty."*

The Staff Officer, Returned Soldiers, 2nd Military District, Sydney, NSW, advised Base Records, Melbourne, Victoria, on 27th January, 1916: *"Lieut H. E. Clunies-Ross. This Officer, having been certified fit to return to duty has been posted this day to S.O. Reinforcements Liverpool, to be allotted to early Reinforcements."*

Lieutenant Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was allotted to 3rd Cycle Company (no date recorded)

Australian Cycling Corps

The Australian Cycling Corps was formed in Egypt in 1916 as part of the Australian Imperial Force (AIF), and fought on the Western Front in France and Belgium during World War I. They were used mainly as despatch riders, while also conducting reconnaissance and patrolling. It was disbanded in 1919. (*Wikipedia*)

Lieutenant Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was promoted to Captain from 1st May, 1916.

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Demosthenes (A64)* on 18th May, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 20th July, 1916. *"(Returned Soldier – Original Unit A. Coy 19th Batt.)"*

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was transferred to Machine Gun Training Depot on 21st July, 1916 (as recorded on War Gratuity Schedule). He was taken on strength of Cyclists Training Battalion on 29th July, 1916 from No. 1 Command Depot in England.

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was on command at Machine Gun Training Depot, Grantham, England from 22nd August, 1916.

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross proceeded overseas to France on 1st February, 1917. He joined Australian General Base Depot at Etaples, France on 3rd February, 1917.

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross reported sick on 4th February, 1917. He was admitted to St. John's Ambulance Brigade on 4th February, 1917 with Influenza. Captain Clunies-Ross was transferred to Havre, France on 24th February, 1917 & embarked on 25th February, 1917 on Hospital Ship *Panama* for England.

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was admitted to Officers' Hospital, Berkley Square, London on 26th February, 1917 with Influenza. He was transferred to Cobham Hall Hospital on 2nd April, 1917. The Medical Case Sheet recorded his disease as Anaemia & the following comments were recorded for 4th April, 1917: *"Taken ill at Etaples & evacuated to England with Bronchitis. Admitted to Officers Hospital Berley Sq March 4th. Board March 30th and given leave until 2nd April."* Captain Clunies-Ross was discharged to Perham Downs on 25th April, 1917.

Base Records advised Mrs C. Ross, "Thalia", 58 Beach Road, Darling Point, Sydney, NSW, mother of Captain Clunies-Ross, that Captain H. E. C. Ross had been admitted to the Officers Hospital, 27 Berkeley Square, London, suffering from influenza – mild.

A Medical Board had been assembled at Australian Military Offices, London, on 29th March, 1917 for the purpose of examining & reporting upon the present state of health of Captain H. E. Clunies-Ross, 2nd Anzac Cyclists. His disability was recorded as Bronchitis. The Board found that he was unfit for General Service for 3 weeks.

A Medical Board had been assembled at Australian Military Offices, London, on 12th April, 1917 for the purpose of examining & reporting upon the present state of health of Captain H. E. Clunies-Ross, 2nd Anzac Cyclists. His disability was recorded as Anaemia & it was found that *"He is now quite well."* The disability had been contracted while on active service due to infection & he was medically fit for General Service

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire. Later Training & Convalescing Units were combined under the one Command Depot.

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire, England on 26th April, 1917. He was marched out to Details Camp at Perham Downs on 27th April, 1917 (Class G.S.) (The War Gratuity Schedule recorded he was marched into Hardening & Drafting Depot at Perham Downs on 26th April, 1917 from No. 1 Command Depot).

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross proceeded overseas to France from Tidworth on 13th May, 1917. He joined A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) at Etaples on 14th May, 1917. Captain Clunies-Ross proceeded from A.G.B.D. on 19th May, 1917 to join his Unit & was attached for duty with 2nd Anzac Cycle Battalion on 20th May, 1917 from 3rd Divisional Cyclist Battalion.

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was attached to 39th Battalion – supernumerary to establishment on 10th June, 1917 – A.I.F. Order 198. He was attached for duty to 39th Battalion on 11th June, 1917 from Cyclist Corps.

39th Battalion

The 39th Battalion was formed on 21 February 1916 at the Ballarat Showgrounds in Victoria and drew most of its recruits from the state's Western District. It became part of the 10th Brigade of the 3rd Australian Division.

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The 39th fought in its first major battle at Messines, in Belgium, between 7-9 June 1917. During its march to the start-line for this operation the battalion suffered heavily from a German gas bombardment and less than a third of the troops earmarked to attack actually did so. The battalion, however, captured all of its objectives. The 39th fought in another two major attacks in this sector - the carefully planned and executed battle of Broodseinde on 4 October, and the disastrous battle of Passchendaele on 12 October.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was to be attached to King's African Rifles in London. He resigned from Australian Imperial Force on 3rd September, 1917 owing to his appointment in African Service.

A Cablegram had been sent on 1st August, 1917 from Administrative Headquarters, London to Headquarters, 1st Anzac Corps, France which reads: "...War Office state that Captain Ross's transfer to Kings Erskine Rifles was on application of Governor General of Australia agreed to by Colonial Office and forwarded Army Council for approval AAA War Office states Captain Ross should be advised that any appointment to the K.E.R. may only be of a temporary nature."

On 24th September, 1917 Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross's appointment in the A.I.F. was terminated through resignation due to his appointment to the King's African Rifles.

A Telegram to Administrative Headquarters, London, on 25th October, 1917 advised "*Capt Ross left London 25th Ult and his appointment to the Kings African Rifles will take effect from that date.*" (Note: there were several memos/Telegrams from various places (eg. Secretary, War Office, London) requesting to know when Captain H.E.C. Ross had left UK)

King's African Rifles

The King's African Rifles (KAR) were the British colonial military within East Africa before and during the First World War. While initially rarely involved in the British operations in East Africa, the continued resistance of the German Schutztruppe forced the rapid expansion of the KAR to over 30,000 officers and men. *(1914-1918 Online)*

It is believed that Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross contracted Malaria & was initially hospitalised at Lindi before being moved to Nairobi & from there he was returned to England.

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross embarked at Cape Town on 26th July, 1918 on H.M.T. (D 60) *Field Marshall*.

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was listed in the Sick Convoy in the Hospital Admissions & Discharge Register of British Expeditionary Force to East Africa – Officers. The Register recorded he was transferred on 2nd September, 1918 with Malaria to Queen Alexandra's Military Hospital at Millbank.

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross died at 10 am on 27th September, 1918 at Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Westminster, London, England from

A death for Henry E. Clunies-Ross, aged 28, was registered in the September quarter, 1918 in the district of St. George Hanover Square, London, England. A death was also registered in the name of Henry E. C. Ross in the September quarter, 1918 in the district of St. George Hanover Square, London, England.

The Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office, Downing Street, London, wrote to The Commandant, Australian Imperial Force on 28th September, 1918: "*With reference to your letter of the 28th May, No. 14100/2/2'482/9f T. Discharges, I am directed by Mr Secretary Long to inform you that Captain H. E. Clunies-Ross, King's African Rifles, was recently invalided to this country from East Africa. Mr Long has learnt with regret that he died at the Queen Alexandra Military Hospital Millbank on the 27th September.*

2. The arrangements for the funeral of Captain Clunies-Ross, which is to take place on the 1st of October, are being made by the Hospital authorities in consultation with the brother of the deceased officer, Private A. Clunies-Ross, Australian Imperial Force, C/o Mrs Campbell, 141 Knightsbridge, London W."

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was buried on 30th September, 1918 in St. Mary's Churchyard, Easebourne, Chichester, West Sussex, England and has a Private Headstone. His death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

According to Phil Stringer – *United Easebourne* (Easebourne Village & St. Mary's Church Magazine – Vol 19 No. 3 September, 2020):

(Extract of information on Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross)

The family believe Gert Clunies-Ross is buried in St Mary's Churchyard as he was engaged to be married to the daughter of the parish priest. Gert's mother travelled to England in 1919 to meet up with his eldest brother Allan, now commissioned and married, and to join him on his troopship home to Australia. While in Britain, the family confirm she visited Gert's grave in Easebourne. His grave is registered with the CWGC as a private memorial.

Obituary – *The London And China Express* – 30 October, 1918:

NAVAL AND MILITARY

ROLL OF HONOUR

Captain H. E. Clunies-Ross, King's African Rifles, whose death has already been reported, died at Queen Alexandra's Military Hospital on September 27. He enlisted as a private in January, 1915, leaving Australia as platoon-commander in June. After short service in Egypt he was invalided home after enteritis, and was selected to organise the first Cycle Corps to leave Australia. On arrival in England his unit was disbanded, and he was made a machine-gun instructor. He saw fighting on many occasions till August, 1917, when, after leading a company through the Messines battle, he transferred to his British unit, and left for East Africa in October. Here he was a victim to malaria during a visit to Portuguese territory, and being unable to shake it off, was sent back in August. Pneumonia supervened, and proved fatal after a short illness. His great-uncle was the first owner of the Cocos-Keeling Islands.

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. His Medal Index Card listed his rank as Lieutenant.

Base Records wrote to Staff Officer for War Records, Pretoria, South Africa, on 21st September, 1920 with the following: *"With reference to Captain H. E. Clunies-Ross, 3rd Divisional Cyclist Company, who resigned his A.I.F. Commission in England on 24/9/17, and was subsequently appointed to King's African Rifles – it is presumed that, in view of this latter service, his British War and Victory Medals will be issued from your Department. The 1914/15 Star is being issued from this office."*

The Staff Officer, War Records, replied to Base Records on 20th October, 1920 *"...re British War and Victory Medals for Capt. H. E. Clunies Ross late "K.A.R." Your minute under reference has been forwarded to The Officer i/c Record K.A. Rifles for the necessary action. This being an Imperial unit, the administration of decorations and Medals for members of the K.A.R. does not fall within the province of the Department."*

The Department of Defence, Australian Imperial Force, Base Records, Melbourne, Victoria wrote to The Secretary, War Office, London, England on 14th September, 1921 that Captain Henry E. Clunies-Ross, 3rd Division Cyclist Company had served with the Australian Imperial Force from 11th January, 1915 to 24th September, 1917 & qualified for 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal *"but in consequence of his subsequent service with a commission with King's African Rifles the 1914/15 Star will be administered by the Department of Defence, Australia, the remainder by the War Office."*

A. Clunies Ross, Accountant and Secretary, 32 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, wrote to Base Records on 10th January, 1923 with the following: *"As attorney for my mother, Mrs H. E. Clunies Ross, I wish to make enquiry as to the whereabouts of the medals due to her in respect of the late Capt. H. E. Clunies Ross. This officer left Australia early in 1915 with the original 19th Battalion, was invalided from Egypt and left again about July in that year in command of the 3rd Cycle Company. After holding various positions with the Machine Gunners and the Cycle Corps, he was temporarily with the 39th Battalion during 1917 and transferred to the Kings Own Rifles about September 1917. He went to East Africa and returned, dying in London on the 27th September 1918 of pneumonia supervening upon malaria.*

I may mention that a memorial plaque reached me direct from the War Office, but no word has been received of the 1914/15 Star of the General Service and Victory Medals.

I find that in some records he has appeared under the letter "C" as Clunies-Ross, and others under "R".

Base Records replied to A. Clunies Ross, Esq., on 1st February, 1923: *".....and shall be glad if you will advise me whether his father still survives; if so will you kindly furnish me with his present address, in order that the 1914/15 Star may be transmitted. The British War and Victory Medals are being administered by the War Office, London, and I would suggest that the late Officer's father – or if he is deceased, the late Officer's mother – make application to :- The Secretary, War Office, A.G.10 (Medals), 27 Pilgrim Street, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.4."*

A. Clunies Ross, Accountant and Secretary, 32 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, replied to Base Records on 6th February, 1923 regarding the late Captain H. E. Clunies Ross (ex 3rd Division Cyclist Company, A.I.F.) with the following *".....I have to advise that his father died in November 1914. His mother has now returned to Sydney and communications addressed to me at this Office can be dealt with. I also thank you for the address of the official in charge of his War and Victory medals in London."*

A receipt for 1914/15 Star (Issued by Australian authorities) in respect of service of Captain H. E. Clunies-Ross, ex 3rd Div, Cyc. Coy was sent to Base Records having been signed by H. E. Clunies Ross (mother) dated 1 March, 1923.

| Name. | Corps. | Rank. | Regtl. No. |
|--------------------------------|--|-------|---|
| -ROSS | 3 rd Div Coy: G AIF K African Rifles | Leut. | |
| HENRY Egerton CLUNIES- | | | |
| Medal. | Roll. | Page. | Remarks. |
| VICTORY | 601/155 A | 25- | } N/165/R. d. 20.7.23. Back to Col. office. min 6 NW/7/12061. } to be admin by Recds. Melbourne. min 2 NW/9/12061. |
| BRITISH | | " | |
| 1st STAB | | | |
| Theatre of War first served in | | | |
| Date of entry therein | | | |
| | | | NW/7/12061 R. 1380 |

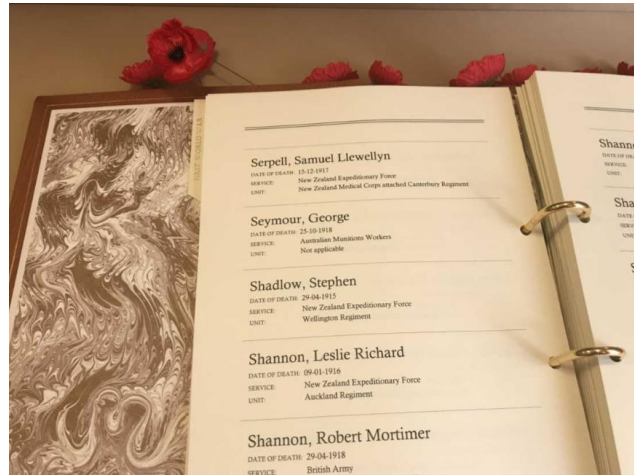
Medal Index Card

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Captain Henry Egerton Clunies Ross, of King's African Rifles. He was the son of William John Clunies Ross and Hannah Elizabeth Ross, of 32 Elizabeth St., Sydney.

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross is remembered on the Commemorative Roll Book, located in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The Commemorative Roll records the names of those Australians who died during or as a result of wars in which Australians served, but who were not serving in the Australian Armed Forces and therefore not eligible for inclusion on the Roll of Honour.



Commemorative Roll (Photo from AWM)



Example of Commemorative Roll Book entry



Commemorative Area of the Australian War Memorial (*Capital Photographer*)

H. G. Clunies-Ross is remembered on the Bathurst War Memorial Carillon, located on Kings Parade, Russell & William Streets, Bathurst, New South Wales.



Bathurst War Memorial Carillon (*Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Peter F. Williams*)



Bathurst War Memorial Carillon

H. G. Clunies-Ross is remembered on the Roll of Honour at the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre, located at 105 William Street, Bathurst, New South Wales.



Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Arthur Garland)

H. E. Clunies Ross is remembered on the Sydney University War Memorial Carillon Roll of Honour which commemorates the undergraduates, graduates and staff who died in service or were killed in action during World War One. The entrance to the carillon contains various honour rolls including the University Roll of Honour which was unveiled on the 11th November 1931.



Sydney University War Memorial Carillon Roll of Honour (Photos from Monument Australia – Peter Williams)



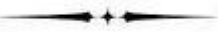
FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY – BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE:

Henry Egerton Clunies Ross

Arts : Captain, King's African Rifles, German East Africa; also Cyclist Corps and 39th Battn., A.I.F., France. Enlisting in January, 1915, and sailing with 19th Battn. 25th June, returned from Egypt through sickness in October. On 18th April, 1916, re-embarked as O.C. 3rd Divisional Cyclist Coy., but served in 39th Battn. from 10th June, 1917, at Battle of Messines and subsequent engagements. Transferred to King's African Rifles, 24th September, leaving immediately for Nairobi, but invalided to England in June, 1918. Promoted second-lieutenant, 5th May, 1915, and lieutenant, October; captain, April, 1916. Died of Illness due to War Service, London, 27th September, 1918, and was buried in Easebourne (St. Mary) Churchyard, West Sussex. Early education at Newington College.

(103 pages of Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross' A.I.F. Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

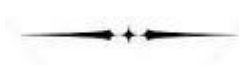
Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives Australia



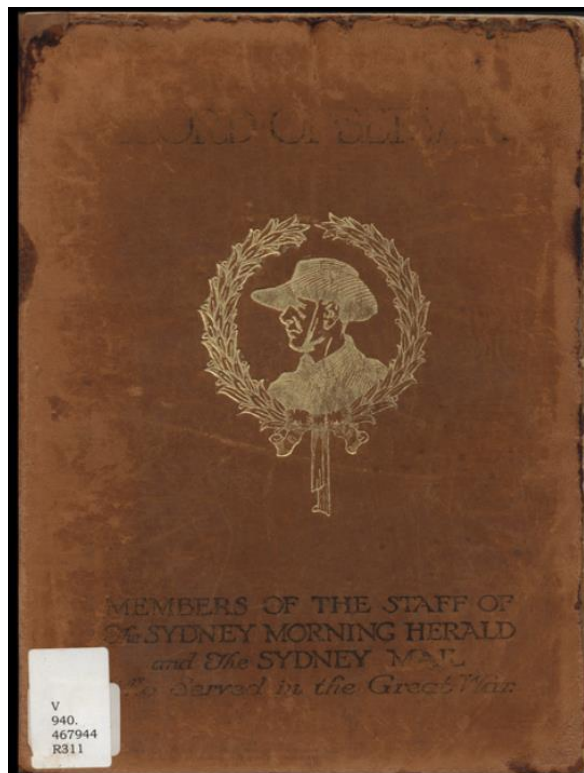
Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross



Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross



From the Record of Service: Members of the Staff of the Sydney Morning Herald and the Sydney Mail who served in the Great War:



July 29, 1918, as a Private in the 23rd general service reinforcements, but got only as far as Capetown when the armistice was signed.



JOHN W. ROBINSON

Was born in 1896 at West Hartlepool, England, and is the only son of Capt. J. W. Robinson, late of Whitby. He was educated at the West Hartlepool Secondary Day School, and, shortly after leaving school, came to Sydney. He joined the reporting staff as a cadet in June, 1914, and in July of the following year enlisted for active service.

On arriving in Egypt some little time later Private Robinson transferred from the Infantry (10th reinforcements of the 17th Battalion) to a cyclist corps attached to a squadron of the 13th Light Horse, and was despatched to the Eastern side of the Suez Canal. While in this zone he was stricken with fever, which eventually necessitated his return to Australia towards the end of 1916. He rejoined the staff immediately he was freed from military service, and in September, 1919, was appointed to the office of the "S. M. Herald" at Newcastle.

H. E. CLUNIES ROSS

Was born at Bathurst in 1891, being the second son of the late Mr. W. J.

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Clunies Ross, lecturer in chemistry and metallurgy at the Sydney Technical College. He was a nephew of Major Martin Donohoe, the well-known war correspondent, and a grand nephew of the late Mr. Clunies Ross, owner of Cocos Island. He was a member of the reporting staff.

Enlisting in the ranks in 1914 he went to Egypt with the 19th Battalion, and, after several months' service there received his commission. He was invalided home in October, 1915, with enteritis. On his recovery in Australia he was promoted to the rank of Captain and placed in command of the 1st Cyclists' Company with which, in May, 1916, he went to France. There he was engaged at Messines Ridge and elsewhere. In 1917 he was transferred from the A.I.F. to the King's African Rifles. He contracted malaria in German East Africa after serving there for several months. For a time he was in hospital at Nairobi, and then was removed to the Queen Alexandra Hospital in London, where he died on September 27, 1918.

PHILIP HARVEY RUNDLE

Was born at Meroo, near Mudgee, in 1875, being the youngest son of the late Mr. Richard Rundle. He joined the composing department in 1909.

He enlisted as a Private with the ninth reinforcements of the 1st Pioneer



H. E. CLUNIES ROSS

Was born at Bathurst in 1891, being the second son of the late Mr. W. J.



Clunies Ross, lecturer in chemistry and metallurgy at the Sydney Technical College. He was a nephew of Major Martin Donohoe, the well-known war correspondent, and a grand nephew of the late Mr. Clunies Ross, owner of Cocos Island. He was a member of the reporting staff.

Enlisting in the ranks in 1914 he went to Egypt with the 19th Battalion, and, after several months' service there received his commission. He was invalided home in October, 1915, with enteritis. On his recovery in Australia he was promoted to the rank of Captain and placed in command of the 1st Cyclists' Company with which, in May, 1916, he went to France. There he was engaged at Messines Ridge and elsewhere. In 1917 he was transferred from the A.I.F. to the King's African Rifles. He contracted malaria in German East Africa after serving there for several months. For a time he was in hospital at Nairobi, and then was removed to the Queen Alexandra Hospital in London, where he died on September 27, 1918.

Newspaper Items

Our Citizen Soldiers

CHANGES

The following appointments and changes have been gazetted:-Australian Intelligence Corps (New South Wales District): Henry Egerton Clunies Ross to be lieutenant (provisionally)

(Australia Town and Country Journal, Sydney, NSW – 19 June, 1912)

DEATHS

Clunies-Ross – Sept. 27, at Queen Alexandra's Hospital, of pneumonia, Captain H. E. Clunies-Ross, King's African Rifles (late of Australian Imperial Forces), of Sydney, NSW.

(The London and China Telegraph, England – 30 September, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOR

ROSS – Captain Egerton Clunies Ross, 2nd King's African Rifles, died 27th September, 1918, at Queen Alexandra Hospital, London, of malaria, contracted while on active service in German East Africa, second son of the late W. J. Clunies Ross and Mrs Ross, "The Gunyah," Al Street, Ashfield,

(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW, Australia – 3 October, 1918) & (The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW, Australia – 3 October, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

CLUNIES-ROSS – On the 27th September, Sept. 27, at Queen Alexandra's Hospital, of pneumonia, Captain H. E. Clunies-Ross, King's African Rifles (late Australian Imperial Forces), of Sydney, New South Wales.

(Streatham News, Balham & Tooting News and Borough of Wandsworth Chronicle, England – 4 October, 1918)

DEATH OF CAPTAIN H. E. C. ROSS

Captain H. E. Clunies Ross, who, prior to enlisting in 1914, was a member of the literary staff of the "Sydney Morning Herald," has died at the Queen Alexandra Hospital in London from malaria, contracted while on active service in German East Africa. He was 27 years of age, and was the second son of the late Mr. W. J. Clunies Ross, lecturer in chemistry and metallurgy at the Sydney Technical College, and Mrs. Clunies Ross, of The Gunyah, Alt-street, Ashfield. Two of his brothers, Sergeant A. Clunies Ross and Private R. Clunies Ross, are serving in France, and his only other brother is a student of veterinary science at the University of Sydney.



His uncle, Major Martin Donohoe, the well-known war correspondent, is serving with the Intelligence Corps in Mesopotamia. On enlisting in 1914, Captain Ross went to Egypt with the 19th Battalion, and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant, but he was invalided home in October, 1915, with enteritis. On his recovery in Australia he was promoted to the rank of Captain, and placed in command of the 1st Cyclists' Company, with which, in May, 1916, he went to France. There he was engaged at Messines Ridge and elsewhere. Last year he was transferred from the A.I.F. to the King's African Rifles, and sailed for Africa in September of that year. He contracted malaria in German East Africa after serving there for several months. For a time he was in hospital at Lindi, whence he was transferred to Nairobi, and then he was removed to the Queen Alexandra Hospital in London, where he died on September 27. Captain Ross was a grand-nephew of the late Mr. Clunies Ross, owner of Cocos Island.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 4 October, 1918)

NAVAL AND MILITARY

ROLL OF HONOUR

Captain H. E. Clunies-Ross, King's African Rifles, whose death has already been reported, died at Queen Alexandra's Military Hospital on September 27. He enlisted as a private in January, 1915, leaving Australia as platoon-commander in June. After short service in Egypt he was invalided home after enteritis, and was selected to organise the first Cycle Corps to leave Australia. On arrival in England his unit was disbanded, and he was made a machine-gun instructor. He saw fighting on many occasions till August, 1917, when, after leading a company through the Messines battle, he transferred to his British unit, and left for East Africa in October. Here he was a victim to malaria during a visit to Portuguese territory, and being unable to shake it off, was sent back in August. Pneumonia supervened, and proved fatal after a short illness. His great-uncle was the first owner of the Cocos-Keeling Islands.

(The London and China Telegraph, England – 4 November, 1918)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross has a Private Headstone

St. Mary's Churchyard, Easebourne, Chichester, West Sussex, England

There are 6 Commonwealth War Graves in St. Mary's Churchyard, Easebourne, Chichester – all relating to World War 1.



(Photo from Find a Grave – Julia&keld)



St. Mary's Churchyard, Easebourne (Photo by *The Voice of Hassocks*)



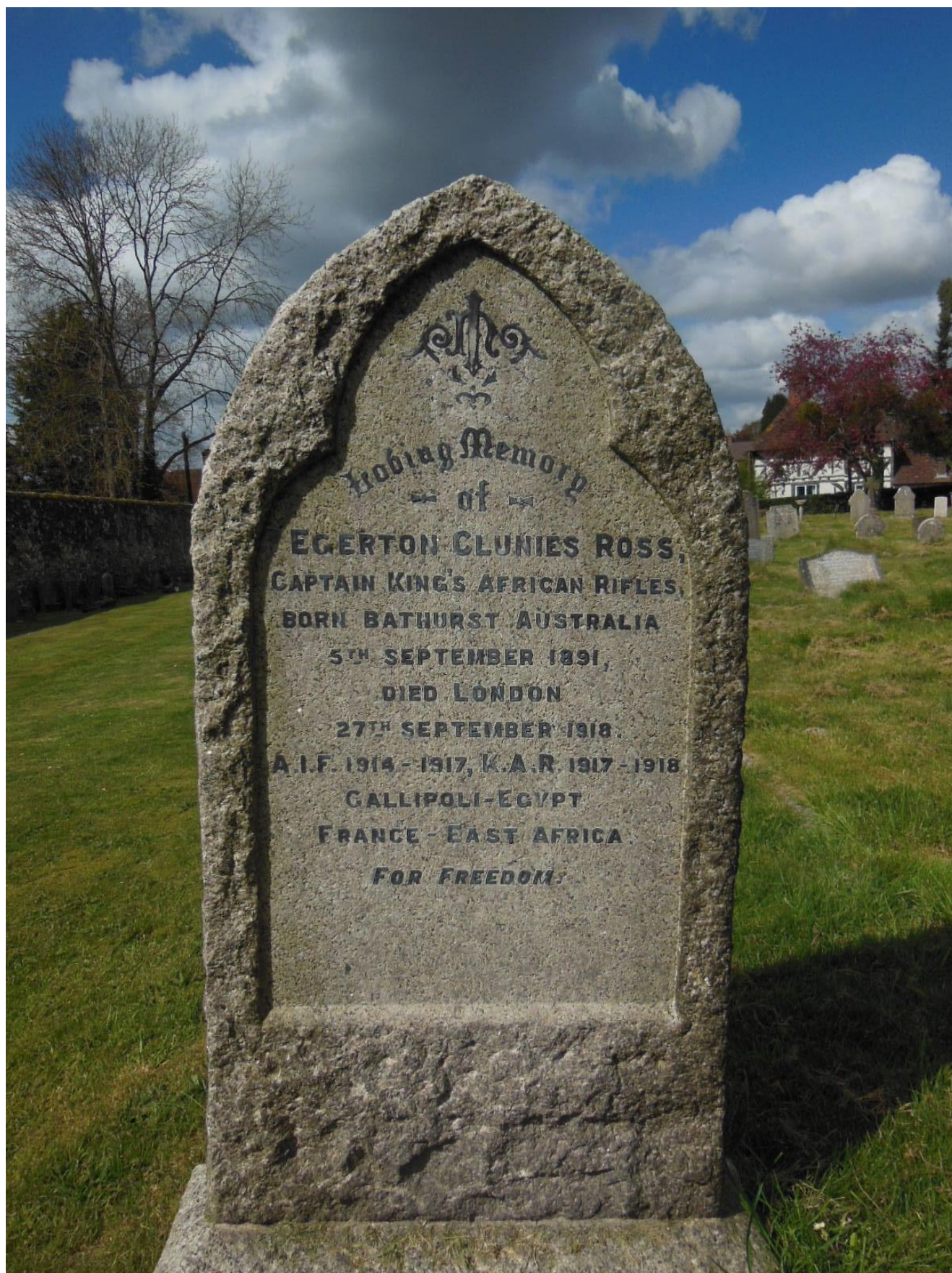
Looking towards the Lych Gate at St. Mary, Easebourne (Photo by *Basher Eyre*)



Egerton Clunies-Ross' Private Headstone near to Easebourne War Memorial (see arrow)

(Photo from War Memorials Online – Phil Stringer – Sep 2023)

Photo of Captain Henry Egerton Clunies-Ross' Private Headstone in St. Mary's Churchyard, Easebourne, Chichester, West Sussex, England.



(Photo from Find a Grave – Julia&keld)

In
Loving Memory
Of
EGERTON CLUNIES ROSS,
Captain King's African Rifles,
Born Bathurst Australia
5TH September 1891,
Died London
27TH September 1918
A.I.F. 1914 – 1917, K.A.R. 1917 – 1918
Gallipoli – Egypt
France – East Africa
For Freedom



(Photo from *United Easebourne* (Easebourne Village & St. Mary's Church Magazine – Vol 19 No. 3 September, 2020)