

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

CONFIDENTIAL.

WAR DIARY.

of

Name and Appt.

*Lt Guy Mossall VC*

Unit

*10th L.A.*

from

to

Volume

D.398.9.14.—C.11056.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
30/7/15	Alexandria	Sailed per _____ for Lemnos transhipped to a patrol boat & reached Anzac Beach 3/8/15 - Found Regent on Walkers Ridge	
7/8/15 7/8/15	Anzac	Great Charge of 3 <sup>rd</sup> LH Brigade on The Nek 10 <sup>th</sup> lost 7 Officers killed & 96 men - 8 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup> between them suffered about 450 casualties Ric shot thro lungs & sent to Cairo - Capt McMaster took my position in mistake he & 26 of his troop were killed no casualties in my troop - Night before Ric & Chippers & self spent night on cliffs watching warships bombard (our 1 <sup>st</sup> taste	

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
27/8/15	"Hill 60" Gallipoli	of Whisky - I stole a bottle from Mrs Todd) both Choppers killed - Fren very tired & sick relieved by 20 <sup>th</sup> Pat at Walker & moved to 'Hill 60' - Fine bayonet charge - Major Scott	
28/8/15		in Command of Regiment - Capt Fry killed - suffered about 90 Casualties? - Regiment only mustered 100 Bayonets for the charge	
29/8/15		'wounded' - left by Hospitalship "Devannah"	
30/8/15	Hospital Ship Devannah	Aken - Clean bed & 15 hrs sleep called at Lemnos - Malta - Gibraltar	
12/9/16	Southampton	Arrives England entrained for London & transferred to 3 <sup>rd</sup> London Gen Hospital vanwork	
13/9/16	London	Met Mrs Todd - Cadden - Campbell - Sherwood Hyall	
14/ -		went to Empire Theatre with Todd & Cadden - met Mrs KSP	

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
17/9/15	London	Went for 2 days with Todd & Cadden to stay at Balcombe Swamp - Chelms with 4 days - got poisoned foot	with two streams country - stayed
23/9/15	"	Operation for deafness contracted Nearly "Traffalgar"	meningitis
17/10/15	Hospital	Given V.C. Old Ric arrived & <del>came</del> had a close shave but convalescent - came to see me met Rena Sara - Hewitta Watson	
27/10/15	do	Birthday - Mully gave me a present	
10/11/15	London	Left Hospital - went Swamp - Nottingham - Yorkshire	
4/12/15	"	Kirkcaldy Scotland - Aberdeen - Xmas Herefordshire	
5/1/16	Ireland	was decorated at Buckingham Palace by George V. Visited Lt Dunlop & Mr Hallman Ferryport Cork	
		Did Samplers Irish hunting (bank jumping) had	

EXTRACT from a semi-private letter to the  
COMMANDING OFFICER of the 10th Regiment, re our CHARGE  
on HILL 60 on the 29th August, 1915.

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Written on a Hospital Ship at LEMNOS, about 1st September.

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I want you, Sir, to recommend Trooper Frank McMachon, (1)  
killed at 7 a.m.; No. 969, Trooper Thomas Renton, (3) bombed through  
the knee, since lost his leg at the thigh; No. 176, Corporal S. H.  
Ferriers, (2) right arm amputated at the shoulder, died of wounds and  
buried off the coast of Spain 8/9/1915; No. 313, Corporal H. M.  
McMee, (4) wounded twice on the head and in the hand,  
for some special distinction.

In my opinion no honour could be too high. As you know, they  
held the extreme right of the captured trench there when we took it  
about 1 a.m. ~~from 7 until~~ <sup>at</sup> 7.30, in spite of the fact that this  
particular portion of the trench was bombed incessantly by the enemy  
all night long. Whenever a Turkish bomb landed in the trench, these  
men immediately picked it up and threw it out again, frequently  
succeeding in lobbing it back amongst the Turks. I saw this act  
performed, not once, but dozens of times. They also played havoc  
with the enemy by throwing our own bombs. Many other men fought  
bravely but were unfortunate in being wounded early and so forced to  
retire. Others again came along in the early morning and did yeoman  
service, such as Sergt. Henderson, Burrowes, Eakins, Jones, Harris,  
Ainsworth, but the 4 I mention stand alone. They bore the brunt of  
the fighting for over six hours, and it was not until after the

Turks had made their third, and final, unsuccessful counter attack that they were all wounded about the same time - between 7 and 7.30.

The fact that we still held the trench is, in my opinion, largely due to the splendid courage and the accurate bombing of these glorious men.

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RECOMMENDATION for MENTION, to accompany Despatch  
covering period September to December, 1915.

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Place: ANZAC.

No. 969, Trooper Thomas Renton,, 10th Light Horse.

No man of his Brigade did finer work, and his name has  
been specially brought to my notice by Lieutenant Throssell, V.C.,  
who was decorated for his conspicuous services on this occasion.

He displayed the greatest calmness, gallantry and resource  
under the most trying conditions, and subsequently lost his leg,  
the result of wounds sustained on that occasion.

I confidently bring his name under notice for special mention.

(Sgd.) Colonel Commanding

3rd Aust. Light Horse Brigade.

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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MENTION AND REWARDS TO  
ACCOMPANY DESPATCH COVERING PERIOD  
SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 1915.

PLACE - ANZAC.

No. 176 Trooper Ferrier S.

No. 89 Trooper McMahon F. both of the 10th Light Horse. Lieut Throssell states that these men were with him during the whole period of over 48 hours in the trenches, under a most murderous bomb, rifle and machine gun fire. Ferrier had his arm blown off, and succumbed to his injuries on his journey to England. McMahon, who was shot in the head, died shortly after his wounds.

I am satisfied that the services of these men were of such a conspicuously fine character that they should if it is possible, have their names recorded, as an example of great gallantry and devotion to duty.

No. 969 Trooper Renton, Thomas, 10th. A.L.H.

No man of this Brigade did finer work, and his name has been specially brought to my notice by Lieutenant Throssell, V.C., who was decorated for his conspicuous services on this occasion. He displayed the greatest coolness, gallantry and resource under the most trying conditions, and subsequently lost his leg, the result of wounds sustained on that occasion. I confidently bring his name under notice for special mention.

Signed 

Colonel.  
Commanding 3rd. A.L.H. Brigade.

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covering period September to December, 1915.

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(Sgd.)        Colonel Commanding 3rd A.L.H. Brigade.



*The War of 1914-1918.*

*Australian Imperial Force  
2nd Lt. H. V. H. Throssell, 10th L. Horse R.*

*was mentioned in a Despatch from*

*General Sir Ian S. M. Hamilton, G.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C.*

*dated 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1915*

*for gallant and distinguished services in the Field.*

*I have it in command from the King to record His Majesty's  
high appreciation of the services rendered.*

*Christie S. Churchill*

*Secretary of State for War.*

*War Office  
Whitehall, S.W.  
1<sup>st</sup> March 1919.*

Haverfield  
25.10.'15

Lieut Throssel

Dear Sir,

'Tis late to offer congratulations, but you know you have the goodwill of the boys who fought by your side that night, and phrases written on impulse sound empty, but we "The boys" know the mark of distinction is "fair dinkum" and one which you must wear on the most prominent part of your chest for the symbol and the wearer belong to the 10th A. I. H. and so do we, and are very proud of the fact.

While in King George Hospital I heard from time to time through your charming deputy how you were progressing and was always pleased to hear progress, may you continue so.

I was transferred here last Tuesday and like it very much. So different to be with our own people and I am fortunate in having my own Sister from Sydney to nurse me

HIGH COMMISSIONER.

COMMONWEALTH OFFICES.

72. VICTORIA STREET.

WESTMINSTER.

LONDON, S.W.

26th October, 1915.

*Dear Lieut. Throssell*

It gives me great pleasure to convey to you the following Resolution, which was passed in the Legislative Assembly of Western Australia on the 20th instant:-

"That this House desires to express its pleasure on learning that Lieutenant Hugo Victor Hope Throssell has been awarded the high distinction of the V.C., and at the same time to place on record its great appreciation of Lieutenant Throssell's merit and gallantry."

*Very sincerely yours*  
*R. A. New*

Lieutenant H.V.H. Throssell, V.C.,  
10th Light Horse Regiment,  
No. 3 London General Hospital,  
Wandsworth.

Telegraphic Address:  
"SIGNALLY, AVE."  
LONDON.Telephone:—  
3632 LONDON WALL  
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**TO-NIGHT ! TO-NIGHT !**

**Thursday, Jan. 9.**

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**ATTRACTION EXTRAORDINARY**

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A Lantern Lecturette, entitled

**“THE LIGHT HORSE**

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IN THE

**HOLY LAND.”**

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**By Capt Hugo Throssell, V.C.**

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Selections from 200 Photographs taken on the spot, depicting the Gallipoli and Palestine Campaigns, specially dealing with Light Horse work in Gaza, Beersheba, Jerusalem, Jericho, and the Jordan Valley.

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**A. J. IVIMEY - - - Representative**

## "Fighting Jim"

It's a proud day for you, and prouder for us,  
So do you forgive us this bit of a fuss  
That we're making of you, Northam's own H.V.T.,  
And added to that is the well earned V.C.

You always loved scrappin' you cannot deny,  
And a twenty foot ring looked good to your eye.  
That you fought like a good'un, and beat your man too  
Is what we expected "Jim" Throssell to do.

So when Father Bull got fighting, of course,  
You made one of the famous and gallant Light Horse.  
And when Johnny Turk from his trench was pushed back  
You made the world ring with a new name "Anzac."

End of round number one, on points you're the winner,  
And the chance of the Kaiser grows dimmer and dimmer,  
And when Father Bull puts the Kaiser to bed  
You're knowledge will be that you've done what we said.

And I don't think that end will be very long,  
And may be you hope the same of my song.  
But anyhow, boys, let go—three times three!  
For the Bravest and Best, 'JIM' THROSSELL, V.C.