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InterCultural Consulting Group
"supporting intercultural opportunities"



Anzac Day- Villers-Bretonneux and the Grand Western Front Trail of Remembrance Tour We remember 1916. and Taste of Japan stopover.



Itinerary

Sunday 3rd April 2016 – Wednesday 29th April 2016.

Day 1. 3rd April. (Sunday)

Singapore Airlines flight from Brisbane to Osaka via Singapore.

Day 2. 4th April (Monday)

Arrival into Osaka and transfer to Kyoto

A visit to the local 7 Eleven for a snack .

(7 Eleven's are unbelievable in Japan....not like ours at all !)

Royal Inn and Spa Hotel Kyoto. (Western and/or Japanese breakfasts included).

(Because of our youthful ages and tender backs, we have decided to stay in a hotel with western beds and wifi. The Royal Inn and Spa is also more centrally located to the main shopping street.)



**Wander into Nishiki Market across the road from the hotel.
Dinner in local restaurant.**

Day 3. 5th April (Tuesday)

Arashiyama –Sagano district of bamboo forests.

Kinkakuji Golden temple.

Dinner in a local restaurant.

We are in Kyoto for Cherry Blossom season and time for Hanami (Japanese picnics).

There are literally thousands of Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines in Kyoto. Enryaku-ji Temple and To-ji Temple are two of the most prominent examples of the esoteric Buddhist tradition while the five great Zen Buddhism temples of Kyoto include Nanzen-ji Temple, Shokoku-ji Temple, Tenryu-ji Temple, and the Golden and Silver Pavilions (Kinkakuji and Ginkakuji). Like Buddhist temples, Shinto shrines are places of worship. In Shinto, millions of gods which can be found everywhere are worshipped. The most important Shinto shrines in Kyoto include Kamigamo-jinja and Shimogamo-jinja, which enshrine water gods, and Yasaka-jinja, where the god of prosperity and good health is worshipped.



Day 4. 6th April (Wednesday.)

*Train to Fushimi Inari Shrine.
Kiyomizu-dera temple.
Gion Corner dinner and show.*

Day 5. 7th April (Thursday)

Today we catch the Shinkansen (bullet train) to Hiroshima.

Parkside Hotel Hiroshima

2-6-24 Otemachi, Naka Ward, Hiroshima, Hiroshima Prefecture 730-0051, Japan
+81 82-244-7131. Japanese breakfast included.

*Hiroshima Peace Park and Museum.
Okonamiyaki dinner.
Karaoke (Optional).*



Day 6. 8th April .(Friday)

Today we visit Miyajima. A World Heritage island.



**Iwakuni and the Kintai Bridge.
Dinner at Sanzoku (Pirates' Lair).**

Day 7. 9th April (Saturday)

A walk to Hiroshima Castle in the morning or some last minute Shopping and then either a Shinkansen trip to Osaka for our flight or a quick flight to Tokyo for the final flight to Paris- Charles De Gaulle. We arrive on the 10th April.

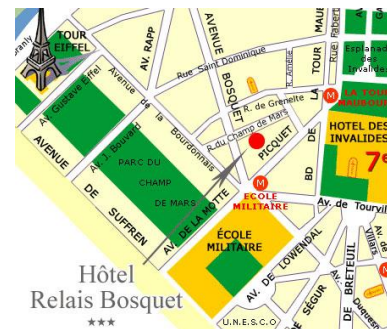


Western Front Tour begins. 10th April 2016

Paris.

Day 8. 10th April (Sunday)

We are transferred by private transport to our Paris Hotel close to the Eiffel Tower in the 7th Arrondissement. We start our visit to Paris with a small visit to the Eiffel Tower. Tonight a dinner in Rue St Cler one of the best market areas in Paris. Only a short walk from the hotel.



Hotel LE RELAIS BOSQUET

An attractive, privately run three star hotel, very close to the Eiffel Tower, a short walk from the delightful shopping street, Rue Cler. Our friendly, multilingual team is at your service and can answer any questions that you may have about the capital and the numerous sights and attractions that it offers. Our well-equipped rooms ensure that you are comfortable and have everything that you need for an enjoyable stay. Welcome to the Hotel Relais Bosquet and the Eiffel Tower district!



- 19, rue du Champ de Mars
- 75007 Paris - France
- Tel. +33 (0)1 47 05 25 45
- Fax +33 (0)1 45 55 08 24
- hotel@relaisbosquet.com

Day 9. 11th April (Monday)

Our first day to explore Paris after breakfast. We board our private bus today for a great view of Paris. Today Montmartre and the Artist District and Moulin Rouge and Notre Dame and many other places. A chance to get out and experience Paris.

Dinner tonight is at a local restaurant. Maybe Champs De Mars.



Day 10. 12th April (Tuesday)



Free Day.

Morning free for shopping or sleeping in. Unfortunately, the Louvre is closed. Other museums like the Musee d'Orsay or Les Invalides are open if you wish to wander around these.

Perhaps Versailles in the afternoon?

Day 11. 13th April (Wednesday)

Welcome Debbie, Marie, Jeff and Alan. 17 people

Walk day to the Louvre, Notre Dame, Pont des Arts and art dealers around the Seine, Shakespeare's Book Shop and Latin Quarter for late lunch.

For those who wish to visit the Louvre, it is open today. Feel free to take a couple of hours to walk around it and we will see you back at the hotel.

Dinner and show at Moulin Rouge tonight.

Moulon Rouge experience.

Enjoy an excellent meal in the resplendent Parisian cabaret made famous by the paintings of Toulouse Lautrec. We have a truly French Menu and a half bottle of Champagne .

After dinner, see the French Cancan performed in the Parisian home of the Cancan. You'll experience the magic of the Moulin Rouge's "Féerie" review and enjoy the essence of Parisian cabaret.

The Moulin Rouge's "Féerie" review features a troupe of 100 artists, including 60 legendary Doriss Girls, dressed in spectacular costumes of feathers, rhinestones and sequins. The sumptuous sets and vibrant light show of "Féerie" provide a colorful backdrop for brilliantly choreographed performances on moving staircases, in a gigantic aquarium, on swings and in garden settings.



12. 14th April (Thursday)

Today we are off to one of the most famous spots in Paris....the Bastille. We travel by Metro.

Here French history was made with the storming of the Bastille but today has the best markets in Paris.

Head to the Opera District to see, The Paris Story. Shopping at Galeries La Fayette?

Dinner at Eiffel Tower and the Seine Cruise.



Bastille Markets

One of the biggest markets in Paris, the Marché Bastille's food stalls sprawl up the Boulevard Richard Lenoir twice a week, with more produce than most hypermarkets – it's a particularly great source of local cheeses, free range chicken and excellent fish. The atmospheric and beautiful piles of fruit, veg, sauces, olives and so on are interspersed with stalls offering African batiks, cheap jewellery and bags, but that doesn't detract from the overall sense of bountiful goodness. Keep an eye on the prices, as not everything is a bargain – some of this is seriously classy stuff, making the market a favorite with bourgeois foodies.

Eiffel Tower and Dinner

We treat ourselves to an unforgettable night in Paris with dinner on the Eiffel Tower and a Seine river cruise. Take in views of the Champ de Mars, Les Invalides, Montparnasse Tower and Montmartre as you dine on a gourmet 3-course meal at the award-winning 58 Tour Eiffel restaurant on the Eiffel Tower's first floor. Then, board a glass-enclosed boat for a relaxing Seine cruise past top Paris attractions like Notre Dame and the Louvre.

- Dinner on the Eiffel Tower followed by a Seine river cruise
- Admire Paris' beautiful sights at night from two different perspectives
- Savor a gourmet 3-course meal with wine at the esteemed 58 Tour Eiffel restaurant
- Soak up sweeping views of the City of Lights as you dine on the Eiffel Tower's first floor and then view from the second floor.
- Enjoy a Seine river cruise past floodlit Notre Dame, the Louvre and the Musée d'Orsay

13. 15th April (Friday)

Day trip to Rouen to see Joan D'arc museum and the Gros Horloge (medieval buildings) in the St McLou Quartier. We then visit Giverny to see Monet's Garden in the beautiful afternoon sun.



Rouen and Giverny.

Our journey starts with the drive to **ROUEN** that lasts 2 hours, the former capital of Normandy that played a vital role in French history and is also known as the place where Joan of Arc was executed. Upon our arrival we will join the old medieval center and start our tour with a guided visit of the **CATHEDRAL NOTRE DAME DE ROUEN**, a textbook example of French Gothic architecture and featured in numerous paintings by Monet. Its extremely spacious interior is a visual treat, especially its outstanding stained glass. In addition, the cathedral features a tomb purportedly containing the heart of Richard the Lionhearted.

Strolling through the St Maclou quarter with its winding streets lined with timber framed medieval houses; we will get to the **GROS HORLOGE**, a delightful tower with an impressive, colorful antique clock where you will climb to the top for a beautiful view of the city. We will follow further to the Old Market Place that contains the modern **CHURCH SAINT JEANNE D'ARC**, the impressive **PALAIS DE JUSTICE** to have a look (if time) at the **MUSEE DES BEAUX ARTS** which features a collection of canvases by Velasquez, Delacroix, Sisley and Monet.

It is now time for **lunch** in one of the typical Norman bistros in the old town

After lunch, we will join our comfortable, air-conditioned van for the next exceptional destination on our program: **GIVERNY**.

Giverny is classified by the French as part of the "plus beaux villages de France" (most beautiful villages in France), indeed, you get caught by its charm as soon as you put your foot in it. The fact that Monet lived and worked there 43 years of his life adds to its magic. In fact, it is because of its beauty and picturesque location that he settled there, bringing it out of the shadow forever into the light.

Upon your arrival in Giverny, we will stop at the local church (that Monet painted several times) that leads to the village graveyard where we will have a close look at **Monet's tomb**. A little later, we will stop at the former **café Baudy**, the residence of many American Impressionists (Whistler, Metcalf, Robinson, Mary Cassatt...) and friends of Monet that stayed there when they visited him (Renoir, Rodin, Cezanne...). We will have a look at the barn behind the café that these artists used as a studio in winter. Further down the street, we will pass the Museum of Impressionism that houses excellent temporary exhibitions before arriving to Monet's house and garden.

We will enter and start our visit at the **WATER GARDEN** that Monet created 10 years after settling in Giverny on a piece of land neighboring his property and crossed by a small brook, the Ru. It is inspired by the **Japanese gardens** that Monet knew from the prints that he collected avidly. We will find the famous Japanese bridge covered with wisteria, weeping willows, a bamboo wood and above all the famous **nymphaeas** that bloom all summer long. Monet shaped his subjects in nature there before painting them. He found his inspiration there for more than 20 years.

Leaving the water garden, we will arrive to the **FLOWER GARDEN** (called Le Clos Normand) full of perspectives, symmetries and colors. It is divided into flowerbeds where flower clumps of different heights create volume. Monet did not like organized nor constrained gardens. He married flowers according to the harmony of their colors and let them grow freely. At the end of the Flower Gardens we will arrive for a visit to **MONET'S HOUSE (BLUE ROOM, FAMILY LIVING ROOM, MONET'S BEDROOM, ALICE'S BEDROOM, DINING ROOM and KITCHEN)**

After leaving Monet's house, you will finish your visit at his last **STUDIO** (that he had built especially to paint the large Water-Lilies Paintings that are at the Orangerie Museum in Paris) that houses now a gift shop.

Leaving the magic of Giverny behind, driving along the picturesque "**Route des Crêtes**", we will discover on your way back to Paris the exceptional panorama of the Seine Valley, an ancient watch tower of the 10th century (that was built during the Viking invasion), the village and château of **La Roche Guyon** (that became the headquarter of general Rommel during WWII) and make a last stop in the village of **Vétheuil** where Monet lived for 3 years before discovering Giverny.

14. 16th April (Saturday)

Depart by train this morning from Paris, Gare St Lazare to the Normandy region (Volognes) for a short country stay. Sample the local delicacies and of course the wine. We finally arrive in Bayeux region –our home for the next 5 days. We stop off at the coast to sample some local food. Our private transport then to the Chateux. It is here that Chateux Le Val sits near the village of Brix. This 16th Century Normandy Chateux is filled with charm. Karin and Francois help us to settle into our new home .

Tonight as we relax into our Chateau, Wine and Cheese and local foods are on offer.



BRIX

Brix is a commune in the Manche department in Normandy in northwestern France. Brix is known primarily as being the assumed origin of the Bruce family, who emigrated to Britain in the Middle Ages, settling in northern England and then southern Scotland. The family became a royal house with the accession of Robert the Bruce in 1306

The Chateux has links to the Monaco Royal family with Grimeldi history linked to the Chateux also.

15. 17th April (Sunday)

Today we visit the D Day beaches of Normandy and remember the liberation of Europe during World War 2. Omaha and Utah beach along with the wartime museums that tell their story. Our guide will give us personal insights into each place.

Tonight again some of the local produce is prepared for dinner along with wine , of course !



The Normandy Beaches.

The **Normandy landings** (codenamed **Operation Neptune**) were the landing operations on 6 June 1944 (termed **D-Day**) of the Allied invasion of Normandy in Operation Overlord during World War II. The largest seaborne invasion in history, the operation began the liberation of German-occupied northwestern Europe from Nazi control, and contributed to the Allied victory on the Western Front.

Planning for the operation began in 1943. In the months leading up to the invasion, the Allies conducted a substantial military deception, codenamed Operation Bodyguard, to mislead the Germans as to the date and location of the main Allied landings. The weather on D-Day was far from ideal, but postponing would have meant a delay of at least two weeks, as the invasion planners had requirements for the phase of the moon, the tides, and the time of day that meant only a few days in each month were deemed suitable. Hitler placed German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel in command of German forces and of developing fortifications along the Atlantic Wall in anticipation of an Allied invasion.

The amphibious landings were preceded by extensive aerial and naval bombardment and an airborne assault—the landing of 24,000 British, US, and Canadian airborne troops shortly after midnight. Allied infantry and armoured

divisions began landing on the coast of France at 06:30. The target 50-mile (80 km) stretch of the Normandy coast was divided into five sectors: Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno, and Sword Beach. Strong winds blew the landing craft east of their intended positions, particularly at Utah and Omaha. The men landed under heavy fire from gun emplacements overlooking the beaches, and the shore was mined and covered with obstacles such as wooden stakes, metal tripods, and barbed wire, making the work of the beach clearing teams difficult and dangerous. Casualties were heaviest at Omaha, with its high cliffs. At Gold, Juno, and Sword, several fortified towns were cleared in house-to-house fighting, and two major gun emplacements at Gold were disabled using specialised tanks.

The Allies failed to achieve all of their goals on the first day. Carentan, St. Lô, and Bayeux remained in German hands, and Caen, a major objective, was not captured until 21 July. Only two of the beaches (Juno and Gold) were linked on the first day, and all five bridgeheads were not connected until 12 June. However, the operation gained a foothold that the Allies gradually expanded over the coming months. German casualties on D-Day were around 1,000 men. Allied casualties were at least 10,000, with 4,414 confirmed dead. Museums, memorials, and war cemeteries in the area host many visitors each year.

16. 18th April *(Monday)*

Today we travel to Mt St Michel and visit this amazing medieval monastery. A lovely drive to Mont St Michel, a fortified structure which in the past has been a monastery and a prison and is situated on a small island .The castle was used as a background for the movie of the story of the Scarlet Pimpernel written by Baroness Orczy.

Some great opportunities for lunch and even better shopping.
We travel home tonight to the Chateau for another great meal.
Why not have another drink tonight in the Chateau tower surrounded by history?



Le Mont-Saint-Michel is an island commune in Normandy, France. It is located approximately one kilometre (0.6 miles) off the country's northwestern coast, at the mouth of the Couesnon River near Avranches. 100 hectares (247 acres) in size, the island has a population of 44 (2009).

The island has held strategic fortifications since ancient times and since the 8th century AD has been the seat of the monastery from which it draws its name. The structural composition of the town exemplifies the feudal society that constructed it: on top, God, the abbey and monastery; below, the great halls; then stores and housing; and at the bottom, outside the walls, fishermen's and farmers' housing.

Its unique position of being an island only 600 metres from land made it readily accessible at low tide to the many pilgrims to its abbey. Equally, this position made it readily defensible as an incoming tide stranded, drove off, or drowned, would-be assailants. By capitalizing on this natural defence the Mont remained unconquered during the Hundred Years' War with a small garrison successfully defending it against a full attack by the English in 1433. The reverse benefits of its natural defence were not lost on Louis XI, who turned the Mont into a prison. Thereafter the abbey began to be used more regularly as a jail during the Ancien Régime.

One of France's most recognizable landmarks, Mont Saint-Michel and its bay are part of the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites and more than 3 million people visit it each year.

17. 19th April *(Tuesday)*

Today we take another D Day tour and visit Bayeux made famous for that tapestry of the Norman invasions. There is time for some shopping in the very cute town of Bayeux also.

Tonight we return home for a yummy meal of local produce.



The Bayeux Tapestry

The Bayeux Tapestry: 229 feet long, 19 inches high, 350 kilos

The Bayeux Tapestry relates the conquest of England by William the Conqueror, from 1064 to the outcome of the Battle of Hastings.

The Bayeux Tapestry isn't really a tapestry – it's an embroidered linen cloth. It is about 70 metres (230 ft) long. It tells the story of the William the Conqueror's invasion of England and the Battle of Hastings. The Bayeux Tapestry was probably made in England, having been commissioned by William I's half-brother, Bishop Odo. It was discovered in the 18th century hanging in Bayeux Cathedral. Wool yarn, coloured by vegetable dyes, was used for the embroidery and the work is divided into fifty panels. The tapestry starts with a scene depicting Edward the Confessor sending Harold Godwinson to Normandy, and ends with English troops fleeing the battlefield at Hastings. The appearance of Halley's Comet is also featured. During the French Revolution, the tapestry was confiscated with the intention of using it as a covering for military wagons. Luckily, it was hidden by a local lawyer and kept safe until the troubles were over. Charles Dickens was quite critical of the quality of the embroidery. After viewing it, he said, "It certainly is the work of amateurs; very feeble amateurs at the beginning and very heedless some of them too." The arrow sticking out of Harold Godwinson's eye in the tapestry would appear to be a later addition. About 6 metres of the Bayeux Tapestry are missing. These scenes would probably have centered around William I's coronation. The Bayeux Tapestry was produced by the Normans, the victors in the Battle of Hastings. This must be taken into account when determining its accuracy as an historical source. William Morris, in collaboration with Thomas Wardle and his wife Elizabeth, created a reproduction of the tapestry in 1885. A team of more than 30 seamstresses were used to complete the work. It is thought that the Bayeux Tapestry was completed in the 1070s, several years after William's victory in the Battle of Hastings.

18. 20th April *(Wednesday)*

Today is our last day at the Chateaux. Sleep in or just laze around all day. Try a game of Boules on the lawn or take a walk into the local village and the local bar for a drink! We finish our stay with a BBQ including great Normandy Produce.

19. 21st April *(Thursday)*

This morning we take the bus to Amiens where we begin our ANZAC day remembrances. Tonight we arrive at the Campanile Hotel Amiens. Dinner tonight at the Hotel. Visit the Cathedral and take in this wonderful town where Jules Verne author of 20 000 leagues under the Sea, Journey to the Centre of the Earth and Around the world in Eighty Days grew up. Perhaps we can have a picnic in the town square and eat some famous Amiens Macarons. There are some great restaurants on the river in Amiens.



Campanile Hotel Amiens

29/33 RUE PAUL TELLIER 80000 AMIENS
Contact Information: Tel: +33 (0) 3 22 66 08 08
Email: amiens.centre@campanile.fr

20. 22nd April (Friday)

*Today we take in a Somme Battlefield tour that takes in Poziers and the other famous Australian places etched in the minds of the Lost Diggers.
Dinner tonight is your choice.*

The Australian Imperial Force on the Western Front.

Some 295,000 Australians served on the western front. Over 46,000 died there and 134,000 were wounded or captured. These numbers can be misleading as the average strength of the AIF in France and Belgium was only 120,000. As with all armies, there was a constant turnover of personnel owing to death, wounds and illness. This can be seen in the numbers who served in a typical Australian Western Front infantry battalion. The 42nd, from Queensland, left England for the front 1027 strong in November 1916. In two years fighting 2954 men served in the battalion, of whom 544 were killed in battle, or died of wounds or sickness. An additional 1450 were wounded, 320 of them more than once—13 men were wounded four times. Two 42nd Battalion men were captured by the enemy. Like all Australian infantry battalions normal strength of 1000 was impossible to maintain as the war went on. When the 42nd attacked the Hindenburg Line in late September 1918 it had less than 300 men.

The 12 sites on the Australian Remembrance Trail on the Western Front do not cover all the places Australians fought in France and Belgium from 1916 to 1918. Others are marked on the table and map below.

Locations on the Western Front where Australians fought.

No.	Battle Location	Date of Battle	What happened here
1.	Passchendaele	October–November 1917	Failed Australian attack in the final phase of 3rd Battle of Ypres.
2.	Broodseinde	October–November 1917	Australian victory, the third in a series of successes after the Battle of Menin Road.
3.	Polygon Wood	September 1917	Australian victory at 3rd Battle of Ypres.
4.	Menin Road	September 1917	Beginning of the Australian participation in 3rd Battle of Ypres – Australian victory.
5.	Messines	June 1917	Australian victory – 3rd Divisions first major battle.
6.	Fromelles	July 1916	The 5th Division suffers a disastrous defeat in the first major Australian operation on the Western Front.
7.	Bullecourt	April–May 1917	During the Battle of Arras, the first Australian attack on Bullecourt fails, the second succeeds.
8.	Pozières	July–August 1916	1st Anzac Corps captures Pozières village and the heights beyond.
9.	Mouquet Farm	August–September 1916	Australian defeat – After Pozières, 1st Anzac Corps fails to capture Mouquet Farm.
10.	Le Hamel	July 1918	Brigades from 2nd, 3rd and 4th Australian Divisions capture Le Hamel.
11.	Villers-Bretonneux	April 1918	At the second battle of Villers-Bretonneux the Australians recapture the village.
12.	Mont St Quentin	September 1918	2nd Australian Division captures Mont St Quentin.
13.	Péronne	September 1918	South of Mont St Quentin, Péronne is taken by 5th Australian Division.
14.	Bellenglise	September 1918	4th Division captures the Hindenburg Outpost Line in its last battle of the war.
15.	Gueudecourt	November 1916	Rested after Pozières, 1st Anzac Corps returns to the Somme, making limited gains.
16.	Lagnicourt	April 1917	The Australians repulse a German counterattack between the First and Second Battles of Bullecourt.
17.	Hébuterne	March–April 1918	4th Australian Division defensive victory.
18.	Dernancourt	March–April 1918	Australian defensive victory south of Albert.
19.	Morlancourt	March–June 1918	Between the Aisne and Somme rivers 2nd, 3rd and 5th Australian Divisions in turn advance towards Morlancourt.
20.	Hazebrouck	April 1918	1st Australian Division holds Hazebrouck against the German Sixth Army.
21.	Hangard Wood	April 1918	South of Villers-Bretonneux the Australians failed to capture Hangard Wood.
22.	Merris	May–June 1918	1st Australian Division, in a series of small operations, recovers ground lost in the German offensive.
23.	Etinehem	August 1918	13th Brigade (4th Division) captures Etinehem.
24.	Bray	August 1918	The Australians capture Bray as part of the general advance from 8 August.

25. Proyart	August 1918	Several days after the commencement of the 8 August offensive, the Australian 10th brigade (3rd Division) captures Proyart.
26. Chuignes	August 1918	Australians capture Chuignes ridge overlooking the Somme during the Second Battle of Albert.
27. Lihons	August 1918	1st Australian Division captures Lihons.
28. Bellicourt	September 1918	The Australian Corps breaks through the Hindenburg Line.
29. Montbrehain	October 1918	The last phase of the Hindenburg Line breakthrough and the Australian infantry's last battle.

The Australians in the Somme

Like all the other countries of the British Empire, Australia immediately came to the support of the "mother country" at the outbreak of the war in August 1914.

This marked the birth of the Australian Imperial Forces (AIF), under the command of the British General Birdwood and consisting entirely of volunteers. With its neighbours from New Zealand this force set out for the front, making up the famous Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, or ANZAC, whose first important mission, together with French, English Newfoundland and Indian troops, was to mount an attack on the Turkish army, German's ally (the troops disembarked on 25 April 1915 on the Gallipoli peninsula.)

The first bloody battle in France was at Fromelles (Nord), on July 19th 1916, designed to provide a diversion for the Franco-British offensive that had been launched on July 1st on the Somme. On their arrival at Pozières on July 23th, the Australians' goal was to "unlock" Thiepval. After intense fighting (at "Gibraltar" and "the Windmill"), they overcame the village but were unsuccessful at Mouquet Farm where the Canadians relieved them on September 5th. Sent to rest after Pozières, the "Diggers" returned to the Somme in October, in the Flers-Gueudecourt sector where they suffered the rigours of an exceptionally severe winter.

With the end of the Battle of the Somme in mid-November, they settled into their winter quarters like the British, the French and the Germans. Back in the Somme again in 1918, the Australians tried to halt the offensive at Sailly-Laurette on March 28th, at Villers-Bretonneux on April 4th and at Dernancourt on April 5th : but they distinguished themselves at Villers-Bretonneux on April 25th - the third anniversary of Gallipoli. The Allied counter-offensive, known by the Germans as "the black day", began on August 8th; the Australians liberated area from Villers-Bretonneux to Montbrehain (Aisne), after first liberating and striking through the Hindenburg Line with the people of Amiens, on September 2nd at Bellenglise and the tunnel of the Saint-Quentin canal. In October they went into a rest area, not thinking that the armistice would be signed a month later.

Apart from its financial and industrial contribution, Australia provided the greatest military contribution of all the British dominions : 331,000 volunteers (out of a population of 4,875,000) - but she also suffered the greatest losses, 64.8 per cent, or 58,500 men, including 16,000 dead. Paradoxically, however, it was Australia's participation in the World War 1 and her own terrible losses which became a contributing factor in the birth of this new nation

21. 23rd April (Saturday)

Morning breakfast at Hotel and then today visit Villers-Brettonneux memorial and in the afternoon, we will discover the township and the museum in the Victoria school. Lunch at the Pub in Corbie on us. Not far from Corbie, the Red Baron was shot down. Dinner tonight your choice in Amiens



Villers Brettonneux

The First and Second Battles of Villers-Brettonneux were a part of the Kaiserschlacht (Kaiser's battle), a series of German attacks along the Western Front. The German aim was to win the war before the enormous material and manpower resources of the United States, which had declared war on Germany in April 1917, could be brought to bear. The Germans also had a short term advantage in numbers as Russia had made peace in 1917, allowing 48 German divisions to be moved to the western front. Beginning on 21 March 1918, the German offensive was the most successful one on the western front to date by either side. In April the Germans planned to take Amiens, 15 kilometres west of Villers-Brettonneux. Through Amiens ran the main north-south rail line in northern France. Cutting the line would seriously limit the British ability to move troops and supplies.

On 4 April, in the First Battle of Villers-Brettonneux, the Germans had narrowly failed to capture the town, but in the second battle on 24 April they succeeded. Breaking through the British 8th and 58th Divisions, with the assistance of 15 tanks they drove the British back three kilometres. Australian involvement on the first day of the battle was limited: The 14th Brigade, near Vaire wood, bent the southern end of its line back to keep in contact with the British as they retreated, while a troop of the Australian's Corps cavalry, the 13th Light Horse, scouted to determine the extent of the German advance.

The German attack also resulted in the first tank versus tank battle in history. Three British tanks took on three German ones in the fields south of Villers-Brettonneux. One German tank was knocked out and the others retreated.

While still some distance from Amiens, the Germans posed a clear threat to the city. If, in the next step of their advance they could capture Hill 104, on which the Australian National Memorial now stands, their artillery observers could overlook Amiens and bring down accurate fire on it. It was vital for the Allies that Villers-Brettonneux be quickly retaken. Within hours of the German success two Australian brigades were rushed forward to retake the town. Two composite British brigades, assembled from the survivors of the previous days fighting, were to assist. Starting at 10pm,

hoping for surprise by attacking at night and not using a preliminary bombardment, the 15th Brigade, from 5th Australian Division, swept around the north side of the town, while 14th Brigade from the same division, still holding the line near Vaire wood, swung forward like a gate to cover the left flank of the advance.

South of Villers-Bretonneux 13th Brigade, from 4th Australian Division, attacked near Cachy. Held up for a time by German machine guns in D'Arquenne Wood, they fought their way close to Monument wood. By dawn the Australians had nearly surrounded Villers- Bretonneux. Some of the German garrison managed to escape via the narrow neck east of the town that the Australians had not managed to capture.

By dawn on 25 April, realising their predicament, the Germans began evacuating D'Arquenne Wood as the Australians closed their last avenue of escape east of Villers-Bretonneux. By late morning the Germans who had not escaped were trapped in Villers-Bretonneux when the British/Australian attack on the town commenced. The last Germans in the town had been killed or captured by early morning 26 April and almost all the ground lost in the German attack of 24 April was retaken. The German threat to Amiens was over. Australian casualties were more than 2400. The British lost 9500 men, mostly captured during the 24 April German advance. The German loss, including prisoners taken when Villers-Bretonneux was surrounded, was about 10,000.

22. 24th April (Sunday)

Today we head for the village of Vignacourt.Home of the Lost Diggers. We spend the day in the village with the townsfolk and explore what happened there nearly 100 years ago when the Aussie diggers arrived. Visit the Thuillier house and barn where those inspiring photos were taken. We BBQ with 250 village folk!



A decorative border of repeating black floral motifs surrounds the text. The motifs are stylized, resembling a combination of roses and carnations, arranged in a continuous line along the top, bottom, and sides of the page.

Vignacourt

The Somme town was an important behind-the-lines centre for Australian troops during the First World War. By Peter Burness

The large and ancient French city of Amiens on the Somme River, an important communications hub, stood in front of the German invaders in the early days of the First World War. The French troops fell back, many citizens fled, and soon the empty streets echoed to the crunch of German marching boots. The city was an important prize. But the French army was not beaten, and within a couple of weeks the enemy had withdrawn, moving back to take up stronger positions about 25 kilometres to the east. For the moment Amiens was safe. Heavy fighting would rage not far away until, in 1918, the Germans would make a renewed push, placing the city at risk once more.

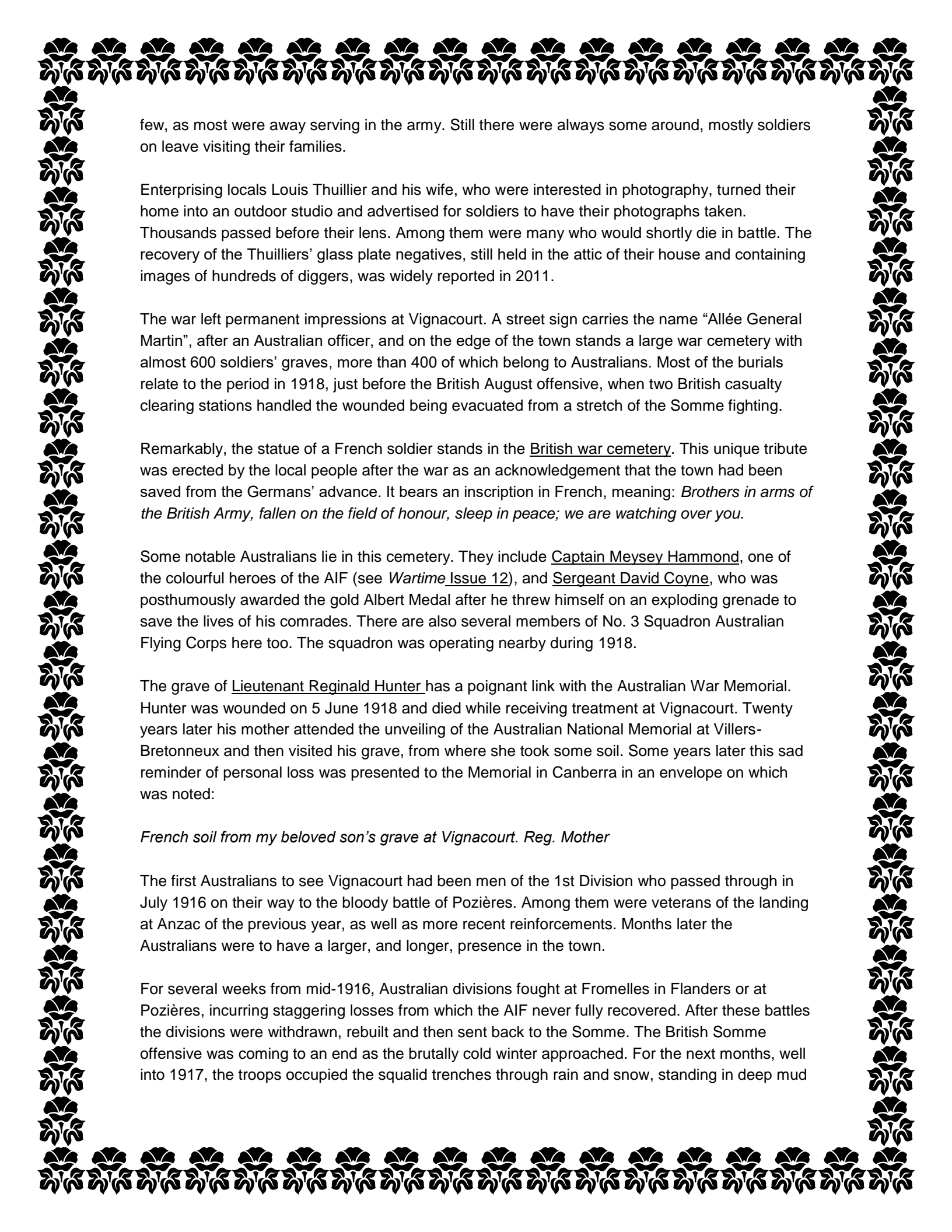
From the beginning, just a dozen or so kilometres to the north of Amiens, the centuries-old town of Vignacourt had shared the terror of the advancing Germans until the invaders fell back. For the rest of the war the town stood behind the front line, often playing an important role as a base and a rest area for troops from nearby fighting. For four years, French, British, Australian, Chinese, Indian and American troops were among those who would come to the town for a period of recovery. Neighbouring villages provided similar facilities.

Vignacourt was remembered by an Australian soldier as 'winding cobbled streets regularly bordered with narrow footpaths arbitrarily blocked at intervals by stone steps sprawled from the house doors'.

Vignacourt was distant enough from the fighting to be beyond artillery range but close enough to be an important billeting place, rail centre, base, and training area for troops within what became the British sector of the front. Its importance would ebb and flow, depending on the closeness of the fighting. At various times it also held headquarters, a signals centre and hospitals, and for a while an airfield operated on its outskirts.

For many troops Vignacourt was a refuge. Many remembered it as a place where they recovered from heavy battle and prepared for the next. Thousands were billeted in houses or slept in the local barns, stables and lofts. The surrounding fields were alive with training grounds and camps. Evenings were often free, with the chance for troops to visit the cafes and *estaminets*, which filled with rowdy banter and merry laughter over plates of eggs and chips and glasses of beer or wine.

For a couple of months in late 1916, hundreds of Australians struggled down from the Somme winter trenches to Vignacourt. Here baths and laundries were set up and army stores issued fresh clothing. Most important of all, there were homes with women, children and even pets. It was a rare glimpse of the domestic life they had left behind. Young Frenchmen were noticeably

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few, as most were away serving in the army. Still there were always some around, mostly soldiers on leave visiting their families.

Enterprising locals Louis Thuillier and his wife, who were interested in photography, turned their home into an outdoor studio and advertised for soldiers to have their photographs taken. Thousands passed before their lens. Among them were many who would shortly die in battle. The recovery of the Thuilliers' glass plate negatives, still held in the attic of their house and containing images of hundreds of diggers, was widely reported in 2011.

The war left permanent impressions at Vignacourt. A street sign carries the name "Allée General Martin", after an Australian officer, and on the edge of the town stands a large war cemetery with almost 600 soldiers' graves, more than 400 of which belong to Australians. Most of the burials relate to the period in 1918, just before the British August offensive, when two British casualty clearing stations handled the wounded being evacuated from a stretch of the Somme fighting.

Remarkably, the statue of a French soldier stands in the [British war cemetery](#). This unique tribute was erected by the local people after the war as an acknowledgement that the town had been saved from the Germans' advance. It bears an inscription in French, meaning: *Brothers in arms of the British Army, fallen on the field of honour, sleep in peace; we are watching over you.*

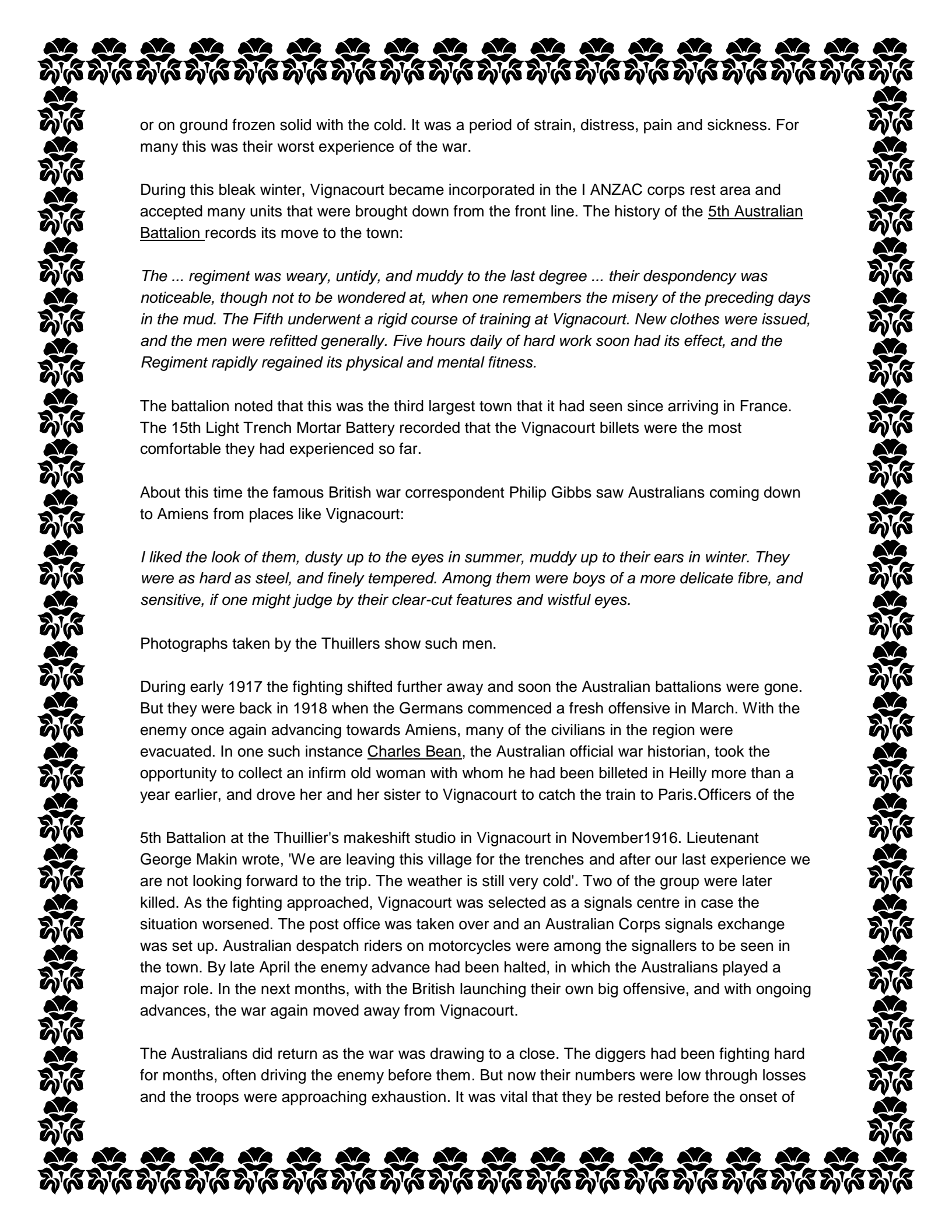
Some notable Australians lie in this cemetery. They include [Captain Meysey Hammond](#), one of the colourful heroes of the AIF (see [Wartime Issue 12](#)), and [Sergeant David Coyne](#), who was posthumously awarded the gold Albert Medal after he threw himself on an exploding grenade to save the lives of his comrades. There are also several members of No. 3 Squadron Australian Flying Corps here too. The squadron was operating nearby during 1918.

The grave of [Lieutenant Reginald Hunter](#) has a poignant link with the Australian War Memorial. Hunter was wounded on 5 June 1918 and died while receiving treatment at Vignacourt. Twenty years later his mother attended the unveiling of the Australian National Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux and then visited his grave, from where she took some soil. Some years later this sad reminder of personal loss was presented to the Memorial in Canberra in an envelope on which was noted:

French soil from my beloved son's grave at Vignacourt. Reg. Mother

The first Australians to see Vignacourt had been men of the 1st Division who passed through in July 1916 on their way to the bloody battle of Pozières. Among them were veterans of the landing at Anzac of the previous year, as well as more recent reinforcements. Months later the Australians were to have a larger, and longer, presence in the town.

For several weeks from mid-1916, Australian divisions fought at Fromelles in Flanders or at Pozières, incurring staggering losses from which the AIF never fully recovered. After these battles the divisions were withdrawn, rebuilt and then sent back to the Somme. The British Somme offensive was coming to an end as the brutally cold winter approached. For the next months, well into 1917, the troops occupied the squalid trenches through rain and snow, standing in deep mud

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or on ground frozen solid with the cold. It was a period of strain, distress, pain and sickness. For many this was their worst experience of the war.

During this bleak winter, Vignacourt became incorporated in the I ANZAC corps rest area and accepted many units that were brought down from the front line. The history of the 5th Australian Battalion records its move to the town:

The ... regiment was weary, untidy, and muddy to the last degree ... their despondency was noticeable, though not to be wondered at, when one remembers the misery of the preceding days in the mud. The Fifth underwent a rigid course of training at Vignacourt. New clothes were issued, and the men were refitted generally. Five hours daily of hard work soon had its effect, and the Regiment rapidly regained its physical and mental fitness.

The battalion noted that this was the third largest town that it had seen since arriving in France. The 15th Light Trench Mortar Battery recorded that the Vignacourt billets were the most comfortable they had experienced so far.

About this time the famous British war correspondent Philip Gibbs saw Australians coming down to Amiens from places like Vignacourt:

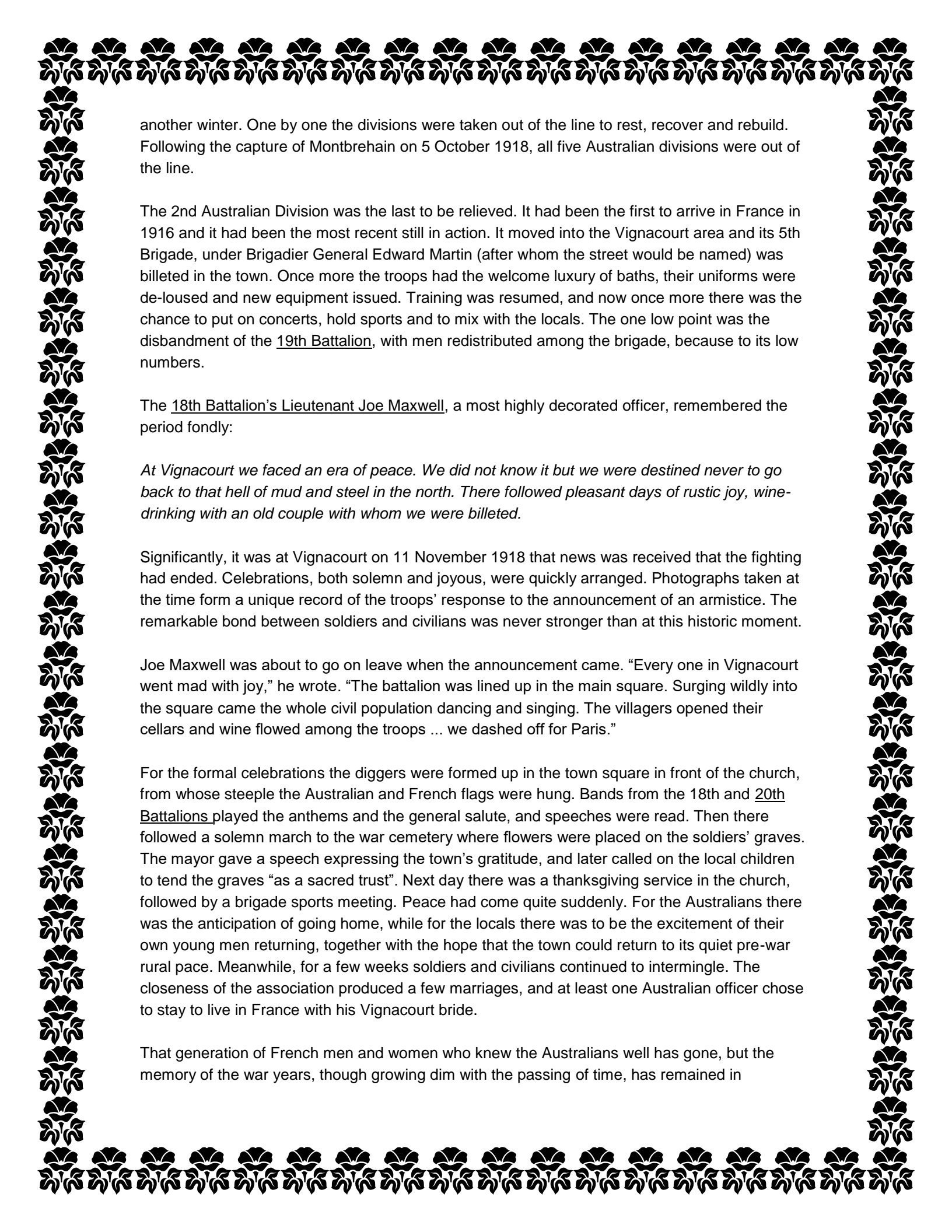
I liked the look of them, dusty up to the eyes in summer, muddy up to their ears in winter. They were as hard as steel, and finely tempered. Among them were boys of a more delicate fibre, and sensitive, if one might judge by their clear-cut features and wistful eyes.

Photographs taken by the Thuillers show such men.

During early 1917 the fighting shifted further away and soon the Australian battalions were gone. But they were back in 1918 when the Germans commenced a fresh offensive in March. With the enemy once again advancing towards Amiens, many of the civilians in the region were evacuated. In one such instance Charles Bean, the Australian official war historian, took the opportunity to collect an infirm old woman with whom he had been billeted in Heilly more than a year earlier, and drove her and her sister to Vignacourt to catch the train to Paris. Officers of the

5th Battalion at the Thuillier's makeshift studio in Vignacourt in November 1916. Lieutenant George Makin wrote, 'We are leaving this village for the trenches and after our last experience we are not looking forward to the trip. The weather is still very cold'. Two of the group were later killed. As the fighting approached, Vignacourt was selected as a signals centre in case the situation worsened. The post office was taken over and an Australian Corps signals exchange was set up. Australian despatch riders on motorcycles were among the signallers to be seen in the town. By late April the enemy advance had been halted, in which the Australians played a major role. In the next months, with the British launching their own big offensive, and with ongoing advances, the war again moved away from Vignacourt.

The Australians did return as the war was drawing to a close. The diggers had been fighting hard for months, often driving the enemy before them. But now their numbers were low through losses and the troops were approaching exhaustion. It was vital that they be rested before the onset of

A decorative border of repeating black floral motifs surrounds the text on all four sides.

another winter. One by one the divisions were taken out of the line to rest, recover and rebuild. Following the capture of Montbrechain on 5 October 1918, all five Australian divisions were out of the line.

The 2nd Australian Division was the last to be relieved. It had been the first to arrive in France in 1916 and it had been the most recent still in action. It moved into the Vignacourt area and its 5th Brigade, under Brigadier General Edward Martin (after whom the street would be named) was billeted in the town. Once more the troops had the welcome luxury of baths, their uniforms were de-loused and new equipment issued. Training was resumed, and now once more there was the chance to put on concerts, hold sports and to mix with the locals. The one low point was the disbandment of the 19th Battalion, with men redistributed among the brigade, because to its low numbers.

The 18th Battalion's Lieutenant Joe Maxwell, a most highly decorated officer, remembered the period fondly:

At Vignacourt we faced an era of peace. We did not know it but we were destined never to go back to that hell of mud and steel in the north. There followed pleasant days of rustic joy, wine-drinking with an old couple with whom we were billeted.

Significantly, it was at Vignacourt on 11 November 1918 that news was received that the fighting had ended. Celebrations, both solemn and joyous, were quickly arranged. Photographs taken at the time form a unique record of the troops' response to the announcement of an armistice. The remarkable bond between soldiers and civilians was never stronger than at this historic moment.

Joe Maxwell was about to go on leave when the announcement came. "Every one in Vignacourt went mad with joy," he wrote. "The battalion was lined up in the main square. Surging wildly into the square came the whole civil population dancing and singing. The villagers opened their cellars and wine flowed among the troops ... we dashed off for Paris."

For the formal celebrations the diggers were formed up in the town square in front of the church, from whose steeple the Australian and French flags were hung. Bands from the 18th and 20th Battalions played the anthems and the general salute, and speeches were read. Then there followed a solemn march to the war cemetery where flowers were placed on the soldiers' graves. The mayor gave a speech expressing the town's gratitude, and later called on the local children to tend the graves "as a sacred trust". Next day there was a thanksgiving service in the church, followed by a brigade sports meeting. Peace had come quite suddenly. For the Australians there was the anticipation of going home, while for the locals there was to be the excitement of their own young men returning, together with the hope that the town could return to its quiet pre-war rural pace. Meanwhile, for a few weeks soldiers and civilians continued to intermingle. The closeness of the association produced a few marriages, and at least one Australian officer chose to stay to live in France with his Vignacourt bride.

That generation of French men and women who knew the Australians well has gone, but the memory of the war years, though growing dim with the passing of time, has remained in

Vignacourt. The discovery of Louis Thuillier's photographs is a further reminder to Australians that this was once a town well known to many of the diggers.

Louis and Antoinette Thuillier, a local farmer and his wife, set up a photographic studio in the town of Vignacourt, France. During the First World War they took thousands of photographs of allied troops as they passed through the village on their way to and from the front line.

Nearly 100 years later, these photos were discovered, still sitting in the attic of the Thuillier's farmhouse. In 2011 the *Sunday Night* program (Seven TV Network) travelled to France, with Memorial historian Peter Burness, to unearth the collection. It consisted of several thousand glass-plate negatives of Australian, British, Canadian and French troops, as well as Chinese labour corps and French civilians. The collection was purchased from relatives of the photographers by Mr Kerry Stokes AC, who has generously donated it to the Australian War Memorial.

The response to this discovery has been staggering. The Australian public, and relatives of those who are shown in the photographs, in collaboration with *Sunday Night*, have contributed to the identification of some of the men in the photographs. Many still remain unnamed.

23. 25th April. Anzac Day 2016 (Monday)

It has been almost 100 years since the first Australian involvement on the Western Front.

3.00am departure for dawn service at Villers Bretonneux

Bus supplied by Australian Government and Amiens City 8.00am return to

Amiens. 10.30am Depart by bus for Bullecourt ceremony through

Poizieres and such areas where the Aussies fought hard and lost many. Stay for an inspiring ceremony with the Bullecourt townsfolk.

This is a HUGE day but well worth the fatigue!!

We spend the night in Ypres, Belgium for the evening Menin Gate ceremony.



Bullecourt

The First Battle of Bullecourt, 11 April 1917, was an Australian attack on German trenches east of the village of Bullecourt. The plan was to advance some three kilometers north, taking the village of Hendecourt, two kilometers north east of Bullecourt. Operations of this kind were usually supported by a prior artillery bombardment of the German trenches. However at Bullecourt the

Australian 4th Division attacked without artillery support, in an attempt to surprise the Germans, but with the assistance of a dozen tanks. In spite of the failure of most of the tanks to reach the German line, the Australian infantry advanced northwards, with Bullecourt on their left flank, and seized two lines of German trenches. There they were halted by increasing German resistance. Let down a second time by the failure of their own artillery to fire on the German counterattacks, the Australians, having held the enemy trenches for several hours, were driven back to their starting line with the loss of over 3000 men. Poorly planned and hastily executed, the first battle of Bullecourt resulted in disaster.

Three weeks after the first battle of Bullecourt the Australian 2nd Division, now with the British 62nd Division attacking on their left towards Bullecourt itself, assaulted over the same ground where the Australians had met defeat on 11 April. This time the Australian infantry attacked without tanks but was well supported by artillery. On the first day of the battle, 7 May, one Australian brigade on the right flank was unable to reach the German first line, and the British obtained only a foothold on the southern edge of Bullecourt, but the main Australian attack was successful in capturing the same German trenches the Australian 4th Division had been ejected from on 11 April. The battle continued for two weeks, the Australians and British committing four more divisions (the Australian 1st and 5th Divisions, and the 7th and 58th British Divisions). The Germans, also reinforced, made numerous unsuccessful counterattacks. By 17 May the Germans admitted defeat by ceasing attempts to recover their lost ground. Of 150,000 men from both sides who fought at Second Bullecourt, some 18,000 British and Australians, and 11,000 Germans, were killed or wounded in battle.

24. 26th April. (Tuesday)

The Albion Hotel Ypres is home for the next few days. Let Ruth and her team introduce you to a very special town. Take today off to rest and relax from a big ANZAC Day. Sleep in and find some time to discover the town and its history.

Maybe a chance to visit the Flanders Fields museum.

Tonight we gather for dinner in a local restaurant after the Menin Gate ceremony.



Albion Hotel

St. Jacobsstraat 28

8900 Ieper, Belgium

Phone 0032 57 200 220

The Menin Gate.

The Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing is one of four British and Commonwealth memorials to the missing in the battlefield area of the Ypres Salient in Belgian Flanders. The memorial bears the names of **54,389** officers and men from United Kingdom and Commonwealth Forces (except New Zealand and Newfoundland) who fell in the Ypres Salient before 16th August 1917 and who have no known grave.

The names are engraved in Portland Stone panels fixed to the inner walls of the central Hall of Memory, to the sides of the staircases leading from the lower level to the upper exterior level, and on the walls inside the loggias on the north and south sides of the building.

The photograph is taken looking westwards into the city centre of Ypres (now known by its Flemish name of Ieper). The belfry of the famous Cloth Hall (the Lakenhalle) on the market place (Grote Markt) is visible through the memorial's archway.

The road leading from the market place to the Menin Gate Memorial is the Meensestraat. This road continues through the Menin Gate Memorial and becomes the Marshalk Frenchlaan. This road is named after Field Marshal Sir John French, who was appointed to the title of 1st Earl of Ypres after the war. He was the first commander of the British Expeditionary Force (B.E.F.) from the time when it landed in France in August 1914 to December 1915. After approximately 150 metres there is a crossroads and, taking the right turn, the road becomes the Meenseweg: the road to Menen. In 1914 Menen was known by its French name of Menin. This road became known to the British Army as "the Menin Road".

25. 27th April (Wednesday)

We Join a Battlefield Tour of the Salient region around Ypres today as we visit Tyne Cot cemetery the largest Military Cemetery in the region, Paschendale along with a viewing of the trenches recreated outside Ypres. All names etched onto the minds of Australians at this time of the year. Return to Ypres for a quiet large group farewell dinner in the village.



The Salient

A salient is an area of the battlefield that extends into enemy territory and is surrounded on three sides. The Ypres Salient is centered around the ancient town of Ypres in Belgium (now known by its modern Flemish name — Ieper). The Ypres Salient was formed after the German Army was prevented from capturing Ypres in November 1914. From that time a tactically advantageous German Front Line was established on the slightly higher ground that surrounded the town to the north, east and south of it.

As you stand in the main square of Ypres and survey the ornate buildings around you it is hard to believe that the whole area was razed to the ground during the war and then later completely rebuilt.

During the First World War the Belgian town of Ypres (Ieper) was devastated by shellfire and deserted by its inhabitants. Unforgettable images of this destruction were made by the Australian official photographer, Captain Frank Hurley, who also captured the lives of the Australian soldiers who inhabited these ruins during the Third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele), which was fought to the east of the town between 31 July and 10 November 1917. The tragedy of wartime Ieper is told at the In Flanders Fields Museum in the Cloth Hall, a site on the Australian Remembrance Trail which includes stories of Australians associated with the town and its determined defence.

The Third Battle of Ypres, known as 'Wipers' to the troops, was the major British offensive of 1917. The town of Ypres was of strategic importance throughout the war, five major battles were fought there. In October 1914 the Belgians opened lock gates on the Yser River, creating a lake for almost the entire distance between the North Sea coast and Ypres, 30 kilometres to the south. This left the town of Ypres as the northernmost major road and rail link along the Western Front. The Germans tried to capture it three times and the Allies launched two offensives from the salient they held around the eastern side of the town.

The British plan in late 1917 was to capture the high ground east of Ypres, on which the village of Passchendaele stood, break through the German lines and advance to the Belgian coast north of the flooded area. After eight major attacks over three and a half months, five of which involved Australian infantry and artillery, the Canadians captured Passchendaele early in November, marking the end of the offensive and the failure of the British strategic plan. The Allies lost 310,000 casualties, of which 38,000 were Australian. German losses were about 270,000.

26. 28th April (Tuesday)

Our last morning together.

Some of us return to Paris (overnight stay next to Charles de Gaulle airport) by plane from Lille and get ready for the flight back to Australia.

Others will continue their journey on to other ports in Europe.

Bon Voyage.

27. 29th April (Wednesday)

Arrangements today to make your return travel to Australia or beyond.

Thank you for coming with us. What an adventure we will have !

Michael and Donna Fiechtner.
Intercultural Consulting Group.



NB: This is the final itinerary of the Grand Western Front tour planned for 2016. Airlines and some accommodation are yet to be finalized after initial deposits are paid by our interested clients. The itinerary may change slightly owing to these conditions however, ICG will attempt to keep it as close to what has been published here as humanly possible.

We are also very keen to know if you have a relative who fought during World War one. Let ICG research your descendant and their involvement in the Great war and then follow in the footsteps of them.

You may ask why Japan is a part of this tour? ICG has been involved with the Peace Park in Japan for over 10 years. Both Hiroshima and Ypres are part of the Hiroshima Peace Foundations Mayors for Peace movement. Both cities were destroyed in time of war and now both cities strive and call for world Peace.

Will Longstaff's painting Menin Gate at Midnight depicts the lost spirits of the Great war rising from the surrounding area of the Menin Gate

Compare this thought provoking painting to that of Terry Saleh an indigenous artist from Brisbane. His painting of the Yowie Spirits of Hiroshima also depicts the lost souls of Hiroshima rising from the surrounding devastation.

ICG took Terry to Hiroshima in 2010 and soon after he painted this inspiring picture without any knowledge of the Menin Gate significance.

Both cities are joined in a common cause



We look forward to you joining us on our 2016 Remembrance Tour

The fully escorted and personalized tour highlights includes

- *Hotel accommodation in*
- *Hiroshima.*
- *Kyoto.*
- *Paris.*
- *Amiens.*
- *Ypres .*
- *Normandy/Bayeux region.*

- *Selected special meals as outlined.*
- *Daily Breakfasts .*
- *All transfers by private bus to various sights.*
- *Entry to sights in Kyoto and Hiroshima as required.*
- *Giverny and DDay beaches tours*
- *Moulin Rouge Show and Dinner.*
- *Eiffel Tower Dinner and Cruise.*
- *Normandy D Day tours and Bayeux Tapestry visit.*
- *World War 1 Somme and Salient Battlefield tours.*
- *Anzac Day at Villers Brettoneux ceremony.*

(Tour Costs -Ground only)

(Airfare to be added as arranged...we will always endeavor to get the best airfare deals available)

Tour can be done as 3 options

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| • <i>Japan Short stay</i> | <i>5nights</i> | <i>\$1848</i> |
| • <i>Japan plus Western Front</i> | <i>24 nights</i> | <i>\$6965</i> |
| • <i>Western Front only</i> | <i>18 nights</i> | <i>\$5117</i> |

Single supplement on all tours is \$560

(Flights to be arranged)

Tour participants can join us in France and depart from France after tour.