

Corporal Hurtle Samuel Walker

Service Number: 1017 | 10th Infantry Battalion



Alexandra Seal

Loreto College Marryatville | Premier's ANZAC Spirit School Prize

PART A

Born on the 16th of February 1894, Hurtle Samuel Walker's early life is a mystery to his family. All that is known is that he worked as a carpenter before enlisting, (*National Archives of Australia, 2001*).

At the age of 20, Walker, also known as Joe, was one of the first South Australian men to answer the call of the British empire (*Figure 1*). Leaving his hometown of Petersburg (now Peterborough), he enlisted on the 31st of August 1914 at Morphettville, South Australia. Walker is just one of 416,809 Australians who enlisted in World War One, (*Figure 2*), (*National Archives of Australia, 2002*).



Figure 1 - Photograph of Hurtle Samuel Walker circa. 1914 courtesy of family.

Walker became an original member of the D Company 10th Infantry Battalion of the Australian Imperial Force, departing on the 20th of October 1914. Bound for Egypt, on the HMAT A11 *Ascanius*, the 10th Battalion arrived on the 8th of December (*Figure 3*), (*Virtual War Memorial, 2014*). They later joined the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force on its route to Gallipoli. Walker was one of the first to step foot on the peninsula and one of the last to leave. Walker fought in the Gallipoli campaign from the landing on the 25th of April 1915 to the evacuation on the 20th of December 1915, (*Figure 4*), (*National Archives of Australia, 2001*).



Figure 3 HMAT Ascanius at Outer Harbour embarking the 10th Battalion, (State Library of SA B10303), (Virtual War Memorial Australia, 2014).

He writes home about his experience at Gallipoli:

"I am still alive and kicking... Our old pals the navy are here again for a bit of practice and to tickle up the Turks. He had a bit of a "Guy Fawkes" here the other night – the Turks must have thought we were either drunk or mad." – the 3rd of July 1915 (Petersburg Times, 1915), (Figure 5).

After surviving Gallipoli, Walker was promoted to Lance Corporal in Egypt before joining the British Expeditionary Force on the 27th of March 1916. He arrived in Marseilles, France, on the 3rd of April, (*Figure 6*), (*State Library of New South Wales, 2019*).

The 10th Battalion engaged in the Battle of Pozieres from the 14th-27th of July, (*State Library of New South Wales, 2019*). Around 350 men were killed, wounded or missing, which equated to a

quarter of the 10th Battalion's strength, (*Virtual War Memorial, 2014*). Due to Walker's 'exceptional ability and the losses suffered by the unit', he was promoted to Corporal, (*National Archives of Australia, 2001*).

Mouquet Farm was a dominant strategic position on the Western-Front that extended to the sought-after Pozieres, (*Figure 7*). The 19th of August saw a preliminary assault which sent patrols to determine the German's position, (*Virtual War Memorial Australia, 2015*). The Germans proved too strong, and the 10th Battalion patrol could not achieve their objective.

On the 21st of August 1916, the 10th Battalion positioned to attack Fabeck Garben. It was decided the attack would occur when the Germans least expected it – in the daylight. This was the first time an Australian unit would conduct a daylight attack; although appropriate in theory, it was a disaster, with only one officer and 120 of its 620 men surviving, (*Virtual War Memorial Australia, 2015*).

However, D Company of the 10th Battalion penetrated much further than intended and found themselves separated from the rest of the Australian defence (*Figure 8*). A German unit closed in behind them and left the survivors seeking refuge in shell holes, (*Interview with S. Briene, 2022*).

As Walker jumped into a shell hole, he was shot in the shoulder and as he fell, he was shot again in his upper right thigh. Here in the scarred landscape, the injured Walker supported the wounded Private Frederick Norman Rattray, (*South Australian Red Cross Bureau, 2018*).

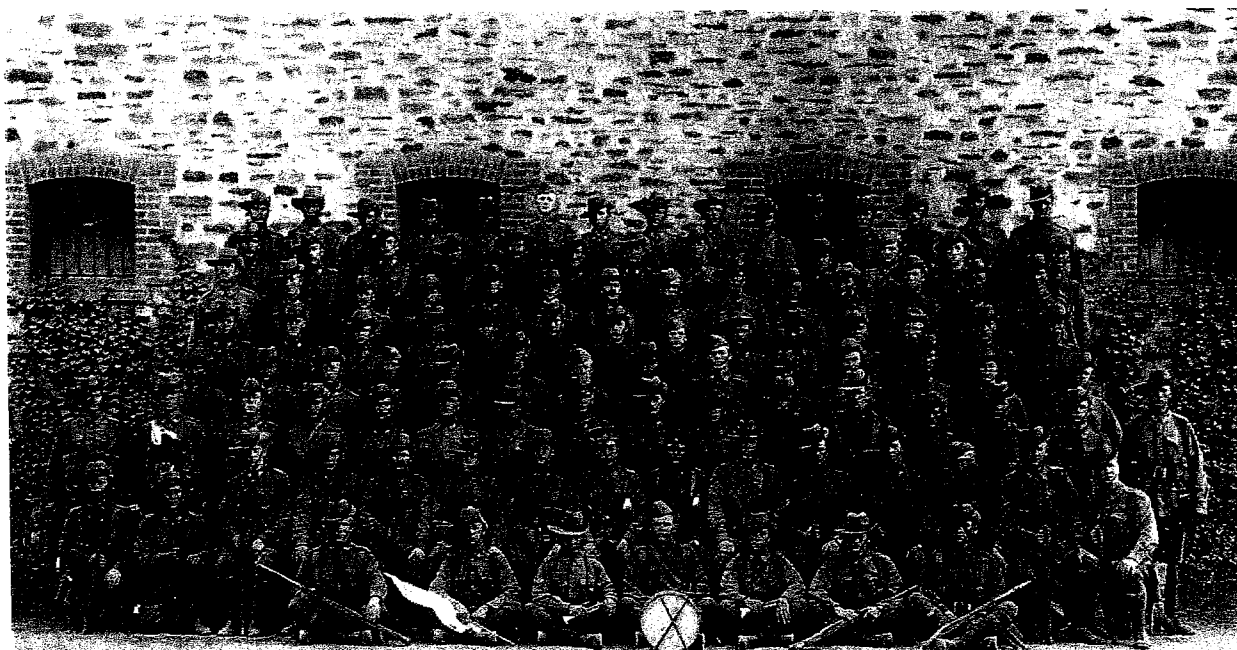


Figure 8 - D Company of the 10th Infantry Battalion circa. 1914. Walker positioned 3rd from the left, 2nd to last row, (Anzac Spirits, n.d.)

An injured Walker was captured by German forces on the 22nd of August 1916. In early October, the 'Missing' Walker was reported as being killed in action, and his family notified (Figure 9). Walker's death was reported in newspapers such as The Advertiser and The Daily Herald.

"Mr. and Mrs. Edward K. Walker, of Petersburg, have been notified that their younger son, Lance-Corporal Hurtle Samuel Walker, was killed in action on the 22nd of August...", (The Advertiser, 1916), (Figure 10).

Although presumed dead like many others, Walker continued to fight for his life whilst in the German field hospital. Later in life, Walker would only speak of his gratitude to the German doctor who decided to wait instead of amputating his leg; "he did not mention anything else about the war", (Interview with L. Briene, 2022).

While a Prisoner of War, Walker saw more horrific events. He was the last eyewitness to Private Frederick Norman Rattray of the 10th Battalion's B Company. He states:

"...Prisoner of War was shot in abdomen by bullet. He was brought back to 1st German trench where he died, was unconscious. I was wounded and was lying alongside him in the trench. His body was left in the trench when I was taken away."(Figure 11), (South Australian Red Cross Bureau, 2018).

Thanks to Walker's report, the Rattray family was able to receive closure.

Walker's family also grief-stricken, were notified in September 1917, a year after being presumed dead, that their son was a Prisoner of War and not killed in action (Figure 9), (Interview L. Briene, 2022). A Representative of the Netherlands Legation at Berlin inspected the Grosse Moor Working Camp for Prisoners of War, where Walker was discovered to be alive:

"He was transferred from Heeston moor to Grosse moor on the 5th of April 1917...."(Figure 12), (National Archives of Australia, 2001).

The promising news was reported in multiple newspapers, and his hometown rejoiced.

"Mr. E. K. Walker, of Petersburg, has been officially informed that his son, Lce.-Cpl. Hurtle Samuel Walker, who was previously reported as having been killed inaction in France, is a prisoner of war in Germany. The news has been received with rejoicing in Petersburg."(Figure 13), (The Advertiser, 1916).

Walker remained a Prisoner of War for the remainder of the war. During this time, Walker worked on the Moor with his fellow soldiers, (Figure 12), (National Archives of Australia, 2001).

After the war concluded, the Prisoner of War camp was shut down. The German soldiers left, leaving Walker and three other South Australian soldiers alone and abandoned on a farm in a foreign country. The four soldiers remained at the farm until early 1919, before the Red Cross officially found them (Figure 14), (South Australian Red Cross Bureau, 2018).

The King and Queen invited them for afternoon tea at Buckingham Palace as an apology and to express their gratitude for the men's service, (Figure 15) (National Archives of Australia, 2001). They were gifted fine chocolates and a cigar, (Interview with S. Briene, 2022).

They spent three months in England before arriving home in Australia. Walker disembarked on the 25th of April 1919, stepping foot on Australian soil for the first time in 5 years, (National Archives of Australia, 2001). The day marked an important milestone in Walker's service, returning home on the same date he stepped ashore at Gallipoli, (Figure 16) (Interview with L. Briene, 2022).

Walker led a successful post-war life as a carpenter, settling down and marrying Doris Ayus on the 16th of October 1920. The couple welcomed their first of four children the following year, (Interview with L. Briene, 2022).

Walker, like many men, had suffered physically and changed mentally due to the war. The family suspected that he may have suffered from Post-Traumatic-Stress-Disorder, but it is unclear as the topic was rarely discussed, (Interview with L. Briene, 2022). Walker died from 'natural causes' (heart attack/stroke) at the age of 83 on the 25th of August 1977, (Virtual War Memorial, 2022).

Walker never attended an ANZAC march or talked about his experience. He applied for a Gallipoli medallion, but the family do not know if he ever received one, (Figure 17), (National Archives of Australia, 2001). Walker received three other medals to commemorate his service, but he did not like to display them, (Figure 18) (Interview with S. Briene, 2022).

The only time Walker's granddaughter recalls Walker speaking of the war was to her father (Walker's son-in-law) when he was called to fight in New Guinea. He told him:

"Make sure you look after your feet son."

This phrase has continued through multiple generations. When Walker's Great-Great-Grandson joined the Australian Army, Walker's Great-Grandson told his son, "Make sure you look after your feet, son", (Interview with L. Briene, 2022).

It is evident that Walker showed the ANZAC Spirit characteristics of perseverance and mateship. His determination and fighting spirit took him through all of the Gallipoli Campaign, Egypt and the Western Front. Even as a Prisoner of War, he fought for his life after being seriously injured.

Mateship is often displayed as providing unconditional support for one another amid the harshest conditions, which is precisely what Walker did, (ABC News, 2015). He continued to show mateship and leadership whilst leading the D Company into the unknown and staying by the side of others despite being injured himself, as displayed through his care for the dying Frederick Norman Rattray, (South Australian Red Cross Bureau, 2018).

Buckingham Palace letters signed by the King and Queen further highlight Walker's *patience and courage*, (Figure 15), (National Archives of Australia, 2001).

Whilst being abandoned as Prisoners of War, Walker formed an immense bond with his three comrades and showed a deep sense of mateship. The group were all from South Australia and not only fought together but remained friends, clearly highlighting Walker's mateship, (Figure 19), (Interview with L. Briene, 2022).

Hurtle Samuel Walker embodied the ANZAC Spirit and risked his life for the sake of others. He persevered through extraordinary physical conditions and mental challenges while cherishing friendships, exhibiting the Australian sense of mateship.

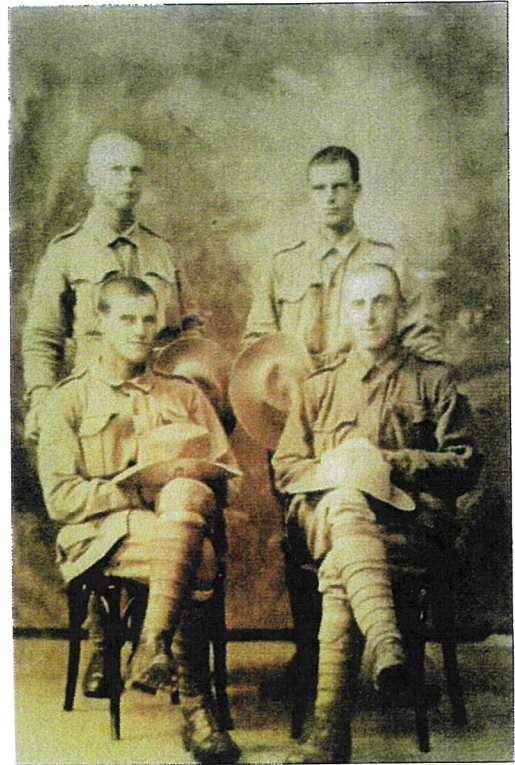


Figure 19 - Photograph of the four South Australian Prisoners of War circa. 1919 courtesy of family. Richards from Owen, top left, Dave Carr from Port Adelaide, top right, Hurtle Samuel Walker, bottom left and Jack O'Donnell from Balaklava, bottom right.

Part A Word Count: 1491 – The word count does not include referencing, bibliography and brief captions under photographs/tables/maps etc as per the 2022 Premier's Anzac Spirit School Prize Guidelines.

APPENDIX

CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER

The foregoing questions were read to the person enlisted in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to by him.

I have examined his naturalisation papers and am of opinion that they are correct.

(This to be struck out except in the case of persons who are naturalised British Subjects.)

Date 31/8/14

M. J. Herbert Capt.
Signature of Attesting Officer

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY PERSON BEING ENLISTED.*

I, Samuel Hurst Walker swear that I will well and truly serve our Sovereign Lord the King in the Australian Imperial Force from 31/8/14 until the end of the War, and a further period of four months thereafter unless sooner lawfully discharged, dismissed, or removed therefrom; and that I will resist His Majesty's enemies and cause His Majesty's peace to be kept and maintained; and that I will in all matters appertaining to my service, faithfully discharge my duty according to law.

So Help Me, God.

H. S. Walker
Signature of Person Enlisted

Taken and subscribed at Perth in the State of South Australia this 31st day of August 1914, before me

M. J. Herbert Capt.
Signature of Attesting Officer

*A person who objects to taking an oath may make an affirmation in accordance with the Third Schedule of the Act, and the above form must be amended accordingly. All enrolments must be initiated by the Attesting Officer.

Figure 2 - Walker's Military Records, 'Certificate of Enlistment', (National Archives of Australia, 2001)

Enlisted to join E.F. (Gallipoli) Alex. 283815
 Army Form B. 103. 1017

Casualty Form—Active Service

Regiment or Corps *1017*
 Regimental No. *1017* Rank *AC* Name *Walker, Hurtle Samuel*
 Enlisted (a) *2/8/14* Terms of Service (a) *3/1/14* Service reckons from (a) *3/1/14*
 Date of promotion to present rank *1/1/15* Date of appointment to lance rank *1/1/15* Numerical position on roll of N.C.O.s *3*
 Extended Re-engaged Qualification (b)

Report Date	From whom received	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc. during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents, the authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks
			<i>Port Said</i>	<i>20-10-14 1</i>	
			<i>Port Said</i>	<i>5-12-14 2</i>	taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
		<i>Disembarked Suez</i>	<i>Alexandria</i>	<i>24-12-14</i>	<i>D 3100</i>
		<i>1st Lt</i>	<i>Port Said</i>	<i>3-1-15</i>	<i>4</i>
		<i>1st Lt</i>	<i>Port Said</i>	<i>4-1-15</i>	<i>AP 5253 2000/2477</i>
		<i>O.C. Tro. Proceeding to join E.F.F. Alexandria</i>	<i>Alexandria</i>	<i>27-1-16</i>	<i>AP 609</i>
		<i>Disembarked</i>	<i>Marseilles</i>	<i>3-1-16</i>	<i>7 LB 5159</i>
		<i>1st Lt</i>	<i>France</i>	<i>8-1-16</i>	<i>AP 213 a. 6. 2363</i>
		<i>1st Lt</i>	<i>France</i>	<i>22-8-16</i>	<i>AG 4860 8213 Co assigned</i>
		<i>1st Lt</i>	<i>France</i>	<i>9-1-16</i>	<i>9 6 26 91 2116</i>
		<i>1st Lt</i>	<i>France</i>	<i>10-1-16</i>	<i>10</i>

1.9-16 1017 En Killed in action France 22-8-16 AG 4860 8213 Co assigned
 9 6 26 91 2116
 Copy forwarded to Headquarters Aust. Imp. 10-1-16

CAPT.
 1017

National Archives of Australia

Figure 4 – Walker’s Military Records, ‘Casualty/Active Service Form’, (National Archives of Australia, 2001)

LETTERS FROM THE FRONT

— From Private Hurtle Walker.

July 3rd.

"The week-end up once again, so must write another short note to let you know that I am still alive and joking. Have not received any mail from you this week, but am in hopes of getting one before next mail. . . . Our old pals the navy are here again for a bit of practice and to tickle up the Turks. We had a bit of a "Guy Fawkes" here the other night—the Turks must have thought we were either drunk or mad. Our battalion, the 10th, is on holidays at present; I don't know how long it will last. 'Tis quite nice to have a full night's sleep. Saw C—— this morning and tried to get an envelope from him, but he is out of them—the same as the rest of us. We had "one and a half" EGGS issued to us yesterday—it will be "turkey" next if they keep going"

Figure 5 - An extract from the Petersburg Times, 'Letters from the Front' (Petersburg Times, 1915).

CARD CHECKED

4

Statement of Service of No. 1017 Name Walker, Hustle Samuel

Unit in which served.	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Period of service in each rank.		Remarks
		From—	To—	
"D" Coy 10 th Bn A.I.F.	Wanted to join 10 th Bn, Dec 2/3/15 Disembarked on Jeanghee, Dec 29/12/15	3/3/15	3/3/15	B 3104
	Placed on leave	1-3-16		P 2279 20/7/16 ✓
	Proceeding to join B.E.F. Alexandria	27/3/16		AP 6499 Do 445 18/8/16 ✓
	Disembarked Marseilles	3/4/16		LR 5179 ✓
	To be temp. Cpl France	8/8/16		Do. 45.6729 ✓
	KILLED IN ACTION Killed in action France 22/8/16			8213 19 4650 ✓ DO 49/7106 ✓ 12 719/11 ✓
	Now officially reported to be a POW in Germany Place of Detention, Reserve Lager at Berg Huesen, Alenster, West Germany			PTE 15 8118 ✓ 10/11/16 C.I.B.L. 1427
	Private to be promoted Cpl 22/1/16			Do 25/1 17/4/17
10 th Bn	Placed on Supernumerary List of A.I.F. 23/1/16 Owing to absence from unit for a period of 3 mths.			PTE 02/1593 14/2-16
10 th Battalion	Promoted Cpl dated 22/1/16 While Cpl Zander C. O. killed in action 22/8/16. Authority C.O. 10 th Bn. B. 213 of 6/2/17			Part II 24/1/17 ✓ 12/1/17
10 th Bn.	Prom. Cpl.	22/9/16		B. 213 02/11 PTE 22 S.R. 129 10/4/17 3779

I have examined the above details, and find them correct in every respect.

Ret. to Capt. from Eng.
Pte Lewis

Cpl. R. Charles High

C.I.B.L. 289 24/1/16
I.B. 588.
C.I.B.L. 2992 25/1/16
I.B. 616
18065/11157/15
EX 3472 19/3/19.

Figure 6 - Walker's Military Records, 'Statement of Service' (National Archives of Australia, 2001).

Portion of Map of

611

FERME DU MOUQUET

SKETCH
M^o I

28

Figure 7 – Walker's Personal Map of Mouquet Farm, (Provided through an interview with S. Briene, 2022).

FIELD SERVICE.

REPORT of Death of a Soldier to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt of notification of death on Army Form B. 213 or Army Form A. 36 or from other official documentary sources.

REGIMENT } 10th BATTALION, A.I.F. }
 or } }
 CORPS } Squadrons, }
 } Troop, Battery }
 } or Company }

Regt. No. 1017. Rank PRIVATE, *Temp/6pl*

Name WALKER, Hurtle Samuel,

Date 22nd August 1916.

Died Place In the Field FRANCE.

Cause of Death KILLED IN ACTION.

Nature and Date of Report A.F. 2213, 1.9.16.

By whom made O.C. 10th Battalion A.I.F.

* Specially state if killed in action, or died from wounds received in action, or from illness due to food operations or to fatigue, privation or exposure during military duty, or from injury while on military duty.

Burial Place Not yet to hand.

Date -

By whom reported -

State whether he leaves a will or not

- (a) in Pay Book (Army Book 64) Not yet to hand.
- (b) in Small Book (if at Base) -
- (c) as a separate document -

All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital, as well as the Pay Book, should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office.

Any information received as to verbal expressions by a deceased soldier of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be reported to the War Office as soon as possible.

A duplicate of this Report is to be sent to the Fixed Centre Paymaster at Home, or to the D.F.A.G., Indian Expeditionary Force, or Field Disbursing Officer, as the case may require, together with the deceased's Pay Book (after withdrawal of any will from the latter). If the deceased's Small Book is at the Base, it should be forwarded to the War Office with this Report.

Signature of Officer in charge of Section Adjutant-General's Office at the Base *[Signature]* Officer i/c Records,

Station and Date ROUES FRANCE, 30.9.16.

WE RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL
 ANSLAC SECTION,
 2nd Battalion A.I.F.

Figure 9 - Walker's Military Records, 'Report of Death', (National Archives of Australia, 2001).

LANCE-CORPORAL H. S. WALKER.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward K. Walker, of Petersburg, have been notified that their younger son, Lance-Corporal Hurtle Samuel Walker, was killed in action on August 22. He was 22 years old, and enlisted from Petersburg in August, 1914. He left Adelaide for Egypt in October, 1914. He went through the campaign at Gallipoli, returned to Egypt, and was sent to France. Before enlisting he was a carpenter working for Mr. E. J. Wall at Petersburg.

Figure 10 - An extract from *The Advertiser* Reporting Walker's Death, (*The Advertiser*, 1916).

10th Btn. A.I.F.

Rattray.
P.N. 1508

"Killed Aug. 19.23/16."

"Think of b. Coy. I am not sure of his number or initials. On morning of 22nd August 1916, at Mouquet Farm, he was carrying wounded out when Prisoner of war was shot in abdomen by bullet. He was brought back to 1st German trench where he died, was unconscious. I was wounded and was lying alongside him in the trench. His body was left in the trench when I was taken away.

Informant:- Cpl. H. S. Walker, 1017.
10th Btn. D. Coy.

A.D.G.
London.
2.1.19.
H.G.

A. & M.

Figure 11 - Walker's Military Records, 'witness statement to Private Fredrick Norman Rattray', (*South Australian Red Cross Bureau*, 2018).

File in A.P.

26 NOV 1917

File

Extract from the report of the representative of the
Netherland Legation at Berlin, upon his inspection of the
Working Camp for Prisoners of War at Grosseemoor, the parent
Camp of which is Soltau, on 27th September, 1917.

Walker, Harold Samuel
"Hurtelle Walter, No. 1017, 10th Australian Battalion,
was captured on August 22, 1916. He also has to work on
the moor. His papers were taken away in the trenches, and
he received a green card in exchange which purports to
acknowledge the fact that he was a corporal. He was
transferred from Heestenmoor to Grosseemoor on April 3,
1917. He does not work voluntarily, and demands to be
treated as a non-commissioned officer."

Figure 12 – Walker's Military Records, 'Report of Prisoners of War', (National Archives of Australia, 2001).

PERSONAL NOTES.

Mr. G. Yeomans, of Prospect, has just received news that his son, Mr. C. G. Yeomans, formerly of the Adelaide Steamship Company, who was injured while on military duty in England, has been invalided out of the army. He has been appointed to the transit department of the Commonwealth Shipping Company.

Mrs. G. Sanderoock, of Castle street, Parkside, has been notified by the military authorities that her son, Dvr. Farrier T. B. Sanderoock, has been wounded in France.

Mr. W. G. Lock, of Dudley street, Semaphore, has received advice from England that his second son, Pte. W. F. L. Lock, is in hospital suffering from wounds and shell shock in France. This soldier has been at the front for two years. Pte. F. C. Lock is also in an hospital, recovering from wounds received in France. Another son is serving with the A.I.F. abroad.

Mr. E. K. Walker, of Petersburg, has been officially informed that his son, Lieut. Hurtle Samuel Walker, who was previously reported as having been killed in action in France, is a prisoner of war in Germany. The news has been received with rejoicing in Petersburg.

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Claridge, of Crystal Brook, have been notified by cable that their only son, Pte. Mervyn H. Claridge, has been reported missing in France since September 1.

Mrs. J. M. Oates, of Jamestown, has been officially informed that her son, Pte. T. A. Oates, has been missing in France since September 4.

Figure 13 - An extract from *The Register* Reporting Walker as a Prisoner of War, (*The Register*, 1916).



AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

PRISONER OF WAR CARE COMMITTEE

TELEPHONES: 8576
8577
8578
VICTORIA.

86 GROSVENOR PLACE,

Miss M. E. CHOMLEY,
Hon. Secretary.

LONDON, S.W. 1. 16th. July 1918 191

1601

Dear

You are one of the Australian Non-Commissioned Officers who completed 18 months of captivity last January, and whose names were sent in by the Australian Military Headquarters as being eligible for transfer to a neutral country, according to the agreement made in July 1917, between the British and German Governments.

Australian Headquarters has already sent you a certificate of your rank, so that there can be no doubt as to your right to be transferred.

We are at a loss to understand the cause of this long delay, and if you can give me any information on this point, please do so, as we wish to have an enquiry made into the reason for your detention.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

M. E. Chomley

Hon. Secretary.

Figure 14 – Walker's Military Records, 'Letter from the Australian Red Cross' in Regard to Being a Prisoner of War, (National Archives of Australia, 2001).



THE KING'S LETTERS

1918

The Queen joins me in welcoming you on your release from the miseries & hardships, which you have endured with so much patience & courage.

During these many months of trial, the early rescue of our gallant Officers & Men from the cruelties of their captivity has been uppermost in our thoughts.

We are thankful that this longed for day has arrived, & that back in the old Country you will be able once more to enjoy the happiness of a home & to see good days among those who anxiously look for your return.

George R. I.

Figure 15 – Walker's Military Records, 'Letter from Buckingham Palace Addressed to Walker', (National Archives of Australia, 2001).

AC

in Military Service

2 JUL 1919

D. D.

Collector General,
Post Office
Victoria Street,
MELBOURNE

In accordance with the provisions of the Military Service Act, 1915, I hereby certify that the following person has been discharged from the military service of the Commonwealth of Australia:

NO. DL, B 179, P 598, Dental X

1047 Rank, Corporal WALKER Hurtle Samuel

Unit, 10th Battalion

Date of Attestation, 16/9/14

Date of Discharge, 30/10/14

Date of Interruption, 25/4/19 To "Navarra"

Reason for Interruption, Cessation of Hostilities

Date of Resumption, 25/6/19

Time Served, 4 years 285 days

Time Abroad, 4 years 188 days

Amount Adjusted in Pay.

MELBOURNE
JUL 9 1919

Samuel Hurtle Walker

Discharge Certificate

Figure 16 – Walker's Military Records, 'Discharge Paperwork', (National Archives of Australia, 2001).

RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGED

Date _____

9 Asquith St.
Nailsworth
South Aus.

29.3.67

Sir

I wish to apply for a Gallipoli
badge & medallion. I was in the
10th Batt A.I.F. at the landing, and
was with it till the evacuation
Reg No 1017.

Yours faithfully
X Y R Thurtle Samuel Walker

To above address



Figure 18 - A Miniature Replica of Walker's Medals, (Provided through an interview with S. Briene, 2022).

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PART B

In 2019, my family and I travelled to Europe, where we explored many of the historical landmarks, including the Western Front battlefields. We travelled with family friends whose Great-Grandfather had served in the Great War. At the time, I did not know much about his story. When presented with the opportunity to take part in the ANZAC Prize, I contacted our family friend Mr. Steve Briene to get his thoughts and see if I could focus on his Great-Grandfather. He agreed and provided me with some terrific resources which inspired me to explore Corporal Walker's service further.

I broadened my research and used various websites and books to find more information about Hurtle Samuel Walker. I deciphered many newspaper articles and legal documents, which allowed me to create an overview of Walker's journey.

Through my research and the resources Mr. Steve Briene provided, I put together a timeline of Walker's service; however, I still had many areas that were missing, particularly his time as a Prisoner of War. I was incredibly fascinated by his time as a Prisoner of War. The letters and gifts sent from Buckingham Palace perplexed me, and I was unsure if this was the custom for Prisoners of War to receive.

My family and I were invited to attend the ANZAC Day Dawn Service with Steve and his family, and I was able to sit down with Ms. Lorraine Briene and have my questions answered. The interview allowed me to fill gaps in Walker's timeline; however, as Walker did not share his experience with his family, there was little information available. Nonetheless, the chat cleared up much confusion and clarified Walker's timeline. I understood more about his service and was provided more primary (and secondary) resources from not just Steve and his mother but also a compilation of other family members' research. With all of this, I developed a clear and structured timeline of Walker's service.

I enjoyed finding historical evidence that substantiated the shared stories from Corporal Walker's Family. I accessed these primary sources through various websites such as the National Archives of Australia and Trove. I shared my final draft with Walker's family, and they were very appreciative of my work and excited about the new sources I found.

The ANZAC Day Dawn Service also highlighted the tremendous impact that Walker's service had and the ANZAC characteristics that clearly run in the family. Mateship was evident as the family, neighbours, and strangers came together to pay their respects. This helped me better understand the role Walker played in his family's legacy and the mark he made.

With the information from Lorraine, I continued to research and find evidence to support the information received further. One main issue was the lack of communication about the subject. For example, many legal documents state that he had a personal diary that recounted his wartime experience; however, no family member knew this. I hope that my research assists Walker's memory to live on despite the missing information.

Part B Word Count: 499