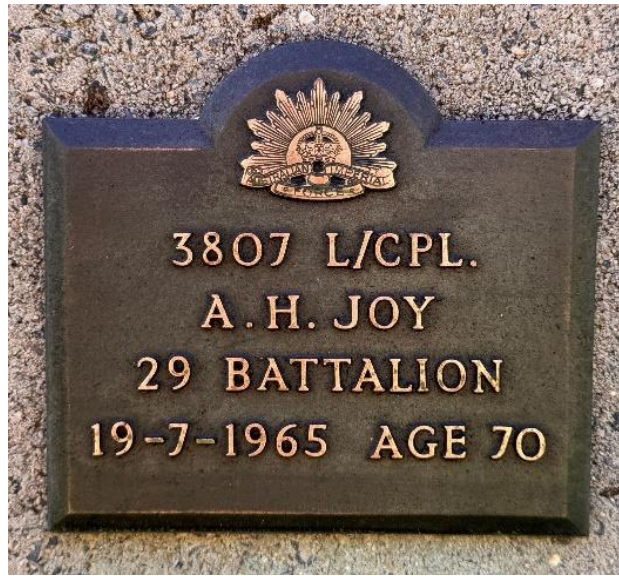


## Arthur Horman Joy



*Plaque at Altona Memorial Park*

Private (Pte) 3807 Arthur Horman Joy enlisted in the 29<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion in the 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade of the 5<sup>th</sup> Australian Division at Geelong on 8 June 1916. He embarked overseas on 19 September and disembarked in Plymouth, England on 14 November, where he joined the 8<sup>th</sup> (Brigade) Training Battalion in Wiltshire.

He departed England on 16 January 1917 and arrived in France the next day, where he was taken on strength of the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion, in the field at Montauban, on 21 January. On 23 March 1917, following the German withdrawal to the Hindenburg Line, the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion held off a strong German counterattack at Beaumetz and sustained casualties amounting to 29 killed and 105 wounded or missing.

Pte Joy attended the 5<sup>th</sup> (British) Army Trench Mortar School between 2 – 13 May and was promoted to Lance Corporal (L Cpl) on 20 August.

On 17 September, the battalion moved to Belgium to participate in the 5<sup>th</sup> Division's assault on Polygon Wood on 26 September 1917. Despite heavy losses (46 killed and 205 wounded or missing in the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion alone), all the objectives were taken, and the ground held against six German counter attacks over the following 24 hours.

At the conclusion of Third Ypres, the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion remained in the Messines and Ypres area throughout early 1918, during which time L Cpl Joy was granted leave in England from 30 January – 19 February.

In response to the German Spring Offensive on the Somme, in late March 1918 the 5<sup>th</sup> Division went south to help plug gaps in the faltering British line. On 6 April, the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion moved into reserve near Cachy (supporting the British 18<sup>th</sup> Division) and then to Corbie where they remained as 8<sup>th</sup> Brigade reserve for the rest of the month.

The battalion moved into the front line near Morlancourt on 17 July, and it was here on the night of 28 – 29 July that they conducted a raid (at bayonet point) on the German trenches. The raid was a success with many of the enemy reported killed and the trench captured, along with 23 Germans and six machine guns, for the loss of 100 casualties (14 killed) of their own.

On 8 August 1918, during the second phase of the allied offensive at Amiens, the 5th Australian Division, including the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion, moved “through” the resting 3<sup>rd</sup> Division and advanced the line another 3 km.

The attack continued the next day, and the battalion captured the village of Vauvillers for the loss of 95 men. One of those casualties was L Cpl Joy, who sustained gunshot wounds that fractured his right leg.

He was evacuated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian General Hospital at Boulogne on 12 August and from there via hospital ship to England a few days later, where he was admitted to the Cambridge Military Hospital at Aldershot from 16 August – 18 September 1918.



After his discharge from hospital, he was granted two weeks' leave in England between 16 – 30 November, and then embarked for Australia on 4 January 1919.

Lance Corporal 3807 Arthur Horman Joy disembarked in Melbourne on 20 February, where he was discharged from the AIF as medically unfit (due to wounds) on 30 March 1919.

Name: Joy, Arthur Horman	
Service Number	3807
Date enlisted	8 June 1916
Place enlisted	Geelong, Victoria
Rank on enlistment	Private
Initial Unit	29 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion
Date and ship embarked for overseas	19 September 1916 HMAT A73 <i>Commonwealth</i>
Stated age/DOB (if known)	21 years 3 months
Place of birth	Ballarat, Victoria
Marital status	Single
Occupation	Printer
Religion	Methodist
Next of kin and address	Joy, Mrs Emma, mother, 138 Maude Street, Geelong, Victoria
Permanent address	138 Maude Street, Geelong, Victoria
Appearance	Fair complexion, brown hair, brown eyes, height – 5 feet 6 inches, weight – 9 stone, 4 lbs, chest measurement – 36 inches
Final Rank	Lance Corporal
Final Unit	29 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion
Theatres of war served in	France, Belgium
Fate	Returned to Australia
Date and place wounded	9 August 1918 Vauvillers, France
Nature of wounds	Gunshot wounds to right leg (fractured)
Date and ship embarked for Australia	4 January 1919 HT <i>Morvada</i>
Date discharged	30 March 1919
Nature of discharge	Medically Unfit (wounds)
Honours/medals	British War Medal, Victory Medal
Notes	Died 19/7/1965. Also listed on the Queenscliff Methodist Church Honor Roll, Newtown Methodist Church Honor Roll and the Yarra Street Methodist Church Choir Honor Roll