

5th. A.I.

2nd. Aus.

1st. A.N.Z.A.

3/3/17.

1st. Battln. 2343 Pte. Hilton John
CHESHAM,

and

4515 Pte. Aubrey Benadict
PAYNE.

These men showed great valour and devotion to duty in carrying a line forward and maintaining it through heavy shell and Machine Gun fire during the advance on BUTTE, GIRD, LE BARQUE SWITCH and MALT TRENCHES, 24th. to 27th. Febry. Although continually sniped at at close range during the afternoon of the 25th. Feb. they maintained communication with the advancing Companies. During the night 25/26th. when communication was most essential, these men on their own initiative, connected their 'phone to the wire in the barrage area so that they would be nearby when a break occurred. The barrage falling at the time consisted mainly of gas shells.

Lt.-Col.
G. F. Murphy.

Military
Medals.