

5th. Aust. D. Received 16.8.13

Passed 13.8.13

Army Form W. 3121.

14th. Aust. F. A. Brigade. 5th. Australian Division. Australian Corps. 17.8.1918. Date of Recommendation.

Schedule No. (to be left blank)	Unit	Regtl. No.	Rank and Name (Christian names must be stated)	Action for which commended (Date and place of action must be stated)	Recommended by	Honour or Reward	(To be left blank)
	53rd. Battery. 14th. Australian Field Artillery Brigade.		Lieutenant, Joseph James Raphael PUNCH.	<p>During the advance in front of HAMEL - VILLERS BRETONNEUX line on the 8th. August 1918, this officer was in charge of a Section in close support of the advancing Infantry.</p> <p>He passed the Infantry at the second objective, and advanced with the cavalry and tanks, coming into action within 200 yards of the final objective, where he engaged hostile Machine Guns and Infantry advancing in the open.</p> <p>Although heavily engaged by hostile artillery and machine guns, Lieut. PUNCH kept his section in action until his ammunition was nearly exhausted and he had lost heavily in horses, and six of his personnel were casualties.</p> <p>Rejoining his Battery, he obtained fresh horses and going back, brought in the wagons he had been forced to abandon.</p> <p>This officer displayed coolness and judgement of high order, and was fearless in the performance of his duty.</p> <p>His excellent work is deserving of special recognition.</p> <p><i>Awarded Military Cross - Authority H. J. List letter, dated 10.10.18</i></p>	<p><i>W. J. ...</i> Brig-General, C.R.A. 5th. Australian Division.</p>	<p>MILITARY CROSS (Immediate).</p>	<p>20</p>

No previous award.