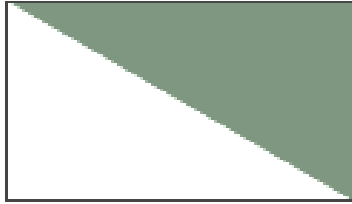




Slough hat with emu plumes & colour patch of 2nd Light Horse Regiment.



Sergeant Sidney APPLEBY
975 - 2nd Light Horse Brigade Train
& 33rd AAS Corps Company

Born: 1887 London, England.

Parents: William Henry & Annie (nee Lever) Appleby

Occupation: Farmer

District Connection: Baldry, Cumnock

Enlistment Date: 23 Sep 1914

Enlistment Age: 26 yrs

Embarkation: 21 Dec 1914, Sydney - HMAT A39
A39 *Port MacQuarie*

Served: Gallipoli and Egypt

Fate: Died of disease 22 Feb 1919, Egham,
Surrey, England - aged 32yrs.

Privately buried at Brockley Cemetery,
Forest Hill, London.

Honour Boards: Australian War Memorial,
Canberra; Cumnock War Memorial.

Biography:

Sidney Appleby was born in 1887 in London, the son of William Henry and Annie (nee Lever) Appleby. His father was a stevedore manager in London. Sidney Appleby attended Higher Grade School Monson Road in London, and had training in engineering. He left London on the 19 May 1910 on SS *Ormuz* as an unassisted immigrant passenger, aged 24 years, and arrived in Sydney on 17 Jun 1910.

The local Molong papers had reports that Mr S Appleby attended the Coronation Day celebrations in Balderodgery in Scottish fancy costume in Jun 1911, and played cricket for Baldry in Jan and Feb 1912. *The Molong Express & Western District Advertiser* – 30 May 1914, p15 states that Sidney was elected President of the Baldry Amusement Society in May 1914.

Sidney Appleby enlisted in Marrickville on 23 Sep 1914, aged 26yrs and 2 months. His next of kin was his father, William Appleby of New Cross, London and his occupation was a farmer. He was 5 feet 8 inches tall, had a fair complexion, blue eyes, fair hair and was of the Church of England religious denomination

Pte Appleby embarked on 21 Dec 1914 at Sydney on *HMAT Port MacQuarie A39* with the 2nd Light Horse Brigade Train, 6th Australian Army Service Corps (AASC) Company. No details of Driver Appleby's Gallipoli service is in his war records, but the company's war records show that the 6th AASC accompanied the 2nd Division to Gallipoli.

By April 1915, Anzac Beach was congested with supplies, forage, ammunition and stores, so a second depot was opened 800m to the south of Brighton Beach. By mid-July, stocks consisted of: 23 days rations and two days fuel for 25,000 men; and five days grain and one day of hay for 1000 animals. Water supply was particularly difficult to manage. The AASC soldiers lived and operated on the beaches and its fringes, exposed to harassing shellfire that killed and wounded on a daily basis, and shared many of the privations of the combat troops.

On 27 Feb 1916, Driver Appleby proceeded to Serapeum, Egypt and on the 23 Mar was transferred to Division Headquarters ASC Anzac Mounted Division. He was transferred to the 2nd LH Brigade Supply Section at Romani on 17 Aug 1916, where he remained before moving to Moscar as part of the newly formed Australian Mounted Division at the AASC Training Depot, and then joined the 33rd AASC in Aug 1917. October saw the beginning of the third battle of Gaza, which sent the Desert Mounted Corps to the Beersheba flank. Trains ferried supplies from the Advanced Supply Depot at Gamli to forward dumps at Esani, and from there delivered forward in support of the assaulting troops. The next major activity commenced at the end of March 1918, using Jericho as a base for operations in the Jordan Valley and eastwards. It was the beginning of a long hot summer in which heat, dust, insects and malaria took a severe toll on the whole force.

Sgt Appleby was promoted to Corporal on 14 Aug 1917 and to Sergeant on 8 Nov 1918. He was granted 64 days leave from Palestine and embarked on the SS *Caledonia* for England on 17 Jan 1919, arriving at Southampton on 1 Feb 1919. He died of disease at his father's residence at Egham, Surrey, on 22 Feb 1919, aged 32yrs. Cause of death was Influenza, Pneumonia and Heart Failure. He was privately buried at Brockley Cemetery, Forest Hill, London. (Grave No 49, Section W) His father and two brothers attended the funeral, along with representatives of the London AIF.

Sidney's younger brother, Percy Appleby, died from influenza the following month, on 28 Mar 1919. The Influenza Epidemic of 1918-19 killed an estimated 40 million people around the world. WW1 claimed an estimated 16 million lives.

His father William Appleby received Sidney's 1914/15 Star, British War and Victory Medals. In his will he had left his property and effects to his father, with his property in Australia in charge of Mr James Watt, Brookvale, NSW (formerly of Fairy Mount, Baldry and retired to Sydney in March 1916).

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Baldry Amusement Club.
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 On Saturday last a meeting of the Baldry Amusement Society was held and was well attended Mr S Appleby (President) occupied the chair.
 It was decided to reform the club and also to include a debating club
 The first debate was fixed for Saturday, May 30th (to day), the subject selected being "Animal Power and Mechanical Power"
 An hearty invitation is extended to all to attend these gatherings and any views expressed will be greatly appreciated and help the young Society along
 A dance on Saturday, June 6th, will be the first of the light fantastic pastimes which will be followed by euchre parties, etc., etc, about the full moon in each month.

Above - Build-up of supplies, forage, ammunition and stores at Anzac Cove, Gallipoli.

Right top: Molong Express & Western District Advertiser – 30 May 1914, p15.

Right: Baldry & Dilga District WW1 Honor Roll, Baldry Hall, Baldry, NSW.

