

COLLECTION TITLE	Papers of William Hilton Saunders
COLLECTION IDENTIFIER	MSS 064
INCLUSIVE DATE(S)	1915 to 1965
BULK DATE(S)	1915 to 1919
EXTENT	2 boxes
CREATOR	Saunders, William Hilton, 1894-
RELATED ENTITIES	Saunders, William Hilton, 1894- Australian Imperial Force (1914-1921)
RELATED COLLECTIONS	Papers of William Hilton Saunders
ACCESS POINTS	Authors, Scottish -- 19th century -- Photographs Authors, Scottish -- 19th century -- Portraits English literature -- 19th century Soldiers Soldiers -- Australia -- Archives Soldiers -- Australia -- Diaries

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

William Hilton Saunders was born on 2 August 1894 at Goodooga, NSW. He enlisted on 15 October 1915 at the age of 21. After four months of training at the Liverpool camp he embarked on 8 March 1916 on HMAT A15 *Star of England* as the 15th Reinforcements for the 13th Battalion, disembarking at Egypt.

In June 1916, Saunders moved from Egypt to France, where he served as a Driver until 1918 with the 4th Division Ammunition Column. He returned to Australia on the 12 May 1919. After the war, he bought a butcher's shop with a bakery attached and then sold out and went shearing. In 1930 during the depression, he bought a mixed business in Sydney.

References: Pam MacLean
First World War Nominal Roll
National Archives of Australia, April 2006
The Gilgandra Weekly, Wednesday 20 October 1965

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection comprises diaries, badges, newspaper cuttings, correspondence, cards, ration books, leave pass, photographs and memorabilia relating to William Hilton Saunders' First World War service in France, together with newspaper cuttings relating to the Gilgandra Co-ees. His diaries describe training in Egypt; leave in England; and serving in different campaigns in France.

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS

The collection is available for research.

SOURCE OF ACQUISITION

This collection was acquired from Pam MacLean in 2000.

EXISTENCE AND LOCATION OF ORIGINALS

Special Collections, UNSW Canberra

Collection Contents

Papers of William Hilton Saunders (MSS 064) (5 records)

1915 to 1965 (Inclusive date(s)), 1915 to 1919 (Bulk date(s))

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Diary 1: February 1916 – 2 Jan 1917 (MSS 064.diary1)

Diary 2: 1 January 1917 – 24 October 1917 (MSS 064.diary2)

Diary 3: 1 January 1918 – 31 December 1918 (MSS 064.diary3)

Diary 4: 18 February 1919- 8 July 1919 (MSS 064.diary4)

Diary 5: 1916-1919 address book with poetry (MSS 064.diary5)

Box 1 (MSS 064.B1)

Folder 1 (MSS 064.B1.1)

1915 to 1917 (Inclusive date(s))

Notebook containing newspaper clippings, ribbons, one letter and pressed flowers; four embroidered silk postcards - two with envelopes and two with smaller printed greeting card inserted in a pocket behind the silk front and the stiff back, 1915-1917; military and civilian badges

Folder 2 (MSS 064.B1.2)

1916 to 1919 (Inclusive date(s))

Four brief diaries kept during the First World War by Saunders, together together with notes and addresses; loose membership cards, pressed flowers and silk ribbons, 1916-1919

Folder 3 (MSS 064.B1.3)

1916 to 1919 (Inclusive date(s))

Letter (incomplete), leave or duty ration books (2), military pass, 1916-1919; material collected on the battlefield at Montbrehain, France, from a deceased German soldier named Max Alfred Lein, from II. Ers. Battalion, Res. Jnf. Regiment. 104, 4. Komp., including medical cards, tickets, French and German paper money, German field postcard and coupons, 1917-1918; small material Australian red merchant ensign flag

Folder 4 (MSS 064.B1.4)

1914 to 1918 (Inclusive date(s))

Copy of *The great war... I was there : undying memories of 1914-1918* vol. 3, part 51; newspaper clipping concerning the 50th anniversary of the Co-ee march from *The Gilgandra weekly* (20 October 1965)

Folder 5 (MSS 064.B1.5)

1920 (Inclusive date(s))

Copy of *Aussie : a reprint of all the numbers of the diggers' own paper of the battlefield*(1920)

Box 2 (MSS 064.B2)

Folder 6 (MSS 064.B2.6)

1919 (Inclusive date(s))

Black and white postcard photograph of two Australian soldiers, 20/1/1919

Black and white photograph of German prisoners of war, France, 1919

Black and white postcard photograph of unidentified German soldiers from 15. Korporalschaft Rekr., Dep. 2, Ers. Batl. Landw. Jnf. Reg. 104, Annaberg

Black and white postcard photograph of unidentified young German soldier

Black and white studio portrait mounted on heavy board of unidentified young Australian army officer with silk ribbons fluttering from his left shoulder strap / by A.J. Vincent, Talbragar Street, Dubbo

Black and white studio portrait mounted on heavy board of three unidentified young Australian army officers with silk ribbons fluttering from their left shoulder strap / by A.J. Vincent, Talbragar Street, Dubbo
