

## **Stanislaus John COLLINS**

Stanislaus Collins was born in Kilmore in 1890 to John James and Emily Elizabeth (nee Holder) Collins. His parents separated when he was ten and he moved to New South Wales with his mother some time later.

Stanislaus was aged 24 years and 11 months when he enlisted at Sydney in February 1915 and engaged in farming. His mother was listed as his next of kin.

Attached to the 19th Battalion as a private, service number 1163, Stanislaus marched in to the Gallipoli Peninsula in early August 1915. He sustained a minor injury in mid-September, however, was able to return to duty the same day. The following month he suffered from severe diarrhoea and was transferred to a hospital ship which docked at Malta where he was hospitalised. He returned to Egypt following treatment and was discharged to active service in January 1916.

In July 1916 Stanislaus marched in to France from Alexandria to join his battalion. The following month he was promoted to Lance Corporal in the field only to contract influenza a few weeks later which required hospital treatment.

Stanislaus required hospitalisation in England for severe trench fever between April and early June 1917. Following treatment he was discharged to furlough, returning to France in early August to re-join his Battalion. Just one month later, on September 20, 1917, he was killed in action at Zillebeke, Belgium.

He was buried at the Birr Cross Roads Cemetery No. 1, 1.5 miles ESE of Ypres. His mother later received his identity disc and chain, a wallet, photos and a notebook. Later she also received a Memorial Plaque and Memorial Scroll and his British War Medal, 1914/15 Star and Victory Medal. A small pension was awarded to her on a fortnightly basis. Stanislaus' service is recorded on the Kilmore Honour Roll.

*Compiled by Kilmore Historical Society.*



*24<sup>th</sup> Battalion standing in a trench surrounded by battle debris, October 1917. The foremost person is a runner from the 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion. Wikipedia.*