

## BIGNELL, F. L. (D.S.O.)

Francis Lawrence Bignell was born in Carlton in 1886 to Edmund and Margaret Ann (née Blythe) Bignell. He married Kathrina Winifred Clarkson in 1914.

The 1915 *Sands and McDougall Directory of Victoria* lists a Mrs M A Bignell, Chemist, at 323 Lygon Street, Carlton, while Mr H Clarkson, Chemist, is listed at 421 Sydney Road, Brunswick.

Francis Bignell is the only medical doctor listed on the St Jude's Honour Board.

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### *AIF Project Entry*

#### **Francis Lawrence BIGNELL**

Place of birth	Melbourne, Victoria
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Medical practitioner
Address	Lismore, New South Wales
Marital status	Married
Age at embarkation	30
Next of kin	Wife, Mrs K W Bignell, c/o Clarkson, Chemist, Sydney Road, Brunswick, Victoria.
Previous military service	3rd Australian Army Medical Corps
Enlistment date	6 September 1916.
Rank on enlistment	Captain
Unit name	Medical Officers
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Adelaide, South Australia, on board HMAT A16 <i>Port Melbourne</i> on 23 October 1916.
Rank from Nominal Roll	Major
Recommendations (Medals and Awards)	Mention in Despatches Awarded, and promulgated: 'London Gazette', Second Supplement, No. 30448, 28 December 1917; 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 57, 18 April 1918. Recommendation date: 8 September 1917 DSO. Recommendation date: 5 March 1918 Mention in Despatches Awarded, and promulgated, 'London Gazette' No. 30704, 25 May 1918; 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 165, 24 October 1918.

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Fate Returned to Australia 2 June 1919.

Medals Distinguished Service Order  
Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette'  
No. 173, 7 November 1918.

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NAA: B2455, BIGNELL F L SERN MAJOR.

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Staff of the 26th Battalion at Neuve Eglise.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

E01442

### Description

Informal portrait of Lieutenant Colonel (Lt Col) Travers and staff of the 26th Battalion at Neuve Eglise. Left to right, back row: Lieutenant (Lt) G. W. Francis, Assistant Adjutant; Lt C. G. Holloway MC, Signal Officer; Lt H. F. Pearson MC, Intelligence Officer.

Front row: Captain (Capt) Chaplain F. Humphery; Major J. A. Robinson DSO, Second in Command; Lt Col R. J. A. Travers DSO, Commanding Officer; Capt F. C. Lloyd MC DCM, Adjutant; Major F. L. Bignell DSO, Regimental Medical Officer.

Extract from F. L. Bignell's Service Record, SERN MAJOR, p. 21/71.

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Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service, as reported on Army Form B.213, Army Form A. 86, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks - Taken from Army Form B.213, Army Form A. 86, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
33	4.11.17	O/C 2 A. Gen Hpl	Reported for temp duty <sup>sec</sup> 13 B. Gen Hpl and attached	Wimereux	3.11.17 Do 41/15 20 B213 B56/44
34	11.11.17	"	Proc to 2 Aust Div for duty	"	4.11.17 Do 41/15 20 B213 B56/45
35	10.11.17	C/O 26 Bn	REJOINED BATTALION <sup>ex Wd</sup>	Belgium	5.11.17 Do 63/524 9/200 B213 B21/45
29	30.10.17	AIF List. 251	To be Major		12.10.17 AK 1867/42
36	1.1.18	AIF List 279	Mentioned in Sir Douglas Haig's despatch for distinguished and gallant service and devotion to duty in the field during the period midnight 26th Feb. 1917 to September 20th 1917.		AK 2097/31. DO 4/332.
37	9.3.18	Lt Col 26 <sup>th</sup> Bn	Det. to Corps Medical Sch.	Belgium	2.3.18 B213 B21/62
	23.3.18	do	Rejoined <sup>do</sup>	"	15.3.18 " B21/64
38	11.5.18	C/O 26 Bn	Let + proceeded to join ADMS. 2nd Aust Div	France	7.5.18 Do 4/196 B213 B21/71
39	11-5-18	O/C 6 <sup>th</sup> A 7 Amb	T/attached for duty	Field	7-5-18 B213 00 <sup>5</sup> /52
40	18-5-18	do	<sup>ex Rmd 26<sup>th</sup> Bn</sup> Posted to 6 <sup>th</sup> A 7 Amb	do	10-5-18 B213 B21/72
41	25-5-18	do	Wounded. "fined"	do	23-5-18 B213 B21/73 Do 4/198
42	24-5-18	20 CCS	Major. Wounded in Action Gas	France	23-5-18 AK 2521/79 24-5-18 ✓ 194
43	23-5-18	5 A.F.A.	✓ G.S.P. <sup>adew</sup> to CCS.	✓	23-5-18 ✓ 195
44	25-5-18	1 R. Cross Hos	✓ Gassed Shell.	Adm	25-5-18 ✓ 197 Do 4/195
45	4-6-18	do	✓ ✓ Johnny	✓	4-6-18 AK 270/22

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