

FYNMORE, T. F. D.

Thomas Frederick Robert Fynmore was born in Geelong in 1889 to Thomas Edward Fynmore (ca.1833-1896) and Elizabeth Whan (1867-1946). He came from a large and distinguished British naval family.

His great-grandfather Captain James Fynmore (ca.1763-1824) fought in the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805 as did his grandfather, James Francis Fynmore (1793-1887) (later Lieutenant Colonel J F Fynmore). Many of their descendants settled in Australia and New Zealand and all seven of the Fynmore men who served in the First AIF were related.

Thomas's younger brother James Fynmore also enlisted in the AIF and served overseas. He too is listed on the St Jude's Honour Roll together with their cousin Frederick Augustus Collingwood Fynmore.

Tom married Elsie Daniel on his return in 1919 and the couple went on to have two children.

AIF Project Entry

Thomas Robert FYNMORE

Regimental number	2082
Place of birth	Geelong Victoria
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Surgical instrument maker
Address	Clifton Hill, Victoria
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	24
Next of kin	Friend, Miss E Daniel, 55 Queen's Parade, Clifton Hill, Victoria.
Enlistment date	12 March 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	No 1 Australian General Hospital
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia, on board <i>A62 Wandilla</i> on 25 June 1915.
Regimental number from Nominal Roll	2082A
Rank from Nominal Roll	Lance Corporal
Unit from Nominal Roll	2nd Field Company Engineers

Recommendations (Medals and Awards)

Military Medal
Gallant action in saving life of artillery despatch rider and personally delivering despatches. (Lagnicourt 23 April 1917). Recommendation date: 27 April 1917.

Fate

Returned to Australia 12 April 1919.

Medals

Military Medal
'Near LAGNICOURT on the evening of 23/4/17, while a heavy enemy bombardment was taking place, an Artillery despatch rider was seriously wounded and fell from his horse and was lying in a very exposed position still under heavy shell fire. Lance Corporal FYNMORE went out, dressed the man's wounds, carried him to a place of safety and personally delivered the despatches to their destination. He then procured assistance and a stretcher and returned for the patient and carried him to the Field Ambulance, a distance of two miles.'

Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 169

Date: 4 October 1917.

Family/military connections

Cousins:

7859 James Stewart FYNMORE,
7th Field Ambulance, returned to
Australia, 20 May 1919.

2639 Sergeant Harry Lovell FYNMORE,
7th Bn, killed in action, 13-18 June 1918.

628 Pte Leslie Haliburton FYNMORE,
21st Bn, killed in action, 23 August 1916.

Other details

Medals: Military Medal, 1914-15 Star,
British War Medal, Victory Medal.

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NAA: B2445 FYNMORE TR, SERN 2082.

MILITARY MEDAL WON

News has been received by Miss Elsie Daniel, of Airlie Ladies' College, Clifton Hill, that Lance-Corporal Thomas Fynmore, of the Army Medical Corps, has won the Military Medal.

Relating his experiences, he writes:—"One morning the Germans flew over our trenches, and took a photograph. That evening they fired on us, hitting the despatch rider and three N.C.O.'s. I ran and dressed their wounds under shell fire. The despatch rider being the most critical case, I carried him into the dug-out, and while attending to his wounds a shell exploded, the next dug-out to ours being blown to pieces. At the time I thought we would never see daylight again; but, thanks to the old field-cooker, it saved our lives.

"After I had got the aid of three men we carried our hero to the nearest dressing station, which was three miles away. The next thing to consider was the despatches, so I delivered them without further trouble."

Lance-Corporal Thomas Fynmore is 26 years of age.



LANCE-CORPORAL T. FYNMORE