

5th Aust. Inf.

2nd Australian

1st Anzac

25/9/17.

20th Bn. 1576 Sgt LAWRENCE ERNEST
VERNAZONI

At HAEBEKE WOOD on 20/9/17 this N.C.O. when his platoon officer had been killed early in the attack, and the men were inclined to falter, stepped forward and took charge, controlling the men and leading them on. It was largely due to his leadership that one of the enemy pill-boxes was successfully dealt with. Throughout he showed himself to be a fine leader and inspired his men by his absolute fearlessness and determination. His platoon captured over a dozen prisoners and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

D.C.M.

do. 152 Pte NORMAN ACTON

At HAEBEKE WOOD on 20/9/17 he was Coy. Scout and throughout the whole day showed great courage and initiative. He single-handed approached an enemy dugout and caused 8 of them to surrender, and captured a H.G. He set a great example to those near him. He was also responsible for about 30 men of his Company who were lost moving up, being in their correct position before zero hour.

D.C.M.

do. 4061 Pte JOHN JAMES BATES

At HAEBEKE WOOD on 20/9/17 this H.G. man showed great initiative and determination at a time when such qualities were needed to drive home the attack. He took his Lewis Gun forward on the edge of the barrage and when the success of the attack was threatened by 2 H.G.'s firing from a flank, and while under the fire of both, he engaged them until they were outflanked, and he put one out of action.

D.C.M.