Robertson, Douglas Hamilton
ASC 1907-12
Originally, 3rd. Bn. Then 4th. Severe gunshot wounds head and foot, 4/18.M.C

LIEUTENANT DOUGLAS HAMILTON ROBERTSON, M.C.

DOUGLAS HAMILTON ROBERTSON was born on 20th September, 1895, at Tamworth, New South Wales, his mother being Mrs. Muriel Constance Robertson, matron at Wentworth Falls. He was educated at All Saints College, Bathurst, and joined the Bank’s staff at Tamworth in March, 1913.

Douglas Robertson enlisted in the A.I.F. on 7th September, 1915, and served in France with the 4th Battalion, being promoted to lieutenant on 1st May, 1917. He was on active service until the end of the war, and for his gallantry and devotion to duty received congratulations from General Rawlinson, and was awarded the Military Cross. In April, 1919, General Birdwood wrote to Lieutenant Robertson as follows:

“Dear Robertson,

I send you my heartiest congratulations on the Military Cross, which I am so pleased to see has been awarded to you for your conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in our operations near Hargicourt on 18th September last.”
"At one stage of the attack your platoon was held up by a machine-gun post. With the assistance of one man only you pushed forward and rushed this post, which you found to be held by 15 Germans. You yourself shot four of the enemy and put the machine-gun out of action, when the remainder of the garrison surrendered to you.

"Later you were responsible for the capture of three other machine-guns and a number of prisoners. Throughout these operations you displayed untiring energy and good leadership and set a splendid example to your men.

"With kind regards and good wishes for the future.

Yours sincerely,
W. R. Birdwood."

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### Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. **Name:** Robertson, Douglas Hamilton
2. In the Parish of **Lamia** in or near the Town of **Lamia**
3. In the County of **G.N.W.**
4. **1942**
5. **30**
6. **Single**
7. **39**
8. **Douglas Hamilton Robertson**
9. "Lamia"
10. "G.N.W."

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### Physical Description

- **Age:** 19 years 11 months
- **Height:** 6 feet 3 inches
- **Weight:** 12 stone 3 lbs.
- **Chest Measurement:** 38 inches
- **Complexion:** Fair
- **Eyes:** Grey
- **Hair:** Light Brown
- **Religious Denomination:**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit in which served.</th>
<th>Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &amp;c.</th>
<th>Period of service in each rank.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boy 3rd Bn</td>
<td></td>
<td>From—  7-9-16  To—  7 MAR 1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th. Reinfs., 3rd. Bn</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 MAR 1916</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Joined 3rd Bn A.I.** 3-8-16

**France from R's**

**Appointed Lance Cpl in the Field 26-9-16**

**Promoted 5 Cpl. France 22-11-16**

**Proceeded Overseas to gain unit**

**Joined 4th Officer Cadet**

**Vavailability College, Cambridge and to be borne supernumerary to Establishment of 3rd Bn**

**Adm. 14th A.D. Bn**

**Did: 24 12 16**

**From 2nd field to posted to Gen. Inf Rifles: 1st Field 172 dated 4-5-17**

**From 6th to date from PB 640**

**Def: 9th 31-12-16 to 16-4-17**

**Which shows a total of 20 days**

Corrigendum

**Venuesal 3rd Bn**
16-5-19 PROCEEDED OVERSEAS FRANCE.

18-6-19 S.O.S. H.M. from p/c 18 (Cable: 131).  
29-6-19 Adm 1st A. D. 11
30/7/19 Lewis Gun Officer seconded Reeskow  
8-4-19 Wounded in Action.  
11-4-19 Placed on regt, seconded Le1 (wounded).
13-4-19 Adm Lt of B. Sloop from 1st. M. Unit.  
16-4-19 Invalided to England.  
30-5-19 M.B. Convalescence all 27/6/19
27/6/19 Appointed for 2nd class to Convalescing Ydt "17/18"
22-9/19 PROCEEDED OVERSEAS FRANCE  
Via Southampton
28-7-19 Returned duty from regt. seconded Le1
10-12-18 To England per (Aberdonian)  
28-5-19 Returned to Australia.  
N.B. Superior Nastis
26-8-19 Struck off Strength, 2nd class A.B.  
12-10-19 To R.Y.H.
Dear Madam,

I now beg to advise you that Lieut. D.H. Robertson has been reported admitted to 3rd London General Hospital, England, 17/4/18, suffering from gunshot wound head and right foot, severe.

His postal address will be—

Lieut. D.H. Robertson,
4th (late 3rd) Battalion

Australian Imperial Force,
Abroad.
AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

BASE RECORDS OFFICE,
VICTORIA BARRACK

Melbourne, 31st July, 1919.

Dear Madam,

I have much pleasure in forwarding hereunder copy of extract from Third Supplement, No. 31183, to the "London Gazette," dated 15th February, 1919, relating to the conspicuous services rendered by the undermentioned member of the Australian Imperial Force.

AWARDED THE MILITARY CROSS.

"HIS MAJESTY THE KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the above award to the undermentioned Officer in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the field. The acts of gallantry for which the decoration has been awarded will be announced in the "London Gazette" as early as practicable:

Lieutenant DOUGLAS HAMILTON ROBERTSON."

The above has been promulgated in "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette," No. 75, dated 17th June, 1919.

Mrs. M.C. Robertson,
Queen Victoria Sanatorium,
Kings Tableland,
Wentworth Falls,
Blue Mountains,
NEW SOUTH WALES.

Yours faithfully,

Major,

Fourth Battalion Re-union.

On Friday next, at the Oxford Hall, Liverpool-street, Hyde Park, there will be a re-union of old friends of the Fighting 4th Battalion, which was so much reinforced and fought in every great battle from the landing at Gallipoli to the second taking of the Hindenburg Line. Colonel Storey has received permission from the State Commandant for the men to wear their uniforms, and a big muster is expected. The main object, of course, is to re-unite old friends, keep the members of the regiment together in private life, and, above all, to interest the wives, fathers, mothers and sisters of those still on deck and those who made the great sacrifice.
29th August, 1967.

The Officer In Charge,
Central Army Records,
Albert Park Barracks,
MELBOURNE...VIC...3000.

Dear Sir,

re: Douglas Hamilton ROBERTSON, Lieut.  
Widow: Mrs. Helen Ethel ROBERTSON, Turanville SCONE....N.S.W..


It would be appreciated if you could supply us with details of service with particular reference to areas of Overseas Service.

Yours sincerely,

F. L. WIRRELL,
Hon. Secretary.
Dear Sir,

Re: Lt Douglas Hamilton Robertson MC (4th)


The following details in respect of the abovementioned's service are forwarded for your information:

a. Date of Enlistment: 7th September 1915
b. Date of Discharge: 7th July 1919
   1st April 1916 to 23rd March 1919
d. Returned from Active Service: Eligible

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

OIC Central Army Records Office

Hon Secretary,
Newcastle Legacy,
P.O. Box 2710,
NEWCASTLE, N.S.W. 2300.

Above dated 5/9/67

Believed to be a photo of Douglas, courtesy of Google Search. See his 1910 First XV team photo in the "Kendall" file. Also, opening photo copied from Bank of NSW Roll of Honour.
Thomas Cook died of pneumonia on 13 July 1912 at the age of 78. The man known as “The Squire of Turanville” was mourned by the people of the district to whom he had been a great benefactor, a community man, always kind and generous. He was buried in the Cook family grave at St Luke’s Scone.

Turanville was sold in 1912 to Mr Hugh Corbett Taylor (the present owner’s Great Grandfather).

Taylor’s daughter Helen Ethel Moore and her husband Douglas Hamilton Robertson took over the running of the property in 1938. D.H. Robertson was a well-known horse and cattle breeder. He was a Vice president of the RAS for 5 years before his sudden death in 1967.

In 1963 his son Jock Douglas Robertson and his wife Elizabeth (nee Widdis) assumed the running of Turanville.

Jock’s son Douglas Hugh Robertson and his wife Nicola (nee White) have operated the property since 2003.

(Note “Helen Ethel” consistent with name in above “Legacy” letter Ed.)

Died 27/6/67