John Milton Edgley
D.S.O., Arts: Major, 19th and 46th Btms. A.I.F., Gallipoli, France and England. Enlisting 5th May, 1915, as captain and sailing 25th June as second in command of A Coy., landed at Anzac, 20th August, in command of D Coy., and remained there till invalided to England in October. Joining 46th Bn. on formation in Egypt 10th March, 1916, served at Fleurbaix (where promoted major), Pozieres, Mouquet Farm, Ypres and elsewhere, being appointed second in command, 1st December. Evacuated to England in July 1917 after a shell burst, was later in charge of 12th Training Bn., Codford, and in September President of Courts Martial. Returning to France 13th February, 1918, was evacuated to England through an injury in April but, rejoining unit in July, served until demobilisation. Awarded D.S.O. 4th June, 1917, being personally invested by H.M. the King at Buckingham Palace 15th August. Mentioned in Despatches. Member of S.U. Scouts Guard of Honour to H.M. King George V (then Duke of York) in 1901, and lieutenant in 1909. Early education at All Saints’ College, Bathurst.

Major John Milton Edgley, DSO

- **Date of birth**: 1882-12-24
- **Date and unit at appointment (Officers)**: 1915-05-05
- **Other units**: 1916-03-10 - 1917-07-25
- **Date promoted**: 1916-07-15
- **Date and unit at appointment**: Appointed captain and second in Command A Company, 19th Battalion.
- **Other units**: Officer Commanding C Company, 46th Battalion.
- **Date promoted**: Appointed major.
Other units 1917-07-25 - 1918-02-08 Detached to 12th Training Battalion, England.
Other units 1918-02-08 - 1918-12-21 46th Battalion.
Other units 1918-12-21 Burial Officer, 4th Divisional Headquarters.
Other 1919-09-19 AIF appointment terminated.

Edgley listed below in “D” Company. Henry Clunies-Ross “A” Company

A Company:
Major Alexander Windeyer Ralston
Captain Frederick Ross
Lieutenant Henry Clunies-Ross

D Company:
Captain John Edgley
Captain William Henderson

D Company:
Captain John Edgley
Captain William Henderson
Incident in “First Bullecourt 11th Apr. 1917 where 46th Bn had casualties of 9 officers and 364 other ranks:

“William Evans (of Penshurst, Vic.) Batman of Major J. M. Edgley, of Dorrigo, N.S.W., 46th Battalion, who was left out of this fight had begged to be allowed to take part and obtaining leave, had fought throughout with Captain Boddington in the final stage of the fight. Evans found himself isolated, and was captured. His captor took him along the trench and met another German, who apparently urged that it was better sport to mount the fire-step and shoot down the retiring Australians. The two became so intent on their firing that they forgot Evans. Evans stooped down under pretence of tying a bootlace, felt the dead man’s pocket; for a bomb, and, finding one, placed it quietly, with the pin drawn, between the feet of the Germans. He then slipped round the
next traverse and a second later, hearing the bomb explode, leapt over the
parados. He succeeded in reaching the Australian lines.”

24.9.15. Admitted to Hospital Gallipoli. *Debility*.
11.10.15. Admitted 3rd London General Hospital.
6.2.16. Placed on Supernumerary List, Egypt.
10.3.16. Transferred to 16th Battalion, Somaliland.
15.5.16. Admitted 57th B.C.S. Leoporen.
14.6.16. Discharged to 1st and 2nd Field Hospital, Suez.
2.6.16. Proceeded to join BEF in Alexandria by Kefaruba, 23.
8.6.16. Disembarked at Marseilles.

25.6.15 Bomb at A Hand from Sydney, arrived Aug 24.
15.10.16. Adm. 1st Field Hosp, Boulogne, Observed.
15.10.16. In hospital (bed) in the field.
16.10.16. Evacuated sick placed on the second list.
1.12.16. Returned duty from second list.

MRS M. M. EDGLEY,
DORRIGO. (N.S.W.)

REGRET XEN REPORTED CAPTAIN J.M. EDGLEY ADMITTED HOSPITAL LONDON.
MALARIA WILL PROMPTLY ADVISE IF ANYTHING FURTHER RECEIVED.
AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Base Records Office, A.I.F.F.,
Victoria Barracks.

MELBOURNE 31st October 1916

Dear Madam,

I now beg to advise you that information has been received to the effect that
Mr. Major J. M. Edgley,
was admitted to the 3rd London General Hospital 18/10/16, suffering from neurasthenia mild.

His postal address will therefore be:

No. 100. Major J. M. Edgley,
Sick. 40th Australian Infantry.

C/o Australian Imperial Force Headquarters,
130 Horsererry Road,
Westminster, LONDON. S.W.

Any further particulars coming to hand will be promptly transmitted.

M. M. Edgley,
Fernside,
ROWRA. N.S.W.

Yours faithfully,

J. W. LEAH.

19. 7. 17. Proc. on duties to Join 6/04 Group, A.I.F, as S1 Officer.
20. 10. 17. Detained from attached duty with 6/3 Group 1917.

Staple.
3. 10. 17. M/br. to No. 2. C.O. Warra.

21. 17.
10/7/19

Dear Sir,

I have much pleasure in forwarding per separate registered post the Distinguished Service Order which was awarded to you whilst serving with the Australian Imperial Force. This decoration has only just been received from A.I.F. Headquarters, London, with the request that it be transmitted to your wife, Mrs. M. M. Edgley, "Fernside", Bowral, N.S.W., but as you arrived in Australia before it, I am sending it to you direct, and trust you may be spared to wear it for many years to come.

I shall be obliged if you will kindly let me know whether it comes safely to hand, by signing and returning the receipt form which is enclosed herewith.

Yours faithfully,

J. M. Edgley, D.S.O.,
"Fernside",
B O W R A L,
New South Wales.

Honours and Awards - John Milton Edgley

Rank: Major
Unit: 46th Bn
Service: Army
Award: Mention in Despatches
Date of London Gazette: 1 June 1917
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank and Name</th>
<th>Action for which commended</th>
<th>Recommended by</th>
<th>Honour or Reward</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major John Milton EDGLEY</td>
<td>Coolness in action, devotion to duty, general good work. By the example set and coolness displayed by him and by another officer, two Companies remained steady and did not break when suddenly coming under exceedingly heavy shell fire for the first time. He personally marked out in &quot;NO MAN'S LAND&quot; in daylight, under sniper's fire, certain advanced works deemed necessary at POZIERES. Though severely shell shocked he remained for at least 6 weeks at his post. Since becoming 2nd-in-Command his work has been most satisfactory - he is most reliable and trustworthy. Period referred to - June 1916 - February 1917.</td>
<td>Lieut.- Colonel N.K. DENHAM</td>
<td>D.S.O.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Bgd) William HOLMES, 

JOHN EDGLEY, 
Solicitor.
A.A. 2nd M.B., 
Victoria Barracks, 
SYDNEY

Dear Sir,

During the War I was mentioned in Despatches a couple of times and I received the D.S.O.

Under the circumstances I thought it would be as well to notify you that my present address is the above, and I should be very pleased indeed if the Oakleaf recently mentioned in Orders could be sent to me.

Yours faithfully,

(aged) John Edgley.

10th July, 1919.
Dear Sir,

I have much pleasure in forwarding per separate registered post the Distinguished Service Order which was awarded to you whilst serving with the Australian Imperial Force. This decoration has only just been received from A.I.F. Headquarters, London, with the request that it be transmitted to your wife, Mrs. M. M. Edgley, "Fernside", Bowral, N.S.W., but as you arrived in Australia before it, I am sending it to you direct, and trust you may be spared to wear it for many years to come.

I shall be obliged if you will kindly let me know whether it comes safely to hand, by signing and returning the receipt form which is enclosed herewith.

Yours faithfully,

J. M. Edgley, D.S.O.,
"Fernside",
BOWRAL.

Major.
Officer i/o Base Records.

10th July, 1919.
"---has been twice invalided—-from Gallipoli with Neurasthenia and from the Western Front with Neurasthenia. After a shell had burst on the steps of his dugout: - he was given furlough to Ireland.

Letter to Sydney University for their “Remembrance” records.

We were glad to see Jack Edgley at the Old Boys' Re-union in Bathurst at the beginning of October. This is the first occasion that Jack has visited the School in its new quarters. He spoke most highly of the enjoyable time he had and announced that he would certainly come along to next year's Re-union.
Obituary, Bathurstian. 1956

Kranji War Cemetery, Singapore

EDGLEY, Captain, JOHN LOUIS, NX34780. A.I.F.2/18 Bn. Australian Infantry. 27th January 1942. Age 29. Son of Major John Milton Edgley, D.S.O., and Muriel May Edgley; husband of Mary Isabel Edgley, of Toorak, Victoria, Solicitor; LL.B.