

Brothers-in-Arms Memorial

In September 2006

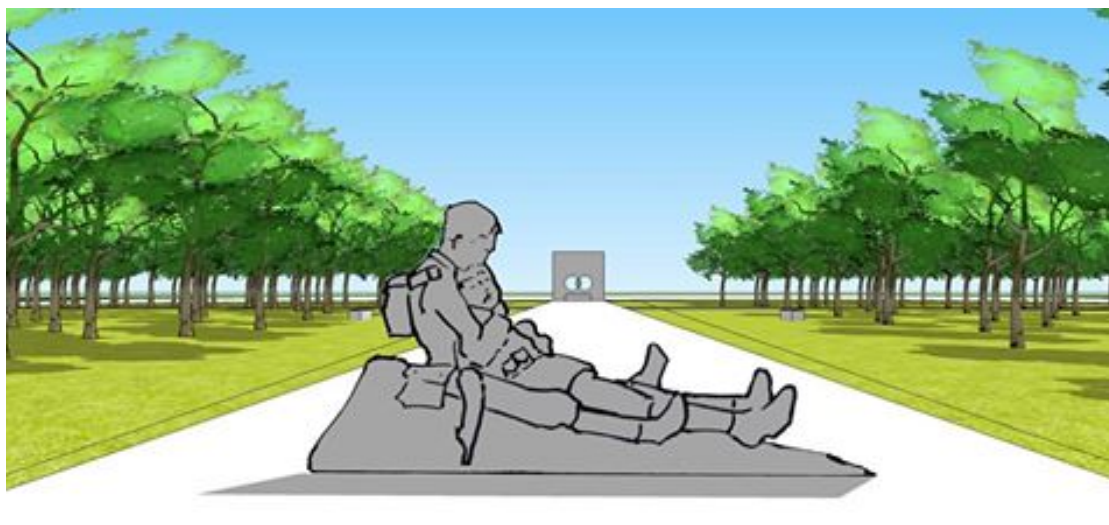
An exceptional discovery was made in Zonnebeke, near Ypres, on the former battlefields of the Great War. After 89 years the remains of 5 Australian soldiers were recovered.

The excavation was emotional and overwhelming and the identification process unveiled an extraordinary story of two brothers, Jim & John Hunter....

They enlisted in "The Great Adventure", travelled so far to fight on Flanders Fields, side by side, John was killed and carefully buried by his brother Jim on a scarred battlefield.

Jim returned to look for his brothers grave site but was unable to find him, because the landscape had changed so much in such a short time, due to the heavy bombardment in that area..

The revelation of this mystery and the message given by the brothers eventually lead to the realisation of this project.



BROTHERS IN ARMS MEMORIAL PROJECT

Jim & John Hunter

“In Honour of all the Brothers who Served in World War One”

Symbol of Peace - The Eternal Fellowship

An initiative of the working group

ANZAC Rest Lange Dreve 16, 8980 Zonnebeke

The two brothers, Jim and John, are the symbol of eternal fellowship. The Brothers-in-Arms Memorial would be a memorial to honour all brothers, of all nations, who served in the Great War.

The idea to raise a memorial is crucial in representing to people of all ages the essence of eternal fellowship. The unique concept must emphasise the peace message and be a powerful symbol of reconciliation. The Anglo-Saxon way of remembering, ie ‘remembrance’, is completely different from the West Flanders way. Whereas the Anglo-Saxon countries emphasise the patriotic aspiration, the intention of the museums in West Flanders is to focus on individual people at war and their absurd suffering. Slowly but surely, other people are starting to give preference to this way of remembering.

The principle of personalisation has already been modelled by the splendid and award-winning In Flanders Fields Museum in Ypres and at Talbot House in Poperinge. At Dixmuide, the Ijzertoren Museum follows the same pattern with its explanation of the Ijzer Front.

Mission - to expose the horror of the war and the insanity of violence by showing personalised examples. We focus on two moving stories and extract from them a positive message of love and an open desire for peace. Through this small-scale concept and with the emphasis on individual

stories, we aim to put people in contact with the Ypres battles in a personalised way.



Jim and John Hunter

For more information contact

Johan

Email: johanvandewalle531@hotmail.com