



Gallipoli Victoria Cross Hero: The Price of Valour - The Triumph and Tragedy of Hugo Throssell

John Hamilton

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The son of a former Premier of Western Australia, Hugo Throssell, volunteered to join the Imperial Australian Force which was shipped to Gallipoli in 1915. He was a member of the 10th Australian Light Horse which fought in a dismounted role in Gallipoli. He was involved in the famous charge of the 10th Light Horse at the Battle of the Nek and the Battle of Hill 60 where his actions saw him being awarded the Victoria Cross.

During that battle Throssell was severely wounded a number of times when the enemy attacked his position, but he refused to leave his post or to seek medical attention until the attack had been beaten off. As soon as his wounds were dressed he went back out into the firing line. His determination saved his battalion at a critical moment in the battle.

After the war Hugo Throssell became an outspoken opponent of war. As a result he found employment difficult and he fell into debt. When he tried to pawn his Victoria Cross he was offered only 10 shillings for it – such was the price of valor. He committed suicide aged forty-nine.

Meticulously researched, and beautifully written, this is a moving tale of heroism and patriotism which ended in sad and disturbing circumstances.

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