

FASCINATING FIND

TURKISH FIELD GUN



This 77mm M96nA Turkish field gun was one of four siezed in the First Battle of Gaza, at Tel-el-saba, in Palestine, on the 26th March 1917. These relatively light artillery guns with spoked wheels, built by Krupp in Germany, weighed about a ton and were capable of being pulled by horses. They could fire about 5 rounds per minute with a range of almost 8km.

Harry Smith from Widgee, and his mates from the "Fighting Fifth", captured this gun and towed it to their base using a couple of bullocks.

The gun was presented to the regiment in 1920 by the Australian War Museum Authorities, and was installed near the 9RQR Drill Hall in Duke Steet.

It is now on display next to the 5th Light Horse Regiment building at the museum.