

# e-Muster

Number 11

April 2015



**The Official Journal of the Central Coast  
Family History Society Inc**

# Central Coast Family History Society Inc

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<b>Research Centre Manager</b>	Kay Radford	02 43245164
<b>Public Officer</b>	Kay Radford	02 43446512 A/H

## Committee:

Deborah Buist, Marlene Davidson, Margaret Ertner, Belinda Mabbott, Kay Rawnsley, Leslie Scotchmer, Heather Sushames, Lynette Thompson

## RESEARCH CENTRE

Building 4, 8 Russell Drysdale Street, EAST GOSFORD NSW 2250  
Phone: 4324 5164 - Email [kay1@centralcoastfhs.org.au](mailto:kay1@centralcoastfhs.org.au)  
Open: Tues to Fri 9.30am-2.00pm; First Saturday of the month only  
Thursday evening 7.00pm-9.00pm  
Research Centre Closed on Mondays for Administration

## MEETINGS

First Saturday of each month from February to November  
Commencing at 1.00pm – doors open 12.00pm  
Venue: Gosford Lions Community Hall  
Rear of 8 Russell Drysdale Street, EAST GOSFORD NSW

## MEMBERSHIP FEE - GST INCLUDED

Single Membership \$45.00  
Joint Membership \$65.00 Joining Fee \$10.00

The ~~e-~~ ~~Muster~~ is the Official Journal of the Central Coast Family History Society Inc as ~~The Muster~~ it was first published in April 1983

The new ~~e-~~ ~~Muster~~ is published to our website 3 times a year - April, August, and December.

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## **JOURNAL EDITOR**

**Kay Radford**

All articles to:  
[kayken1@bigpond.com](mailto:kayken1@bigpond.com)

e-Muster deadlines are  
March 20  
July 20  
November 20

Type in font size 16  
CAMBRIA with narrow  
margins please.

Surnames in CAPS

All images to be sent  
separately.

# The e-Muster

April 2015 – No: 11

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## Editorial – Kay Radford

This issue has been dedicated to members' family stories as a tribute to those who served during WWI. I thank all contributors for finding the time to research so well their contributions.

When I decided to write about Ken's uncle and his uncle's cousins I was amazed at the information now available on the Australian War Memorial and the National Archives sites. It had been years since I seriously looked at these sites, perhaps the only time was when Margaret, Rene and I went to visit the memorial when we were in Canberra for the state conference in 2013. At that time we found Ken's uncle's niche where we place a poppy. Looks like a trip back to remember in a similar fashion, Edgar McCLEERY and Bruce BULLOCK.

If you are researching a family member lost in action, please take the time to look at the Red Cross Missing in Action reports. Not easy reading for one of Ken's, but at least it helped him and I to understand what these chaps went through.

Some of the contributions had happy endings many did not. I am happy to continue the theme in another e-Muster. Perhaps there is someone amongst us who had a female family member who was involved in the First World War?

Don't forget 9 May 2015 – we will be holding a WWI – Expo when members will get the opportunity to bring along memorabilia and speak about how their families were involved in this conflict. See more on page 17

Unfortunately I have several stories from members that I will have to carry over to the August issue. They just didn't seem to fit in with the stories between these pages. I do apologise to those authors.

**Muster Cover:** Our Cottage today

## President's Piece – Wendy Condon

Time is slipping by so quickly, here we are almost into April. 2014 concluded with a great Christmas Party, one of the best we have had. I followed this up when I represented the society together with Kay2 at the Mayor's cocktail party. Once again we saw the wonderful party hats that were made by member Deirdre Richie introduced for the first time at our own Christmas party. The Mayor was so impressed when told they were made using recycled Christmas cards, he actually order them for his own cocktail party. And I thought he was joking!

David and I took off for a short holiday in February doing the usual stuff family historians do, visiting family to gather more information and popping into the odd cemetery or two.

The Rotary raffle raised \$3,340.00. Sadly, because of the shortfall and the downturn in renewals last year, the management committee has had no choice but to make some changes. The above amount \$3,340.00 covers our IT Service and Maintenance fee and the Website service fee only. This does not cover subscription sites or the many other costs incurred in keeping the research centre which is the back bone of the society running.

It was therefore decided by the committee to increase membership fees for new members from this year and existing members from April 2016. Existing members will pay the same amount as last year. An entry fee to use the resources of \$2.50 now applies and is working very well, for this I thank members for their understanding.

On the upside we have had nine new members join over the last few weeks, now we need to work hard to keep them. Courses and Masterclasses are keeping us busy, in March the iPad 3 week course with Bev Hay proved a winner, Land Titles with Margaret Ertner was great, looking forward to Family Tree Maker Q & A with Kay2. In April Trove with Brian Davies. Not forgetting May the WWI event is in the planning. Can't wait to see what's next.

Wendy



## New Members

We wish to extend a very warm welcome to our new members. We hope they have many happy researching and social hours with us. Please remember to lodge your Members' Interest with Belinda Mabbott for inclusion on the Website.

1949	SPITERI, Joe	1959	BRANLEY, Pauline
1950	FREDERICKS, Jacque	1960	PAULL, Ellen
1951	RYMAN, Helen	1961J	MOUSLEY, Frank & Kathy
1952	FROST-FOSTER, Lisa	1962	BARNETT, Isabel
1953	MILLER, Anne	1963	ARNAUDON, Gaye
1954	WILLIAMS, Jae	1964	MILNE, Elizabeth
1955	LARKINS, Carlene	1965	NELSON, Joeann
1956	ADAMS, Margaret	1966	MALEK, Neva
1957	DRYSDALE, Michelle		Rejoin
1958J	BAYLISS, Kerry & Sue	385	ROWNTREE, Julia

## SCOTTISH RESEARCHER

Please update the contact email address for Jean Gibb, in Falkirk, Stirling, Scotland. Jean's business cards are available from the research centre.



## **Society Events and Information for Members**

### **FAMILY TREE MAKER ONE ON ONE HELP SESSIONS**

Appointments can be made for help with Family Tree Maker. Ring the Centre on 4324 5164 and book in. Days available are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.

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### **EDUCATION**

#### **WORKSHOP - FAMILY TREE MAKER Q & A - 28 March 2015 - facilitator Kay Rawnsley**

Venue: Research Centre - Time: 10am for 10.30am start

Limit: 12

Fee: \$10.00 payable on booking

Class is now full. Standby names accepted

The expression of interest list is now full. To confirm your place please call into the Centre and pay your Workshop Fee of \$10.00

#### **MASTERCLASS - TROVE - 11 April 2015 - a step further on - facilitator Brian Davies**

Venue: The Research Centre - Time: Arrive 10am for 10.30am start

Limit: 15

Fee: \$10.00 payable on booking

Class is now full. Standby names accepted

To confirm your place please call into the Centre and pay your Masterclass Fee of \$10.00.

#### **WRITERS' WORKSHOP - GET TOGETHER - 18 April 2015 - facilitators**

Marie Riley & Terry Heffernan – Speaker Gwen Dundon

this workshop is open to people who have already completed the workshop and to any member who is interested in hearing more about the course.

Venue: Research Centre

Time: 10.30am - 12.30pm

Fee: \$10.00 payable on booking

To book your place please ring the Centre during office hours. To confirm your place you will need to call into the centre and pay your workshop fee of \$10.00

## **NEW! PHOTO AND DOCUMENT SCANNING**

Monday 27 April, 2015 - by appointment please

Venue: Research Centre

\$20/hour or part thereof.

Do you have boxes of photographs that need reorganising? Then come along and have your photos and documents scanned with our new photo scanning equipment in half the time. Have your images loaded to a USB drive. We offer a service of renaming your images and sorting into groups. You may have a huge collection or just a few so book a time period that will suit you. Contact the centre on [kay1@centralcoastfhs.org.au](mailto:kay1@centralcoastfhs.org.au) in the first instance or use the Contact us page on the website.

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## **MEMBERSHIP FEES 2015 – effective March/April**

**EXISTING MEMBERS - REJOINING** Membership Fees for 2015-2016 will be:

Single Membership                      \$43.00

Joint Membership                      \$60.00

**A Members Day user fee of \$2.50 now applies to assist in offsetting the cost of online subscription sites.**

All Saturday workshops will incur a fee of \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members

OUR MEMBERSHIP FORM is available to download from the website. From the front page click on the .....more information under Membership on the banner and all will be revealed. Remember the website is [www.centralcoastfhs.org.au](http://www.centralcoastfhs.org.au)

**All NEW Memberships for the 2015-2016 membership year will be:**

Joining Fee: \$10.00

Single Membership: \$45.00

Joint Membership: \$65.00

**2016-2017 EXISTING MEMBERS MEMBERSHIP FEES will be:**

Single Membership: \$45.00

Joint Membership: \$65.00

Please read the two additional questions on your membership form regarding the Rotary Raffle donations to the Equipment Maintenance and Replacement Fund.



## **SPEAKERS FOR 2015**

**April 2015 - Dennis ROE - retired English Magistrate - Topic:**  
***Contrasting UK magistracy in the convict era with what it is today.***

Previously advertised as our February speaker - Dennis will now be visiting us in April. Dennis was for 28 years a Leicester County Magistrate in England. Now retired to Australia and living here on the Coast with his wife Margaret. Dennis has a wealth of anecdotes and stories to share about his years in the English court system - Read more about Dennis on page 9 of our December e-Muster available to download from our home page on this website.

**OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION OF  
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE  
CENTRAL COAST FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC  
Will take place on 2 May 2015**

Nomination Forms for Committee are available from the Secretary on request. All nominations should reach the Secretary seven (7) days prior to the AGM.

**OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING**

Please be advised there will also be a Special General Meeting held on the 2 May to ratify the alterations in the Guidelines – a copy of the changes are available to read in the Research Centre.

**2 May 2015 - Jon Fearon - MANORIAL RECORDS FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS.**

For many of us, our only link with the Middle Ages might be distant memories of the Feudal System that we studied at primary school or perhaps some later delight at the antics of the pilgrims in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. However for family historians vestiges of the manorial system lived on until the early parts of the twentieth century. In this talk Jon Fearon will explain how important manorial records can be in tracing ancestors, and how the manor court records, many of them now online, reveal glimpses of the lives and times of our ancestors.

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF START TIME FOR TODAY. Please arrive by 11.30am for a 12 noon start. There is another booking for the hall from 3pm so we need to be out by 2.30pm**



**SEPTEMBER 11 to 13** - NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc Annual Conference to be hosted by Port Macquarie District Family History Society Inc

Venue: Panthers Port Macquarie is located at 1 Bay Street, Port Macquarie. Fair and Conference will be held in the Auditorium on the ground floor.

Members of Association Member Societies are encouraged to attend and receive the special full conference fee of \$120 during the early bird period.

Please drop into their website <http://jennifermullin04.wix.com/2015-fh-conference> for further information – any Central Coast members who wish to register will need to contact the Research Centre Manager for the special BOOKING CODE.

## LOOKING FOR HELP WITH RUSSIAN RESEARCH?



Get the results  
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**FIND RUSSIAN HERITAGE**

Dasha Brandt Member 1398 thoroughly recommends Tsvetana (Tana) Spasova if you have a need for help in Russian ancestry research.

*Tana writes, "I am a Russian ancestry researcher who is fluent in both languages. I am staying abreast with all recent developments in Russian genealogy and I am ready to help anyone who has Russian ancestry. It is a very complicated process since majority of documents have been lost in wars. The archives are not digitised which makes the process even more difficult. To learn more check my site at <http://www.findrussianheritage.com/>"*

## RESEARCH CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT

It has been a very busy first few months of our 2015 year.

Our first workshop for the year was a **Microsoft Publisher** course although eight people put their names on the list only four eventually turned up. Disappointing for the facilitators, who put a great deal of effort into their presentations, not to mention the cost of printing of course notes which are wasted when people do not show up. As well as this it is pretty unfair to people on waiting lists who could have stepped in if these positions had been cancelled.

It was due to this non turnout that the Management Committee decided in future all special workshops, courses, talks and masterclasses would incur a \$10 fee to be pre-paid on booking. Courses that run over several episodes will also need to be pre-paid.

The **Land Titles** workshop held on 14<sup>th</sup> March was well attended but again several people did not turn up or notify the facilitator they would not be attending.

A five week **Family History Course** was conducted at Mangrove Mountain Computer Club by Margaret Ertner (yours truly tagged along for company). This was another very successful event provided by the Society and earned a nice little profit to add to the coffers.

On 15<sup>th</sup> March, Margaret, Yvonne and I travelled to Penrith to attend the **Nepean Family History Fair**. We were very happy with our sales for the day. We are just back from Penrith so have no idea our final figure. A great day meeting up with family history friends.

Check out page 4 for details of what is coming up at the end of March and in April.

The committee is looking for a Speaker Coordinator. If you think you would like to give it a go please contact the President, Wendy Condon forthwith.

Kay1

## ASSIGNED DUTIES

The following is a list of who does what to keep the society running as smoothly as it does.

Assistant Treasurer	Margaret Ertner
Bookstall Coordinator	Margaret Ertner
Bookstall meeting helper	Lyn Hall
Bus Trips and Tours	Marlene Davidson
CD Publishing	Wallace Russell
Education Officer	Margaret Ertner
Event Coordinator	Committee
Grant Applications	Marlene Davidson
Grant Application Proofreader	Kay and Margaret
Guest Speakers	Vacancy
Housekeeping	Jenny Richmond
It and Computer Network	CC Mobile Computers
LDS Film Hire – FamilySearch	Kay Rawnsley
Librarian	Lyn Thompson
Librarian's Assistant	Belinda Mabbott
Membership Secretary	Wendy Condon
Membership Secretary's helper on meeting days	Kay Rawnsley plus 1
Members Interests	Belinda Mabbott
<del>The e-Cluster</del> Editor	Kay Radford
<del>Pelican Press</del> Editor	Kay Radford
Muster Proofreading	Rene Jamison
Nic Nac Stall	Rosemary Wiltshire
Overseas Book Monitor	Heather Sushames
Property Officer	Leslie Scotchmer
Publication Projects	Kay Radford
Public Officer	Kay Radford
Publicity and Advertising	Deborah Buist
Raffle Organiser	Yvonne Potts
Catering	Heather Sushames
Research Officer	Margaret Morters
Unrelated Certificates	Kay Rawnsley
Website Administrator	Kay Radford
Website Designer	Jeff Hall – Websiteguy
Welfare and Hospital Visits	Rene Jamison

## SOCIETIES MAILING LIST



MailChimp

Remember as a member of our Members Mailing List you can forward any of the postings to a friend.

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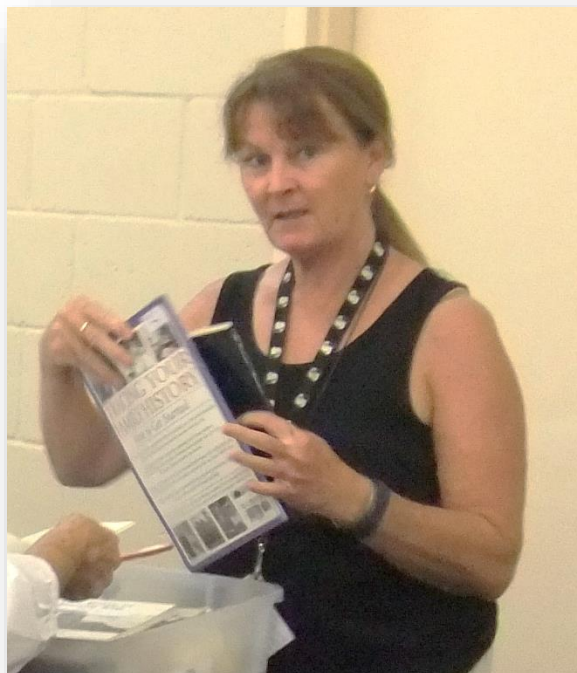




## MEET ONE OF OUR NEW THURSDAY TEAM LEADERS

I would like to introduce everyone to Heather YATES. Heather has kindly put her hand up to join the other Thursday team leaders. Kay Rawnsley, Margaret Ertner and myself.

Heather is an extremely nice person and is very knowledgeable with computers and research in general.



Why not take the opportunity to visit on a Thursday to meet up with Heather on one of her duty days. Ring the Centre to check which Thursdays she will be there. Heather will be available every second Thursday, on the alternative weeks she will be a volunteer on Beth Phillips' Friday watch.

I would also like to encourage members to make better use of the library and research centre on Thursdays and Fridays. Thursday numbers are miserable and have been for some time. There is no waiting to use computers like Tuesdays and Wednesdays when numbers can reach between 14-22 researchers.

I would also like to welcome Ailsa Taylor who joined the Friday ladies recently. Welcome Ailsa.

**Kay Radford – Research Centre Manager**

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the *Website Guy***

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## STATE RECORDS OF NSW – KINGSWOOD FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION

Looking for former Public Servants who left to join War Service in WWI to include in a forthcoming exhibition.

If you can identify with one of the people listed below, please contact Gail Davis or Rhett Lindsay at State Records.

Names include:

BLAKE, Edith	1885-1918	Junior Sister/Coast Hospital
CONNELL, Hugh John	1884-1934	Teacher, Burwood PS/Education
CROCKETT, William James	1874-1916	Engine Driver/Sydney Harbour Trust
CROCKETT, William Ezra	1898-1916	Apprentice Engineer/Sydney Harbour Trust
DELMEGE, Kenneth Charles Guthrie	1890-1966	Teacher, Uralba Public School/Education
FERN, Charles Stuart	1884-1918	Member Legislative Assembly, Cobar
KOESTER, Romola/Rosella	1896-1973	Junior Clerk, Hurstville Railway Station/Railways
MILNE, Edward Osborn	1886-1963	Traffic Inspector, Goulburn/Railways
RHODES, Maude Marion	1878-1956	Police Woman, Sydney/Police
SCHULZE, Ludwig Emil	1853-1928	Contract Draftsman/Lands
TUCK, Albert Victor	1881-1915	Pressman/Government Printing Office
WHITE, Thomas Alexander	1886-1962	Teacher, Hillston PS/Education
WILLIAMS, Herbert Edwin	1894-1915	Survey Draftsman/Sydney Harbour Trust

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**No. 12**

**August 2015**

**e-Fluster**

Deadline for articles for the August 2015 edition is 20<sup>th</sup> July 2014.

Refer to your December edition for page set up

## Transcription Agents

Don't forget transcriptions of birth, death and marriage records are available in NSW and only NSW. New cost from 1 July 2013 - \$20 each



Email [joy@joymurrin.com.au](mailto:joy@joymurrin.com.au)

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Marilyn Rowan – [marilynr@marbract.com.au](mailto:marilynr@marbract.com.au)

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## TURTLE CONSOLIDATED SERVICES

Laurie Turtle – [lturtle@iprimus.com.au](mailto:lturtle@iprimus.com.au)

We do not recommend our members use commercial businesses who advertise on the internet for fast delivery. Stick with the ones you know you can trust.

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## A FATHER AND TWO SONS AT WAR

As we commemorate Gallipoli and WW1 I thought I'd share the stories of some of the members of my family who served in the Great War.

My g-grandfather, John "Jack" Davies, was born on 9<sup>th</sup> March 1860 in (photo Jack) Blaenavon, Wales. At age 2, he migrated to Australia with his family arriving on 12<sup>th</sup> November 1862 on board the ship Northumberland. He followed in his father's footsteps becoming a tailor. In 1879 he married Annie Sleath, the daughter of a convict and an Irish orphan girl. They went on to have 10 children.



Jack (service #3073) lied about his age saying he was 38 when he enlisted on 27<sup>th</sup> August 1915 aged 55. He was sent to Egypt in early 1916 but by then the Gallipoli campaign was over. He was sent on to France with the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, arriving on 18<sup>th</sup> June 1916. But his frontline service lasted only 6 days. He was wounded at Fleurbaix (between Fromelles and Armentieres) on 24<sup>th</sup> June 1916 and evacuated to England. After many long stays in hospital he was invalided to Australia on 4<sup>th</sup> May 1917 suffering "Service Senility G.S.W (gunshot wound) & Bronchitis". He was discharged on 10<sup>th</sup> August 1917 as medically unfit. He recovered, resumed work as a tailor, reconciled with his estranged wife and lived to the impressive age of 89.

Jack's son Edwin "Teddy" Davies (#861) was born on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1891 in Temora, NSW. Prior to the war he had been a circus acrobat. He enlisted on 26<sup>th</sup> February 1915 and was posted to 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion. He left Sydney on 12<sup>th</sup> May 1915 but never made it to Gallipoli. He died at Heliopolis near Cairo on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1915 just after arriving for training in Egypt - officially in a tram accident - unofficially beaten to death in a fight with British soldiers. He was buried in Cairo. The records even have the cost of his burial - 220PT.





My grandfather, Roy Davies (#1918), was born 24th March 1896 in Petersham, NSW. He enlisted on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1915 and was assigned to the 19th Battalion. He was 5' 3" tall and weighed 8 stone 2lbs. He embarked from Sydney on 9th August 1915. After training in Egypt, he sailed to Gallipoli, arriving 25th October 1915. He was wounded in a bomb blast at Pope's Post on 17th November 1915 but returned to duty 10 days later. He took part in the evacuation of Gallipoli. Soon after arriving on Lemnos he was court martialled on a charge of: "*wilfully maiming himself with intent thereby to render himself unfit for service*". The records don't contain the court martial transcript but the verdict was not guilty. As a result of the wound he was hospitalised again with 'Hysterical paralysis left arm and hand' and marked for discharge. He arrived back in Sydney on 14th May 1916 and was finally discharged on 21 August 1916.



But then Roy's sister gave him a white feather and this made him re-enlist on 20 November 1916 (#3519). Despite having just been medically discharged he was found fit to serve. He left Sydney on 24th January 1917. He trained in England where he received several field punishments and fines for disobeying orders. He then joined 9/45 Battalion in Belgium on 25th August 1917. After participating in several actions in the Ypres area he was wounded by shrapnel at Passchendaele on 12th October 1917. He was evacuated to London Military Hospital where his right leg was amputated. He arrived back in Australia on 7th March 1918 and was eventually discharged as medically unfit on 21st August 1918. He wasted no time and married Amy Louisa Wallace before 1918 was out. They went on to have 11 children. Roy was an invalid pensioner for

most of his life and died of lung cancer in 1962. My memories of him are of a tiny, pale, frail man but my dad told stories of how he could take on men twice

his size in a pub brawl and beat them. My dad also told the story that in 1932 Roy was taking his children to the opening of the harbour bridge when the foot broke off his “wooden leg”. To my dad’s lasting disappointment, by the time they managed to get it fixed the ceremony was over.

Two of his sons went on to serve in WWII – one, my father Royce, was a “Rat of Tobruk” who later fought in New Guinea. The other Wallace “Wally” Davies was taken prisoner in Singapore and survived Changi, the Burma Railway and coal mines in Japan. But that’s a whole other story.

## **Brian Davies – Member 1698J**

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### **WWI REMEMBERED – SPECIAL EVENT 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2015**

Venue: Gosford Lion's Community Hall which is at the rear of our Cottage at 8 Russell Drysdale Street, East Gosford. Date: Saturday 9th May 2015

#### **DISPLAYS**

Did you have a family member who served during WWI? Maybe you have a soldier or a Nurse you might like to remember with a display? We invite members to bring along WWI memorabilia, photos, letters and stories.

You might like to take advantage of our Scanning Day to be held on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> - we can help you to prepare your documents. Bookings essential.

You can book space by contacting the Research Centre Manager. Give her some idea of the area you will require for your display before the May member’s meeting which will be held on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Set up of the displays will take place from 8am on the morning of the 9<sup>th</sup> May.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

9.30-10.25 Doors Open. Meet and greet, browse the exhibits. Morning tea/coffee – Anzac biscuits.

10.30-11.30 - **Emeritus Professor Richard Waterhouse** FAHA FASSA *Military History and the Home front during World War 1.*

11.35-12.30 - **Margaret Ertner, Education Officer CCFHS** – *Research World War 1 service people at the Australian War Memorial and National Archives of Australia.*

12.30–1.15 - Lunch – please BYO – tea and coffee available.

1.15-2.00 - Exhibitors’ short talks about their memorabilia on display

2.00-3.00 - **Geoffrey Potter, Local Studies Librarian Gosford Library** – *Gosford and the Great War. The impact on the Gosford community.*

## COUSINS PERISH

The RADFORD/THOMSON line of my husband's research revealed that not only did Ken's Uncle Edward perish during the First World War but Edward also lost two cousins. I wrote an article about Edward in the April 2014 e-*Fluster*

**Private Bruce BULLOCK – Service Number: 63 - 1** Field Ambulance (October 1914). Bruce left Sydney on the 20 October 1914 aboard *HMAT Euripides*. He served with the 6th Australian Field Ambulance as a driver, was acting as a stretcher bearer when he was killed by a bomb on 1 November 1917 between Simons Post and Burr Cross Roads, Ypres, Belgium. He was only 23 years old. Bruce was the youngest son of Charles William BULLOCK and his wife Sarah Baynton (nee RADFORD) of Waterloo/Botany.

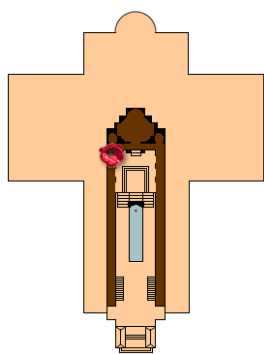
### RED CROSS SOCIETY REPORTS

There are several witness statements in his file at the Australian War Memorial, far too detailed to reprint in this journal.

From **Pte J. SHEARGOLD** – *On the 1<sup>st</sup> November we were near Anzac House doing regimental aid to the 21<sup>st</sup> Battn. which was in action. After the action BULLOCK was collecting wounded when a shell fell, and he was hit direct. Death was instantaneous. I saw the remains three hours after. He was given a Field Burial, and I saw the place marked by a rough cross. I could point out the grave”.*

And from **Sgt. H. C. THOMAS**, St Just, Cornwall on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 1918 the following: *No. 63 Pte. BULLOCK B. of 6<sup>th</sup> Aust. Fld. Amb., he was a member of a party of stretcher bearers which I took into the forward area. On the evening of the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 1917. Pte. BULLOCK's stretcher squad went out with a wounded officer and whilst carrying him a high explosive shell burst right under the stretcher, killing the patient, Pte. BULLOCK and two other members of the squad. The other member of the squad was very seriously wounded. The bodies were terribly mutilated having literally been blown to pieces. I, with one other recovered the remains and they were buried on 2 November 17 at Simon's Post Military Cemetery, off Menin Road, close to Ypres. This information has been conveyed to the sister of the deceased (Miss Bullock, Botany NSW).*

His file also contains details of an exhumation order for his remains to be re buried in the Hooze Crater Cemetery, Passchendaele, Flanders, Belgium and he rests in Plot 1, Row J Grave 4.



Location on the Roll of Honour - Bruce BULLOCK's name is located at **panel 182** in the [Commemorative Area](#) at the Australian War Memorial (as indicated by the poppy on the plan).

There is a letter in his Service package indicating that Bruce's effects were forwarded to his father Mr. C. W. BULLOCK of Cranbrook Street, Botany.

The effects left France on 1 March 1918 on board the vessel *Toromeo* and consisted of:

Metal watch (damaged) and strap, note book, prayer book and a safety razor.

Lieutenant **Edgar Percy Everard McCLEERY – Service Number Z2749** - No. 4 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps. Edgar enlisted on 28 August 1916 and after attending a Wireless School at Nowra he was dispatched overseas on the *Omrah*, leaving Melbourne on 17 January 1917. He arrived in Plymouth, England on 27 March 1917 and was given further training in wireless operations. He qualified as a Flying Officer (Pilot) and was promoted to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant and posted to the Australian Flying Corps on 27 October 1917. Edgar's service record shows many sorties before he was shot down near Somme, just south west of Lille in a daylight bombing raid on the 17<sup>th</sup> August 1918. Edgar was 29 years of age, the youngest son of James McCLEERY and Euphemia (nee THOMSON) of Moss Vale.

## RED CROSS SOCIETY REPORTS

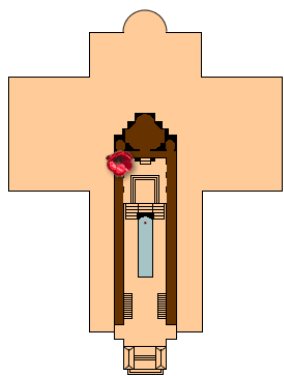
There are also several witness statements in Edgar's file at the Australian War memorial

From Captain, Arthur H. COBBY, 4<sup>TH</sup> Squadron, AFC – *Near Somme just south west of Lille in a bombing raid, (daylight) on the 17<sup>th</sup> August 1918, Lieut. McCLEERY dived on the Machine Gunners on the ground, and as he was coming out of the dive, he was apparently shot in the back, and his machine went over and dived into the ground.*

*Question posed to this witness: Were you an Eyewitness – Answer: Yes*

There is no indication in his file of where his initial burial took place, there is a communication dated 9 July 1920 addressed to his mother Euphemia McCLEERY which states:

*"Re your son, the Late Lieutenant E.P.E. McCleery, 4<sup>th</sup> Squadron Australian Flying Corps, his remains have been exhumed and re-interred in the Ration Farm New Military Cemetery 1-1/2 miles south of Armentieres."* (Ration Farm Military Cemetery, La Chapelle-D'armentieres, Lille, Nord Pas de Calais, France)



Location on the Roll of Honour Edgar Percy Everard McCLEERY's name is located at panel 188 in the [Commemorative Area](#) at the Australian War Memorial (as indicated by the poppy on the plan).

There is a letter in his Service package indicating that Edgar's effects were being returned to his family and it reads as follows:

*"England : effects returned from Germany property of the late Lieutenant E.P. Everard McCLEERY, Australian Flying Corps – Reference War Office letter 13/12/20"*

These effects were listed as: 2 cheque books, 1 cigarette case (damaged), 1 Watch, wristlet (damaged) 1 Strap, wrist, 1 Treasury note case containing visiting cards, 1 note (20 francs) and 1 photograph.

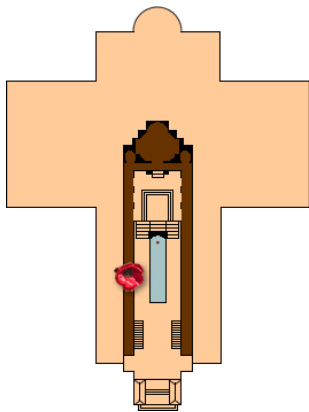
**Private Edward Joseph RADFORD - Service Number: 6377 - Unit: 17th Australian Infantry Battalion** – Edward enlisted on 31 October 1916 at Bankstown. He left Sydney on the *Suevic* on the 11 November 1916 and arrived in Devonport, England on 30 January 1917. He was sent to France on 9 July 1917 and returned to England after being wounded in action (GSW to leg/knee). He was transferred to Combe Lodge Military Hospital when the injuries were noted as GSW to arm and leg. He departed Folkstone, Kent to go back to France on 15 May 1918. He was wounded on 8 August 1918, a second occurrence, rejoined his unit but was again wounded in action on 31 August 1918, this being the third time. He rejoined his unit on 4 October 1918 and on the 11 October as transferred between battalions.



The next entry in his service records simply states: *Died 8 December 1918 from Influenza*. Edward was 27 years old and the eldest son of Joseph Henry RADFORD and Amelia (nee THOMSON) of Leichhardt.

Edward was initially buried in the DURY HOSPITAL MILITARY CEMETERY. The cemetery had been located at an asylum near the west side of the Amiens-Dury road. From August 1918 to January 1919, this asylum building was used by British medical units. A cemetery was made next to an existing French Military Cemetery. The British cemetery contained the graves of 195 Canadian and 185 United Kingdom soldiers and airmen. There were 63 Australian soldiers, one casualty from the Cape Auxiliary Horse Transport Corps, one French and one American soldier.

His remains were removed to Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery, Villers-Bretonneux, Picardie, France



Location on the Roll of Honour Edward Joseph RADFORD's name is located at panel 83 in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial (as indicated by the poppy on the plan).

Sadly after all he had suffered during this conflict he saw it out only to die of the dreaded Influenza epidemic that was to follow the soldiers home to Australia. His parents received his effects "from the field" via the *Bulla* and they consisted of: *Letters, 1 pipe, 1 belt, 1 cap badge, 1 disc, 2 pocket books, 1 wallet, 1 leather purse, cards, photos, 1 devotional book.*

The letter concludes: *The sum of 5 francs has been passed to Chief Paymaster, A.I.F. Headquarters, London to be combined with monies due and credited to Pte Radford's Ledger Account. 1 Paybook No: 129805 handed to Estates Branch, A.I.F. Headquarters, London.*

Three young lives lost!

**Kay Radford – Life Member 530L**

# WILLIAM GORDON MURRELL NO: 6332 HIS BRIEF STORY OF WW1

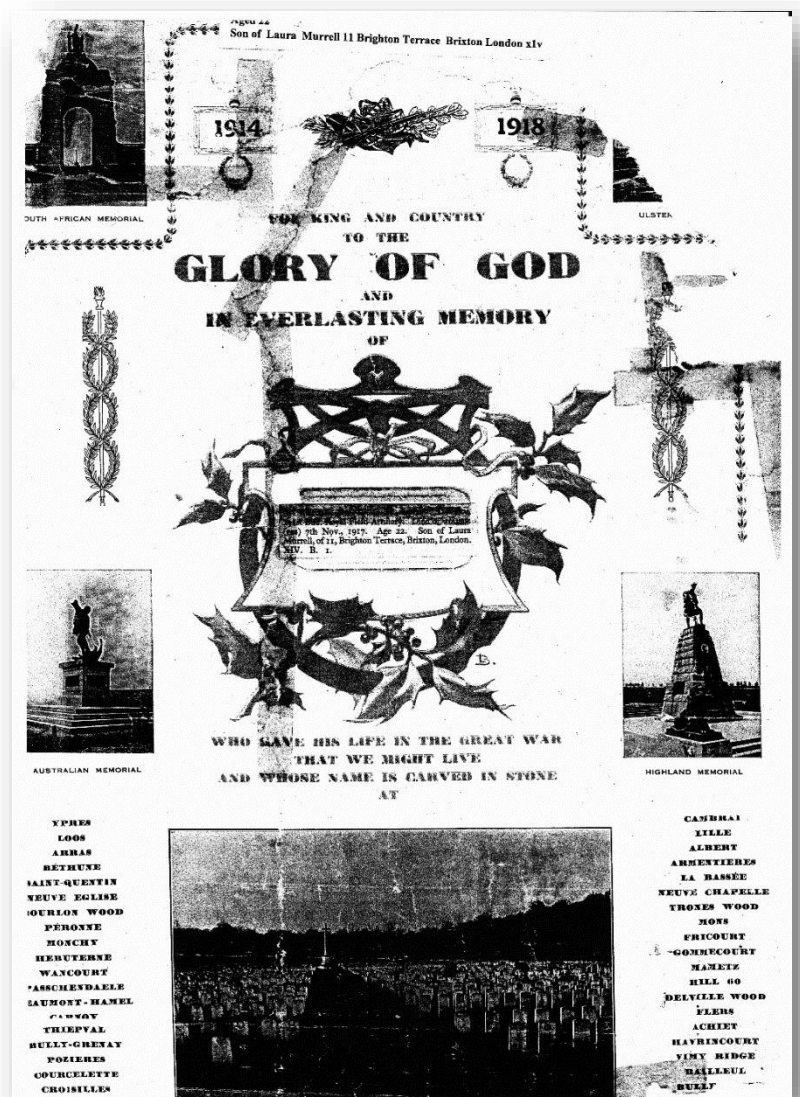
William Gordon MURRELL (known as Gordon) was my Dad Horace's eldest brother and my uncle. He was the first son of Laura and William MURRELL of Brighton Terrace, Brixton, London, he was born in 1895.

At the outbreak of WWI, at age 19, he enlisted at Camberwell and joined the 251<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the Royal Horse and Field Artillery as a driver (Driver of horse drawn artillery carriages).

Gordon after basic training, was shipped across the channel to serve in the Western European Theatre on the "Somme" and saw action in such places as Passchendaele and Ypres but at Flanders on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of November 1917 Gordon fell victim, along with so many of his comrades, to a deadly gas attack which claimed his life.

I am still researching to discover if Gordon is buried in one of the many war cemeteries in France or if he was returned to his home in London.

I have located a Memorial Poster in amongst family Archives commemorating those who lost their lives for "King and Country"



**Diane Daven - Member 1631J**

## ALBERT WINNEY AND BROTHER WALTER WINNEY a BRIEF STORY OF WW1

Albert and Walter are 2 brothers of my grandmother on my mother's side, Clara Susan GUNN (nee WINNEY)

*Photo: Clara and Albert pre WW1*

**Albert Edward WINNEY - No: 1239** of North Sydney born 1895, joined up October 1914 to the 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion and sailed aboard the HMAT *Berrima* from Melbourne on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1914. He was 5ft 7 inches and 9 stone, blue eyed, with a fresh complexion.



On the 29 May 1915, Albert along with his comrades landed at Gallipoli. He sustained severe gunshot wounds to his forearm on the same day. He was transported from Gallipoli via the ship *Neumalia* to Malta, then disembarking on 16 July 1915 in Alexandria, where he received treatment for his wounds.

*A photo from France - Alfred Winney*

On the 1<sup>st</sup> August 1915, he was returned to Gallipoli to re-join his unit, but was transferred to the 45<sup>th</sup> battalion, remained at Gallipoli for 10 months and eventually found himself on the way to France, suffering repeated bouts of appendicitis. He was transferred to France landing at Boulogne.



It was here that he was found to have been using obscene language to his NCO and docked 5 days' pay for his trouble. He saw service near the town of Rouen but once again suffered bouts of appendicitis, and was in and out of field hospitals and then back to Exeter in England. In Feb 1918 he was assigned as batman to his commanding officer. He was attached to a regiment in Wendover in March 1918 and transferred to a Rehab camp at St. Budeaux Rest Camp. He was returned to Australia on 26 November 1918 and on arrival was demobbed and discharged on 7<sup>th</sup> March 1919.

He was awarded the 1914/18 Star, British War medal and the Victory Medal.



*Photo: Clara with Walter pre WWI*

**Walter WINNEY No: 3478** Walter was Albert's older brother. He enlisted on the 25<sup>th</sup> August 1915 and after a short basic training was shipped off overseas on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1916 for England via Egypt and was immediately sent to France to fight on the western front landing at Marseilles Boulogne where he joined the 25<sup>th</sup> Howitzer brigade and posted to the 115 Battalion as a Mustered Gunner.

At Bourlon Wood on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1916 he sustained a gunshot wound to his chest and was transported to a field Hospital in France to Boulogne, from there to England to a hospital in Southall for treatment. After recovery he had repeated bouts of chest infections and influenza.

From a depot in Warmouth, on the 12 September 1917, he was transferred back to France to reinforce the 53<sup>rd</sup> Battalion again, whilst there he was found out of bounds near Lovant and was given 2 days pay docked by Lt Col Mackenzie.

*Photo Walter (seated) after first hospitalisation.*

He was reported to have had further chest complaints related to his earlier wound.

It was at this time he sustained gunshot wounds to his neck and back, and again transferred to a field hospital in France, then on to an army hospital in England for treatment.

His wounds were such that he was returned to Australia on the ship *Llanstephen Castle* and discharged as medically unfit on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1918.



## **John DAVEN – Member 1631J**



## LOST ON THE WESTERN FRONT – TWO REMEMBERED

**Albert Morton LAING** was my mother's favourite uncle. *Uncle Albie* as he was known, was born in Auckland, New Zealand on 23 June 1883 to a Scottish father and Yorkshire mother. His older English brother was my mother's father who had emigrated to Australia in 1904.

Jon and I visited France in 2008 to find two family war graves at Trois Arbres cemetery Steenwerck west of Lille and at Picquigny which is a train ride from Amiens. The cemeteries are kept in pristine condition, so thankful are the French for the rescue that the Allies brought from the imminent German occupation.

Albert Morton LAING served as a Private in the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the Canterbury Regiment. His service number was 13/3181. Albert died of wounds on 31 July 1916 during the Battle of the Somme. He was buried that day at Trois Arbres by the Clearing Station there. He was single and 35 years of age.

His older brother John William LAING was recorded as next of kin so would have been sent the standard letter of notification – killed in action in France. The site for Trois Arbres Cemetery where Private Albert Morton LAING was buried, was chosen for the second Australian Casualty Clearing Station in July 1916, and Plot 1 and the earlier rows of Plot II, were made and used by that hospital until April 1918. A few further burials were made in the cemetery after the German withdrawal at the end of 1918 and after the Armistice graves were brought into it from the battlefields of Steenwerck, Nieppe, Bailleul and Neuve-Eglise. It is a short train ride away from Lille where we stayed and explored that part of Northern France.

It was on the Somme that the majority of New Zealanders were killed or wounded during WW1. The Battle of the Somme was New Zealand's first major engagement on the Western Front which took a huge toll on the 15,000 members of the N.Z. Division who were involved. Roughly one in seven fighting on the Somme was killed and about four in every ten were wounded. More than 2000 New Zealanders lie buried on what was once the battlefield of the Somme. Their known graves are cared for by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Over half of the members of the New Zealand Division who died on the Somme have no known grave.





**Eric Sydney Albert MOSS**, my father's first cousin, was born in 1895 in Sydney, NSW to Australian parents.

He served as a Private, service number 3094 in 35<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Australian Infantry Forces. He enlisted in Narromine 19 August 1916. Medical notes list him as 5'8" tall, weighed 131 lbs with a fresh complexion, Eyes Hazel and brown Hair. He also had an old scar burn mark on the right side of his chest.

In the following January 1917 he made out his Last Will and Testament, prior to embarking on the troop ship *HMAT Anchises* on 24 January 1917.

It took six months from enlistment till arriving in England with just over two months at sea. During his time in UK he

spent three months in Tidworth Hospital in Wiltshire with a hernia and infectious diphtheria which must have left him quite weak.

As part of the 35<sup>th</sup> Battalion, on the 20 March 1918 he was shipped to France and the next day he was at the front. Eric wrote to his mother saying "*I am in France ready to go into the firing line; I am not too strong, and feel the weight of my accoutrements, but I am going to do my best.*"



When the German Army launched its last great offensive in the spring of 1918, the 35<sup>th</sup> battalion was part of the force deployed to defend the approaches to Amiens around Villers-Bretonneux. It took part in a counter-attack at Hangard Wood on 30 March, and helped to defeat a major drive on Villers- Bretonneux on 4 April.

By April 5th 1918 while performing stretcher duties he was wounded by gunshot in the abdomen, dying the following day on 6 April 1918. The burial took place the same day in Picquigny. He was single and just 23 years of age.

War Grave Register notes MOSS, Pte. Eric is recorded on Australian War Memorial No. 145 Roll of Honour cards.

On Saturday 20 April 1918 the Cumberland Argus and Fruit Growers Advocate and The Sydney Morning Herald declared that Mrs MOSS of Mary Street Lidcombe has been notified by the military that her son Private Eric MOSS has been killed in action in France.



The anguish of his mother, always known by her family as Lily, can be seen in the documents contained in his File. Her first correspondence was to find out how and when he died. Next she tried to salvage his belongings, his kit, and wrote to the Kit Store AIF in Fulham London. The initial reply must have given some comfort it detailed his effects; *Money belt, Tobacco pouch, Knife, Cigarette holder, 1 pipe, Note book, Wallet, Writing pad, Metal chain, Badges, Metal brooch, photos and letters*, all of which were homeward bound aboard the ship *Berunga*. The next official correspondence must have been devastating, informing **Mrs J. A. MOSS** that regrettably the S.S *Barunga* was lost at sea with all its cargo as a result of enemy action.

The final correspondence took place in June 1921 when she wrote requesting that this war decorations be sent to her. The Act of Parliament controlling the disposal of War medals states that a father has priority over a mother. Lily's reply was "his father my husband left *me and his* children 13 years ago. Since then I raised and supported my children *alone*" "I have no idea of his whereabouts or if he still lives". The medals finally arrived in 1932.

**Karys Fearon – Member 1216J**

## AN ACT OF MERCY BECAME A DISASTER OF HISTORY



Sometimes we can look back on events in history which leave consequences that we wish had never had the chance to occur. This is the story of one of those; a merciful action that allowed a significant person to perpetrate an incredible evil. This is one of those “if only” there had been foreknowledge..

During the last moments of the Great War in the French village of Marcoing, involving soldiers from opposing sides, 27 year old Private TANDY of Warwickshire UK and a 29 year old Lance Corporal of Braunau in Austria.

Private TANDY was born on 30 August 1891, enlisted in the British Army, joined the Green Howards Regiment in August 1910 and fought in the 1<sup>st</sup> battle of Ypres in October 1914. Two years later he was wounded in the leg during the Battle of the Somme and when discharged from a military hospital in England, transferred to the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion in Flanders to be wounded at Passchendaele November 1917. From 26<sup>th</sup> July to 4<sup>th</sup> October 1918 he was attached to the 5<sup>th</sup> Duke of Wellington Regiment.

Private TANDY was awarded the DCM for determined bravery at Vaulx Vraucourt on 28 August, the MM for heroism at Havrincourt 12 September and Victoria Cross for conspicuous bravery at Marcoing 28 September. He was discharged from the army 5 January 1926 at the rank of Sergeant [1] as the highest decorated private soldier in the British Army during the Great War. He was mentioned five times in dispatches, certainly earning his VC during capture of the French village and crossing at Marcoing. While his



regiment was held down by heavy machine gun fire, TANDY crawled forward, located the machine gun nest and took it out.

Arriving at the crossing, he braved heavy fire to place wooden planks over a gaping hole enabling troops to roll across and take the battle to the Germans. The day still not over he successfully led a bayonet charge against outnumbering enemy troops which helped bring hostilities to an end. He forgot about it until his Victoria Cross award was announced in the London Gazette on 14 December 1918 and he was personally decorated by King George V at Buckingham Palace 17 December 1919. The newspaper report carried a picture of TANDEY carrying a wounded soldier after the Battle of Ypres, a dramatic image in a war which was supposed to end all wars. Italian artist Fortunino Matania, immortalised it on canvas.

Following his army service in 1926 he settled back in his home town of Leamington, Warwickshire where he married and worked at *Triumph*, then known as the *Standard Motor Company*.

Twelve years later in 1938 on the brink of another war, Prime Minister Neville CHAMBERLAIN made a trip to Munich to meet Chancellor Hitler in a last ditch effort to avoid war, which resulted in the ill-fated Munich Agreement. Hitler invited CHAMBERLAIN to his retreat in Berchtesgaden, Bavaria, a birthday present from Martin BORMANN and the Nazi Party. CHAMBERLAIN noticed

a reproduction of Matania's famous *Marcoing* painting on the wall which depicted allied troops and was puzzled as to why Hitler would be giving it such prominence on his wall. Hitler explained: *that man came so*



*near to killing me that I thought I should never see Germany again. Providence saved me from such devilishly accurate fire as those English boys were aiming at us. [2].*

History doesn't record CHAMBERLAIN's response, but Hitler sent his best wishes and gratitude to be conveyed to TANDEY via the Prime Minister who phoned TANDEY on his return to England.

Only at the time of the phone call did TANDEY know who it had been in his gun sight those 20 years earlier – one Adolph Hitler – which came as a great shock and something he wasn't feeling too proud about!

Hitler's presence in Marcoing at the time cannot be verified as many of Germany's records were destroyed in the allied bombing of Berlin, destroying a significant amount of State Archives. However, the evidence is that Hitler possessed a copy of the famous Matania painting featuring TANDEY, which was acquired from TANDEY's old regiment. Captain WEIDMANN, Hitler's Adjutant, wrote the following to Earle:

"I beg to acknowledge your friendly gift which has been sent to Berlin through the good offices of Dr. SCHWEND. The Fuehrer is naturally very interested in things connected with his own war experiences, and he was obviously moved when I showed him the picture and explained the thought which you had in causing it to be sent to him. He has directed me to send you his best thanks for your friendly gift which is so rich in memories." [3]

The TANDEY family were in no doubt of the story's authenticity, they were present when Prime Minister CHAMBERLAIN phoned. TANDEY'S nephew, William WHATELEY, from Thomaby, confirms a mysterious phone call almost 60 years ago, when the storm clouds of war were brewing and Prime Minister CHAMBERLAIN was futilely appeasing Herr Hitler. *"TANDEY commented matter-of-factly that it had been Mr CHAMBERLAIN. He had just returned from a meeting with Hitler and whilst at Berchtesgaden had noticed the painting by MATANIA of the 2nd Green Howards at the Menin Cross Roads in 1914. CHAMBERLAIN had asked what it was doing there and in reply Hitler had pointed out TANDY in the foreground and commented, "That's the man who nearly shot me" [4]*



TANDEY had a rule that he spared wounded and disarmed German soldiers, so Marcoing wasn't the first or last time he performed a humane deed in inhumane circumstances. The fact he was awarded the illustrious VC for heroic deeds at Marcoing may have affected Prime Minister CHAMBERLAIN's recollections of H's war story, which may have included TANDEY's having won the VC at Marcoing, a fact which would have undoubtedly impressed Hitler.

Obviously there was some significant connection between Hitler and the Fortunino MATANIA painting featuring TANDEY. The Fuehrer of the demonic Third Reich wasn't a collector of British wartime iconography and if he wanted propaganda images of the Battle of Ypres he would have chosen one in which German, not the enemy troops, were depicted as valiant heroes. Hitler never forgot the moment he stared down the barrel of death, nor the face of the man who spared him. He stumbled across a newspaper featuring the famous image of Private TANDEY which noted his being awarded the VC for bravery. Hitler kept it and on becoming Chancellor of Germany ordered government officials to obtain a copy of his service record and reproduction of the Matania painting, which he hung and pointed out to loyal disciples with pride.

TANDEY was haunted the remainder of his life by his good deed, the simple squeeze of a trigger would have spared the world a catastrophe which cost tens of millions of lives. He was living in Coventry when the Luftwaffe destroyed the city in 1940, sheltered in a doorway as the building he was in crumbled and the city burned like a scene from Dante's Inferno.

He was also in London during the Blitz and experienced that atrocity first hand, he told a journalist in 1940, "if only I had known what he would turn out to be. When I saw all the people, woman and children he had killed and wounded I was sorry to God I let him go"[2].

#### *References:*

1. *Beyond Their Duty*, by Roger Chapman
2. *Sunday Graphic*, Coventry, UK. December 1940
3. *Colonel Earle*, *The Green Howards Gazette*, UK. June. 1937
4. *The Evening Gazette*, Middlesbrough. UK

#### *Sources:*

*The Green Howards. Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment  
The 19th Regiment of Foot. By whose grace Tandey related images are reproduced.*

Mr. Edward McKillop Nicholl  
The Berchtesgaden Tourist Board  
The International Express  
Contributed by John Godl, New Zealand  
Full article on <http://www.firstworldwar.com/features/tandey.htm>

**Contributed by: Karys Fearon – Member 1216J**

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## MY UNCLE LOU IN WW1

When I was about 10 I was sitting on the lounge in my Grandmother's house with her and my uncle Lou. There was a knock on the door and I answered it – we were expecting someone to repair the radio. I brought him into the lounge room and he instantly recognised Uncle Lou and said “you saved my life at Gallipoli. You pulled me out of the water after I had been shot”.

Louis Greive was born to Louis and Eliza Greive at Wagga Wagga on the 12th of October 1894.

Louis senior was an Inspector of Branches with the Bank of Australasia and in by 1915 was living at Balgay, 511 Punt Rd Melbourne.

Unsurprisingly, Louis junior became a banking clerk. He joined the army in Melbourne on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February 1915, aged 20 years and 3 months, and was attached to C Company, 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, International Brigade which undertook initial training at Broadmeadows in Victoria.

In May 1915 the 23rd Regiment embarked upon the Troopship *Euripides* bound for [Egypt](#), arriving in [Alexandria](#) on 11 June. After being moved by train to [Cairo](#), they marched to a camp at [Heliopolis](#) where they undertook further training in preparation for deployment to Gallipoli, where the units of the 1st Division had already landed.



His Regiment was moved to the island of Lemnos and from there landed at Gallipoli by 9.30 p.m. on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September.

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Division were soon manning one of the most trying parts of the Anzac front line, Lone Pine. The fighting here was so dangerous and exhausting that Battalions were relieved every day. The 23<sup>rd</sup> were alternating with the 24<sup>th</sup> Division, until the evacuation in December 1915

During this time Louis was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

Louis attended the Anzac Hospital several times in November 1915 and, in July 1916, he was sent to the Western front to rejoin his unit.

He was finally diagnosed with Typhoid Fever, which was widespread at Gallipoli, and was evacuated to hospital in London.

After recovering in hospital, on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July 1916, he was sent to the Western Front to rejoin his unit, arriving in time for the last days of the battle for Pozieres and following battles.

In October he was awarded a Distinguished Service Medal (DCM). The award reads:-

*His majesty the King has been most graciously pleased to approve of the award of the Distinguished Service Medal to the undermentioned officer for acts of gallantry and devotion to duty in the Field.*

*No 555 Company: Lieutenant Louis Greive*

*For conspicuous gallantry and skilful leadership during operations when, in charge of working parties under heavy fire. In spite of severe casualties, he succeeded by his bravery and example, in getting a dangerous piece of work completed, and later he carried in, single handed, 3 wounded men"*

Louis continued in battle. However his commanding officer wrote on the 21<sup>st</sup> November as follows:-

*"Pozieres front line. Quiet day. Royal North Lancashire Fusiliers commenced relief and not completed until 3AM.22<sup>nd</sup> instant. Lieutenant Grieve missing moving from BL Headquarters to Left Flank Headquarters".*

Louis had been captured and now was a prisoner of war. He spent time in several POW camps and ended up at Holzminden camp.

Holzminden camp had been built as POW camp. It was a two storey building with sleeping quarters on the top floor and facilities such as kitchens downstairs. Of course it wasn't long before a committee was formed to dig an escape tunnel.

It was a tunnel literally dug with spoons and forks and with no refinements, and not able to allow passage for larger men.

Usually disposing of the soil was the main problem with digging tunnels. Solution! There was a wide set of stairs at each end of the building. The builders had closed in the area under the stairs, which gave ample space for the soil removed from the tunnel. The escape took place on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 1918.

Louis was unable to attempt an escape due to injury, but acted as traffic controller in the attic. All men had gone to bed so as to not cause alarm to the guards and Louis' job was to advise the next person when it was time to enter the tunnel.

29 tunnellers escaped, of which 10 managed to return to London. The rest were captured and for their deeds were sent to solitary confinement for several months.

Perhaps more could have escaped, however two potential escapees had packed too much and became stuck in the tunnel. In freeing them, a small hole appeared in the roof of the tunnel, which caused the tunnel to collapse. Louis was released from Holzminden and repatriated to England on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December 1918.

He embarked from London on the HMAS Orca, disembarking in Sydney on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 1919.

After his return he joined the Bank of NSW (now Westpac) and served as the manager of the Wahroonga branch until his retirement. He loved his bowls and perhaps it was fitting that he died on the rink.

**Peter Schramko – Member 1944**



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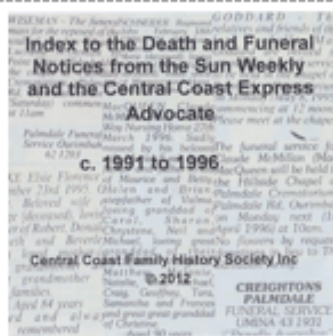
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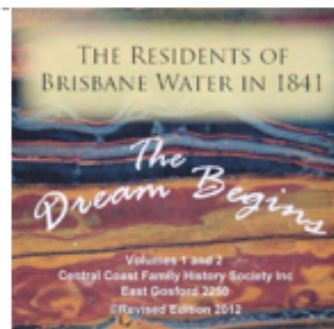
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