PARRAMATTA

## WORLD WAR ONE <br> AND <br> PARRAMATTA NAVAL OFFICERS

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## MESSAGE FROM THE LORD MAYOR

The City of Parramatta commemorates the Centenary of World War One, also known as 'The Great War,' which endured from 4 August 1914 to 11 November 1918.

Our City honours the thousands of young men and women around Australia who rallied to serve in the war effort, including the 1,962 volunteers from the Parramatta District, who went on to became soldiers, pilots, seamen, munitions workers, transport drivers and nurses, mainly deployed across Europe and the Middle East.

The City of Parramatta has compiled hundreds of stories about the involvement of the Parramatta community in World War One, sharing these significant histories in many forms, including series of publications, which focus on various aspects of the war.

I hope the experiences of individuals will help to honour their sacrifice and connect you with our community's history. By preserving the contributions and memories of all those brave soldiers, sailors and aviators for future generations, we show our respect for those who made such a sacrifice for our nation.

Cr Bob Dwyer<br>Lord Mayor

City of Parramatta

Photographer: Jason Nichol Photography

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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- Parramatta and District Soldiers in the Great War, 1914-1919. Parramatta, N.S.W. The Cumberland Argus Limited, 1920.
- The Australian War Memorial (AWM)
- The National Archives of Australia (NAA)
- The National Library of Australia (NLA) Trove
- Royal Australian Navy (RAN)
- Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC)

All the images in this publication has been sourced from the Parramatta and District Soldiers in the Great War, 1914-1919 compiled from records of The Cumberland Argus Limited, 1920.

More information and Parramatta Soldier stories can be found on our website www.arc.parracity.nsw.gov.au

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We thank everyone who has helped in any way to bring about this book.

## INTRODUCTION

Australia's involvement in World War One began on 4 August 1914. Many who joined up believed that the war would be a great adventure, but none could have imagined the scale of the endeavour on which they were about to embark. Sadly, many of these soldiers, sailors, airmen, medical support staff and nurses didn't make it home. Their courage, sacrifice, hardship and losses brought a new maturity to our nation.

In the face of atrocity and adversary, this publication recounts some of the survival stories of the men who enlisted and ultimately returned home.

The impact of World War One on Australia's economy was significant. At that time, the majority of exports from Australia were wool, wheat and minerals. Exporters were deprived of shipping services and they found it difficult to receive payments for their goods.

For Australia, the World War One remains the costliest conflict in terms of deaths and casualties. From a population of fewer than five million, 416,809 men enlisted, of whom more than 60,000 were killed and 156,000 were wounded, gassed, or taken prisoner. Another 6000 veterans died by the 1930s due to war related injuries and suicide.

During World War One, the ships and men of the Royal Australian Navy played an integral part and served in all operational areas the Australian Fleet - a battle cruiser, six light cruisers, six destroyers, two submarines and numerous support and ancillary craft. The Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force carried in HMAS Berrima and supported by units of the Australian Fleet captured German New Guinea colonies. This is the only national joint warfare operation to date.

The team in Research Services have prepared and posted hundreds of biographical stories and accounts of events which relate to the actions of Parramatta servicemen and women during World War One.

We hope you enjoy reading about these amazing people and the terrifying and sometimes awe inspiring events which carried them across the globe to fight against Germany and her allies.

Neera Sahni \& Anne Tsang

# World War One: Timeline 

Neera Sahni
1914

| 28 June 1914 | Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria assassinated in Sarajevo, Bosnia |
| :---: | :---: |
| 5 July 1914 | Kaiser William II promised German support for Austria against Serbia |
| 28 July 1914 | Austria declared war on Serbia |
| 1 August 1914 | Germany declared war on Russia |
| 3 August 1914 | Germany declared war on France and invaded Belgium. Germany implemented the Schlieffen Plan |
| 4 August 1914 | Britain declared war on Germany |
| 23 August 1914 | The British Expeditionary Force started its retreat from Mons. Germany invaded France |
| 26 August 1914 | Russian army defeated at Tannenberg and Masurian Lakes, East Prussia |
| 9 September 1914 | Battle of the Marne, France commenced |
| 13 September 1914 | Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (ANMEF) captures German occupied New Guinea territory at Rabaul |
| 14 September 1914 | HMA Submarine AE1 disappears off the coast of the Duke of York Islands, Papua New Guinea while patrolling New Britain. It is the first Allied and Royal Australian Navy's submarine lost during the war with all 35 crewmembers lost at sea. |
| 18 October 1914 | First Battle of Ypres, Belgium |
| 29 October 1914 | Turkey entered the war on the side of Germany Trench warfare started to dominate the Western Front |
| 9 November 1914 | Battle of Cocos between Australian light cruiser HMAS Sydney and German light cruiser SMS Emden in response to a German attack on a communications station at Direction Island in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands. The |


|  | Sydney-Emden engagement is the only action fought at sea by the RAN during the war. 134 killed and 69 wounded aboard Emden and 4 killed and 16 wounded aboard Sydney |
| :---: | :---: |
| 8 December 1914 | Battle of the Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic Ocean |
| 1915 |  |
| 6 January 1915 | HMAS Australia intercepts and sinks German merchant ship Eleonor Woermann. |
| 19 January 1915 | The first Zeppelin raid on Britain took place |
| 19 February 1915 | Britain bombarded Turkish forts in the Dardanelles |
| 25 April 1915 | HMA Submarine AE2 is the first allied submarine to successfully force a passage through the Dardanelles into Turkish waters. |
| 25 April 1915 | Allied troops landed in Gallipoli, Turkey |
| 30 April 1915 | HMA Submarine AE2 lost in action during the Sea of Maramara. Her crew become prisoners of the Turkish. Four died in captivity before others were released in 1918. |
| 7 May 1915 | The Lusitania was sunk by a German U-boat |
| 23 May 1915 | Italy declared war on Germany and Austria |
| 5 August 1915 | The Germans captured Warsaw, Poland from the Russians |
| 25 September 1915 | Start of the Battle of Loos, France |
| 19 December 1915 | The Allies started the evacuation of Gallipoli |
| 1916 |  |
| 27 January 1916 | Conscription introduced in Britain |
| 21 February 1916 | Start of the Battle of Verdun, France |
| 29 April 1916 | British forces surrendered to Turkish forces at Kut in Mesopotamia (now Iraq) |
| 31 May 1916 | Battle of Jutland in the North Sea near Denmark between Britain's Royal Navy Grand Fleet, under Admiral |


|  | Sir John Jellicoe, and the Imperial German Navy's High Seas Fleet, under Vice-Admiral Reinhard Scheer. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 4 June 1916 | Start of the Brusilov Offensive |
| 1 July 1916 | Start of the Battle of the Somme, France |
| 10 August 1916 | End of the Brusilov Offensive |
| 15 September 1916 | First use en masse of tanks at the Somme |
| 7 December 1916 | Lloyd George becomes British Prime Minister |
| 1917 |  |
| 1 February 1917 | Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare campaign started |
| 6 April 1917 | USA declared war on Germany |
| 16 April 1917 | France launched an unsuccessful offensive on the Western Front |
| 31 July 1917 | Start of the Third Battle at Ypres, Belgium |
| 24 October 1917 | Battle of Caporetto, now in Slovenia - the Italian Army was heavily defeated |
| 6 November 1917 | Britain launched a major offensive on the Western Front |
| 20 November 1917 | British tanks won a victory at Cambrai, France |
| 5 December 1917 | Armistice between Germany and Russia signed |
| 9 December 1917 | Britain captured Jerusalem from Turkish forces |
| 1918 |  |
| 3 March 1918 | The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk was signed between Russia and Germany. |
| 21 March 1918 | Germany broke through on the Somme |
| 29 March 1918 | Marshall Foch was appointed Allied Commander on the Western Front |
| 9 April 1918 | Germany began an offensive in Flanders, Belgium |
| 15 July 1918 | Second Battle of the Marne started. The start of the collapse of the German army |
| 8 August 1918 | The advance of the Allies was successful |
| 19 September 1918 | Turkish forces collapsed at Megiddo, Palestine |


| 4 October 1918 | Germany asked the Allies for an armistice |
| :--- | :--- |
| 29 October 1918 | Germany's Navy mutinied |
| 30 October 1918 | Turkey made peace |
| 3 November 1918 | Austria made peace |
| 9 November 1918 | Kaiser William Il abdicated |
| 11 November 1918 | Germany signed an armistice with the Allies - the official <br> date of the end of World War One |
| Post war: 1919 |  |
| 4 January 1919 | Peace conference met in Paris, France |
| 21 June 1919 | The surrendered German naval fleet at Scapa Flow was <br> scuttled |
| 28 June 1919 | The Treaty of Versailles was signed by Germany |

## World War One: Financial Cost

## Neera Sahni



Bullecourt, From A Sunken Road near Noreuil
(Image source: Charles E.W. Bean, Official History of Australia in the War, of 19141918, Volume 12 Photographic record of the War)

Allied Powers Cost in US Dollars in 1914-18

| Great Britain | $35,334,012,000$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| France | $24,265,583,000$ |
| United States | $22,625,253,000$ |
| Russia | $22,293,950,000$ |
| Italy | $12,413,998,000$ |
| Canada | $1,665,576,000$ |
| Romania | $1,600,000,000$ |


| Australia | $1,423,208,000$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| Belgium | $1,154,468,000$ |
| Others | $601,279,000$ |
| Serbia | $300,000,000$ |
| New Zealand | $399,400,000$ |
| South Africa | $300,000,000$ |
| Greece | $270,000,000$ |
| British Colonies | $125,000,000$ |
| Japan | $40,000,000$ |
| Total of all Costs | $125,690,477,000$ |

## World War One: Parramatta Key Dates

## Geoff Barker



World War One 1914-1918 infographic (Source: Parramatta Heritage Centre)
While the Research and Collections Team at the Parramatta Heritage Centre has been researching World War One servicemen, servicewomen and volunteer organisations, we have uncovered a number of key dates which relate to Parramatta. Some cover broader events of the war, but we also decided to include dates that were very specific to Parramatta at home and abroad, as well as dates which relate to the broader demographic of the current local government area.

Some relate to the actions of army and naval units in which the soldiers or nurses from Parramatta served. Some to the heroic endeavors of individuals while others have been included to mark an individual's contribution. Furthermore, it should continue to provide food for thought as we highlight the contribution of Parramatta and surrounding district's to this major world event.

| 3 August 1914 | Pennant Hills Wireless Station, and all other Australian wireless stations placed under the control of the Naval Board. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 11 August 1914 | His Majesty's Australian Ship (HMAS) Parramatta and Warrego enter Simpson Harbour, German New Guinea Australia's first action of the war |
| 22 August 1914 | Richard (Dick) John Cutter became the first Parramatta man to enlist |
| September 1914 | The Home Front - Parramatta Soldiers Wives and Mothers Centre commences |
| 26 September 1914 | First Indian troops arrive in France |
| 30 September 1914 | Action at Wytschaete, France and First Indian Victoria Cross |
| 1 November 1914 | First Australian troops embark from Albany, Western Australia |
| 9 November 1914 | Sinking of the His Majesty's Ship Emden (SMS Emden) by His Majesty's Australian Ship (HMAS) Sydney |
| 15 November 1914 | Former Parramatta man, Billyard-Leake, owner of Harefield Park, in Middlesex, England offers his house to the Australian military authorities for use as a hospital |
| 24 November 1914 | Sister Edith Faber accepted into 2 Australian General Hospital Nursing Service |
| 1 December 1914 | Parramatta woman, Dorothy Cawood, first Sydney nurse to be awarded a Military Medal, selected to work in the 1 and 2 Australian General Army Hospitals |


| 18 December 1914 | Parramatta dentist, Arthur James Mills, Commander of the 4 Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) British Imperial Camel Corps, enlists |
| :---: | :---: |
| 19 January 1915 | First Zeppelin attack at Yarmouth, aerial warfare comes to England |
| December 1914 | 1 and 2 Battalions arrive in Egypt |
| 14 March 1915 | Gallipoli campaign outlined to Sir Ian Hamilton by Lord Kitchener |
| 22 April 1915 | First successful gas attack and Second Battle of Ypres, Belgium |
| 25 April 1915 | 1,2,3 and 4 Battalion - ANZAC landing 2 and 3 waves |
| 25 April 1915 | 13 Battalion - lands in late afternoon |
| 26 April 1915 | Victoria Cross won by Mir Dast, British Indian Army |
| 2 May 1915 | Parramatta soldier, James Durrant involved in fighting at the 'Chessboard', Gallipoli, Turkey |
| 12 May 1915 | 1 Light Horse - ANZAC landing |
| 17 May 1915 | Private Cecil George 'Curly' Eather from Parramatta, killed in action at Gallipoli |
| Late May 1915 | 6 Light Horse - ANZAC landing with Colonel Cox |
| 3 July 1915 | Maori Battalion lands at ANZAC Cove, Gallipoli |
| 6 August 1915 | 1 Battalion leads charge Lone Pine, Gallipoli |
| 20 August 1915 | 17 and 18 Battalion landed at ANZAC Cove |
| 21 August 1915 | 19 Battalion landed at ANZAC Cove |


| 22 August 1915 | 20 Battalion landed at ANZAC Cove |
| :---: | :---: |
| 27 August 1915 | Privates Ernest and Alfred Currell of Baulkham Hills enlist |
| 20 December 1915 | 1,2,3 and 4 Battalion and 6 Light Horse - Evacuation at ANZAC Cove |
| 21 December 1915 | 1 Light Horse - Evacuation at ANZAC Cove |
| 14 May 1916 | 1 Light Horse defend Suez Canal, Egypt |
| 19 July 1916 | Battle of Fromelles, France |
| 4-5 August 1916 | 1 Light Horse, Battle of Romani, Egypt |
| 6 June 1916 | 45 Battalion arrives France made up of half Gallipoli veterans and new recruits |
| 11 April 1917 | 13 Battalion - first battle of Bullecourt, France |
| 21 July - <br> 6 November 1917 | 3 Battle of Ypres, Belgium also known as Battle of Passchendaele |
| 26 September 1917 | 54 Battalion - Battle of Polygon Wood, part of the Passchendaele, Belgium engagement |
| 31 October 1917 | 1 and 7 Light Horse Battle of Beersheba, Palestine now Israel |
| 27-31 March 1918 | ANZAC Mounted Division and Camel Corps - First Battle of Amman, Palestine |
| $\begin{aligned} & 30 \text { March - } 5 \text { April } \\ & 1918 \end{aligned}$ | 54 Battalion - First Battle of Villers-Bretonneux |
| 14 July 1918 | Engagement Abu Tulul, Jordan Valley |
| 11 November 1918 | Armistice declared |

# World War One: Naval Officers 

Neera, Caroline, Emma \& Anne

James Ball - Service Number: 4599


James Ball (junior) was born on the 17 September 1890 in Lancashire, England. He was the eldest son of John James Ball (senior) and Emily Ball, of 'Dorking Villa', George Street, Liverpool, New South Wales. His younger brother Frederick Ball and cousin Leonard Royd also served.

According to his military service papers, James Ball, junior, had previously served in the British Navy before enlisting to serve with the Australian Royal Australian Navy from the 4 April 1915. He was the leading stoker of the HMAS 'Yarra' from the 20 April 1915 to the 31 March 1916 before being invalided home on the 1 April 1916 as medically unfit and suffering from deafness.

On Saturday the 24 June 1916, he married Harriet Parkinson at the Liverpool Baptist Church. On the 13 December 1917 Ball re-enlisted, this time joining the Australian Imperial Force where he was assigned with the rank of Private with the staff cooks department. At his own request, he was later discharged around the 18 January 1918. On the 3 October 1931, at the age of 41 years, James Ball (junior) passed away from a stroke at his residence in Bexley, New South Wales. He was interred at Woronora Memorial Park, New South Wales.

## Walter Beaven - Service Number: Unknown



Walter Beaven was born in 1890 in Parramatta, New South Wales, the son of Mr Arthur John and Mrs Elizabeth Beaven (nee Henry) of Clifford Street Parramatta, New South Wales. After completing his secondary schooling in Parramatta, Walter studied engineering and was Third Naval Engineer on board the steamer SS 'Strathdee' which was renamed Australrange after it was sold to the Australian Commonwealth Line in 1916.

During Beaven's many voyagers as described in the news article '"Frozen In!" A Parramatta Boy's World Wide Experiences. From lovely tropical Panama to

Lapland's "Hills of Frost"' published in The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, 20 September 1916, page 3, it was stated "he was one of the first Australian to go through the [Panama] canal". He also described in his letters home some of the "frozen in" experiences the 'Strathdee' endured on route to delivering supplies to Russia as trade continued between the British Commonwealth and Russia.

In the article 'The Watch on the Sea' published in The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, 30 September 1916, page 6, he describes a close encounter with what his crew thought was an enemy raider off the coast of Mexico near Acapulco. While not attacked they were caught within the gaze of the searchlights which after reading the name of Beaven's vessel steamed off. Beaven was told this was probably because she was a British or Japanese warship rather than an enemy one. In September 1919, he was a member of the H.M.A. Navy. In 1951, he applied for the Campaign Stars and War Medals.

On 5 June 1968, he passed away aged 77. He was a late resident of Bexley, New South Wales. His ashes were interred at the Woronora Memorial Park.

## Jack Betts - Service Number: 3859



John Betts, usually known as Jack, was born on the 20 September 1899, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph William Betts, of Smithfield, New South Wales. He was one of four brothers who served during the war including older halfbrothers Private Stanley W. Edwards, Private Roy H. Edwards and Trooper Thomas Edgar Betts. Betts enlisted in Sydney with the Royal Australian Navy and was an Ablebodied Seaman on HMAS 'Fantome', H.M.A.S. 'Tingira' for twelve months, and HMAS 'Sydney' until 16 January 1920. After the war, he continued to serve until 1926.

## Ernest F. Clement - Service Number: Unknown



Captain Ernest F. Clement was the son of Frank Clement (1935, Muswellbrook). He was a part of a family The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers' Advocate (11 November 1916, page 4) dubbed the 'great fighting family of Kenthurst, New South Wales'. Seven men including cousin Corporal C Clement answered the call of duty and served during the First World War. He was reported to be on transport duty with the navy.


Born in 1886 in Limerick, Ireland to Frank and Margaret Clement of 'Holbornville', Kenthurst, New South Wales. Gerald was Chief Officer and on transport duty with the Navy. He died in 1965 in St Leonards, New South Wales.


## Charles Clarke - Service Number: Unknown

Charles Clarke was a member of the Royal Naval Reserve. He lived in Liverpool Road, Smithfield, New South Wales with his wife Hannah and children including Gunner Leslie Clarke and fallen Anzac Private Victor William Clarke (service number 5068) of the 13 Australian Infantry Battalion who died of his wounds he sustained at Pozieres on 10 July 1917.

Mr Clarke wrote to the Municipality of Smithfield and Fairfield Council in late 1919 suggesting the erection of a war memorial monument in the local park opposite the council chambers in recognition of 'esteem and gratitude to the boys who enlisted from the district' (The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers' Advocate, 13 September 1919, page 5).

In March 1924, he died after a long stretch of ill health. He was survived by his widow and children, the youngest being 15 at the time.

## Joseph Cook <br> Minister for the Royal Australian Navy 19171920, Prime Minister of Australia 1913-1914 \& Federal Member for Parramatta



Sir Joseph Cook (1860-1947) was the elected Federal Member for Parramatta from 1901 until his retirement from politics in 1921. He was also the sixth Prime Minister of Australia, holding the office for 15 months from 14 June 1913 to 19 September 1914. During William 'Billy' Morris Hughes' Nationalist government (1915 to 1923), Sir Cook became Navy Minister from 1917 to 1920 before becoming Treasurer from 1920 to 1921. He and then Prime Minister Hughes were Australia's delegated signatories to the Peace Treaty signed at Versailles in 1919.

In introducing the Parramatta District Soldiers in the Great War 1914-1919 book he states:
"Your proposal (of this commemorative book) seems a happy idea. These brave sons and citizens of the district have already written their names on the scroll of the world's fame.
"Their name has gone out into all the earth.' to pay them an affectionate tribute in the manner suggested is a duty we all owe them. It is no lest a duty to ourselves "lest we forget."

Surely it is a happy thought then to make it possible for them as they recount the doughty deeds of the Parramatta boys to see the kind of light hearted, brave, heroic soldiers who stood comrades and allies in the breach and covered themselves with immortal fame."

# Ernest George Dandridge - Service Number: 9123 



Ernest George Dandridge was born on 13 November 1890 in Watlington, Oxford, England, the second son of Mrs Elizabeth Dandridge of Western-road, Wentworthville, New South Wales. When he was 26 years old, he was the only seaman survivor from the ill fated battle cruiser HMS 'Invincible' in the great Jutland sea fight on 31 May 1916 which was hit by a salvo fired by the German battlecruiser 'Derfflinger'.

Ernest joined the Royal (British) Navy in England around 1905 (before his mother came to Australia) and went through his training course on the old training ship Ganges at Harwich. He was afterwards transferred as seaman to ships of the fleet, including the 'Rifleman', 'Duncan', 'Canopus', and the 'Duke of Edinburgh', the two latter being in the Mediterranean fleet. When war broke out he was in the 'Duke of Edinburgh', and was immediately transferred to the 'Invincible', which was the first ship to go into action in the Falkland Islands fight. Seaman Dandridge states that it was the 'Invincible' which sank the 'Scharnhorst'. He was then a range-finder, or ranger, and the day after the battle was made a second-class ranger, and has since been promoted to gun-layer, which position he held when the 'Invincible' went down in the Jutland fight. He was afloat on a raft, with five others, for six hours in an angry sea before being picked up by the HMS 'Badger'.

In a letter to his mother which was published in The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrower's Advocate (12 August 1916, page 10), Seaman Dandright tells his own tale: -
"Dear Mother, — Just a few lines to let you know I am still alive and kicking, and in the pink, although I am the only seaman survivor of the ship Invincible. Six of us saved, four lower deck ratings, two officers. Rotten losing all the chums, but there you are - war, you know! I shall send you my address when I get another ship where I shall be with my gunnery commander, who was saved." He added: "The stamp (which he used on the letter) went down with me, and will be a curio."

In December 1917 Dandridge was awarded the French Medaille Militaire for his actions in saving Commander Dannreuter, one of the gunnery officer survivors.

Ernest Dandridge was promoted to Leading Seaman in June 1918 and from 9 March 1919 to 10 September 1920 was lent to the Royal Australian Navy, serving on its flagship, HMAS 'Australia'. He returned to service with the Royal Navy until 1931 when he was placed on the Royal Fleet Reserve.

During the Second World War, he again enlisted for active service in 1939 and was mentioned in despatches for his service on the minesweeping trawler HMT 'Doon'.

His first wife, Ida Rablin died in England; after the war he settled in Australia and married Hilda Leveridge Hathaway at Gosford in 1951. Ernest Dandridge died in Sydney in 1976. His older brother Sapper William Dandridge and future brother-inlaw Trooper George Keen also served in the First World War.

## Francis James Doherty - Service Number: 2359



Francis James Doherty, usually known as Frank, was born in Londonderry, Ireland but settled in Australia after serving thirteen years with the Royal Navy.

A member of the Granville Magpies Football Club, at the time of his enlistment he was residing at 'Erimus', Russell Street, Granville, New South Wales. He was a 32-year-old labourer when he joined the Australian Imperial Force on the 13 May 1915 in Liverpool, New South Wales. He embarked as a Private with the 4 Australian Infantry Battalion, 7 Reinforcement from Sydney, New South Wales, on board the HMAT 'Orsova' on the 14 July 1915. Two weeks after landing on the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey he was appointed Lance Corporal on the 17 November 1915. A month later on the 29 December, while in Tell-el-Kebir, Egypt, he was made Sergeant, then Company Sergeant Major in Serapeum, Egypt on the 3 March 1916 before sailing for France to join the fight in the Western Front.

Doherty was seriously wounded on two occasions. The first was on the 19 December 1916 when he sustained a gunshot wound to his face and neck, blinding him for a period of six weeks, which led to his transfer to England and his admittance to the 4 Southern General Hospital for surgery and 1 Auxiliary Hospital for recovery. For his bravery in action, he was awarded a Military Cross on the 3 June 1917. He returned to France on the 20 August 1917 and re-joined the 4 Battalion a week later on the 27 August. Five weeks later on 4 October he was wounded a second time when his face was injured by shrapnel. Once again he was transferred to England and admitted to the 2 London General Hospital in Chelsea on the 20 October until the 9 November when he was transferred to the 3 Auxiliary Hospital in Dartford. On the 11 January 1919, he commenced his return journey to Australia aboard HT 'Osterley' and was officially discharged on 10 May 1919. Sadly, on the 18 May 1919, he passed away at his home in Granville from septicaemia as a result of his wounds and was buried in Rookwood Catholic Cemetery, Lidcombe, New South Wales.

## Charles Sinclair Elliot - Service Number: unknown



Charles Sinclair Elliot, the youngest son of Captain Amyand Powney Charles Elliot and his wife Anna Maria Alexander was born in the Central Provinces of India in 1853. He was educated at Haileybury College, England and enlisted in the Royal Navy as a cadet in 1869. During his time in the military, he saw action in Egypt and was awarded the Khedive's medal and Egyptian star.

He retired with the rank of post-captain in 1903 and went first to South Africa, then New Zealand where he was appointed chief magistrate of Norfolk Island.

In 1913 he lived in Eastwood, New South Wales and offered his services once again at the outbreak of war. He was stationed at Largs Bay in South Australia as a District Naval Officer. He died from heart failure while serving in this capacity. His son, John Amyand was informed of his father's death just days before his own. Elliot and his wife Florence Louisa had five sons, three of whom had already enlisted with a fourth seeking special permission to enlist and two daughters.

## William Alexander Elliot - Service Number: unknown



Possibly William Alexander Elliot who was the son of Captain Charles Sinclair Elliot and his wife, Florence Louisa Dudley of Eastwood, New South Wales. He joined the Royal Navy attaining the rank of Lieutenant-Commander. He also fought in the Second World War and was mentioned in despatches. Elliot died in action at sea on the 28 May 1941 aged 44 years.

Albert Vincent Gibbs - Service Number: 2315


Albert Vincent Gibbs was born on 5 March 1898 in West Ham, England, the son of Private (later Corporal) Albert Vincent Gibbs (service number 4778) and Ethel Harriet Gibbs of Northmead, New South Wales. He first entered the Royal Australian Navy on 4 November 1912 and appears to have served until 1923. He married Hettie Irvine Gibbs and together they started a family and lived at 31 Brien's Road, Northmead. On 30 June 1951, he passed away in hospital,
aged 77 years. Hettie predeceased him, and he was survived by his children Thomas, Albert, Minnie, Neil and Ethel.

## Percy Harmon - Service Number: 4965



Percy Harmon was born on 12 November 1886 in Liverpool, New South Wales. One of the six sons of William Henry and Jessie Maria Harmon of Alfred Street, Granville, New South Wales and brother to Private Oliver James Harmon, who sadly was killed in action in Pozieres, France.

At the age of 18 years old he volunteered to be part of the Royal Australian Navy from 28 December 1904 for 5 years. According to his enlistment form he was 5 foot 9 inches $(1.75 \mathrm{~cm})$ with dark brown hair, brown eyes, a dark complexion and a tattoo of a crossed sword in the back of his right hand.

After his initial service with RAN, he entered the Railway Department, but when the war broke out he resigned and re-joined the Australian Navy on 3 July 1915. According to The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers' Advocate, Harmon became the Captain's valet on HMAS 'Phantom'.

Joseph H. Hawkins - Service Number: unknown


Son of Mr Joseph Henry Hawkins, the local newsagent at Church Street, Parramatta, New South Wales. He was a wireless operator serving in the Commonwealth Navy.

# Matthew Judge Herr - Service Number: 7416 



Matthew Judge Herr was born in Springwood, New South Wales and enlisted in Sydney, New South with the Royal Australian Navy on the 1 January 1913.

He was engaged with the Navy for 5 years, with his term ending on the 1 January 1919. Herr served on a number of ships including HMAS 'Penguin', HMAS 'Australia' and HMAS 'Cerberus'.

## George Thomas Hooke - Service Number: 5230



George Thomas Hooke was born on 28 August 1890 in Croydon, Surrey, England and was the eldest son of Mr. George Harry and Mrs. Alice Maud Mary Hooke of Yillowra Street, Auburn, New South Wales. He was married to Jessie. He joined the Royal Australian Navy and he served as an able-seaman from the 1 July 1913 to the 4 July 1926 and was then discharged from the Royal Australian Navy as medically unfit.

John Rushworth Jellicoe - Admiral Grand Fleet


Admiral Sir John Rushworth Jellicoe was Britain's most wellknown naval commander during World War One. When the war was declared he was appointed as commander of the Grand Fleet. Jellicoe was in command at the Battle of Jutland in May 1916. In late 1916, he became the first sea lord, the professional head of the Royal Navy. At the end of the war, he was promoted to the rank of admiral of the fleet. In September 1920, Jellicoe was appointed Governor General of New Zealand for four years. He also served as President of the Royal British legion from 1928 to 1932. For the publication of The Parramatta District Soldiers in the Great War 1914-1919, the publishers asked Lord Jellicoe to write the foreword. In it he states
"It has been a very real pleasure to learn with my own eyes the beauty and wealth of this fair land of Australia, whose soldiers and sailors, in all the many theatres of war, played so gallant a part in bringing about the ultimate defeat of German arms and the saluation of Civilization."

## Foreword from Admiral Lord Jellicoe

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H.M.S. "NEW ZEALAND," at Sydney.
14 th August. 1919.
I am deeply conscious of the honour you have done me in asking for a contribution to your book.
It has been a very leal pleasure to learn with my own eyes the beauty and wealth of this fair land of Australia. whose sailors and soldiers, in all the many theatres of war. played so gallant a part in bringing about the ultimate defeat of German arms and the salvation of Civilization.
I cherish the hose that the present and future generations of Australia will, by their love of freedom, Justice and Right. Drove that those who have given their lives in the Great Var will noe have done so in vain. and that the bonds of union which have been forged by the common sacrifice may ever link close: the Dominions to the Mother Country.
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## Yours faithfully,



ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET.

# Phillip Sloane Stanley Kammel - Service Number: 1763 



Phillip Sloane Stanley Kammel was from Liverpool, New South Wales and worked as a wireless assistant prior to enlisting for active duty overseas. He served for a period of seven years and took part in an operation in German New Guinea in September 1914.

## Henry Ladd - Service Number: 405, 1879

Henry Ladd was born on 18 April 1880 in London, England, the son of George and Caroline Ladd. He enlisted in the Royal Australian Navy on 25 July 1912, serving for 2 years as an Able seaman aboard the HMAS 'Tingira'. His Record of Service describes him as 5 feet 9 inches (that is 1.75 metres) in height, with light brown hair, hazel eyes and a fresh complexion. He had a horseshoe on his right wrist and a butterfly on his left wrist. He listed his sister Katherine Grove of Redfern, New South Wales as his next-of-kin. During the war, he re-enlisted and served aboard HMAS 'Penguin' with a subsequent service number 1879. He was invalided home on 30 September 1916. In 1917, he married Helen May MacDonald in St Peters and later moved to a house on the corner of York and Walker Street, Merrylands. Their daughter Helen May Ladd was born on 30 April 1918. Sadly, tragedy struck on 2-3 July 1918 when both Henry's baby died from exposure and his wife died the next day on 4 July 1918 at Granville Cottage Hospital from cerebral haemorrhage. On 20 January 1924, he passed away in the district of Randwick.

Ralph Lane - Service Number: 1743


Ralph Lane was born on the 21 August 1897 in East Ham, Essex, England, the son of Mr. R. and Mrs. Lane of Canley Road, Fairfield, New South Wales.

He joined the Royal Australian Navy on the 1 June 1912 as a Boy, Second Class and rose to become the leading telegraphist of HMAS 'Australia' from the 10 June 1914. He returned to Australia in June 1919 and later served during World War Two.

## Maurice George Lewis - Service Number: 2485



Maurice Lewis was a son of Benjamin H. and Dora E. Lewis of 'Valetta', Church Street, Parramatta, New South Wales. He was born on the 14 November 1985 in Tamworth, New South Wales. He stood 5 foot 4 and a half inches tall with a dark complexion and brown hair and eyes. On the 6 January 1913 he was engaged with the Australian Navy for 7 years which saw him in action with the First World War. According to the 'Cumberland Argus' of the 21 August 1915, he was the Medical Officer in Charge, Sick Berth Steward, 2 Class on board the HMAS 'Fantome', and later in 1918 was on the destroyer HMAS 'Swan'. He often wrote home detailing the experiences the Navy boys had to endure with some of his letters published in the 'Cumberland Argus'. After 5 years at sea, on Wednesday the 21 May 1919, he returned home aboard the HMAS Parramatta. Before arriving, his fleet was caught up in the great storm off the coast of Spain, where the HMAS 'Parramatta' was nearly lost. His account of this experience was also published in The Cumberland Argus on the 7 May 1919.

John Basil McCaw - Service Number: Unknown


John Basil McCaw was Second Officer of the ill-fated SS 'Matunga', a victim of German raider 'Wolf'. Following the attack on his ship he was captured and became a prisoner of war in Germany spending from February to December 1918 in the camp. Accounts of the story were widely reported in local newspapers.

Born in Glasgow, Scotland, he had previously served in the Boer War. In 1915, he married a Granville girl, Mary Davidson, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Davidson of Blaxcell Street, Granville, New South Wales. During World War 2, Captain McCaw enlisted with the Australian Navy. He passed away in South Australia on the 11 June 1965

# William Edward McKenny - Service Number: 44284 



William Edward McKenny of 'Mark Lodge', Fairfield, New South Wales, was born on the 20 April 1890 in Brook on the Isle of Wight, England. After moving to New South Wales he married Leta Warwick, youngest daughter of George Warwick of Sydney on the 11 December 1918. McKenny served as a Petty Officer with the Royal Australian Navy and returned home after serving four years overseas aboard HMAS 'Australia' and then HMAS 'Tingira'.

## Colin Moir - Service Number: 3608



Colin Campbell Moir was born on the 15 January 1899 in Enfield, New South Wales and was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Moir of East Street, Fairfield, New South Wales. He enlisted with the Royal Australian Navy on the 12 January 1914 and served for 7 years from the 15 January 1917 until the 15 January 1922. On the 4 September 1918, he passed his leading telegraphist exam and from the 18 October 1918 to the 30 September 1919 was the leading telegraphist aboard HMAS 'Torrens'.

During World War Two, he once again joined the Royal Australian Navy and served as the leading telegraphist of HMAS 'Cerberus' from the 18 December 1939 to the 8 November 1940 and was finally discharged from service on the 9 June 1945 due to defective vision. Colin Campbell Moir of East Parade, Fairfield, New South Wales passed away suddenly on the 10 May 1955 as a result of an accident.

## Henry Maurice Monin - Service Number: 5743

Stoker Henry Maurice 'Harry' Monin of HMAS 'Sydney' was born on 24 August 1897, Noumea, New Caledonia, the only son of French immigrant Morins (or Marius) Victor Monin, a storeman at Messrs. Goodlet and Smith's in Merrylands and stepson of Josephine Monin. The Monin family lived at William Street, near Pitt Row (now Pitt Street) Granville, New South Wales. His stepbrother Charles Rene Maheu died at the Granville Electorate Cottage Hospital in Auburn aged 21 on 13 November 1915 and was buried at the Western Road Cemetery (now Mays Hill Cemetery).

He returned home twice in 5 years during the First World War, the second time after learning the sudden death of his father Marius on 5 April 1918, aged 45. Post war, he married Vera May Asquith in Sydney. Their sons Jack Victor Monin was born on 6 February 1922 and a second son Maurice Henry 'Bub' Monin was born on 12 December 1924 in Granville, New South Wales.

During the Second World War, Harry was Chief Stoker aboard HMAS 'Hobart' from 29 September 1938 to 22 January 1941, as well as HMAS 'Penguin', 'Kuttabul', 'Platypus', 'Basilisk', and possibly 'Shropshire' until 5 September 1945. His son 'Bub' also served the Royal Australian Navy as an Able seaman (service number S6598) from 1 June 1942 aboard the HMAS 'Cerberus' and later 'Shropshire' and 'Rushcutter' until he was discharged on 21 January 1946. Both were residents of 46 Birmingham Street, Merrylands at the time but later moved to Port Stephens.

Harry passed away on 2 October 1972 in Raymond Terrace, New South Wales.

## Cyril Lucien Pages - Service Number: 4979



Cyril Lucien Henry Pages was born on the 17 January 1897 in Lidcombe, New South Wales. His parents lived in Railway Street, Lidcombe. He served in the Navy from 1915 and some of his wartime experiences were published in The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers' Advocate in April 1919.

The article also recorded that he was at that time on his way home to Australia aboard HMAS 'Brisbane'. He was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal and he died in March 1941. News of his death was published in local papers reporting that he was accidentally hit by a vehicle in Albert Park, Victoria aged 38 years. At that time, he lived in Mary Street, Lidcombe and was a leading cook with the Royal Australian Navy.

Norman William Pickup - Service Number: 4616


Norman William Pickup was born in Auburn, New South Wales on the 8 September 1892. He joined the Australian Navy in February 1915 to serve for a period of five years. Prior to enlisting he was employed as a fitter at Eveleigh Railway Workshops, Redfern, New South Wales. He had two brothers, Robert and Donald who also served during the war. Pickup served his commission and returned to Australia in 1920.

# Horace Platt - Service Number: Unknown 



Engineer Lieutenant Horace Platt of the battleship HMS 'Renown' was the son of Thomas W. and Christina Platt of Granville, New South Wales, and the brother of local businessman Cecil Platt, of Messrs. Herrington and Platt, Church Street, Parramatta, New South Wales. He had been travelling around the world working as a marine engineer on American boats prior to enlisting in the Royal Australian Navy. He wrote many letters to home providing first-hand accounts of "a great deal of really interesting information in relation to matters in the Old Country at war-time". Some of these letters were subsequently published in The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers' Advocate newspaper. In mid-1915, while working at Glasgow, England, "helping to keep the Australian navy fit and well", he described England as being a place "you would hardly know the country was at war; except that they have girls collecting train fares and acting as railway conductors and booking clerks." He also wrote about the harsh conditions out at sea and the day the German fleet surrendered on the 21 November 1918.

## Arthur Joseph Purcell - Service Number: 7875

Arthur Joseph Purcell was born on 7 April 1893 in Woollahra, New South Wales, the son of Montague and Emily Purcell of 'Nottingham', Parramatta Road, Ryde, New South Wales. He was also brother of fallen Anzac Private Montague Horatio Charles Purcell of the 1 Australian Infantry Battalion who was killed in action on 7 April 1917. Arthur was described as being 5 feet, 5 inches tall with a fair complexion, fair hair, blue eyes and a scar on his right arm. He was engaged in the Royal Australian Navy serving aboard the HMS 'Pyramus' on 1 May 1911. He was stoker aboard the HMAS 'Sydney' (from 27 June 1913 to 20 September 1917), HMAS 'Cerberus' (26 September 1917 to 8 January 1918), and HMAS 'Franklin' (9 January 1918 to 9 July 1919). He was promoted to Leading Stocker from 19 July 1918. At the time of his wedding which was reported in The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers' Advocate (2 August 1919, page 8), he was stated as a naval officer of HMAS 'Australia'. On Saturday 26 July 1919, he married Mabel Carsley, late of Bristrol, England who arrived in Australia per SS 'Osterley' at St. Anne's Church in Ryde. From 28 August 1921 he was engaged as Leading Stoker for another 5 years, serving predominately aboard HMAS 'Penguin' until 8 August 1925.

## William Ridge - Service Number: 2195



William Ridge enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force on the 8 May 1915 at Liverpool, New South Wales as a Private. At the time he was 30 -year-old bachelor working as an engine driver at Clyde Engineering Works, Granville, New South Wales and had also served 10 years in the Royal Navy. His parents, John and Mary Ann Ridge were living at 11 Cross Street, Stoke-on-Trent, England.

He left as part of the 6 Reinforcements of the 2 Infantry Battalion aboard the HMAT 'Karoola' on the 16 June 1915. Upon joining the 2 Battalion at Gallipoli on the 6 August 1915, he was initially reported as missing on the 7 or 14 August but it was confirmed that he had been killed in action on the field between the 6 to 9 August 1915. He is believed to be buried at Lone Pine Cemetery in Turkey and his name is listed on the Special Memorials Wall C, number 127.

## Harry Robertson - Service Number: 4699



Harry Robertson was born on 16 January 1897 in Redfern, New South Wales. He served with the Royal Australian Navy for 5 years from 1915 to 1920. He also served in the navy during World War 2. According to his navy personnel records, he left Australia on 2 March 1915 and served as a stoker on the HMAS 'Yarra' before being transferred to HMAS 'Warrego' in 1919.

## Frank Roy Sheerman - Service Number: 901



Frank Roy Sheerman was born in 1885 in Lidcombe, New South Wales, the son of Arthur and Catherine Sheerman. He had previously served in the Australian Navy, and prior to his enlistment on the 18 August 1914 at the age of 29 years, he worked as a postal sorter and lived with his parents at 'Leighton', Victoria Street, Lidcombe. Sheerman embarked with his unit, the 2 Battalion, H Company from Sydney on board HMAT 'Suffolk' on the 18 October 1914. During his period of service, he was promoted to Lance Corporal on the June 1915 and ultimately died of wounds on the 17 August 1915 at the age of 30 years. He was buried at Chatby War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt.

## Herbert William Silversides - Service Number: 4191

Able seaman Herbert William Silversides was born on 16 January 1899 in Gateshead, England, the son of Annie Silversides, of Farnell Street, Granville, New South Wales. He joined the Royal Australian Navy at the age of 16 years old on 4 November 1914. He returned to Auburn while on leave from the ship HMAS 'Australia'. According to his Record of Service (Petty Officers and Men), he was 5 feet 8 inches, with light brown hair, blue eyes and a fair complexion. On his right arm, he had a scar; a tattoo of a hand holding a snake on his right forearm, a tattoo of a snake wrapped around a naked woman on his left upper arm and another tattoo of a schoolgirl on his left forearm. It appears he served until 13 October 1923.

## Stanley Clifton Smith - Service Number:



Stanley Clifton Smith was born on 30 June 1878 in Parramatta, New South Wales. After completing his Bachelor of Arts, he was appointed Master and Senior Naval Instructor at the Royal Australian Naval College (RANC) on 1 January 1913 at a salary of $£ 500$ per annum. The RANC at the time was temporarily located at Geelong, Victoria until February 1915, while construction of the main college building at Captain's Point, Jervis Bay was underway. Clifton Smith retired from the RANC on 30 September 1914. Smith went on to complete his Master degree in Arts (Examination, Education honours) in 1922

On 30 September 1916, he married Annie Mabel Sandes (1881-1966) at the Holy Trinity Church in Launceston, Tasmania. Together they had a son and 2 daughters.

According to The Sydney Morning Herald (30 June 1953, page 4), Smith was School Master at six leading schools in Australia and New Zealand. In 1926, he was appointed boarding house master at Sydney Grammar School in Randwick, New South Wales, where he also served as Senior Language Master until his retirement in 1942. He passed away at night on Sunday 28 June 1953 at his home in Blakehurst.

Portrait sourced from Australian War Memorial, 305342

# Harry George Snook - Service Number: 1350 



Harry George Snook was born on 9 October 1880 in Portsea Island, Kingston, England. He enlisted in the Royal Navy on his 18 birthday for 12 years (service number: 341060). A member of the accountancy staff of the Royal Navy, he was lent to the Commonwealth Government to assist in the organisation of the Royal Australian Navy for an initial 3 years from 16 September 1911 but his stewardship was extended until 31 December 1918 According to his Record of Service, he was 5 feet, 7 inches tall with dark hair, brown eyes and a fresh complexion. He was married to Maud Ethel Snook (nee Harwood) of Fairfield Road, Fairfield, New South Wales (and they were former residents of Edgecliff, Sydney). On 1 January 1919 he was promoted to Vice CPI until 18 January 1921. During the Second World War, he also served

## Harold Taller - Service Number: unknown



Harold Taller was the son of Mr and Mrs Taller, of Mark Lodge, Fairfield, New South Wales. He was an Able seaman aboard the HMAS Tingira.

## William Murray Towns - Service Number: W76837



William Towns was the brother of fallen soldier David Towns. He was born on the 4 November 1896 in Mildura, Victoria, the son of John Aymer and Mary Ann Towns, nee Mitchell. He was in Scotland having completed his 5 year apprenticeship in banking when he joined the Royal Navy most likely serving in the British Navy aboard HMS Defiance. According to the newspaper article 'Fighting Brothers' published in The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers' Advocate on the 17 November 1917, the brothers had met in England for the first time in seven years prior to David Towns being killed in action in Belgium.

# Ronald Allen Watt - Service Number: 1660 



Ronald Allen Watt was born on 13 July 1893 in Harris Park, New South Wales, the son of George and Ada Rosalie Watt of 'Rosalie', Cowper Road, Harris Park. Prior to the outbreak of the First World War, he signed up and served with the Australian Navy (official number 3751) from 25 April 1914 to 31 May 1914 aboard the ship 'Penguin' as the Second Cook's mate. He later transferred to the role of clerical staff where he completed his 5 year service. He was 21 years old and working as a schoolteacher, when he enlist in the Australian Imperial Force in Liverpool on 7 January 1915. He left Sydney as on board the HMAT A49 'Seang Choon' on 11 February 1915 as part of the 3 Australian Infantry Battalion, 3 Reinforcement unit. Taken on strength, he later joined the 3 Battalion and On 5 April 1915, he embarked on the 'Derflinner' to join the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force in Turkey. Sadly, Watt was killed in action at Gallipoli on 19 May 1915 and was buried in grave number 8 at the 4 Battalion Parade Ground Cemetery at Bridges Road, Turkey.

Author's note: Ronald's middle name Allan has also been spelt as Allen, Alan

## Edward Wilmot Littleton Webber - Service Number: J/6671



Edward Wilmot Littleton Webber was one of the many sons of Ambrose Webber of Auburn, New South Wales who emigrated to Australia in 1912. Edward Webber was born in England in 1893, and joined the British Navy at 17 years old, serving for five years.

In a letter home to his father, he spoke of the strain of having to be constantly alert, despite having "had little excitement" of engagement in battle. He also mentioned that he had not been able to change his clothes for 2 weeks, and slept alongside his gun at night. He was by all accounts a brave and dedicated seaman who had extraordinary "gunnery efficiency".

In June 1915, Webber served on the British Torpedo Boat 10, which came to the rescue of Torpedo Boat 12 after it had hit a mine laid by the German U-boat UC11 in the North Sea. Webber and his fellow TB10 crew successfully rescued the men from TB12 and took the boat in tow, however the rescue boat hit another mine and was sunk. Forty-one survivors were rescued, but forty-five from both crews lost their lives that night including Edward Webber.

A Memorial Service was held in August 1915 at the Auburn Baptist Church which made special reference to Gunner Edward Webber. His family also received a letter of condolence from King George and Queen Mary. He is publicly remembered at the Chatham Naval Memorial in Kent, England as the son of Ambrose and Eda (Edith) Webber.

# Vivian Arthur Woodall - Service Number: 2093 



Vivian Arthur Woodall was born on 1 May 1985 in Rydal, New South Wales and later settled in Wentworthville. He joined the Royal Australian Navy as a Seaman on 29 August 1912, and served for 7 years, earning a good conduct badge during his service, in addition to extra pay for War Service. He was married to Helen A. Woodall, who he had three children with: Vivian, Daphne, and Jack. He passed away on 26 May 1949 at the age of 84.

## James Washington Wylie - Service Number: 6143



James Washington Wylie was a well-known and popular businessman in Auburn, New South Wales. Originally from England, he joined the Royal British Marines at the age of 16 years, working his way up to the rank of Sergeant-Major before he was severely wounded in the Boxer Rebellion in 1900. After migrating to Australia, he set up his own family owned business retailing household requisites known as J. W. Wylie at 24 Auburn Road, Auburn, New South Wales. During the First World War, he enlisted and served with the Royal Australian Navy as a gunlayer. He had returned to Australia by the 10 November 1918. In later years, he was the Parramatta District Manager for Green Coupon Company and his son James Washington Wylie served in the Royal Australian Air Force as a Flight Lieutenant.

## -4-

# The End of World War One 

Anne Tsang \& Neera Sahni

Parramatta was involved with the signing of the Peace Treaty at Versailles at the end of the war. Local member Sir Joseph Cook was one of the signatories to the Peace Treaty in Versailles and, at the time of signing, he was the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for the Navy and Federal Member for the Parramatta Electorate.

The signing of the Peace Treaty on 28 June 1919 officially signalled the end of World War 1. Although fighting was suspended on 11th November 1918 when the Germans requested fighting be suspended (armistice), it took seven months for all the negotiations to be completed. The treaty was signed in Paris, along with four other treaties as part of peace negotiations relating to establishing conditions of peace with Germany. Along with Sir Joseph Cook, Australia's other representatives included the Prime Minister Billy Hughes and Lieutenant Commander J.G. Latham, of the Royal Australian Naval Reserve.

Cook's speech titled, When Shall their Glory Fade is outlined below.
Your proposal seems a happy idea. These brave sons and citizens of the district have already written their names high on the scroll of the world's fame. Their name has gone out into all the earth. To pay them an affectionate tribute in the manner suggested is a duty we all owe them. It is no less a duty to ourselves - lest we forget.

We are too near these epic and tragic days rightly to appreciate them. Later on when the blood and mist and tears have all been wiped away and the true perspective appears, then the story of what they have done, how well they did it, and what we owe them for doing it, will appear in its proper and more vivid setting.

And what a moving story it will make in the days that are yet to be. The citizens of tomorrow, looking back over the radiant days of the district, will ponder the record with glowing pride. Their heads will be held high as they read of an Army of 400,000 Australians, 12,000 miles from the theatre of conflict, leaping voluntarily to arms and sailing the seas of the world in defence of King and country. And they will recall with gratitude how these boys fought and suffered and died in the days of old.

Surely it is a happy thought then to make it possible for them as they recount the doughty deeds of the Parramatta boys to see the kind of lighthearted, brave, heroic soldiers who stood comrades and allies in the breach and covered themselves with immortal fame.

When shall their glory fade?


HRH Henry Duke of Gloucester, Sir Joseph Cook, William Morris Hughes, HRH Edward Prince of Wales, HRH George Duke of Kent, Andrew Fisher and Sir George Pearce outside Australia House, London, on Armistice Day, 1918,
(Image source: National Archives of Australia)

## World War One: Peace

Neera Sahni

World War One was declared over on the 4 August 1914, the Armistice was signed on the 11 November 1918 and peace was declared on the 28 June 1919.


Treaty of Peace
(Image source: Parramatta Soldiers in the Great War, 1914-1919)

The Treaty of Versailles was the most important of the peace treaties that brought World War One to an end. The Treaty ended the state of war between Germany and the Allied Nations (including Britain, France, Italy, Russia and USA). It was signed on the 28 June 1919 in Versailles, a city 10 miles outside Paris in France.


VAD's in the "Peace Day" celebrations in Sydney.
The Second Section is the Parramatta Detachment
(Image source: Parramatta Soldiers in the Great War, 1914-1919)

## World War One: Images



Launch of HMAS Parramatta (I) on 9 February 1910 in Glasgow, Scotland. (Image Source: Australian War Memorial, Naval Historical Collection, 301141)


Australia's first Royal Australian Nauy submarines HMAS AE1 and HMAS AE2, circa 1915. (Image Source: Australian War Memorial, A02551 and H11559)


