



Major H. M. M. Maddock VD

[1870 – 1944]



Major Maddock was elected to Life Membership of the Club – between 1910 and 1928

Major Maddock was Honorary Secretary of the Club 1909-10

Herbert Mark Meadows Maddock was born on 29 January 1870 in Warwick, Queensland. His father was Rigby James Maddock [1840-1909], born Lancashire, England, a clerk, who died in Warwick. His mother was Laura Cassandra (née Barnes) [1844-1933], born in Suffolk, England and who died in Brisbane. They had married in Warwick in 1870 and, following Herbert, had seven other children, all born in Warwick. They were:

William Ernest [1872-1936]
George Hamilton Sydney [1874-1960]¹

¹ George Maddock served 12 years with the Queensland Mounted Infantry and as a Sergeant in the Boer War. In 1916-17 he served in the middle East in the 1st Camel and 11th Light Horse Regiments.

We thank the History Interest Group and other volunteers who have researched and prepared these Notes. The series will be progressively expanded and developed. They are intended as casual reading for the benefit of Members, who are encouraged to advise of any inaccuracies in the material.

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Bessie Alex	[1878-1878]
Arthur Frank Vivian	[1879-1953]
Amy Mary	[1882-1952]
Rigby Henry	[1885-1885]
Charles Edward Rokeby	[1887-1957]

He was schooled at Warwick State School and Glendon Private School, Warwick.

Herbert Maddock married Muriel Ada (née Hopkins) [1877 -1945] in 1899 in Brisbane. They had two daughters – both of whom were born and died in Brisbane.

- Muriel Joyce [1900-1984] Married Leslie Henry Parker Ibbotson [1892-1974] and they were in England in the early 1930s. He was a company representative, and they lived in Toowoomba and later in Ashgrove.
- Doris Audrey [1903-1979] Married Alan Ralston Vivian Steuart [1899-1981] in Brisbane in 1937. They lived at Goomeri. He served in the 20th Battalion Volunteer Defence Corps 1942-45.

The Maddock family lived in Auchenflower and Toowong.

By 1890 Herbert was a clerk in the Government Savings Bank and in 1891 was appointed Junior Clerk in the Port Office. He remained in the state public service until his retirement – principally in the Harbours and Rivers Department.

His military career started in 1884 as a bugler in C Company of the Darling Downs Regiment until 1889. He then served in the ranks of A Company of the Queensland Volunteer Rifles.

In 1894 he is recorded as a being commissioned in the Moreton Regiment, and in 1897 was promoted from Acting Lieutenant to Lieutenant. In 1900 he was placed in temporary command of C Company, and by 1903 was a Captain in the 9th Moreton Regiment. He then was placed on the unattached list and in 1911 was again posted to 9th Battalion.

1912 was a busy year for him. He was awarded the Volunteer Officers' Decoration; attended a machine gun course at the School of Musketry, Randwick; was transferred from the 9th to the 7th Australian Infantry Battalion; and then transferred to the Unattached List.

In May 1915, Captain Maddock joined the First AIF as part of 6th Reinforcements for 9th Infantry Battalion. He was on active service in Egypt from July to September 1915 and returned to Australia and was invalided out in November 1915. In 1921 Captain Maddock was placed on Retired List with the honorary rank of Major.

In 1916, on his return, he participated in first congress of the Returned Sailors and Soldiers Imperial League of Australia (now the RSL) in Brisbane. This began his long involvement in ex-service organisations and welfare. In 1917 he attended an interstate congress in Sydney as a Queensland delegate, and in the early 1920s he was the President of the Brisbane RSL. He was still participating in major Anzac ceremonies and a member of the ANZAC Day Celebration Committee in the late 1930s. He was also an enthusiastic participant in regimental activities and meetings and was an office bearer of the 9th Battalion Association in the 1920s and 1930s.

Herbert Maddock joined the Club in 1901. In addition to performing the duties of Honorary Secretary in 1909-10 he was an active historian of the Club. He was the author of *The United Service Club, A Short History* in 1935. This history of only 4,000 words, despite reliance on sometimes faulty memories and its limited scope, has helped to conserve an important part of the Club's history and was a useful reference for the Club's Centenary book authors.

Two episodes quoted in the Club's Centenary History illustrate the involvement of Maddock in its affairs (and the tribulations of operating a Club in wartime):

“By the end of the Club year, 30 September 1944, the scotch whisky reserve had dwindled to 120 gallons, from a peak of about 380 gallons early in the war, and the decline was beginning to worry members who appreciated the finer things of life. This prompted a committee discussion in which it was alleged that the recent heavy consumption was not entirely attributed to the members and their invited guests, so a sub-committee of three was appointed to select a suitable person to act as watch-dog to prevent unauthorised entry to the bar. During October the situation deteriorated still further with a consumption of 36 gallons and, clearly, the committee was concerned and therefore decided as follows:

- 1. That an identification card be issued to all members and honorary members.*
- 2. That Major Maddock be invited to accept the position of membership officer on a weekly basis.*
- 3. That he be present at the Club from 11.30 am to 7 pm six days each week.*
- 4. That he be paid a retainer of £3 per week with a free lunch and dinner.*

The matter was reviewed at the next meeting and it was decided to extend Maddock's appointment for another month, subject to him ‘carrying out his duties properly’.”

“It seems that organising the production of a history was too much for a committee beset with all the difficulties of running the Club in the middle of a war that was coming ever nearer to Brisbane and which was reducing the availability of essential supplies whilst, at the same time, creating a greater demand for them. They compromised by offering Major Maddock ten guineas to catalogue the Club's pictures and write a short history of each. He did prepare a list of 102 items, mainly photographs and drawings with meagre descriptive notes, which still exists in hand-written manuscript form. The project was effectively finalised in November when the committee agreed, on the motion of Lieutenant Colonel LA Little, to pay Maddock the promised ten guineas and take no further action.”

Shortly after this, Major Herbert Maddock died in Brisbane on 3 October 1944.

Sources included:

- Various web pages
- *United Service Club, Queensland: The First Century, 1892-1992* by Flight Lieutenant Murray Adams and Lieutenant Colonel Peter Charlton
- Club Meeting Minutes, Annual Reports, and sundry documents
- State Library of Queensland
- Trove
- NAA, DVA and AWM archives