



# united service club history & heritage notes

## Background Notes

### History and Heritage Series

#### Roll of Honour

#### Second World War

Sources include research by Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Maitland OAM, RFD, Brigadier Rod Hamilton CSM RFD, and Mr Chris Furlong.



These Background Notes have been prepared as 'bite-sized' light reading for our Members. The intention is to raise interest and to broaden awareness and understanding of selected aspects of the Club's rich history and heritage, and the remarkable people who have contributed to its development over the years. They are based primarily on a number of websites, with specific additional information in places. We acknowledge that there are probably errors and omissions. **Please contact the Club if you have additional information or comments that will assist to improve these notes.**

We thank the History Interest Group and other volunteers who have researched and prepared these Notes. The series will be progressively expanded and developed over time. They are intended as casual reading, for private use by Members only, and as they lack the rigor, attributions and acknowledgements required to be suitable for academic or public use, Members are requested not to reproduce or distribute them outside of our membership.

## Foreword

During his time as President (2010-2011), Colonel Dennis Scanlan was required on a number of occasions to present the History of the Club to both internal and external audiences.

A part of our Club History that disturbed him was that no separate Honour Roll had been created for Club members who had lost their lives on active service during World War II. A statement had been simply been added to the World War I Honour Board: *and to Members who gave their lives in World War II – 1939-45*.

A review of the Club History<sup>1</sup> revealed the position:

*More than six years since the end of World War II had now elapsed and the committee was anxious to mark, in a permanent fashion, the members who had lost their lives in that conflict. A suitable war memorial was thought necessary but its design and acquisition were matters to be taken seriously and not rushed with any precipitate action. On 8 February, 1952, the executive sub-committee (as the name implies, a smaller version of the full committee but empowered to make executive decisions) met to consider a proposal prepared by Major T G MacMinn, the Club architect, who had been instructed to come up with a suitable memorial. One of the first problems to be addressed was the relation of the World War II memorial to the existing memorial for members who had died during the 1914-18 war.*

*Major MacMinn told the sub-committee that his proposal was to create a composite memorial that would embrace the two wars. The proposal, very much a compromise between members with World War I service and those younger members who had served between 1939 and 1945, was accepted. The memorial was to include the words 'and to Members who gave their lives in World War II – 1939-45'. The sub-committee also decided, with aesthetic prudence, to have the old memorial re-gilded 'to bring it into line with the new'. At this distance, such a decision might seem the obvious thing to do but this was a matter of great sensitivity. Many members who had endured the horrors of 1915-18, particularly those who had served in France and Flanders and who had seen their units suffer grievously with casualties, felt that the 1939-45 conflict was somehow less of a war. Certainly the casualty figures for the two conflicts show that Australia lost more men in World War I than World War II, despite a much larger numerical contribution to the later war.*

*Perhaps MacMinn and the committee also took an easy way out. As we have already noted, no accurate list of members who had lost their lives during the war had been kept; much work would have been involved in compiling such a list. It is not to the credit of the committee then that an Honour Roll, equivalent to the 1914-18, was not produced.*

Col Scanlan saw that it was time to revisit this matter. Giving your life for your country must be afforded the same recognition despite in what circumstances the loss occurred. Through the members of the Club's History Interest Group formed by Scanlan in late 2012 the difficult research task was commenced.

## LEST WE FORGET

This World War II Honour Roll was compiled in April 2014 by the following Club members: Brigadier R.A. Hamilton CSM, RFD; Lieutenant Colonel S.J. Maitland OAM, RFD; and Mr C.W. Furlong.

The research was conducted in good faith from Club records and from information in the public domain, and is intended for the private consumption of Club members. It may contain errors and omissions, for which we apologise and assure that no offence is intended. The Club would welcome constructive suggestions or corrections.

Eligibility for inclusion in the Roll of Honour was based on that for individual commemoration at the Australian War Memorial.

The principal additional sources of information included:

- Australian War Memorial
- Commonwealth War Graves Commission
- Individual Service Records
- National Archive of Australia
- Official History of Australia in the War of 1939-1945
- Unit and other Histories

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<sup>1</sup> *United Service Club Queensland, The First Century 1892-1992* by Flight Lieutenant Murray Adams and Lieutenant Colonel Peter Charlton, p 112,

# UNITED SERVICE CLUB

## ROLL OF HONOUR

1939 - 1945

Flight Lieutenant	Norman Charles Philip BLIGHT
Commissioned Gunner	Arthur John BROWN DSC, RAN
Lieutenant	Ormonde Clifford BURGESS RANVR
Squadron Leader	William Geoffrey CAMPBELL
Major	Eric Maxwell CATHERWOOD
Captain	Henry William Albert COBB
Flight Lieutenant	John William Fitzclarence COLLINS
Captain	Robert Alexander COWLEY
Flying Officer	Gordon Edward DIX
Captain	David Arthur Maxwell DUFF
Captain	Morris Glen EVENSEN
Captain	Gwynne Caleb HARRIS
Major	Llondha Llenoi HOLLAND
Major	Leslie HUGHES
Lieutenant	Alun Morris JONES
Major	Frederick Ewen Cameron LOXTON
Captain	Anthony Bowden LUETCHFORD
Lieutenant Colonel	Clement Poulson MANSON
Squadron Leader	James William McGILVRAY
Paymaster Lieutenant	James McWHIRTER RANVR
Warrant Officer	Hayden Selby RAWSON RAAF
Major	James Lee SELWOOD
Flying Officer	Lincoln James SLOAN
Lieutenant Commander	Arnold Beverley SMITH RANVR
General	Sir Cyril Brudenell Bingham WHITE KCB, KCMG, KCVO, DSO
Lieutenant	Robert Victor WINDERS
Lieutenant General	Henry Douglas WYNTER CB, CMG, DSO



**LEST WE FORGET**



Name: Norman Charles Philip **BLIGHT**

Rank: Flight Lieutenant

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: 366

Unit: 2 Wireless Air Gunners School

Service: Royal Australian Air Force

Born: 7 December 1907; Clermont, Qld.

Enlisted: 16 October 1939; Whyalla S.A.

Date of Death: 15 June 1942 (aged 34 years)

Place of Death: Parkes, NSW

Cause of Death: Aircraft Accident

Buried / Commemorated: Mt. Thompson Crematorium, Brisbane [Wall 3. Sec.3. Niche 195]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 115]

Next of Kin: Son of Fredrick Thomas and Elizabeth Charlotte Blight  
Foster son of Mrs Margaret Sylvia Bryant of Clayfield, Qld

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived at Whyalla, S.A. and was employed as a flying instructor at the Spencer's Gulf Aero Club. From 1936 he had been a flying Instructor at the Queensland Aero Club at Townsville.

#### **Military Service:**

1924 – 27	42 Battalion (The Capricornia Regiment)
October 1939	Pilot Officer; No. 1 Flying Instructors Course
December 1939	Flying Officer
September 1940	Instructor, 8 Elementary Flying Training School, Narrandera, N.S.W.
January 1941	Flight Lieutenant
February 1941	Instructor, 6 Elementary Flying Training School, Tamworth, N.S.W.
July 1941	Instructor, 2 Wireless Air Gunners School, Parkes, N.S.W.

September 1941	Instructor, 5 Elementary Flying Training School, Narromine, N.S.W.
November 1941	Instructor, 2 Wireless Air Gunners School, Parkes, N.S.W.

#### **Circumstances of Death:**

Flight Lieutenant Blight was posted to RAAF 2 Wireless Air Gunners School at Parkes, NSW. After taking off on a training flight, the aircraft crashed from 200 feet. Blight (the second pilot) and Sgt William Arthur were killed and nine of the crew injured.



Flight Lieutenant Norman Charles Philip BLIGHT



Name: Arthur John **BROWN**

Rank: Commissioned Gunner

Honours, Awards & Decorations: Distinguished Service Cross

Service Number: 19155

Unit: HMAS *Parramatta*

Service: Royal Australian Navy

Born: 13 October 1911; Brunswick, Victoria

Enlisted: 7 December 1928; Melbourne, Vic

Date of Death: 27 November 1941 (aged 30 years)

Place of Death: off Tobruk, Mediterranean Sea

Cause of Death: Killed in Action - Missing presumed lost

Buried / Commemorated: Plymouth Naval Memorial, United Kingdom [panel 56, col 2]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 4]

Next of Kin: Son of Arthur and Elizabeth Elsie Brown;  
Husband of Ada Sylvia Brown of Armadale, Victoria

#### **In Civilian Life:**

On enlistment, lived in Melbourne, Vic.

#### **Military Service:**

1928	Enlisted aged 17	(5'4", brown hair, blue eyes, fresh complexion)
1932	Seaman Gunner	
1934	Leading Seaman Gunner	
1936	Petty Officer	

1937	Gunners Mate
1932, 1937	Good Conduct Badges awarded
	Served on HMAS <i>Sydney</i> , HMAS <i>Brisbane</i> ; gunnery courses in UK
April 1940	Commissioned as Gunner
April 1940	London Depot (HMS <i>Excellent</i> )
May 1940	SS <i>Strathmore</i> to Australia
June 1940	HMAS <i>Cerberus</i>
June 1940 –	
November 1941	HMAS <i>Parramatta</i>
8 January 1942	DSC awarded posthumously for “good service, Battle of Crete”, May 1941

#### **Circumstances of Death:**

On 27 November 1941, HMAS *Parramatta* was escorting transports resupplying the Allied garrison at Tobruk when she was hit by a single torpedo from the German submarine *U-559*. The damage was so significant that the sloop's captain only had time to order 'abandon ship' before *Parramatta* rolled to starboard and sank. Only 24 aboard survived, with 138 killed, including Gunner Brown. The sloop's wartime service was later recognised by the battle honour “Libya 1941”.



Name: Ormonde Clifford **BURGESS**

Rank: Lieutenant

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: 41922

Unit: HMAS *Moreton*

Service: Royal Australian Navy Volunteer Reserve

Born: 14 April 1900; Wagga Wagga, NSW

Enlisted: 24 April 1942; Sydney

Date of Death: 8 June 1943 (aged 43 years)

Place of Death: Brisbane, Australia

Cause of Death: Motor vehicle accident

Buried / Commemorated: Lutwyche Cemetery, Brisbane [sec 76, grave 53]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 4]  
Roll of Honour – Mosman, NSW

Next of Kin: Son of Dr Thomas Walkin and Arabella Burgess  
Husband of Nancy Stewart Burgess of Mosman, NSW

#### **In Civilian Life:**

On enlistment, lived at Mosman, NSW with his wife and was employed as a “distributor”.  
Noted on enlistment “12 years yachting experience, 2 ½ years Volunteer Coastal Patrol”

#### **Military Service:**

May 1942 Appointed Sub-Lieutenant, HMAS *Rushcutter* (5’10”, brown hair, blue eyes, medium complexion)



October 1942	Lieutenant, HMAS <i>Moreton</i> , Brisbane – additional duties at No.1 Mining Station
1943	Sea service on HMAS <i>Uralba</i> (minefield tender)

**Circumstances of Death:**

"Sustained fatal injuries as a result of a collision on 8 June 1943 between Army motor van and bicycle ridden by the deceased."



Name: William Geoffrey **CAMPBELL**

Rank: Squadron Leader

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: 261730

Unit: 2 Embarkation Depot

Service: RAAF Reserve (Civil aircrew)

Born: 9 September 1911;

Enlisted: 19 August 1940

Date of Death: 26 November 1943 (aged 32 years)

Place of Death: Port Moresby, New Guinea

Cause of Death: Aircraft accident

Buried / Commemorated: Port Moresby (Bomana) War Cemetery [grave B2.D.15]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 134]  
Roll of Honour – Marrickville, NSW

Next of Kin: Son of Robert Henry and Daisy Eleanor Campbell  
Husband of Jean Isobel Campbell of Marrickville, NSW

#### **In Civilian Life:**

On enlistment, lived at Marrickville, NSW with his parents.  
Civil occupation – flying instructor “1500 hours flying experience” at the Royal Aero Club, Mascot.

#### **Military Service:**

August 1940                      12 months in Militia  
Pilot Officer; Active Citizens Air Force

September 1940	Flying Officer
January 1942	Flight Lieutenant – Advanced Training Squadron, Point Cook
August 1943	Squadron Leader
September 1943	Transferred from Active List to RAAF Reserve to take up employment with Qantas.

#### **Circumstances of Death:**

Lockheed C-56B Lodestar 42-68348 struck a hill after take-off from Port Moresby. The aircraft was operated by Qantas for the Allied Directorate of Air Transport and piloted by Squadron Leader Campbell. All 15 personnel on board perished.



Name: Eric Maxwell **CATHERWOOD**

Rank: Major

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: QX35565 (Q55011)

Unit: HQ Milne Bay Base Sub Area

Service: Australian Army

Born: 17 October 1895; Toorak, Vic

Enlisted: 5 February 1941; Townsville, Qld

Date of Death: 2 February 1944 (aged 48 years)

Place of Death: New Guinea

Cause of Death: Missing - Presumed dead

Buried / Commemorated: Australian War Memorial [panel 10]  
Port Moresby Memorial, Papua New Guinea [panel 1]  
Roll of Honour - Brisbane

Next of Kin: Son of Alfred Maxwell and Laura Annie Catherwood  
Husband of Nellie Maie Catherwood of Brisbane, Qld

#### **In Civilian Life:**

On enlistment, lived at Day Dream Island, Proserpine, Qld with his wife.  
Worked as a Business Manager at Day Dream Island, Proserpine, Qld

#### **Military Service:**

August 1914	Enlisted 5 <sup>th</sup> Bn AIF - Regimental Number 12; served in Gallipoli and France
September 1916	Lieutenant 6 Bn AIF
June 1919	Return to Australia

1931 – 33	CMF service; Lieutenant 9/15 <sup>th</sup> Bn
1933 – 41	Reserve of Officers
February 1941	15 Garrison Battalion as Lieutenant (6 ft tall, 178 lbs. weight)
July 1941	Temporary Captain; seconded to HQ 5 Aust Div
August 1942	Temporary Major
October 1943	DAQMG Milne Bay Area

### **Circumstances of Death:**

After the Battle of Milne Bay in September 1942, Milne Bay remained an important Allied staging area until victories in New Guinea made other more suitable areas available from September 1943 onwards.

On 2 February 1944 Major Catherwood was a passenger on a C47 aircraft of 33 Squadron, 374 Troop Carrier Group, 5<sup>th</sup> US Air Force flying from Townsville to Milne Bay. The aircraft was lost in bad weather with all on board - 4 crew and 15 passengers; Catherwood being the only Australian. He was officially presumed dead on 21 April 1945.



Major Eric Maxwell CATHERWOOD



Name: Henry William Albert **COBB**

Rank: Captain

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: QX6313

Unit: 2/7 Cavalry Regiment

Service: Australian Army

Born: 2 April 1915; Kandanga, Qld

Enlisted: 11 July 1940; Caboolture, Qld

Date of Death: 19 December 1942 (aged 27 years)

Place of Death: Sanananda, Papua

Cause of Death: Killed in Action

Buried / Commemorated: Port Moresby (Bomana) War Cemetery, [grave A7.C.12]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 12]  
Roll of Honour – Caboolture, Qld

Next of Kin: Son of William and Isabella Cobb  
Husband of Thelma Rose Cobb of Caboolture, Qld

#### **In Civilian Life:**

On enlistment, lived at Caboolture, Qld with his wife.  
He was employed as a saddler and cycle mechanic.

#### **Military Service:**

November 1935 Lieutenant, 2/14 Light Horse (CMF);  
March 1940 Temporary Captain  
June 1940 2/14 LH called up for duty; appointed Lieutenant, 7 Division Cavalry Regiment

December 1940 –	
March 1942	Overseas service (Middle East)
August 1941	Captain
April 1942 –	
September 1942	1 Aust Armoured Training Regiment
September 1942	2/7 Div Cavalry Regiment, New Guinea. Detached to No.7 Long Range Recce Patrol
19 December 1942	Killed in Action; Sanananda, New Guinea

#### **Circumstances of Death:**

Captain Cobb was commanding D Squadron 2/7 Cavalry Regiment under command of 30 Brigade. The Brigade was advancing toward Sanananda Point and was delayed by Japanese road blocks. Cobb led a part of his squadron to re-join forward positions at "Huggins", but was pinned down by Japanese fire for over a day. Cobb evacuated his wounded and remained alone at the forward point. He was not seen alive again. In these actions 2/7 Cavalry Regiment lost 7 officers and 33 other ranks killed.



Captain Henry William Albert COBB



Name: John William Fitzclarence **COLLINS**

Rank: Flight Lieutenant

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: 5611

Unit: Station Headquarters, Archerfield

Service: Royal Australian Air Force

Born: 5 March 1906; Beaudesert, Qld

Enlisted: 26 March 1940; Brisbane

Date of Death: 21 May 1941 (aged 35 years)

Place of Death: Archerfield, Qld

Cause of Death: Accidental

Buried / Commemorated: Mundoolun Private Cemetery, Qld [grave GRM/4]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 97]

Next of Kin: Son of William and May Adelaide Gwendoline Collins  
Husband of Margaret Eleanor Collins of Edgecliffe, NSW

#### **In Civilian Life:**

On enlistment, lived at "Nindooinbah", Beaudesert, Qld. with his wife.  
Farmer and grazier. Private pilot (1600 hours) and aircraft owner. M.A. (Oxon)

#### **Military Service:**

March 1940 Flying Officer; 23 Squadron (Intelligence Officer), and SHQ  
Archerfield (Adjutant)

January 1944 Flight Lieutenant



**Circumstances of Death:**

Killed in private aircraft accident at Archerfield, Qld on 21 May 1941.



Name: Robert Alexander **COWLEY**

Rank: Captain

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: Q30757

Unit: United States Army Small Ships Section

Service: detached to United States Army

Born: 17 June 1899; Liverpool, England

Enlisted: 18 December 1941; Townsville, Qld

Date of Death: 16 February 1944 (aged 44 years)

Place of Death: New Britain

Cause of Death: Disease

Buried / Commemorated: Lae War Cemetery, Papua New Guinea [grave JJ.D.16]  
Australian War Memorial [Commemorative Roll]

Next of Kin: Son of Robert Charles and Catherine Maud Cowley  
Husband of Phyllis Clare Cowley of Clayfield, Qld.

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment lived at Hughenden, Qld and worked as a Land Ranger.

#### **Military Service:**

July 1939	26 Australian Infantry Battalion (5'10" tall, fair complexion, red hair, blue eyes)
August 1939	Lieutenant
December 1940	Temporary Captain
October 1941	Full Time Duty, 115 Reserve Motor Transport Company AASC, Townsville
March 1942	101 Reserve Motor Transport Company, Enoggera
March 1943	Captain, Appointment terminated "Medically unfit for Military Service", posted to Reserve of Officers

circa April 1943	United States Army Small Ships Section
16 February 1944	Died of disease, New Britain

### **Circumstances of Death:**

Many Australians served with the US Army Small Ships Section of the US Army Services of Supply (USASOS) in the South West Pacific Area (SWPA) during WWII. They generally signed contracts which lasted for typically 6 - 12 months.

Many of the Australian crew members of the US Small Ships were aged as young as 15 years old. And some were as old as seventy years old.

In May 1944, HQ USAFFE reported that "Captain Robert A. Cowley, serial number Q30757, Headquarters Australian Army Engineers, died on 16 February 1944 as a result of scrub typhus fever. Internment was made in the United States Armed Forces Temporary Cemetery No.1 Cape Gloucester New Britain – grave no. 151". His body was re-interred at the Lae War Cemetery.



Name: Gordon Edward **DIX**

Rank: Flying Officer

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: 401423

Unit: 2 Air Ambulance Unit

Service: Royal Australian Air Force

Born: 6 June 1919; Aberdeen, Scotland

Enlisted: 3 February 1941; Melbourne, Vic

Date of Death: 25 August 1944 (aged 25 years)

Place of Death: Exmouth Gulf, WA

Cause of Death: Aircraft Accident

Buried / Commemorated: Geraldton War Cemetery, WA [grave B.A.5]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 111]  
Roll of Honour – Brighton, Vic

Next of Kin: Son of Walter Edward and Elsie Elizabeth Dix of Elwood, Vic

#### **In Civilian Life:**

On enlistment, lived at Elwood, Vic; with his parents.  
He worked as an Assistant Manager in a textile business (Knitting Mills Pty Ltd, West Brunswick, Vic.)

#### **Military Service:**

1940	Private, 5 Battalion, Victorian Scottish Regiment
February 1941	Enlisted RAAF (height 5'10", weight 142 lbs, medium complexion, green eyes, medium hair)
March 1941	Leading Aircraftsman
July 1941	Flying Badge

September 1941	Sergeant
October 1941	Posted Survey Flight, Canberra
April 1942	Flight Sergeant
October 1942	Pilot Officer
February 1943	Posted to 2AAU Kingaroy, Qld; for duties in North Eastern Area
April 1943	Flying Officer

### **Circumstances of Death:**

2 Air Ambulance Unit was headquartered at Kingaroy, Qld in February 1943; and from January 1944 operated a detachment based with 4 Medical Receiving Station, at Corunna Downs, 60 km south of Marble Bar, WA. One of the Unit's A14-4 Gannett aircraft crashed in the sea 50 yards off shore, one mile from the Learmonth landing strip at 0525 hours 25 August 1944. Crew was Pilot - Flying Officer Dix; Navigator – Sergeant N. Catton; Passenger - Squadron Leader Dr J.C. Sangster. The aircraft was said to have been on a mercy flight to save the life of a civilian. All on board died.



Flying Officer Gordon Edward DIX



Name: David Arthur Maxwell **DUFF**

Rank: Captain

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: QX19112

Unit: 3 Reserve Motor Transport Company AASC

Service: Australian Army

Born: 12 June 1908; Perth WA

Enlisted: 27 February 1941; Brisbane, Qld

Date of Death: 13 October 1942 (aged 34 years)

Place of Death: Java

Cause of Death: Illness

Buried / Commemorated: Jakarta War Cemetery, Indonesia [grave 5.A.12]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 81]  
Roll of Honour - Brisbane

Next of Kin: Son of David William and Mary Jane Duff  
Husband of Edna Ethel Duff of Northgate, Qld

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived in Toowoomba, Qld.  
He worked as a company representative for C.C. Wakefield & Co. Ltd.  
He attended Brisbane Boys College.

#### **Military Service:**

	CMF; Captain, 61 Battalion
February 1941	Captain, 3 Reserve Motor Transport Company
April 1941	embarked for Singapore
February 1942	embarked for Java

7 March 1942

Missing, believed PoW

**Circumstances of Death:**

Died of illness (typhus) while Prisoner of War interned in Java Camp.



Captain David Arthur Maxwell DUFF



Name: Morris Glen **EVENSEN**

Rank: Temporary Captain

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: NGX 189

Unit: 2 Command Air Liaison Section

Service: Australian Army

Born: 15 August 1907; Geraldton, WA

Enlisted: 18 July 1941, Rabaul, PNG

Date of Death: 25 October 1944 (aged 39 years)

Place of Death: Keresau Island, New Guinea

Cause of Death: Killed in Action

Buried / Commemorated: Lae Memorial, PNG [panel 1]  
Australian War Memorial [panel10]  
Roll of Honour – Mosman, NSW

Next of Kin: Son of Olaf Anton Hagbart and Annie Matilda Evensen  
Husband of Marjorie Ballham Evensen of Mosman, NSW

#### **In Civilian Life:**

On enlistment, lived in Rabaul, PNG; and was employed as a plantation manager.

#### **Military Service:**

1928	Compulsory Service
July 1941	Private, New Guinea Volunteer Rifles – to Australia for training (Liverpool, Cowra, Sydney, Tamworth)



August 1941	Acting Corporal
November 1941	Acting Sergeant
October 1942	Lieutenant; 39 Australian Infantry Battalion
December 1942	Wounded in Action (gunshot wound to eye and neck), New Guinea – evacuated to Australia
May 1943	Returned to Duty
June 1943	Posted to 1 Papuan Infantry Battalion; seconded to Advanced Land Headquarters, New Guinea
July 1944	Posted to 2 Command Air Liaison Section as Air Liaison Officer; allotted to HQ 71 Wing (RAAF) at Tadjil (near Aitape, New Guinea)
October 1944	Temporary Captain
October 1944	'Missing – believed Prisoner of War
December 1944	re-classified as "Missing – believed killed"
May 1945	re-classified as "Killed in Action"

#### **Circumstances of Death:**

On 25 October 1944, Captain Evensen's party landed at Keresau Island in a RAAF Walrus amphibian aircraft (No. 9559) to interrogate local natives as to enemy dispositions and likely targets in the Wewak area. An accompanying covering Beaufort aircraft reported the Walrus landing near some native canoes, and then towing the canoes to the island; two service personnel going ashore with the natives, and observing flashes resembling light arms fire. Despite a later aerial search, which located the destroyed Walrus aircraft, no personnel were seen and they were posted as "Missing – believed PoW". Unsuccessful searches were also conducted by RAAF aircraft and US LCMs which drew some anti-aircraft small arms fire from the island. It appeared the island was occupied by an unknown Japanese force. A Board of Inquiry was convened in December 1944.

From enemy documents captured in late 1944 and interrogations of Japanese PoWs in early 1945, it was confirmed that Captain Evensen and Warrant Officer J.M.T. Brown attempted to evade capture by engaging the enemy with small arms, but were killed by the return fire. The pilot (P/O W.B. Bernie) was apparently wounded and taken prisoner by the Japanese, and is reported to have died several days later from his wounds / malaria.



Name: Gwynne Caleb **HARRIS**

Rank: Captain

Honours, Awards & Decorations: Mentioned in Dispatches - June 1943 ANGAU  
- July 1945 M Special Unit

Service Number: PX98 (P438 - ANGAU)

Unit: M Special Unit

Service: Australian Army

Born: 4 June 1911; Wales

Enlisted: 7 December 1941; New Guinea

Date of Death: 25 March 1944 (aged 32 years)

Place of Death: near Vaimo, New Guinea

Cause of Death: Execution

Buried/ Commemorated: Lae War Cemetery, PNG [grave H.A.14]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 11]

Next of Kin: Son of John Arthur and Ann Harris of Guildford, W.A.

#### **In Civilian Life:**

On enlistment, lived in New Guinea and was employed as a Patrol Officer at Lae. He was described as a "big, fleshy young man with a bald head surrounded by a fringe of fiery red hair ... hard face and a soft lisping voice ... a courteous manner ... a generous good nature ..." - his nickname was "Blue".

#### **Military Service:**

February 1942 Appointed Lieutenant (CMF); allotted special duties seconded to ANGAU

January 1943 to AIF; Captain; remains seconded ANGAU

May 1943	Allotted for duty to "M Special Force" .Operated behind enemy lines for a year on the Rai Coast and New Britain, and reconnoitred Finschhafen before the invasion in September 1943.
July 1943	Awarded MiD "for acts of bravery and distinguished service during 1942 in the South West Pacific Area"
July 1945	Awarded MiD (posthumous) "for distinguished service in the SWPA"

### **Circumstances of Death:**

M Special Unit was part of the Services Reconnaissance Department, in the South West Pacific theatre of World War II. It was a joint (Australian, New Zealand, British and Navy, Army and Air Force) Allied special reconnaissance and military intelligence unit; it saw action in New Guinea and the Solomon Islands between 1943–1945, against the Japanese.

The unit was formed in 1943, as a successor to The Coastwatchers. Hence, M Special Unit's role was focused upon gathering intelligence on Japanese shipping and troop movements. Small teams from the unit were landed behind enemy lines by sea, air or land.

Harris, leading a reconnaissance party, landed by submarine at Tanahmerah Bay, near the Dutch New Guinea Border in the Vanimo region of New Guinea on 24 March 1944. Warned by natives, they were engaged next day by a strong Japanese force. Harris was wounded and instructed one member to escape, which he did successfully. Several others evaded capture. Harris, wounded in three places, and two others (Privates Bunning and Shortis, who were killed) engaged the enemy for four hours. Harris faced the enemy with an empty pistol, and was captured and propped against a tree and interrogated. He was then bayoneted.



Name: Llundha Llenoi **HOLLAND**

Rank: Major

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: NX70578

Unit: 2/3 Australian Hospital Ship *Centaur*

Service: Australian Army

Born: 26 October 1898; Warwick, Qld

Enlisted: 3 January 1941; Paddington, NSW

Date of Death: 14 May 1943 (aged 44 years)

Place of Death: At sea, off Brisbane, Qld

Cause of Death: Drowned by Enemy Action

Buried / Commemorated: Sydney Memorial Rookwood Necropolis, NSW [panel 1]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 87]  
Scots Kirk, Mosman, NSW

Next of Kin: Son of Thomas John and Mary Holland  
Husband of Dr Lorna Durie (Beveridge) Holland of North  
Sydney, NSW

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived at Turramurra, N.S.W. with his wife; and was a medical practitioner (nicknamed "Dutchie")  
He attended Fort Street Boys High School, and the University of Sydney (Wesley College).  
M.B. (1920), Ch.M. (1921) MRACP (1938)

#### **Military Service:**

December 1940 Captain (CMF)  
January 1941 to AIF

April 1941	Embarked for Middle East – RMO 17 Infantry Training Battalion and MO 5 Australian General Hospital
March 1942	Returned to Australia – posted 102 AGH
July 1942	Temporary Major
February 1943	Posted 2/3 Australian Hospital Ship “Centaur”
May 1943	Reported “Missing believed drowned as a result of enemy action”
July 1943	Recorded as “Drowned as a result of enemy action”.

### **Circumstances of Death:**

Major Holland was a Medical Officer on 2/3 Australian Hospital Ship *Centaur*.

Australian Hospital Ship *Centaur* served as a medical transport between New Guinea and Australia. Before dawn on 14 May 1943, while on her second voyage, *Centaur* was torpedoed and sunk by a Japanese submarine off North Stradbroke Island, Queensland. The majority of the 332 aboard died in the attack; the 64 survivors had to wait for 36 hours before they were rescued. The incident resulted in public outrage as attacking a hospital ship was considered a war crime under the 1907 Hague Convention. Protests were made by the Australian and British governments to Japan and efforts were made to discover the people responsible so they could be tried at a war crimes tribunal. Despite this, it was not until the 1970s that identity of the attacking submarine, *I-177*, became public. The wreck of *Centaur* was found on 20 December 2009.



Major Llondda Llenoi **HOLLAND**



Name: Leslie **HUGHES**

Rank: Major

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: QX6027

Unit: 2/6 Field Regiment RAA

Service: Australian Army

Born: 26 March 1914; Gympie, Qld

Enlisted: 28 October 1939; Greenbank, Qld

Date of Death: 9 October 1944 (aged 30 years)

Place of Death: Windsor, Qld

Cause of Death: Illness

Buried / Commemorated: Bulimba Cemetery, Qld [grave block 15 . 601]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 16]

Next of Kin: Son of Thomas Joseph Richardson and Agnes Young Hughes  
Husband of Irene Ellen Healy Hughes of Coorparoo, Qld

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived at Paddington, Qld with his parents, and worked as a bank clerk.

#### **Military Service:**

	CMF service
October 1939	Commenced Full Time Duty, Lieutenant; Captain
October 1940	Temporary Major
February 1940	1 Anti-tank Regiment; School of Artillery, Holsworthy, N.S.W.

June 1940	embarked for U.K.
April 1941	embarked for service in Greece
July 1941	captured and released by Vichy French in Syria
November 1941	Major
March 1942	embarked for Ceylon
July 1942	embarked for Australia
August 1942	2/1 Anti-Tank Regiment
September 1943	detached to W.A. LoC Area
November 1943	detached to Vic LoC Area
January 1944	Senior Instructor, School of Artillery
April 1944	2/6 Field Regiment
July 1944	Discharged; medically unfit

#### **Circumstances of Death:**

Major Hughes was discharged from the AIF in July 1944 "Medically Unfit" with malignant hypertension. He was later admitted to Repatriation General Hospital Windsor where he died on 9 October 1944 from cerebral haemorrhage and hypertension. He left his widow, whom he married in August 1942, and a 21 day-old son. He was buried in the Bulimba Cemetery on 11 October 1944.



Name: Alun Morris **JONES**

Rank: Lieutenant

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: QX 4655

Unit: 11 Australian Movement Control Group

Service: Australian Army

Born: 27 January 1919; Ipswich, Qld

Enlisted: 3 November 1939; Kelvin Grove, Qld

Date of Death: 18 September 1945 (aged 28 years)

Place of Death: Dutch New Guinea

Cause of Death: Presumed dead – aircraft accident

Buried / Commemorated: Port Moresby (Bomana) War Cemetery [grave C8.E.19]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 10]  
Roll of Honour – Ipswich, Qld

Next of Kin: Son of Evan and Margaret Jones of Silkstone, Qld  
Husband of Jean Jones of Clayfield, Qld

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived at Silkstone, Qld. with his parents; and was employed as a clerk with McDonald Hamilton Ltd, Brisbane.

#### **Military Service:**

	CMF Signals, 4 months
November 1939	enlisted 6 Division Signals
June 1940	embarked for UK



January 1941	embarked for Middle East, 7 Division Signals
January 1942	embarked for Ceylon
July 1942	embarked for Australia
August 1943	Lieutenant, 3 Movement Control Group
February 1944	OCTU Special Short Course
June 1945	embarked for New Guinea , and Moratai
October 1945	"Missing"
May 1946	"Missing – presumed dead"

#### **Circumstances of Death:**

On 18 September 1945, 38 Squadron RAAF Dakota(C-47B, VH-CUT) was lost with all on board during a patient transfer flight from Biak Island to Merauke and Townsville. In addition to pilot and co-pilot (WO A.J. Hunter and WO A.C. Hughes) there were 8 RAAF passengers (including a nursing sister) and 19 Army passengers. Lieutenant Morris was not listed on the manifest – he is believed to have boarded the aircraft at Moratai prior to landing at Biak Island.

The wreck was discovered in December 1970 high in the mountains and broken in a ravine near Wissel Lakes, West Irian. From 23 May – 6 June 2005, a joint RAAF and Indonesian Air Force (TNI-AU) team travelled to the region as part of "Exercise Dakota Recovery". The mission, conducted in extreme climatic conditions, recovered all the remains as well as some personal effects of the passengers and crew. A memorial plaque was left at the site. A formal military funeral and burial of the remains was conducted Port Moresby Bomana War Cemetery on 10 August 2005.



Lieutenant Alun Morris JONES



Name:	Frederick Ewen Cameron <b>LOXTON</b>
Rank:	Major
Honours, Awards & Decorations:	Mentioned in Dispatches      Posthumously, 15 March 1945
Service Number:	QX 6030
Unit:	2/9 Battalion
Service:	Australian Army
Born:	28 April 1912; Cairns, Qld
Enlisted:	24 October 1939; Brisbane, Qld
Date of Death:	21 January 1944      (aged 31 years)
Place of Death:	Finisterre Ranges, New Guinea
Cause of Death:	Killed in Action
Buried / Commemorated:	Lae War Cemetery      [grave F.B.6] Australian War Memorial      [panel 33] Roll of Honour – Brisbane, Qld
Next of Kin:	Son of Frederick Ewen and Alice Marian Kate Loxton of Ascot, Qld

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived at Ascot, Qld with his parents; and was a barrister-at-law. Educated at Melbourne Grammar School and Pembroke College, Cambridge University (B.A., LL.B.). He was called to the English Bar at Inner Temple in 1934.

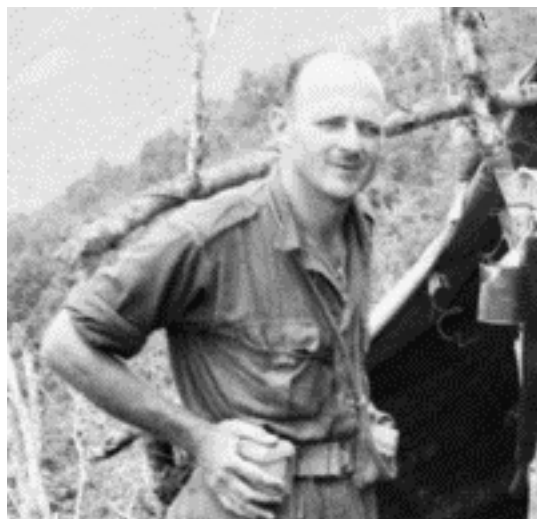
#### **Military Service:**

1930	OTC Cambridge University 61 Bn (Queensland Cameron Highlanders)
------	--

October 1939	Lieutenant; Intelligence Officer 2/9 Battalion
May 1940	embarked for UK; Liaison Officer 18 Infantry Brigade
December 1940	embarked for Middle East; 2/9 Battalion
August 1940	Captain; GSO 3, HQ 9 Division
September 1941	HQ 18 Infantry Brigade
February 1942	embarked for Australia
March 1943	25 Infantry Training Battalion; 18 Infantry Training Battalion
August 1943	Major; embarked for New Guinea 2/9 Infantry Battalion
22 January 1944	Killed in Action; Buried Kumbarum, on the Ramu River near Madang.
January 1944	Reburied Dumpu War Cemetery, Ramu Valley.
June 1944	Reburied Lae War Cemetery

#### **Circumstances of Death:**

In January 1944 2/9 Battalion was assaulting Shaggy Ridge in the Finnisterre Ranges near Madang, Papua New Guinea. McCaughey's Knoll was a dominating feature that was nominated as the objective for A Company, commanded by Major Loxton. The company attack was successful, but Major Loxton was killed by a shell while directing his troops.



Major Frederick Ewen Cameron LOXTON



Name:	Anthony Bowden <b>LUETCHFORD</b>		
Rank:	Captain		
Honours, Awards & Battalion Decorations:	Letters of Commendation from Commanders US 162 Infantry and 41 <sup>st</sup> Infantry Division.		
Service Number:	QX 38410	[Q18]	
Unit:	1 Papuan Infantry Battalion		
Service:	Australian Army		
Born:	8 March 1919; Brisbane, Qld		
Enlisted:	27 June 1940; Kelvin Grove, Qld		
Date of Death:	22 September 1943	(aged 24 years)	
Place of Death:	Finschhafen; New Guinea		
Cause of Death:	Died of Wounds		
Buried / Commemorated:	Lae War Cemetery, PNG Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour - Brisbane	[grave EE.D.1] [panel 76]	
Next of Kin:	Son of Frank Howard and Clara Elizabeth Luetchford of Clayfield, Qld		

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived at Clayfield, Qld with his parents; and was employed as a shop fitter. He attended Anglican Church Grammar School Brisbane in 1934; and Brisbane Boys College.

#### **Military Service:**

	CMF; 61 Battalion - Private, 420491, 18 months
June 1940	Marched in to 16 Battalion at Enoggera, Qld (brown hair, blue eyes)

July 1940	Driver, 49 Battalion; embarked for New Guinea
March 1941	Acting Sergeant, 1 Papuan Infantry Battalion
June 1941	Warrant Officer II
September 1941	Lieutenant
August 1942	ADC to Commander ANGAU
February 1943	1 Papuan Infantry Battalion
May 1943	Captain
September 1943	Buried Finschhafen
April 1944	reburied Finschhafen War Cemetery
May 1946	Reburied Lae War Cemetery

#### **Circumstances of Death:**

Captain Luetchford's "C" Company was part of the force landed North of Finschhafen at Song ("Scarlet") Beach as part of the assault on that town by 18 Brigade. His troops landed under fire from both the enemy and the Allies on a dark, moonless night and achieved their objectives despite taking casualties. He was badly wounded during the landing and was carried ashore by an attached Sergeant of the Royal Papuan Constabulary, and died on the beach.



Captain Anthony Bowden LUETCHFORD



Name: Clement Poulson **MANSON**

Rank: Lieutenant Colonel

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: VX 48253

Unit: 2/3 Australian Hospital Ship *Centaur*

Service: Australian Army

Born: 24 May 1909; Newry, Vic

Enlisted: 25 July 1940; Caulfield, Vic

Date of Death: 14 May 1943 (aged 33 years)

Place of Death: at sea, off Brisbane, Qld

Cause of Death: Drowned by enemy action

Buried / Commemorated: Sydney Memorial Rookwood Necropolis, NSW [panel 1]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 87]

NoK: Son of James Allan and Jemima Mary Manson  
Husband of Margaret Elizabeth Manson of Toorak, Vic

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived at Hawthorn, Vic with his wife; and was a medical practitioner. He was a graduate of Scotch College and the University of Melbourne; and was known as "Clem". "He had a reputation as a man with a love of the sea – he was a large man with a jolly, handsome, moustached face"

#### **Military Service:**

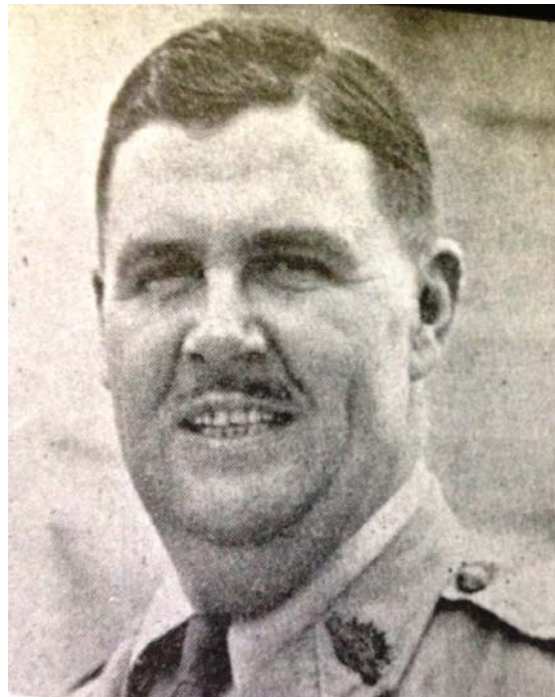
July 1940 Captain, 3 Division AMC  
August 1940 2/1 Australian Hospital Ship *Manunda*  
December 1940 to Middle East

June 1941	2/2 Australian Hospital Ship <i>Wanganella</i>
May 1942	Temporary Major
February 1943	2/3 Australian Hospital Ship <i>Centaur</i> , Administering Command
March 1943	Temporary Lieutenant Colonel, Officer Commanding Troops
May 1943	Reported "Missing believed drowned as a result of enemy action"
July 1943	Recorded as "Drowned as a result of enemy action".

### **Circumstances of Death:**

Lieutenant Colonel Manson was Commanding Officer of the ship's staff of 2/3 Australian Hospital Ship *Centaur*. Whilst the ship was sinking, LTCOL Manson is reported to have been in full dress and equipment and very composed – assisting his nursing staff evacuate the ship. He was last seen jumping from the ship.

Australian Hospital Ship *Centaur* served as a medical transport between New Guinea and Australia. Before dawn on 14 May 1943, while on her second voyage, *Centaur* was torpedoed and sunk by a Japanese submarine off North Stradbroke Island, Queensland. The majority of the 332 aboard died in the attack; the 64 survivors had to wait for 36 hours before they were rescued. The incident resulted in public outrage as attacking a hospital ship was considered a war crime under the 1907 Hague Convention. Protests were made by the Australian and British governments to Japan and efforts were made to discover the people responsible so they could be tried at a war crimes tribunal. Despite this, it was not until the 1970s that identity of the attacking submarine, *I-177*, became public. The wreck of *Centaur* was found on 20 December 2009.



Lieutenant Colonel Clement Polson MANSON



Name: James William **McGILVRAY**

Rank: Squadron Leader

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: 232

Unit: 7 Squadron

Service: Royal Australian Air Force

Born: 11 June 1910; Wagga Wagga N.S.W

Enlisted: 9 December 1929; Richmond, N.S.W.

Date of Death: 9 June 1942 (aged 31 years)

Place of Death: Sale, Victoria

Cause of Death: Accidental

Buried / Commemorated: Wagga Wagga War Cemetery, [Presbyterian Sec. N.2. Grave A122]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 99]

Next of Kin: Son of James Martin and Alice Jane McGilvray  
Husband of Helen (Phyllis) McGilvray of Surfers Paradise, Qld

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived at Glebe Point, Sydney, NSW. He was 6' tall, weighed 12 stone, dark complexion and hair and brown eyes.

He attended Wagga High School and studied science at Sydney University. In 1929 he was the University middleweight and light heavyweight boxing champion; and an all-round sportsman.

1936 – 37 mathematics master at The Hale School, Perth.

1937 – Control Officer at Archerfield Airfield, Brisbane, Qld. Lived at Hamilton, Brisbane.

February 1939 - married Phyllis Helen Billington at Murwillumbah N.S.W.

July 1939 – son James John born

#### **Military Service:**

1927-28 Sydney University Regiment



December 1929	Citizens Air Force Cadet, 3 Squadron, Richmond
April 1930	Pilot Officer, 3 Squadron, qualified pilot.
July 1931	Flying Officer
January 1933	Transferred to Reserve
October 1939	Transferred to Active List, No 1 Flying Training School, Point Cook; Specialised Navigation Course, qualified navigator.
June 1940	Flight Lieutenant
August 1940	SHQ Richmond, navigational duties
June 1941	Instructor, 1 Air Navigation School, Parkes
July 1941	Chief Instructor, 2 Air Navigation School, Mt Gambier
October 1941	Squadron Leader
January 1942	Operations Officer, HQ North Western Area, Darwin
April 1942	1 Operational Training Unit, Hudson conversion course.
June 1942	7 Squadron, Bairnsdale

### **Circumstances of Death:**

RAAF Lockheed Hudson A16-39 of No 7 Squadron, Bairnsdale crashed near Lake Reeve. via Long Point on the Ninety Mile Beach Victoria at about 8:15 pm E.S.T. on 9th June 1942. The aircraft had been on a seaward reconnaissance flight in company with two other Hudson aircraft from the Squadron looking for Japanese submarines near Gabo Island. Returning to Base in deteriorating weather the aircraft crashed.

The crash investigation revealed that the starboard engine failed not too long before the crash. The pilot placed the port airscrew into fine pitch and switched off the starboard engine. It is believed that whilst the aircraft was flying on the port engine only, it stalled and spun into the ground.

The crew of four were all killed: Squadron Leader J.W. McGilvray (Pilot); Sergeant M.J. Gawith (Observer), Sergeant F.R. Walton (Wireless Air Gunner), Sergeant E.D. Bayley (Wireless Air Gunner).



Name: James **McWHIRTER**

Rank: Paymaster Lieutenant

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number:

Unit: HMAS *Brisbane*

Service: Royal Australian Naval Volunteer Reserve

Born: 9 December 1912; Brisbane, Qld

Enlisted: 2 September 1939; Brisbane, Qld

Date of Death: 6 August 1942 (aged 29 years)

Place of Death: Brisbane, Qld

Cause of Death: Illness

Buried / Commemorated: Queensland Cremation Memorial, Brisbane, Qld  
[Cremated Mt. Thompson Crematorium, Brisbane, Qld]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 9]  
Roll of Honour – Brisbane, Qld

Next of Kin: Son of James and Mary Millicent McWhirter of The Valley; Qld  
Brother, Duncan McWhirter of Hamilton, Qld

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived in Brisbane, Qld. He was the grandson of James McWhirter, founder of McWhirter's department store in Fortitude Valley, Brisbane; and served on the board of the company from 1938.

He attended The Southport School (1921-30) and was a prominent athlete. He also attended University of Sydney (St.Paul's College).

### **Military Service:**

April 1937	Pay Sub-Lieutenant, RANVR (Height 5'9");
September 1939	Mobilised - HMAS <i>Penguin</i>
August 1940	HMAS <i>Melville</i> in Darwin
September 1940	Pay Lieutenant
October 1941	sea service - HMAS <i>Kuru</i>
November 1941	sea service – HMAS <i>Kangaroo</i>
January 1942	HMAS <i>Brisbane</i>
February 1942	HMAS <i>Westralia</i>
August 1942	HMAS <i>Brisbane</i>

### **Circumstances of Death:**

On 13 July 1942 he was diagnosed with “rapidly progressive intra-pulmonary neoplasm” with a Civil Disability 100%; and was treated in a private hospital with indefinite sick leave.



Paymaster Lieutenant James McWHIRTER RANVR



Name: Hayden Selby **RAWSON**

Rank: Warrant Officer

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: 406954 (Pilot Officer) / 300549 (Warrant Officer)

Unit: RAAF Reserve (Civil Aircrew)

Service: Royal Australian Air Force

Born: 19 September 1919; Nottingham, England

Enlisted: 26 May 1941; Perth W.A.

Date of Death: 13 November 1945 (aged 26 years)

Place of Death: Leyte, Philippines

Cause of Death: Accidental

Buried / Commemorated: Sai Wan War Cemetery, Hong Kong [grave I.D.9]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 134]

Next of Kin: Son of Ernest Henry and Violet Elaine Rawson of Victoria Park, W.A.  
Husband of Constance Viva Rawson of Cardwell, Qld.

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived at Perth W.A.  
Migrated on "Mooltan" to Australia with his parents to Perth in 1923 (aged 4).

#### **Military Service:**

January 1943	2 Air Navigation School, Mount Gambier; 406945 Pilot Officer H.S. Rawson "posted to 1 Embarkation Depot for termination of appointment"
April 1943	Discharged; Pilot Officer; 1 Embarkation Depot enlisted RAAF Reserve; Warrant Officer; Pilot

### **Circumstances of Death:**

Warrant Officer Rawson lost his life while piloting an Australian National Airlines transport aircraft Dakota C-49A VH-CDC 1 mile after take-off from Tacloban, Leyte Gulf in bad weather. There were 17 on board, 1 survived.



Name: James Lee **SELWOOD**

Rank: Major

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: Q185177

Unit: 2 Camp Hospital

Service: Australian Army

Born: 18 June 1887; Queenstown, Vic

Enlisted: 27 May 1940; Brisbane, Qld

Date of Death: 11 September 1941 (aged 53 years)

Place of Death: Windsor, Qld

Cause of Death: Illness

Buried / Commemorated: Queensland Cremation Memorial, Brisbane, Qld  
[cremated at Mt Thompson Crematorium, Brisbane, Qld]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 88]  
Roll of Honour - Brisbane

Next of Kin: Son of James Thomas and Catherine Susan Selwood  
Husband of Margaret Isabel Selwood of East Brisbane, Qld

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived at South Brisbane, Qld with his wife; and was a medical practitioner.  
(M.B., B.S.)

#### **Military Service:**

May 1940                      6 Casualty Clearing Station

**Circumstances of Death:**

Died at the Repatriation General Hospital, Windsor, Brisbane after an illness of 3 days with pneumonic influenza.



Name: Lincoln James **SLOAN**

Rank: Flying Officer

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: 2622

Unit: 11 Squadron

Service: Royal Australian Air Force

Born: 1 May 1912; Brisbane, Qld

Enlisted: 18 May 1941; Bellevue Hill, NSW

Date of Death: 8 December 1941 (aged 29 years)

Place of Death: Port Moresby, New Guinea

Cause of Death: Accidental

Buried / Commemorated: Port Moresby (Bomana) War Cemetery, PNG [grave B2.D.5]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 100]  
Roll of Honour - Brisbane

Next of Kin: Son of James Duncan and Gertrude Ann Sloan of St. Lucia, Qld

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived at St Lucia, Qld.; and was employed as a commercial pilot with QANTAS - piloting Empire Flying Boats between Sydney and Singapore.  
He attended Brisbane Boys College.  
In June 1938 he was engaged to Miss Emelia Irene Vassett.

#### **Military Service:**

May 1941 Flying Officer; 11 Squadron  
October 1941 Catalina conversion course



### **Circumstances of Death:**

In September 1939, No. 11 Squadron moved to Port Moresby, and by May 1940 was flying long range patrol missions in PBY-5 Catalina and Short Empire flying boats across the South West Pacific area. The squadron suffered its first loss on 8 December 1941 when one of its Catalina aircraft (A24-15) crashed into a hill on take-off from Port Moresby; all six crew members (including Flying Officer Sloan) were killed.



Name: Arnold Beverley **SMITH**

Rank: Lieutenant Commander

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number:

Unit: *HMAS Penguin*

Service: Royal Australian Navy Volunteer Reserve

Born: 27 July 1901; Toronto, Canada

Enlisted: 3 September 1939; Sydney

Date of Death: 25 September 1946 (aged 45 years)

Place of Death: Concord; NSW

Cause of Death: Illness

Buried / Commemorated: Rookwood Crematorium, Sydney, NSW  
[Forces Memorial Wall niche 49SA]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 5]

Next of Kin: Son of Thomas Beverley and Isabel Smith  
Husband of Bessie Isabel Beverley Smith of Blackheath, NSW

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived at Blackheath, NSW with his wife; and was a "foot specialist"

#### **Military Service:**

November 1933 Lieutenant RANVR (5'9", black hair, brown eyes, fair complexion)  
September 1939 Full time duty. Anti-submarine and harbour defences. Postings to  
*HMAS Penguin, Swan, Bathurst, Rushcutter, Melville, Kookaburra*

June 1942	Lieutenant Commander; postings to HMAS <i>Rushcutter</i> , <i>Kuttabul</i> , <i>Basilisk</i> , <i>Lonsdale</i> , <i>Launceston</i>
May 1945	Medical discharge with 80% war pension

**Circumstances of Death:**

Lieutenant Commander Smith was admitted to 113 Australian General Hospital, Concord, NSW and died of cardiac failure, and long-term hypertension.



Name: Cyril Brudenell Bingham **WHITE**

Rank: General

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

KCB	14 March 1916
KCMG	1 January 1919
KCVO	15 October 1920
DSO	3 June 1915
Mentioned in Despatches (8)	
Gold Order of Merit (Montenegro)	9 March 1917
Croix de Guerre (Belgium)	12 July 1918
Grand Officer Military Order of Avis (Port.)	21 August 1919
Croix de Guerre avec Palmes (France)	5 November 1920 and 3 February 1921
Order of the Rising Sun (Japan)	21 January 1921

Service Number:

Unit: General Staff

Service: Australian Army

Born: 23 September 1876; St Arnaud, Vic

Enlisted: 15 March 1940; Melbourne

Date of Death: 13 August 1940; (aged 63 years)

Place of Death: Canberra, ACT

Cause of Death: Aircraft Accident

Buried / Commemorated:

Buangor Public Cemetery, Vic	[CofE section, grave 40]
Australian War Memorial	[panel supplementary 1]

Next of Kin:

Son of John Warren and Maria White  
Husband of (Lady) Ethel White of "Woodnaggerak", Middle Creek, Vic

#### **In Civilian Life:**

His family moved to Queensland in 1881. He became a bank clerk at the age of 16.

At mobilisation in 1940, lived at Kyneton, Vic, with Lady White.

From 1923 to 1940 he served as the first Chairman of the Commonwealth Public Service Board.

### **Military Service:**

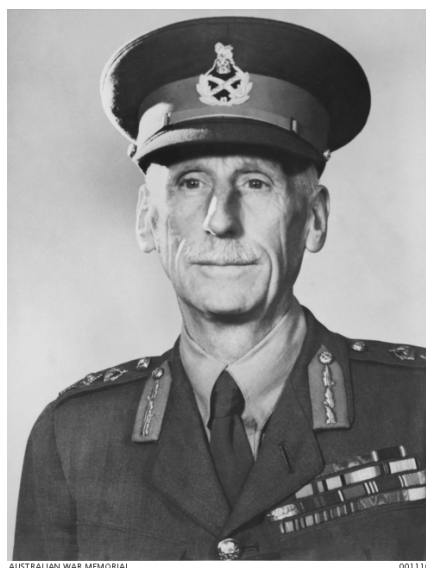
In 1896 he was commissioned into the 2nd (Wide Bay & Burnett) Queensland Regiment. White transferred to the permanent forces and was commissioned into the Queensland Regiment of the Royal Australian Artillery in June 1899. In February 1902 he sailed for South Africa with the Australian Commonwealth Horse - arriving late in the war, he saw little action and returned to Australia in July.

In 1904 White was appointed Aide-de-Camp to the General Officer Commanding the Australian Military Forces (AMF). In 1906 he became the first AMF officer to attend the British Staff College. Returning to Australia in 1908, he was promoted to captain, joined Colonel William Bridges' staff but soon returned to England on exchange to the War Office. Having been promoted to major in 1911, White returned to Australia in 1912 to take up the post of Director of Military Operations at Army Headquarters.

General White served with distinction during the First World War in Egypt, Gallipoli and France and was regarded as a most effective staff officer in his various senior appointments. He subsequently served as Chief of the General Staff over the period 1920-1923. On the death of the Chief of General Staff, General Squires, on the 3 March 1940, White was recalled to take over this appointment.

### **Circumstances of Death:**

He was tragically killed in an aircraft accident near Canberra on 13 August 1940 after a flight on an RAAF Hudson bomber from Melbourne. Also killed in the accident were Brigadier G A Street MC (Minster for the Army and Repatriation); J V Fairbairn (Minister for Air and Civil Aviation); Sir Henry Gullett (Minister for Scientific and Industrial Research); and six others.



General Sir Cyril Brudenell Bingham WHITE KCB KCMG KCVO DSO



Name: Robert Victor **WINDERS**

Rank: Lieutenant

Honours, Awards & Decorations:

Service Number: QX17100

Unit: 2/7 Division Workshop AEME

Service: Australian Army

Born: 21 October 1900; Toowoomba, Qld

Enlisted: 22 July 1940; Kelvin Grove, Qld

Date of Death: 12 June 1944 (aged 50 years)

Place of Death: Windsor, Qld

Cause of Death: Illness

Buried / Commemorated: Mt Thompson Crematorium, Brisbane [AIF Memorial Wall 12.7.187]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 92]  
Roll of Honour - Brisbane

Next of Kin: Son of Robert Smith and Janet Jane Winders  
Husband of Lorna Anna Maud Winders of Kangaroo Point, Qld

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At enlistment, lived at Fortitude Valley, Qld with his wife, and worked as a motor mechanic. In 1934, he was bankrupted through his taxi business. He divorced in March 1940.

#### **Military Service:**

July 1940 enlisted CMF (Grey hair, blue eyes)

August 1940 Lance-Corporal and Corporal; 2/3 Advanced Field Workshop, 7 Division

December 1940 Sergeant; embarked for Middle East

February 1941	Warrant Officer II; Palestine
February 1942	embarked for Australia
July 1942	Lieutenant; 7 Division Ordnance Workshops
February 1943	Retired List

### **Circumstances of Death:**

Lieutenant Winders died at Repatriation General Hospital, Windsor, Brisbane from haemorrhage of a malignant ulcer.



Lieutenant Robert Victor WINDERS



Name: Henry Douglas **WYNTER**

Rank: Lieutenant General

Honours, Awards & Decorations: CB 1 January 1942  
CMG 3 June 1919  
DSO 3 June 1918

Mentioned in Despatches (1917 (2), 1918, 1919)

Service Number: NP9856 / QX6150 / QP20005

Unit: Australian Headquarters

Service: Australian Army

Born: 5 June 1886; Gin Gin, Qld

Enlisted: 22 April 1940; Brisbane

Date of Death: 7 February 1945 (aged 58 years)

Place of Death: Australia

Cause of Death: Illness

Buried / Commemorated: Springvale War Cemetery, Melbourne, Vic [grave 1.N.B.1]  
Australian War Memorial [panel 11]  
Roll of Honour - Sydney

Next of Kin: Husband of Ethel May Wynter of Coorparoo, Qld

#### **In Civilian Life:**

At initial enlistment, lived at Bundaberg, Qld. Educated at Maryborough Grammar School.

#### **Military Service:**

July 1906 Lieutenant in CMF; 2<sup>nd</sup> (Wide Bay) Infantry Regiment, Bundaberg, Qld  
(5'9", fair hair, blue eyes)

June 1909 Captain

February 1911 Lieutenant in PMF; 1 Military District



July 1913	Temporary Captain
June 1915	Captain
December 1915	Temporary Major
April 1916	to AIF; Brigade Major, 11 Brigade, 4 Australian Division
October 1916	DAA & QMG 4 Australian Division
March 1917	DAAG 1 ANZAC Corps
July 1917	Lieutenant Colonel
July 1918	5 Army HQ
June 1919	Officer Commanding AIF troops, France
January 1920	embarked for Australia; to PMF
July 1921	Colonel; Staff College, Camberley U.K.
January 1930	Imperial Defence College, U.K.
October 1931	Lieutenant Colonel
August 1939	Temporary Brigadier
October 1939	Temporary Major General; GOC Northern Command and District Commander, 1 <sup>st</sup> Military District, Brisbane
April 1940	to AIF
May 1940	Colonel and Temporary Brigadier; DA&QMG, HQ 1 Australian Corps,
June 1940	Major General; GOC AIF in UK
October 1940	GOC 9 <sup>th</sup> Division AIF; Middle East
March 1941	embarked for Australia
December 1941	Temporary Lieutenant General
July 1941	transfers from AIF to AMF
April 1942	Lieutenant General
June 1942	to Active CMF
September 1944	Relinquishes appointment LTGEN Admin LHQ

#### **Circumstances of Death:**

Died of "uraemia and hypetension" after a short illness at 115 Australian General Hospital, Heidelberg, Melbourne



Lieutenant General Henry Douglas WYNTER CB, CMG, DSO



This volume was compiled in April 2014 by Club members:

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The research was conducted in good faith from Club records and from information in the public domain, and is intended for the private consumption of Club members. It may contain errors and omissions, for which we apologise and assure that no offence is intended - the Club would welcome constructive suggestions for correction.

Eligibility for inclusion in the Roll of Honour was based on that for individual commemoration at the Australian War Memorial.

The principal additional sources of information included:

- Australian War Memorial
- Commonwealth War Graves Commission
- Individual Service Records
- National Archive of Australia
- Official History of Australia in the War of 1939-1945
- Unit and other Histories

**LEST WE FORGET**