

# BREMER ECHOES

***OUR FOREBEARS PAST YET PRESENT STILL***



***VOLUME 33 NO 3***

***NOVEMBER 2015***

## **RESEARCH ROOMS & LIBRARY**

### **BELL ARCADE, 7 BELL ST. IPSWICH**

Please address all correspondence to:

The Secretary, P.O.Box 323, IPSWICH Q. 4305

**Phone        0491105184**

Or email: [secretary@igs.org.au](mailto:secretary@igs.org.au)

Website: <http://www.igs.org.au>

Editor's email: [idbiddy41@gmail.com](mailto:idbiddy41@gmail.com)

**MONTHLY MEETING: SECOND** Tuesday of the month at 9.30am [except January] at the Rooms of **Councillor Bruce CASOS Station Rd. Booval**

**Shop 2 / 38 Station Rd Booval**

**Friendly Care Chemist Building**

**Dues are payable by 30th September.**

<b>Subscriptions Single Renewal Membership</b>	<b>\$40</b>
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<b>Family – 2 members residing at the same address</b>	<b>\$55</b>
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<b>New Members</b>	<b>\$50</b>
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<b>[New] Family – 2 members residing at the same address</b>	<b>\$65</b>
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<b>Journal only subscription</b>	<b>\$10</b>
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**Have you renewed your Membership?**

**It can now be done on-line – see the webpage**

Visitors welcome at Research Library per day - \$20; ½ day \$10;

Research undertaken by post – Initial Research Fee \$30

Additional Research fees charged at rate of \$25 per hour or part thereof.

Annual Membership includes postage or emailing of Society's magazine

February, July, & November

Out of town members entitled to research on their behalf from Society records.

### **OPENING HOURS**

**Monday Wednesday & Thursday        9.30am to 2.30pm**

**Saturday 9am to 12 noon – Closed Sunday**

**Closed all Public Holidays**

### **COVER PHOTOGRAPH:**

**Honour Board:** United Society of Boilermakers & Iron & Steel Ship Builders

Wooden Two Door Case - Centre Opening With Painted Inscription

*Courtesy The Workshops Rail Museum Ipswich. See page 8*

## ***BREMER ECHOES***

ISSN 1443-315X

Volume 33 No. 3

November 2015

**THE JOURNAL OF THE IPSWICH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.**

**THE FIRST GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY IN QUEENSLAND 1977**



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**WELCOME:** We welcome the following new members and wish them well with their research:

Merilyn LOWE; Donald WALKER, Sandra FORBES; Selwyn RETSCHLAG;  
Christine WEBB; George & Nola TULLY, Marilyn McDOWELL; Stephen  
BIRD; Jennifer LINCOLN; Margaret SCUDDS; Barbara WARFE; David ELLIS;  
Jo-Anne BIDDLE; Gale SCHREURS; Margaret WATKINS; Warren STONE;  
Neal & Ann O'CONNOR; Sandy LIDDLE; Dawn MULHOLLAND; Venus  
ROHL; Keith MADSTONE; Ellen LYNE;  
Renewed Membership - Robyn FLASHMAN;



*[From the web]*

*World War I Hospital Ship  
"Robert Hunt"*

### **THE EDITOR REPORTS:**

The **Annual General Meeting** was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> September and the list of Committee Members for 2015 – 2016 can be found on the back cover. Reports from the President and Treasurer are included beginning page 4.

A copy of the Auditor's Report is available to members on application to the Treasurer or Secretary.

The members receiving their Bremer Echoes by mail will find a different method of postage. Until recently the Society was eligible for Print Post, reduced rates for bulk postage, but that no longer applies as we do not post more than 100 articles at a time. Because of cost, most Bremer Echoes are now emailed to members.

This is the final magazine for 2015 the Centenary of Gallipoli Year, and extracts from the Queensland Times from the war years are included. We acknowledge the part played by nurses during the conflict and the difficult circumstances in which they worked.



We would like to Wish all members and their families a Safe and Happy Festive Season and hope 2016 will be kind to us all.

*Irma – Ed.*

*Rainbow Lorikeets in my garden  
From my photographic collection - Irma*

## **HONOUR STONE UNVEILING**

The Pine Mountain and Districts Historical Society Inc  
will be unveiling an Honour Stone in memory of those who  
were either born or lived in the Pine Mountain district,  
and enlisted in the First World War.

This event will take place near the

CRICKET PITCH PARK AT PINE MOUNTAIN

On

**SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2015 AT 11 am**

ALSO A SERVICE WILL BE HELD AT THE HONOUR STONE

**REMEMBRANCE DAY**

**11<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2015 AT 11 am**

ALL WELCOME

**Contact: 5464 3827**

**[www.pinemountainhistory.net](http://www.pinemountainhistory.net)**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT - AGM 8th September 2015**

In presenting my second Report as President I would like to acknowledge the help given to me by the band of willing workers who keep the Society going and especially the Vice president Claire Juler who is always on hand to help in so many ways. Thank you Claire for being my right hand, and on occasions the other one to. Without this group the Society would not function. We are in need of more Library Assistants, a good way to learn what the Society has in resources.

As a non-profit organization paying commercial rates for our premises, it would be difficult to survive without the financial assistance of the Ipswich City Council, and on behalf of the members I say "Thank you" for the help extended to the Society. Throughout the year our computers and Router have been upgraded by Greg Yarham our IT Manager, and a number of second hand computers have been donated to the Society by the Ipswich City Council, and this is much appreciated.

Our Meet & Greet Afternoon in November 2014 was very successful and showed members what is available and introduced them to the Library Assistants. New name badges featuring the Society Logo, are now worn by Library Assistants to make it easier for visitors to identify them. A number of members attended the Ipswich City Council Volunteers Morning Tea in November, and again in December the Ipswich Library Visit of Lady Teviot who spoke on Family History Research.

The Research Officers have been busy throughout the year, and in December at a special morning tea at the Office of our Patron Councillor Bruce Casos, presented to Ken McDermott a complete copy of the research done for him. This was to say Thank you, for his kind donation of a copy of his Grandmother's diary to our Society. Sarah McDermott [nee Carter] kept the diary of her voyage to Australia in the mid 1870's, and her life as a young bride.

In January a new sign was erected above the footpath in Bell Street to advertise our presence in Bell Arcade, and it has made it easier for visitors to find our Rooms. A decision was made to revamp our Website, and Web Designer Nicky Davies has been engaged to bring new life to our site. This has taken longer than expected, but hopefully members are pleased with the result. I would like to thank Jane Kingston and Lorri Digney for the time and effort they have spent putting this together.

Jane is one of our new members and has taken a very active role as Publicity Officer, and also our ANZAC Display and writing articles for the Advertiser about the World War 1 soldiers who lost their lives at Gallipoli. Thank you Jane it is appreciated.

A number of members attended the launch of Eddie Habban's book, "Salute the Brave and Carve Their Names With Pride" – the Soldier's Memorial at Cameron's Park at Booval, and the book is on our Library Shelf.

The Society took an active part in the Ipswich Festival and the Rooms were open each day from 16th April to 2nd May except ANZAC Day and Sundays. We had a number of visitors and gained some new members. It is good Public Relations to take part in activities in the city and raises the Profile of the Society. As a result of our participation, an invitation was received to attend both the "Launch of the Festival" and the "Thank You for Participating Party" at which the Society was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.

We have once more had a presence in the Library each Wednesday from 10am to noon and our thanks go to Audrey for being the mainstay at these times. A little help when necessary from other members keeps us in the public eye.

Unfortunately our Secretary Lorri Digney was unable to continue in the role, and once more Audrey Dillon stepped up and filled the vacancy. Thank you Lorri for the help you gave, and to Audrey you always seem to be there when needed.

The History Queensland AGM was held at the Ipswich Historical Society "Cooneana" and four of our members attended. We were the fortunate Society this time, as we did not have to travel far, just over the hill.

As a representative, I was invited to speak to the City and Country Relations Consultative Committee Meeting and give them an understanding of our Society, and the resources we hold. I am a member of the Ipswich Heritage Consultative Committee as a representative of the Ipswich Genealogical Society, and find the role interesting, being a part of decisions concerning our Heritage City.

The Ipswich Library invited our Society to be Guest contributor on their Blog, and Claire and I submitted an article on Frederick George Springall who at age 76, was elected Mayor of Ipswich in 1915, the year of the Gallipoli Campaign. It was an interesting exercise and something new for the Society to be involved.

In June a "Welcome to New Members" Morning Tea was held to introduce them to the resources available to help in tracing their family history. Also attending were the State Member for Ipswich, Jennifer Howard, Mayor Paul Pisasale, and Councillors Andrew Antonioli, David Pahlke, Cheryl Bromage and Bruce Casas. Paul and Bruce were presented with Honorary Membership of the Society to say Thank You for all their help over the years, and the other Councillors and Jennifer Howard received Certificates of Appreciation for their interest in the Society.

June was a busy month as representatives of the Society were invited to the



Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Opening of the David Trumpy Bridge. This was as a result of the help given to the Council staff in tracing members of the Trumpy family who originally settled at Warrigal in Victoria. A nephew Ian Lawrence from Canberra and his son Robert from Tamworth were happy to come to Ipswich and attend the Celebrations.

Council Library staff visited our Rooms in July to view the resources we have available, and were impressed with our Library, and what we have to offer. The ladies feel they are now better able to direct Library visitors to the Genealogical Society.

Again this year we have been invited to speak to the residents of Colthup Home at a date to be fixed and the Harrisville Women's Shed later in September. The Society has been invited to present a Display during the month of October in the Redbank Plains Library, and we thank the Library Staff for this opportunity.

A busy year for the Library Assistants with the ongoing task of entering information to our data bases – Obituaries and Biographies, Weddings and Anniversaries, copies of BMD Certificates which have been given to the Society over the years, Local Families including the Ipswich Mayors, Cemeteries both local and other areas, Reeds Funeral Director's Records and ongoing newspaper cuttings. Thank you to all the willing workers - you are appreciated.

The Society looks forward to a bright future in the next twelve months and beyond.

*Irma Deas*, President

8th September 2015.



*Research Officers and Library Team for 2015-2016*

*Back: Claire Juler, Edith Henry,  
Front: Ashleigh Stratton and Angela Yarham*



## IPSWICH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS  
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

OPENING BALANCE AS AT 1 JULY 2014

BENDIGO BANK CHEQUE ACCOUNT	\$	4,208.63	
BENDIGO BANK TERM DEPOSITS 30 June 2014	001069997/2505	\$	22,304.66
	0010600971/2506	\$	18,430.85
<b>Deposits for 2014/15</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>40,735.51</b>

## CHEQUE ACCOUNT

Membership Fees	\$	4,660.00	
Research Fees	\$	807.40	
Door Money	\$	90.70	
Donations & Gifts	\$	8,081.70	
Projects			
Library Equipment & Supplies			
Printouts & Photocopying	\$	184.60	
Other Income	\$	10,688.05	
Functions & Displays			
Raffles	\$	295.00	
Income 1 July to 31 January	\$	24,807.45	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>			<b>\$ 29,016.08</b>

## Income plus investments

## LESS EXPENDITURE

## CHEQUE ACCOUNT

Annual Costs	\$	3,910.22	
Society Rental	\$	8,066.00	
Subs			
Bremer Echoes Print & Post	\$	166.37	
Projects			
Committee expenses	\$	752.50	
Petty Cash			
Books, CDs, Microfiche etc	\$	446.12	
Library Equipment & Supplies	\$	1,045.15	
Other Expenses	\$	3,134.08	
Functions & Displays	\$	106.36	
Fixed Assets			
Dishonoured cheque- B. Stromg in March	\$	30.00	\$ 17,656.80
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>			

EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE \$ 11,359.28

CLOSING BALANCE OF CHEQUE ACCOUNT \$ 11,359.28  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2015

## MONEY HELD BY THE SOCIETY

30-Jun-15

BENDIGO BANK - CHEQUE ACCOUNT \$ 11,359.28

BENDIGO BANK INVESTMENT ACCOUNT 10600971 2505 \$ 12,967.03  
VALUE AT 30 JUNE 2015 0010600971 2506 \$ 19,044.16 \$ 32,011.19

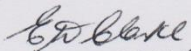
VALUE OF FLOAT MONEY \$ 80.15

TOTAL \$ 43,450.62

Eric Clarke

Treasurer

July 22, 2015

  
TREASURER

The photograph shows the doors closed on the Honour Board which is featured on the cover, with the doors open.

## **UNITED SOCIETY OF BOILERMAKERS & IRON & STEEL SHIP BUILDERS**



Wooden Two Door Case -  
Centre Opening With Painted  
Inscription

Inside case large glass covered  
frame with coloured illustration,  
above it is painted

**IPSWICH BRANCH No. 5**  
*Founded 1909*

Printed at the bottom of  
the illustration

## **UNITED SOCIETY OF BOILERMAKERS & IRON & STEEL SHIP BUILDERS**

**Presented to the Ipswich Branch No. 5 Queensland  
with Fraternal Greetings**

After World War 1, most railway stations had their own Honour Board to commemorate those men who left to enlist and did not return, and a number of Societies also had their Boards or Roll of Honour.

This Honour Board and the one on page 9 are two of a number in the collection at the Workshops Rail Museum Ipswich Queensland. They come in all shapes and sizes, and are mostly wooden with gold scrolls and printing. Some are very ornate and beautifully painted, and one, the Chief Engineers Branch Southern Division Employees, Who Have Joined The Australian Imperial Forces, has over 600 names in very small printing all done by hand.

*[Large Silky Oak Framed Honour Board which has sustained some water damage over the years.]*

**QUEENSLAND RAILWAYS  
STORES BRANCH  
NORTHERN DIVISION**

**William Moore Tait MOOD  
Townsville**

**Robert Ernest MILNE  
Townsville**

**William Henry FORWARD  
Cairns**

**Henry BASKERVILLE  
Townsville**

**PEACE CELEBRATIONS TOWNSVILLE STATION 1918**

**Alfred Henry CLEGG  
Cairns, Killed in Action**

**William Cornelius SHEARMAN  
Townsville**

**Alexander Hamilton JAMIESON  
Townsville**

**Herbert James Cheyne NICHOLAS  
Cairns & Townsville**

**IN HONOUR OF THE MEMBERS OF THE DIVISIONAL  
STOREKEEPERS STAFF NORTHERN BRANCH  
WHO SERVED WITH THE AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES  
ABROAD DURING THE GREAT WAR 1914 – 1918**

[There was a photograph of each man named, but they have sustained damage over the years, and at this stage have not been copied]

*Information on pages 8 and 9 courtesy Workshops Rail Museum Ipswich*

## EXTRACTS FROM THE QUEENSLAND TIMES

*Queensland Times (Ipswich) Friday 18 February 1916*

### A KHAKI CHRISTMAS *London, December 30, 1915.*

This Christmas has been first and foremost a khaki Christmas in London - perhaps more especially a hospital Christmas. It is in the hospitals that the chief celebrations have been kept up, and the wounded soldiers have been most people's chief thought. The old-fashioned -Yuletide of frost and snow seems to be a thing of the past-like so many other pleasant things. This year we had warmish days, with intermittent, heavy rain, the disagreeable weather culminating in a perfect torpedo of wind on the Monday. However, as the celebrations have been chiefly indoor ones, this did not affect them much.

*Christmas Celebrations at an English Hospital- Appeared in a Sydney newspaper 1916.*





At Harefield Park the festivities have spread over many days, and the Australian wounded, seem to have managed to be merry, in spite of the bitter blow of the Gallipoli evacuation. A charming feature of the programme was entertainment given by the soldiers to the children of the village. The village people, it seems, have done all they can for the men, and this was a return of hospitality. Three hundred village children were present, just taken en masse into the concert hall, and their hosts gave them three of the happiest hours they had ever dreamed of.

There was a magnificent Christmas tree and a splendid Father Christmas, and the youngsters were sent home loaded with presents. The little people had risen to the spirit of the occasion, and learned "Australia Will Be There" beforehand. They struck up the favourite tune as soon as they arrived at the gates. Triumphal arches had been put up, and the wards were all decorated with flags- and holly and wattle.

Many competitions have been got up for the soldiers at Harefield, amongst them photography, toy-making, sketching, and wool work. The judges are Lieut. Col. W. T. HAYWARD, Miss GREY, the matron, and the donors of the prizes. Gasses, concerts, and matinee parties have been arranged, every hour of the day being filled up.

Six hundred Australians spent a merry Christmas afternoon at the Hotel Cecil, where they were entertained to a Christmas dinner by the Australian War Contingent Association. Sir George REID and Lady REID were present. It was a most enthusiastic affair, and in the midst of the proceedings our men struck up the invariable "Australia Will Be There."

Thousands of people 'adopted' two or three fighting men for Christmas Day and offers of hospitality for the Australians fairly poured in. There is no doubt that the English delight to honour the soldiers. People constantly remark how extraordinarily handsome most Australians are.

"We cannot express the debt this country owes to our race 'down under.' In this struggle they have been of one bone and one flesh with us. Australia and New Zealand are in distance the farthest away from us of all peoples that are, but in spirit they are with us shoulder to shoulder to fight it to the end.

"One homely word rises to the lips of all of us in this country. We say, God bless the men of ANZAC, living and dead, for their part in the deathless epic of the Dardanelles."

*At Glasgow Cemetery 2011- Editor's Collection*



*Queensland Times Friday 7 September 1917*

## LETTERS FROM THE FRONT.

Mr. T. H. M'LEARY, of Woodend, has received a letter from his brother, Private Douglas M'LEARY, who writes from France, stating that he is still well.

He was out of the trenches at the time of writing, and there was a possibility of being out for some time, which might mean returning to the trenches in the winter time. The main trouble was trench feet, "and," he writes, "I have seen some beauties since I came over here, but with every attention and the latest appliances which they use, they are, in most cases, able to affect a cure." Private M'LEARY comments on the beauty of the French summer, but has no admiration for the winter.

He had had several days' leave to visit one of the big French cities, and "I can tell you I enjoyed myself immensely," he writes. "If I can keep my head low enough and dodge the pieces of iron which are flying about pretty thick at times - something like an Australian hailstorm - I will get what the boys call 'Blighty leave'- that is, 24 days in England, and a free pass to go anywhere there. The general opinion of most persons over here is that the war is very close to an end, and I think 'Fritz' will soon be crying for peace, and at our terms," . Private M'LEARY concludes with expressions of good wishes to all friends and relatives.

Writing to a member of the staff of this office from Capetown en- route for England, Privates J. G. FARQUHAR, T. G. SCRIVEN, and G. A. WAR?, intimate that they were all in the best of health. They stated that a number of Ipswich boys were on the same boat, the following names being mentioned :-

Sam NOSWORTHY, Archie LUKE, Harry ARDRON, Jim DIGNEY, Harry PALMER, Les. BOUGHEN, Les. MIDDLETON, Percy DONALD, Walter WILLIAMS, Hal ENGLAND, Frank DELLAR, and Edgar BOTTOMLEY. It will be pleasing to the relatives of these soldiers to know that they are all in good health.

Private Les. BOUGHEN wishes to be remembered to all friends in Ipswich. The letter was written by Private BOUGHEN while at sea, and he stated that he was in excellent health, although the sea voyage was rather monotonous.





*Un-named Nurse  
with a Group of  
Australian soldiers  
at Braintree  
Hospital Essex  
1917-18  
Photograph  
Courtesy Picture  
Ipswich.*

*Queensland Times  
Ipswich 9 March  
1915*

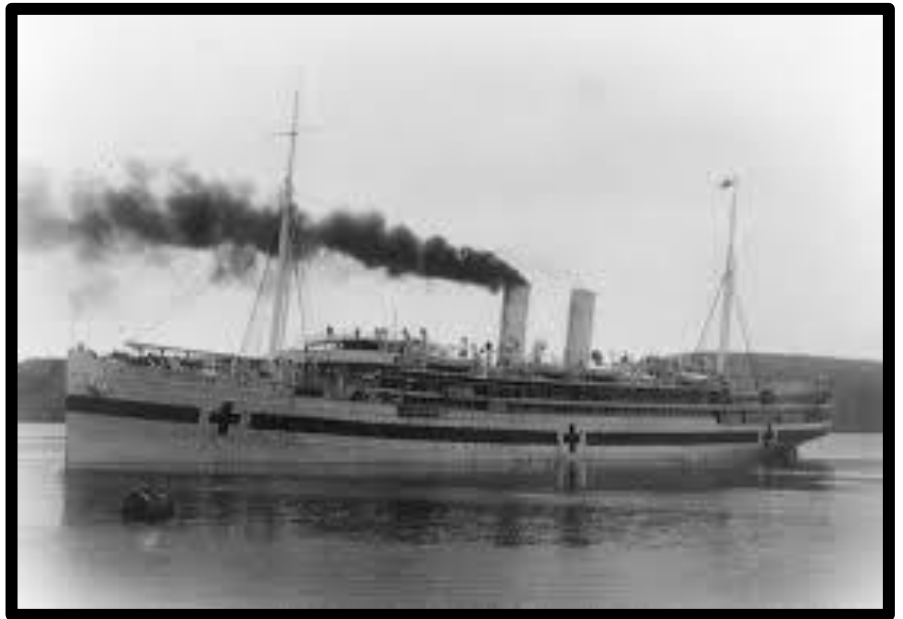
## LETTER FROM NURSE WINNING:

The following are extracts from letter written by Nurse Winning, formerly of the General Hospital, Ipswich, to her friends in this city. It was written on New Year's Eve, from the American Hospital of Paris.

She writes :-"I cannot do better tonight, than to stretch out my hands and thoughts to you, who are so far away, and wish you 'A Guid New Year.' Christmas is over, and it was indeed a relief to have it so. To some of us, this year, at least, it seems such a mockery to dwell on "Peace and Good-will to all men at the present time. However, we succeeded in making things brighter for the patients, and they are the ones who count after all, for most of them have to go back and face the music again. But men are curious things;" they are positively in their element fighting. It was a most pathetic sight to see the convalescents going in to get their presents off the Christmas-tree. We decorated the wards with holly (and such holly it was—loaded with bright red berries), and flags of the Allies, and, of course, the Stars and Stripes very much in evidence.

In the afternoon, we had a concert in the chapel, some Christmas carols, patriotic songs, &c. I heard for the first time the new recruiting song. 'Your King and Country.' and think it very fine. Did I tell you about the chapel here? It is in the hospital, and the old curet [*sic*] lives on the premises. Most of the patients are French, and are Roman Catholics, but provision is made for other religions. For instance, the chapel has two altars - the Roman Catholic at one end and the Church of England altar at the opposite end. There was a nice service there on Christmas Day, and a supper for everyone afterwards. I am rather busy just now

on night duty, and we have three very bad cases to attend to. One poor chap had to have his arm amputated, with the hope of saving his life, and the other two are very bad "Jaw" cases. However, they are all asleep at present, and have forgotten their troubles for the moment. We get a great many bad cases now. I suppose they have to look out of the trench sometimes, and thus get 'sniped.' I must tell you of one of our patients, whose life was saved by his dog. He was almost passed over, as he was hidden under a fall of earth, but his dog scratched him out, and brought aid to him. The dog arrived at the hospital with the man as the ambulance had not the heart to leave it, and the man said he would not come without it. The dog is here now—well looked after, petted and spoiled. The doctor brings the dog into the ward every morning to see the poor, sick fellow, and it is rather pathetic to witness their meeting. I have written to the Commonwealth Office, London, to see if it will be possible to join the Australian Army Nursing Corps, I should like it very much, although the work here has been very interesting."



*World War I Hospital Ship From the web*

*Queensland Times (Ipswich) Saturday 2nd September 1916*

Mr. J. NESTER, Tarome [via Boonah] has just received word that his son, Private C. NESTER, has been wounded in action.

*(From National Archives: Christopher NESTER born Coochin - enlisted 3rd August 1915 Brisbane. Christopher lost his right leg above the knee after complications from a gunshot wound, and was discharged 13th August 1917 (Christopher was the only NESTER recorded in National Archives for W.W.I)*



*William Johnson, of Ipswich, and friend Mr Williamson, Cairo, 1916  
[Photograph Courtesy Picture Ipswich]*

*Queensland Times (Ipswich) Saturday 2nd September 1916*

Mr. F. JOHNSON, coachbuilder, of Brisbane street, has received cable information that his son, Private W. J. JOHNSON (who will be remembered as one of this city's first-class marksmen), was wounded in France, and that he was subsequently conveyed to hospital quarters in England.

*From National Archives: William John JOHNSON, born 10th November 1893, enlisted Brisbane 14th May 1915. Wounded in Action, 2<sup>nd</sup> time, gunshot wound to the chest, 20th September 1917 embarked England for Australia 16th December*

*1917, and discharged 2nd May 1918.*

*Queensland Times (Ipswich) Friday 15 September 1916*

Mr. and Mrs. Owen DALY, Moore,[Brisbane Valley Line] received a telegram from the Base Record on Monday intimating that their son, Private Martin DALY had been wounded.

*From National Archives: Martin DALY, born 1894, butcher, enlisted Brisbane 31<sup>st</sup> August 1915. Embarked 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1916; Wounded in the leg 1<sup>st</sup> August 1916; married Ethel Violet Benton in England 20<sup>th</sup> September 1919, Returned to Australia with his wife, and Discharged 19<sup>th</sup> September 1920.*

Mrs. R. W. AYLOTT, of Ellenborough Street, received a cable on Thursday stating that her son, Trooper F. C. AYLOTT, was well and still in Tidworth, south of England.

*From National Archives: Frederick Charles AYLOTT born Ipswich*

*Enlisted 13th December 1915 Brisbane*

## LETTERS FROM THE FRONT.

*Queensland Times 7th January 1916*

Mr T. J. Barker has received the following from Sergt. C. DAVENPORT dated at sea;

:—"Just a line to let you know that the 'Hungry Eight,' are in the best of health. We are having a good time on board, and the best of tucker. We have—for breakfast, porridge, bacon, eggs, white fish, tea; dinner: soup, roast beef, and curry, and pudding and tea ; tea : stewed meat, cheese, pickles, butter and tea. So we are well treated. We have been ashore at Sydney and Melbourne, Hobart, Adelaide, and Fremantle—not a bad tour. We had a bit of ill-luck at Melbourne. One of our sailors was killed by a wire rope breaking. The troops are in the best of health.

I am not allowed to give you any information as to the nature of troops aboard. We are all in good jobs. GALL is pantry man, CRANK assisting cook, WARD pioneer, and I was made sergeant before we left port. We have just shipped a heavy sea, which drenched a few of the boys, who are all jolly fellows. We have not, up till now, had any rows amongst them. I will conclude this letter, and will, as promised give you a monthly account of the 'Hungry Eight,' if possible.

Remember me to the members of the Veterans' Association."

(With regard to the "Hungry Eight" referred to in the above letter, most of them belong to the Ipswich Navy and Army Association, and are men with South African and African service, belonging to English regiments.)

*A former resident of this district writes from Heliopolis on 14/11/1915*

We have now arrived in camp, and I am in the best of health. The work over here is very hard on account of the desert. There is nothing to see outside the camp and town except sand. The country alongside of the Suez Canal is all cut



with little canals. It looks funny to see a boat going along in the desert. You cannot see the little canals until you are right up against them. They are about 8ft wide, but fairly big boats go along them. The natives themselves do the pulling, when there is no wind.

*Cairo Shop 1917  
Courtesy Picture Ipswich*



Yesterday about 100 of us went sight- seeing around Cairo. We went to Cairo in tram-cars from there to the "Dead City" in carriages. One of the tombs is said to have cost £48,000. There are hundreds of others around and nearly all the houses have dozens of people buried in them. We then went to the "Sacred Lake," where people come to wash to get cured of sickness.

Next we went along Kitchener's-road, to the "buried city." This city has been buried thousands of years, and you can see parts of the houses where men have cleared the sand away. We then went to the "Mosque". This must have been a marvellous place. It has pillars in it. Each pillar came from a different place, and no two pillars are alike. One of the pillars came from "Mecca," The British Government has put an iron grill around it to stop the natives from kissing it. We went into the oldest Jewish temple and saw some Old Testament manuscript, in a wonderful state of preservation. We took a trip on the Nile, and saw the place where Moses was found in the bulrushes. I also saw the Pyramids from distance. We did not have time to go up to them. I will go some other time. The money over here is very strange. I am getting used to it. Cairo is about the dirtiest place ever I was in.

*Queensland Times. : 7 January 1920*

## **LIEUT-COLONEL E. E. BROWN RETURNS TO IPSWICH. EXPERIENCES IN MILITARY HOSPITALS & BIG INSTITUTIONS AT CAIRO AND PORT SAID.**

*On Board a Hospital Ship 1916 Courtesy Picture Ipswich*



Lieut.-Col. E. E. BROWN, the well-known Ipswich medico, who arrived back in Ipswich last Saturday evening, has had a wide experience in medical and surgical work since he left Ipswich over three years ago. He was for 15 months on service in the big hospital at Cairo, and was for 12

months in the huge institution at Port Said, afterwards returning to Cairo. He was thus "In the thick of it" during the time when the big "stunts" in Egypt and Palestine were in progress. Col. BROWN in the course of an interview with a representative of the "Queensland Times," yesterday, stated that he left Sydney on September 2nd 1916, arriving at Suez on October 6th of the same year. He went straight on to Cairo, where he was in charge of some of the surgical wards in the military hospital, holding the position of second surgeon thereat. The wounded from Romani were then being treated at that institution, and in the December and January following more wounded men were admitted from Magdaba and Rafa."

In March and April of 1917, continued Col. BROWN, "there was a big rush of wounded from the first and second Gaza stunts, and in about a week we got 700 wounded. This, of course, kept us very busy. Some of the men had been very badly wounded." Continuing, he said he remained at Cairo until the end of 1917, when he went to Port Said. At this place it was necessary to take in practically any sick cases, as there was no other place where they could be treated.

The Canal Company's buildings were utilized as a hospital. During the year 1918 malaria made its appearance, cases coming chiefly from the Jordan Valley, and Damascus. They had as many as 1200 patients suffering from this malady in hospital at the one time, while the total number of patients rose as high as 1900. Sixty per cent of the troops in the Jordan Valley contracted this disease.

During the year influenza also broke out, said Col. BROWN and a number of deaths resulted there from this scourge assumed its most virulent form amongst a party of Indians, who come into the hospital from a transport, most of them succumbing.

Dr BROWN returned to Cairo, at the end of 1918, and in March, 1919 the Egyptian riots broke out. For seven weeks it was not safe to go outside without being armed, and the trouble made it necessary for the doctor to stay in Egypt for a few months longer than he otherwise would have. Several Ipswich and district boys came under his care in the military hospitals.

Dr BROWN spoke highly of the service performed by the sisters who were on duty at the hospitals, "I cannot value their services too highly," he remarked. "Not only were they always ready to work hard, but their cheerfulness and comradeship did much to encourage many a poor fellow, who appeared to be down and out." The Australian sisters, he considered, more than held their own, in the work they did. Amongst the sisters whom Dr. BROWN met in the course of his duty were Sister COOTE (formerly of the Ipswich General Hospital, and Sister DOONER, the present matron of St. Mary's Private Hospital. There were he remarked, 120 sisters in the hospital at Port Said, and 300 orderlies, while the medical men numbered 30.



Col. BROWN said he was much impressed with the great strides made during the war in surgical work, of which he had seen a great deal.

Another thing that struck him particularly was the effectiveness of inoculation as a preventive of typhoid fever, and the few cases which had occurred amongst the soldiers. In previous wars it has been said that more men died from disease than from enemy bullets," said the doctor, "but in the late war the position had been reversed, and the number who died from disease was almost negligible." At Port Said, continued Col. Brown, evidences of the effect of the enemy's submarine campaign were often seen, and vessels which had been torpedoed were frequently visible in the port. Some of them had sunk a few miles out, while others managed to "limp" as far as the heads.

Dr BROWN left Cairo in July 1919, for England, subsequently proceeding to Dublin. "We were well received in Ireland," remarked the doctor, "our Australian uniforms securing for us an excellent reception. We had a look at Killarney, while we were in that country." The doctor later visited Scotland, and subsequently made a tour of Italy and France, an interesting trip being made through the Alps. Dr BROWN visited Paris during his stay on the Continent. While in the Old Country, Dr BROWN said he had been impressed with the evidences of prosperity everywhere. London, he said, was full of people, and there appeared to be plenty of money about, notwithstanding the very high prices of all commodities. Eggs were 5½d each at that time, and a chicken was unobtainable at less than 15/-. The railway strike occurred while the doctor was in England.

Col. BROWN has brought back with him several shell cases which he became possessed of. It was surprising he said to notice the large amount of ammunition which the Turks left behind at Gaza, thousands of pounds worth being abandoned at this place alone. The shell cases which the doctor has are made of brass, but later when this metal became scarce, the manufacturers largely used steel. One of the shell cases has the year "1913" stamped upon it, and all are of German make. The value of irrigation, said Col BROWN, was impressed upon him during his stay in Egypt. "It rains only once a year-about Christmas time," he said.", "but in the middle of a drought I have seen maize stalks 12 feet high." All the crops are grown by means of irrigation. From the famous Nile dam the lands are watered, and within the area thus benefited excellent crops are grown. "There is nothing elaborate about the system," remarked the doctor, "but it is very effective." Dr BROWN proposes leaving for Sydney to-morrow (Thursday), and he expects to be back in Ipswich by the beginning of next week. He hopes to resume practice about the middle of the present month.

*Queensland Times (Ipswich) Saturday 2nd September 1916*



## TO HONOUR THEM

*[Brassall Methodist Church  
Honour Board  
Courtesy Picture Ipswich]*

**Private H.C.VIRGO**, who was recently reported as having been killed in action, was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph VIRGO, residents of Glamorganvale.

The deceased soldier was 19 years of age, and he left Enoggera for Egypt on the 5th of

October, 1915, with the 5th Reinforcements of the 25th Battalion. Private VIRGO subsequently reached France in March of this year, and he wrote a cheerful letter to his parents, stating that he had been selected as one of the bomb-fighters. It was while carrying out these duties that he met his death. Much sympathy is felt for the bereaved parents, who are comforted in the thought that their son did his duty. It may be stated that he has 15 cousins at the front.

Mr. and Mrs. VIRGO have only been five years in this State, having come from Bristol, in England. Their son was employed for about two years at the Ipswich Grammar School, and was regarded as a promising lad.

*From National Archives: Harold Curtis VIRGO – Parents Joseph and Louise VIRGO, Pine Mountain Ipswich. Killed in the Field France 25th July 1916*

**PRIVATE HAROLD CURTIS VIRGO**

Place of Birth:	Almondsbury, Gloucestershire, England
Date of Birth:	Not Recorded
Mother's Name:	Emma Louisa Virgo (nee Curtis)
Father's Name:	Joseph Virgo
Date of Enlistment:	14th August 1915
Place of Enlistment:	Brisbane, Queensland
Age on Enlistment:	18 years 4 months
Regimental Number:	2407
Unit Enlisted In:	26th Infantry Battalion
Draft/Company:	5th Reinforcements, 26th Battalion
Address on Enlistment:	Pine Mountain Station, Ipswich, Queensland
Marital Status:	Not Married
Nominated Next of Kin:	Mr Joseph Virgo (Father)
Next of Kin Address:	Pine Mountain, via Ipswich
Schools Attended:	I.C.S. London
Religion:	Church of England
Civilian Occupation:	Farmer
Previous Military Service:	Senior Cadets, Training Area 10A
Date of Death:	Tuesday, 25th July 1916
Cause of Death:	Killed in Action
Place of Death:	Poizieres, France
Age at Death:	19
Place of Burial/Memorial:	Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France
Medal Entitlement:	1914/1915 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal
Death Certificate:	22/008984
War Memorial Panel:	67
Honour Stone/Memorial:	Memorial Hall Roll of Honour, Western Suburbs Honour Stone, Ipswich, Methodist Church Honour Board, Brassall Methodist Church Honour Board and Ipswich Rechabites' Honour Board

**Embarkation Details:**

Private Harold Virgo embarked for overseas service with the A.I.F. on A69, His Majesty's Australian Troopship "Warilda" on 5th October 1915 from the port of Brisbane, Queensland.

[from National Archives of Australia]

## ***QUEENSLAND RAIL EMPLOYEES WHO ENLISTED IN THE GREAT WAR 1914-18***

Information has been gathered from QR Staff History Cards and Defence Records pertaining to over 3,000 employees of Queensland Railways from 1914 to 1920. A number did not “Return to Duty” with the Railways until 1920.

Some of the men enlisted but for various reasons, did not leave Australia. Some wives objected, a number were underage, many were deemed to be medically unfit, and in some cases they were over age. A number joined under assumed names, and while many of these are known – some admitted to the fact, there are others who it is difficult to trace.

It was planned that books detailing the information would have been published by 1915, but for various reasons this did not happen, but hopefully they will be ready in the next 12 months. It is a huge undertaking, researching the Defence Records and the records from Queensland Rail has been very time consuming, and when you come to names like Smith, Wilson and White to name a few, it takes a lot of research to be sure you have the right parents. On the list there are 30 Smiths, and surprisingly they did not prove to be as difficult to research as was expected.

The Defence records were obtained from the National Archives website, and the Rail Records from the Staff History Cards, the Commissioner’s Reports [CR], Queensland Government Gazettes [QGG], Chief Engineers Honour Board [C.E. HB], Station Honour Boards [Stn HB], Workshops Ipswich Memorial.

If no History Card was found, the date “Appointed to QR” would have been found in the Commissioner’s Report. The transfers from Station to station can be traced from the dates and towns mentioned. One man had thirty two transfers on his Staff History Card.

Please contact the Editor if you have information or photographs of your ancestor who was employed by Qld Rail and who enlisted in the First World War.



*Courtesy Workshops Rail Museum*

A sample of the information collected when researching.

[POE – Place of Enlistment; RTA - Returned to Australia; Bn - Battalion;  
MM – Military Medal; LG – London Gazette ]

**GALLWEY Francis Vivian b Madeira Spain 03.10.1877**  
**Appointed QR** 04.07.1912 Temp. Electrician Roma St.; 02.12.1915 Permanent;  
**POE** Brisbane 03.04.1916 **3549 49 Bn 37yrs 5mths Electrical Engineer**  
**Embarked** 24.01.1917; UK 12.04.1917; France 24.11.1917; **MM - LG** 17.06.1919  
**RTA** 19.08.1919; **Discharged** 01.12.1919; **Awards** MM / BWM / VIC  
**Returned QR** 17.11.1919; **Retired** 12.12.1943  
**Source:** Signal & Light Engineers HB; C.R. [GALLAWAY]; QGG; History Card;

**LIPP George John b. Greenmount Q 15.05.1896**  
**Appointed QR** 24.01.1913 Loco Cleaner, Toowoomba; 01.10.1916 Fireman;  
**POE** Toowoomba 22.09.1916 **7005 15 Bn 20yrs 4mths Railway Fireman**  
**Embarked** 25.11.1916; UK 29.01.1917; France 22.05.1917; Hospital sick 19.09.1917;  
**Wounded** 30.09.1917 58<sup>th</sup> General Hospital hit by bomb from hostile aircraft  
 UK 22.10.1917 Left leg amputated;  
**RTA** 24.01.1918; **Discharged** 19.04.1918; **Awards** BWM / VIC  
**Returned QR** 15.10.1918 Tool Storeman, Warwick Shed; 28.08.1921 Checker;  
 19.03.1923 Porter in Charge, Applethorpe; 27.08.1924 Clerk, Audit Office Brisbane  
**Retired** 11.05.1962;  
**Source:** Toowoomba Stn. HB; C.R; QGG; History Card;

**LANGE Arthur b. Helsingford Finland 01.12.1893 [Served AIF as 'Adolf']**  
**Appointed QR** N/K Temp Labourer, Rockhampton;  
**POE** Rockhampton 09.02.1916 **828 3 Pioneer 22yrs Labourer**  
**Embarked** 06.06.1916; UK 26.07.1916; France 24.11.1916;  
**RTA** 20.05.1919; **Discharged** 20.08.1919; **Awards** BWM / VIC  
**Returned QR** 04.09.1919; **Resigned** 10.03.1923  
**Source:** QGG; History Card;

**LANGE Henry b Ascot Vic**  
**Appointed QR** [No History Card Found]  
**POE** Cunnamulla 18.12.1914 **777 5LHR 23yrs 3mths Lengthsman**  
**Embarked** 09.02.1915; Gallipoli 29.07.1915; **WIA** 10.08.1915; 09.11.1915 severe;  
**RTA** 05.08.1919; **Discharged** 09.10.1919; **Awards** 1914-15 Star / BWM / VIC  
**Source:** Toowoomba Stn. HB.;

**MACOUN Robert Prince McCann b. on the High Seas 20.11.1880 d. 08.08.1939**  
**Appointed QR** 09.07.1897 Loco Cleaner, Rockhampton; 01.07.1900 Emerald;  
 01.07.1902 Fireman, Rockhampton; 02.08.1909 Driver; 17.05.1915 Emerald  
**POE** Rockhampton 31.08.1915 **4864 15 Bn 34yrs 10mths Engine Driver**  
**Embarked** 28.03.1916; Suez 05.05.1916; UK 16.08.1916; France 04.12.1916;  
**WIA - POW** 01.02.1917; UK 16.12.1918;  
**RTA** 02.03.1919; **Discharged** 13.06.1919; **Awards** BWM / VIC  
**Returned QR** 09.06.1919 Rockhampton;  
**Source:** Rockhampton Stn. HB; C.R; QGG; History Card;

**MADDEN William John b. Gympie Q 1893**  
**Appointed QR** 21.04.1913 Loco Cleaner; [No History Card Found]  
**POE** Brisbane 21.08.1915 **3379 15 Bn 21yrs 9mths Loco Cleaner**  
**Embarked** 02.10.1915; Suez \_; 47 Bn 06.03.1916; Marseilles 09.06.1916;  
**WIA** 08.08.1916;  
**RTA** 27.07.1917; **Discharged** 24.10.1917; **Awards** 1914-15 Star / BWM / VIC  
**Returned QR** N/K Stores Labourer; 1919 Loco Cleaner;  
**Source:** Maryborough Stn. HB; C.R; QGG;

## ***QUEENSLAND RECRUITING TRAINS***



*Recruiting and  
War Bond Train  
Emerald Q 1916  
Courtesy  
Workshops Rail  
Museum Ipswich*

In 1916 trains travelled throughout Queensland displaying posters urging men to join the fighting forces overseas, and rallies were held at stations and in some cases, small sidings.

Officials travelled on the trains and spoke to the public hoping to persuade men to enlist. Some of the banners and posters read:

**RECRUITS WANTED**  
DON'T STAND  
LOOKING AT THIS  
COME & HELP

**MEN!**  
AUSTRALIA  
WANTS YOU

**BOYS!**  
REMEMBER  
THE DARDANELLES  
25<sup>th</sup> APR. 1915.  
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

**ATTENTION**  
SOME QUEENSLAND BOYS  
ARE MAKING HISTORY  
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?  
COME ON!

**HALT!**  
WHO GOES THERE?  
IF YOU ARE A FRIEND  
ENLIST

**BOYS**  
WE ARE WAITING FOR YOU



## **PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE**

Write to the Secretary PO Box 323, Ipswich Q 4305

BIRTH, DEATH & MARRIAGE EXTRACTS 1858 – 1865 from The North Australian & Ipswich General Advertiser. \$10 + \$10.00 P&P in Australia

CITIZENS OF IPSWICH - 1904 Names of Ipswich citizens in 1904 taken from Available Church Records - Baptisms, Deaths and Marriages, Electoral Rolls, Post Office Directory, Available School Rolls, Queensland Times Reports.  
\$10 + \$10.00 P&P in Australia

IPSWICH & DISTRICT PIONEER REGISTER - pre 1914 - Pioneer Families of the Ipswich, Gatton, Laidley, Boonah and Esk areas of Queensland.

**Please note prices:** Set Volumes 1 & 2 - \$10 + \$15 P&P in Australia

INDEX TO IPSWICH GENERAL CEMETERY 1851 - 1992 & Columbarium Wall 1949 - 1992. One microfiche \$6 includes postage in Australia. This index contains over 15,000 entries with details of name, age and date of death. \$10 + \$10 P&P in Australia.

INDEX TO OATHS OF ALLEGIANCE (held by the Society). These are relating to pioneers of the Ipswich district. \$3 + \$2.00 postage in Australia

JUBILEE HISTORY OF IPSWICH 1910 Commemorates the Jubilee of Municipal Government. Reproduced on CD from the original 157 page book \$19.50 (\$4.00 p&p)

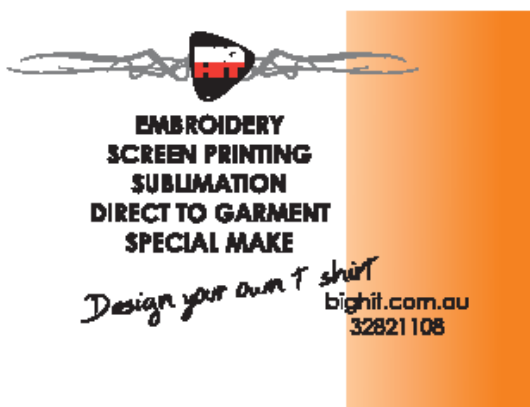
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