



AROUND THE GRAVES

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NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF CHELTENHAM AND REGIONAL CEMETERIES INC.

Avenue of Honour

In September 1917, the *Brighton Southern Cross* printed a list of soldiers for the 199 trees comprising the avenue of honour along Nepean Highway (corner of Centre Dandenong Road). Many are buried in the Cheltenham cemeteries.

“East Side Nepean Road.— J Fisher, **W E Fisher (Walter Edwin Fisher d 1971, Cheltenham Memorial Park)**, J Wayland, H Anning, L G Anning, J Hanies, **A G Hewett (Arthur George Hewett d 1965, Cheltenham Pioneer Cemetery)**, W P Keys, W Andrews, A Lougmuir, G W Huxtable, T Harvey, **W H Wayland (William Wayland d 1971, Memorial)**, W J Foreman, R C Foreman, A J Morris, H Eden, **F G Eden (Frederick George Eden d 1983, Pioneer)**, R G Eden [sic], L G Brownfield, D E McSwain, **E McSwain (Ewen McSwain d 1937, Pioneer)**, G Keffer, R T G Penny, F H Hughes, R J Hughes, G Sherwood, B R Buckley, **W G Buckley (William George Buckley d 1952, Memorial)**, J Baston, A Baston, R A McColl, H W Lyons, S Lyons, **W Caulfield (William Stanley Caulfield d 1919, Pioneer)**, **H Elder (Henry/Harry Elder d 1928, Pioneer)**, J W Anderson (**John William Anderson d 1979, Pioneer**), W J Gurnham, A L Martin, **H B Hayman (Harry Bracewell Hayman d 1923, Pioneer)**, **G J Heffernan (George James Heffernan d 1944, Memorial)**, A Palmer, J Teagle (**James Teagle d 1940, Memorial**), John Teagle, **P R Woff (Percival Robert Woff d 1979, Memorial)**, E Smithies, **J H McKnight (James Henry McKnight d 1966, Pioneer)**, H Booker, H White, A White, M L McKenzie, E May, A Hillerd, T

Stayner, L Wilding, T G Lebon, N S Hall, F Follett, **C A Follett (Charles Arthur Follett d 1969, Pioneer)**, J Gent, J Vickers, A Powell, P Pearson, M S Parish, G Harris, F Martin, R Weinzeil, W Coates, A Madden, P Robertson,

J Harkins, W Harkins, G P Hay, L Flanders, F Flanders and J Neason.

West Side Nepean Road.— A Fisher, R P Fisher, G Wayland, C T Wayland, P Anning, G Anning, R W Whitehead, W M Whitehead, G C Santlebury [sic], **Vera Santlebury** [sic] (**Vera Scantlebury Brown d 1946, Pioneer**), G M R Nuttall [sic], L M James, **G Richards (George W Richards d 1931, Pioneer)**, A Wilson, G V Wilde, A L Davidson, R P Fairlam, R J Shields, R Alder, G Howe, **J W Allnutt (John William Allnutt d 1967, Pioneer)**, H M Bennett, A G Maxwell, A Weigall, H Hills, W T Drummond, **S Rodda (Sydney Rodda d 1971, Memorial)**, S V Woff [sic], G A Robertson, W E Smith, J S Mills, J J Mills, A E Flett, D B Flett, H C Flett, J Steer, J Hodge, J Aspinall, H H Brown, J Adams, S Adlington, J D Jackson, W Slocomb, W S Coombes, **C H Burnett (Cedric Henry Burnett d 1988, Pioneer)**, A B Dixon, W J Coleman, **T G Wittingslow (Thomas George Wittingslow d 1966, Memorial)**, E W Wittingslow, A Davis, E Davis, S Organ, J Fry, H Fry, W A Organ, H Stephens, S Steplens, F Penrose, P Lake, R Smith, H Booker, R Marshall, R Morey, T Judd, E Judd, H Cole, W Pentland, H J MacLean, F Wright, T Johnson, W J Johnson, D Hay, F Buckley, D Hutchinson, G Hutchinson, T Taylor, C H Williams, G F Usher, F B Conway, L Warburton, J Warburton, J McCarthy, E A Carson, L Morris, B Swaby, G Bastin, A W Burgess, R Trudgeon, W Jacques, G O'Mara, T O'Mara, W Rose, P Rose, J Mason, F G Mason, F S Mudgley, L Reynolds, **O R Judd (Orlando Rupert Judd d 1972, Memorial)**, E J Judd, A R Anderson, A Turner, F Farmer, F Westhorpe and E J Grundy.”

(Source: *Brighton Southern Cross* 15 Sep 1917 p2)

Those names underlined indicates that the soldier's parent(s) are buried in the Cheltenham Cemeteries.



above:
Grave of Ewen McSwain— Pioneer Cemetery, Pres “61” 14



above:
Grave of James McKnight— Pioneer Cemetery, CofE “45” 61

Notable Military Interments

As we commemorate the fallen on Anzac Day, we reflect on a few of the notable persons buried in the Cheltenham cemeteries.

John William **ALLNUTT**—Councillor (1927-49) and three times Mayor of Moorabbin (1930-31, 1936-37, 1948-49) who served in WWI (1915-17). Allnutt followed Cyril George **BARTRAM** who was Mayor of Sandringham (1928-29) and a veteran of the 58th Batt (1916-17).

Eugene Felix **ARON** and William **MCCARTHY**—two 'Old Contemptibles' who served in the British regular army. McCarthy was later a ranger for the Brighton City Council for 14 years.

Minnie Farquharson **BAILEY née PROCTOR**—Nursing Sister (1915-19) who sailed in May 1915 and was mentioned in despatches. Another nurse, Estelle Frances **LEE-ARCHER** was believed to be one of six nurses to be awarded the Red Cross medal.

Michael Alwyn **BOURKE**—one of the first Australians killed in combat in Vietnam when a grenade exploded in July 1965. Two other known soldiers killed in Vietnam who are buried at Cheltenham are Robert Graham **PERRIN** (d Feb 1968) and Jeffrey Thomas **WORLE** (d May 1968).

George James **BOWDEN**, MC—Federal parliamentarian (1943-61) who was awarded the Military Cross with the 24th Batt and later served on the Home Front during WWII.

William Sefton **BOWMAN**—Rear-Admiral with the Royal

Navy whose father defended Ellen Kelly, mother of the outlaw Ned.

Jack **FLANNERY**—WWII POW who after the war became driver to his mate and fellow POW, Sir 'Weary' Dunlop.

Arthur Edward **FORBES**—a rare breed of soldier-chaplain who fought and preached with equal fervour. In South Africa, Forbes was awarded the DCM.

Sir George "Jonah" **JONES**, DFC—Chief of Air Staff and the last WWI fighter ace with seven victories. Jones died at Mentone in August 1992 aged 95.

James Gordon **LEGGE**—a long serving army officer (1885-1924) who fought in the Boer War and commanded the AIF at Gallipoli and later the 2nd Australian Division. He retired in 1924 with the honorary rank of Lieutenant-General. A controversial figure.

Robert (Bobby) **PEARCE**—Soldier and baritone singer with the group *Famous Diggers*. He died in 1928.



above:
Air Marshal Sir George Jones KBE, CB, DFC (1896-1992)
(Australian War Memorial, 019070)

Emma Johnstone: The Diggers' Pal

Mrs Emma Johnstone could aptly be termed the *Diggers Pal*, for her whole heart was wrapped up in the welfare of all returned men. Her loss to the Mordialloc branch of the RSL, is irreparable. She can never be replaced. Only 4ft 6in in height, only a handful, yet a giantess in her love for her country and its defenders. During the war, Mrs Johnstone worked hard and loyally in all the Red Cross functions held in the district, but on the return of the boys, her efforts increased a hundred fold. The present Memorial Hall, the memorial flag and stone, even the memorial fountain, stand as monuments to her memory for all time. It is well known that her efforts for the local boys caused a strain and weakened her heart but still she carried on. Since

her death a wonderful compliment has been paid to her memory, for she has been made a digger and admitted to membership of the RSL, and it is stated that she is the only woman in Australia who has received the honour.

The coffin was draped with a Union Jack, so that the flag she loved so dearly, covered her to the finish.

(Source: Frankston & Somerville Standard 6 Jan 1928 p5)



above:
"The Diggers Pal from the Victorian Branch R.S & S.I.L.A" — Grave of Emma Johnstone — Pioneer Cemetery, Pres "79" 36