	THE CANADA SERVICE SER	
	(23/7/1886 – 22/1/1917)	
	AUSTRALIA / TURKEY / EGYPT	
	{Dick}	
<u>Parents</u>	Birth and Death	Religion
William Nicholl (Jr) Sarah Jane Nicholl (nee McCluskey)	B – 23 rd July 1886 Quirindi NSW Australia, Henry St Quirindi. (1 st sibling bom in Quirindi) D – 22 nd January 1917 Cairo Egypt Died of Wounds. Principle memorial, family plot Quirindi General Cemetery Russell Street Quirindi NSW Australia.	Anglican
	AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL POSSO 1.073	

<u>OCCUPATIONS</u>; In his younger years he worked as a flour mill attendant and carter in Quirindi. He played football. Rugby Union was the game of choice for the Nicholl family when it came to football. He may have attempted some droving, in his father's footsteps, however appears to have moved to Sydney, probably to look for better work. Whilst in Sydney he enlisted in the 1st AIF.

SOLDIER (ANZAC). Arthur was one of four brothers who enlisted in the 1st AIF. Light horseman (1st light horse 5th reinforcement). He enlisted at Liverpool Sydney on the 6th January 1915. Arthur was fighting the Turks, firstly at Gallipoli before being moved to the middle east, Egypt where he died.

The 1st Light Horse Regiment was raised, from recruits from New South Wales, at Rosebury Park in Sydney in August 1914. It was one of three regiments of the 1st Light Horse Brigade - the first mounted formation committed by Australia to the First World War. The regiment sailed from Sydney on 19 October and disembarked in Egypt on 8 December.

The light horse were initially considered unsuitable for the Gallipoli operation, but were soon deployed without their horses to reinforce the infantry. The 1st Light Horse Regiment landed on 12 May 1915 and was attached to the New Zealand and Australian Division. It played a defensive role for most of the campaign but mounted an attack on the Turkish position known as "the Chessboard" as part of the August Offensive on 7 August - 200 men were involved, 147 became casualties. The regiment left Gallipoli on 21 December 1915.

Back in Egypt, the 1st Light Horse Regiment joined the ANZAC Mounted Division. Between January and May 1916, it was deployed to protect the Nile valley from bands of pro-Turkish Senussi Arabs. On 14 May, it redeployed with its parent brigade to join the forces defending the Suez Canal. The 1st Light Horse Brigade played a significant role in turning back the Turkish advance on the canal at the battle of Romani on 4 August. In ensuing days the regiments of the Brigade participated in the immediate follow-up of the defeated Turks, but were soon withdrawn to rest.

The 1st Light Horse Regiment rejoined the Allied advance across the Sinai in November 1916 and was subsequently involved in the fighting to secure the Turkish outposts on the Palestine frontier - Maghdaba on 23 December 1916 and Rafa on 9 January 1917. A stint of protective duty along the line of communications through the Sinai followed. The 1st Light Horse Regiment's next major engagement was the abortive second battle of Gaza on 19 April. Gaza finally fell on 7 November, after a wide outflanking move via Beersheba, in which the regiments of the 1st Light Horse Brigade played a part.

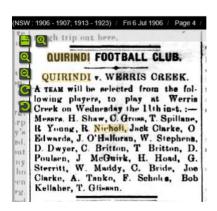
With the capture of Gaza, the Turkish position in southern Palestine collapsed. The 1st Light Horse

Regiment participated in the advance to Jaffa that followed, and was then committed to operations to clear and occupy the west bank of the Jordan River. It was involved in the Amman (24-27 February) and Es Salt (30 April-4 May) raids and the repulse of a major German and Turkish attack on 14 July 1918.

The final British offensive of the campaign was launched along the Mediterranean coast on 19 September 1918, with the ANZAC Mounted Division taking part in a subsidiary effort east of the Jordan aimed at Amman. Turkey surrendered on 30 October 1918. The 1st Light Horse Regiment sailed for Australia on 12 March 1919 without their horses, which were either shot or transferred to Indian cavalry units.

Durindi Herald"
3-5-1904 Wm Nichall is butcher and also Poundkeefer.
3-6-1905 Arthur Richard Nichall was a flaur mill assistant:

Quirindi Herald 6th July 1906



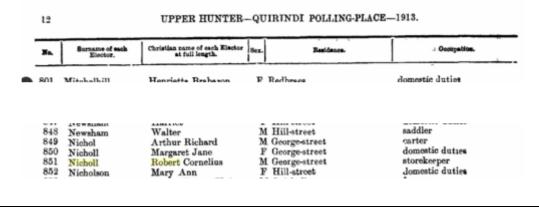
Quirindi Herald 31st July 1906



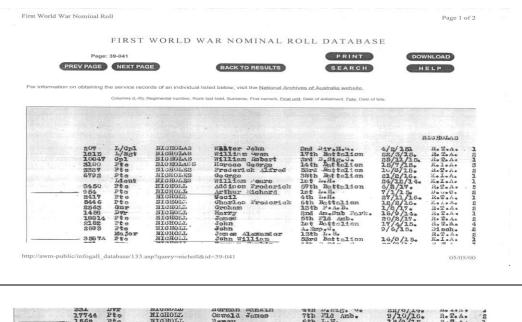
Quirindi Herald 9th August 1907



1913 electoral roll – note parents would have moved to Westdale Tamworth by this date.



Arthur Richard Nicholl 1st Light Horse, 5th reinforcement. Regimental No 954.



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Arthur Richard NICHOLL

Regimental number 954

Quirindi, New South Wales Place of birth

School Quirindi Superior Public School, New South Wales

Religion Church of England

Occupation Drover

Address c/o West Tamworth PO, West Tamworth, New South Wales

Marital status Single Age at embarkation

Next of kin Mother, Mrs Sarah Nicholl, c/o West Tamworth PO, West

Tamworth, New South Wales

Enlistment date 6 January 1915 Date of enlistment from Nominal Roll 7 January 1915

Rank on enlistment Private

Unit name 1st Light Horse Regiment, 5th Reinforcement

AWM Embarkation Roll number

Embarkation details Unit embarked from Newcastle, New South Wales, on board

HMAT A41 Bakara on 22 May 1915

Rank from Nominal Roll Private

Unit from Nominal Roll 1st Light Horse Regiment

Died of wounds 22 January 1917

Age at death from cemetery records 30

Place of burial Cairo War Memorial Cemetery (Row F, Grave No. 9), Egypt

Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial

Parents: William and Sarah J. NICHOLL, West Tamworth, New

Miscellaneous information from

cemetery records

Brother: 3587A John William NICHOLL, 53rd Bn, killed in action, Family/military connections

Fromelles, France, 19 July 1916.

Tamworth Daily Observer 28th February 1917

QUIRINDI, Monday.
A soldier's letter to which is attached a pathetic interest was written in a bold clear hand and dated from El Arish, Egypt, New Years Day, 1917, by Pte. R. Nicholl, of Quirindi (son. of Mr. and Mrs. W. Nicholl, now of West Tamworth). It gives a very concise and clear account of the battle between the A.LH. Brigade and 3000 Turks on December 22 last: Early in the New Year Pte. Nicholls parents received word that he had been wounded in action, and later on, that the brave young soldier had died as the result of such wounds. Later still, his mother received his letter—the last message, alas that she was ever to get from him. After describing the brush with the Turks, the writer concluded: "We have been experiencing cold, wet miserable weather. It has rained every day for the past week (Christmas week); and I am wearing my great coat all the time.

It seems strange to be shivering at this time of the year. . . It looks as if the war will soon be over. I hope so too." The late Private Nicholl was a fine, manly type of Australian, popular amongst all with whom he came in contact, and there are many in this district to-day who will sincerely sympathise with the afflicted parents in this the second bereavement they have sustained during the present war.

Birth;

Arthur was born in Quirindi shorty after the family appears to have moved from Yarraman (Yarraman Hotel). He is the first sibling born in Quirindi, most likely at the family residence in North street.

Births Search Results

Name	Registration Number	Father's Given Name(s)	Mother's Given Name(s)	District
NICHOLL ARTHUR R	22289/1886	WILLIAM	SARAH J	QUIRINDI

NSW BIRTH REGISTRATION TRANSCRIPTION REF NO: 1886/22289 NAME & WHETHER PRESENT Arthur Richard not present DATE OF BIRTH 23rd July 1886 PLACE Henry Street, Quirindi SEX OF CHILD Male **FATHER** William Nicholl **OCCUPATION** Butcher AGE Thirty five years BIRTHPLACE Maitland 3rd January 1876 DATE OF MARRIAGE PLACE OF MARRIAGE Murrurundi PREVIOUS ISSUE Three males and one female living, one female deceased MOTHER Sarah Jane formerly McCluskey AGE Twenty nine years BIRTHPLACE Murrurundi **INFORMANT** William Nicholl Jnr, father, Quirindi PRESENT AT BIRTH Mrs John Hall NOTES OR SUGGESTIONS Registered Robert HV Allnutt, 14th September 1896, Quirindi

NB: THIS TRANSCRIPTION IS NOT A CERTIFIED COPY FROM THE REGISTERS. IT CANNOT BE USED IN ANY LEGAL PROCEEDINGS WHATSOEVER.

Transcribed by Laurence Turtle PO Box 144 Kurrajong 2758 Phone: (02) 4573 1559



Prepared for Kenneth Nicholl

Date Transcribed: 15th October 2021

Images;

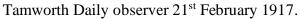
There was a collage of Great War images for my Grandfathers elder brothers displayed at his home in New Lambton NSW Australia. I assume it was prepared by my great grandmother Sarah Jane Nicholl at Westdale, however my grandfather did not feature on it as he had enlisted late in the war after two of his brothers had been killed. We returned it to Tamworth to one of Percy's daughters Jill, Percy being remembered on it. Unfortunately, I do not know what ultimately happened to it.



My grandfather's elder brothers circa 1905, assume Arthur Richard second from left.









Death;

22nd January 1917 after being moved to hospital in Cairo. Died of wounds, essentially gunshot wounds to head and eyes.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Sat 20 Jan 1917 / Page 2 / ROLL OF HONOR.

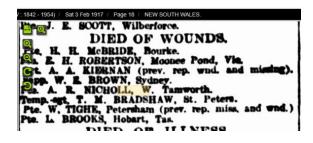
Mrs. W. Nicholf, of Westdale has received a notification to the effect that her son Private Arthur Richard Nicholl was admitted to 24th Stationary Hospital, Egypt. on the 12th inst. dangerously ill, suffering from genshot wound.

Tamworth Daily Observer 20th January 1917

ROLL OF HONOR.

Mr. W. Nicholl, of Westdale, has been informed by the Defence Department that his son, Priyate A. R. Nicholl died on 22nd January 1917, in the 14th Australian General Hospital, from gun shot wounds, in the head. Private Nicholl enlisted at Tamworth about 18 months ago and was dratted into the Light Horse. He was well-known in the Quirindi district, where he was a prominent footballer. This is the second son that Mr. Nicholl has lost, his o.1, Private John Micholl, having been posted missing in France about July last.

Tamworth Daily Observer 27th January 1917



Sydney Morning Herald 3rd February 1917

Westdale Heroes



Tamworth Daily Observer 21st February 1917

Tamworth Northern Daily Leader 22nd January 1921

HUGHES.—At Quirindi. on January 17. William Francis Hughes, late of Tamworth. Aged 65 years. R.I.P.

ROLL OF HONOR.

NICHOLL.—In loving memory of our dear ton and brother, Trooper Arther Richard (Dick), who died of wounds in Egypt, January 22, 1917.

The midnight stars are shining
On a grave far away,
Where they laid our darling son
Just feur years ago to-day.
Inserted by his loving father and mother, brothers and sisters, Westdale.

Memorials

I do recall as a child my father was asked whether he would like his uncle repatriated to Australia for reburial. My father was born in 1928 and therefore had never met his uncle.



Family plot Quirindi NSW Australia



1917 grave Cairo Egypt



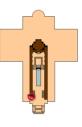
2020 grave Cairo Egypt



Westdale Tamworth NSW Australia



Murrurundi NSW Australia



Canberra; panel 2 commemorative area of the Australian War Memorial