



Capt. Frank Howard Beare



Played with Adelaide University



Football Club: 1913 (B) & 1914 (B)

Cricket Club: 1912/13-1915/16 B

Degrees: MBBS (Hons) 1917, MD 1921, FRCP 1931

Background

Coinciding with the Centenary of Anzacs our incentive behind the series of biographical publications is the Adelaide University Football and Cricket Club's desire to honour our players who served in the Great War (1914 - 1918). These brave men put on hold their academic, professional and sporting careers for King and Country in the name of peace and freedom. The AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee is endeavouring to identify every one of our players who served and prepare life stories on all. This is to ensure their sacrifices and further contributions to society will be recognised by future generations.

On Anzac Day 2015, the Centenary of the Gallipoli landing, a memorial plaque was unveiled on the Adelaide University Oval Pavilion and this was followed by the erection of a picket fence between the pavilion and the scoreboard with each picket bearing a plaque with the name of an AUFC/AUCC player who served.

The following documentation relates to the life of Frank Howard Beare. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.

The AIF Project

<https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=17517>



Frank Howard BEARE

Place of birth	Forest Side Mauritius
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Medical practitioner
Address	Adelaide, South Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	22
Next of kin	Father, C A Beare, Forestside, Mauritius
Previous military service	31st AMC, 78th Infantry
Enlistment date	7 August 1917
Rank on enlistment	Captain
Unit name	Medical Officers
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A71 <i>Nestor</i> on 28 February 1918
Rank from Nominal Roll	Captain
Unit from Nominal Roll	Australian Army Medical Company
Fate	Returned to Australia 22 January 1920
Discharge date	18 April 1920
Other details	Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

RSL Virtual Memorial

<https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people/278288>

BEARE, Frank Howard

Service number S213050, Colonel, Born 20 Jan 1895, Died 9 Oct 1955

Service Numbers: Officer, SX4844, S213050

Enlisted: 17 August 1917

Last Rank: Colonel

Last Unit: [Medical Officers](#)

Born: Mauritius, 20 January 1895

Home Town: [Adelaide](#), Adelaide, South Australia

Schooling: Queen's School Adelaide, Adelaide University

Occupation: Medical Practitioner

Died: Adelaide, SA, 9 October 1955, aged 60 years, cause of death not yet discovered

Cemetery: [North Road Cemetery, S.A.](#)

Memorials: [North Adelaide HB5* Queens School \(Anglican College\) WW1](#)

World War 1 Service

17 Aug 1917: Enlisted AIF WW1, Captain, SN Officer, [Australian Army Medical Corps \(2/AIF\)](#)

9 Nov 1917: Embarked Captain, [Medical Officers](#), HMAT Port Sydney, Melbourne

9 Nov 1917: Involvement Captain, [Medical Officers](#)

World War 2 Service

3 Sep 1939: Involvement Colonel, SN S213050

3 Sep 1939: Involvement Colonel, SN SX4844

1 Dec 1945: Discharged

Date unknown: Honoured Commander of the Order of the British Empire

RSL Virtual Memorial (cont)

Biography contributed by Sharyn Roberts

Excerpt from: *Blood Sweat and Fears: Medical Practitioners and Medical Students of South Australian who Served in World War 1.* , C Verco, A Summers, T Swain & M Jelly. July 2014

Frank Howard Beare was born on Mauritius on 20th January 1895 the eldest son of Mr and Mrs Charles Beare. His ancestor Mr Thomas Hudson Beare and his family were one of the first families to settle in South Australia. They came to South Australia on the Duke of York and arrived in Kangaroo Island on 29th July 1836, some 6 months before the proclamation of South Australia. Beare was educated at Queen's School, Adelaide where he excelled in study and cricket. After matriculation he began medicine at Adelaide University in 1912 and graduated with Honours in 1917.

Beare enlisted in the AAMC on the 7th August 1917 with 3 months experience at the Adelaide Children's Hospital, and with previous military militia experience in the 31 AAMC 78th Inf. He was a single 22 year old, 5ft 7ins tall, 11st 7lbs, could ride and spoke French. He embarked from Melbourne for England on the 9th November 1917. He proceeded to France in May 1918 to the 5th, 6th, 7th Australian FdAmb, and 20th Bn and towards the end of November the Gas School. After the Armistice he stayed in England as a RMO at the Essex County Hospital, Colchester, with his appointment terminated on 18th April 1920. He was issued with the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Beare was house surgeon at the Adelaide Hospital on returning home in 1920 and soon completed an MD with his study gastro-enteritis in children. He entered general practice at Mile End in 1922 and married Beatrice Field in 1923. Subsequently he was joined by Dr E F West (later one of the pioneer orthopaedic surgeons of Adelaide) and returned to England in 1930 for further studies as a physician. On his return in 1932 he was a founding fellow of the RACP. This career was followed by senior appointments at the RAH through to his retirement in 1955. Other medical related interests were the Mareeba Babies' Hospital and the Royal British Nursing Association. He retained his interests in Military affairs; a lieutenant colonel in the Militia, DDMS at Keswick then joined the 2nd AIF in 1939 aged 44years and eventually became ADMS of the 6th Division, Northern Territory, 7th Division and the CO of the 2/2nd AGH. He was appointed CBE and awarded the ED. After the war he resumed practice and was a lecturer and examiner at the University of Adelaide. He is recorded as a trusted and loyal, a true friend, a trifle hot tempered, quick to recover his composure and bore no malice. He was a man of strong principles and he upheld tenaciously that which he believed to be right and proper. He was a good physician and teacher, singularly happy in his domestic life and had 3 sons. Frank Howard Beare died on the 9th October 1955.

Sources:

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=3061664>

MJA. 3rd Dec 1955 p957-8.


Photo RAH Digital Collection

Service Record

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=3061664>

original

Medical Officer

AUSTRALIAN  MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. *Capt.* Name *BEARE Frank Howard*
Unit *A.M.C.*
Joined on *7. 8. 17.*

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestment

1. What is your Name? ... *Frank Howard Beare*
2. In the Parish of ... in or near the Town of *Forestside* in the County of *Mauritius*
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) ... *Natural Born - HTAO*
4. What is your Age? ... *22 1/2*
5. What is your Trade or Calling? ... *Medical Practitioner*
6. Are you, or have you been an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? ... ☒
7. Are you married? ... *No*
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) ... *Father, Mr Charles Alston Beare, Forestside, Mauritius*
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? ... *No*
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incurable and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with disgrace from the Navy? ... *No*
11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of Discharge ... *31st A.M.C. 178th Infy.*
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? ... *Yes*
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? ... *No*
14. (For married men, widowers with children, and soldiers who are the sole support of Widowed mother)—Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued to you in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with pay would reach 8/- per day? ... *No*
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever? ... *Yes*

Frank Howard Beare do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

And I further agree to allot not less than *two-fifths* of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my *wife & children*

Date *7. 8. 17.* *Frank H Beare*
Signature of Person Enlisted.

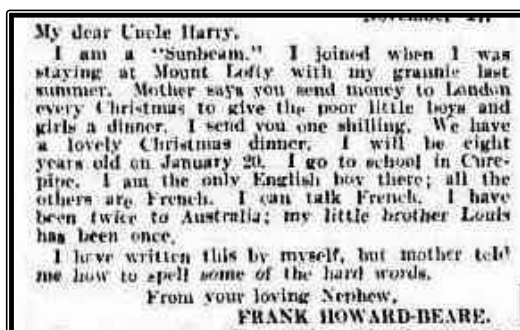
* This Clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age
† Two-fifths must be allotted to the wife, and if there are children three-fifths must be allotted.

Additional Details

Early Life

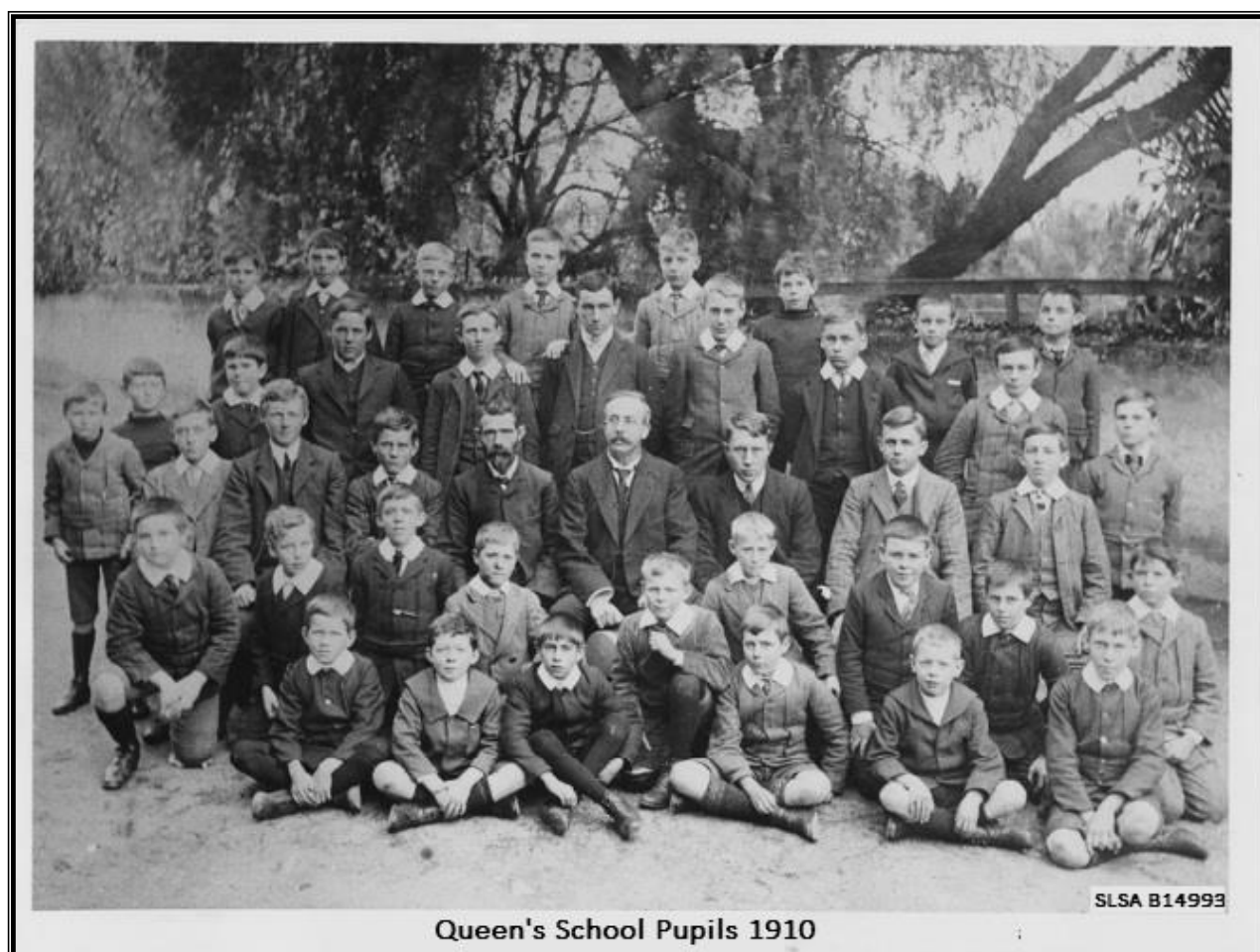
Frank Beare, known affectionately by his colleagues and friends as 'Teddy', was born at Forestside, Mauritius on 20 January 1895, the eldest son of Mr and Mrs Charles Alston Beare. His father was the manager of a sugar business.²

In 1903, Frank wrote the following letter to Children's Column of the *Adelaide Observer*.³



Education

Frank attended Queen's School in North Adelaide. He had a fine academic record and competed in Athletics and Cricket.



Frank Howard Beare (Seated 2nd on Left) ⁴

² <https://members.racp.edu.au/page/library/college-roll/college-roll-detail&id=270>

³ "CHILDREN'S COLUMN." *Adelaide Observer* (SA : 1843 - 1904) 17 January 1903: 8. Web. 11 Apr 2017 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article161794526>

⁴ Photo Courtesy of State Library of SA

He studied medicine at Adelaide University from 1912 and graduated with Honours in 1917.

University Sport

Frank's main sporting activity for the University was cricket, playing in the B grade in the 1912/13 to 1915/16 seasons. Frank also played B grade football for the Blacks in their 1914 Premiership.

The Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954) / Thu 17 Sep 1914 / Page 3 / THE FOOTBALL FIELD



ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY B FOOTBALL TEAM.
Back Row—O'Neill, Webb, Stoate, Sweeney, Timcke, eBaumont, Webb, Pomroy, Piper, and Gillen.
Middle Row—Shanasy, Guymer, Turner, Guymer, Dowling.
Front Row—Padman, Laurie, Rodger, Beare, Rayner.
Marchant Photo.

The Royal Australasian College of Physicians

Frank's RACP biography, by CB Sangster, describes him as follows:- "Teddy as a person was a likeable man, possessed of certain characteristics which distinguished him from others. His features were not unlike those of a koala bear, so his nickname was most appropriate. He was good company, enjoyed an argument, but at times was a trifle hot-headed, which rather suited his slightly auburn hair. He had a ready sense of humour, and a wealth of stories, some of these rather *risque* the telling of which always commanded the attention of his medical students and friends. He was a very sound physician and an excellent teacher with a down to earth attitude. His ward teaching rounds were always well attended, not only by students attached to his unit, but by many others as well, including postgraduates."⁵

"Careers Of S.A. Soldiers" *The Advertiser* (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954) 9 March 1945: 7. Web. 11 Apr 2017

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article43483843>

⁵ <https://members.racp.edu.au/page/library/college-roll/college-roll-detail&id=270>

Careers Of S.A. Soldiers

Col. Frank Howard Beare.
AAMC, of Church terrace, Walkerville, is commanding officer of an AGH in Queensland. He has been in the Army for four and a half years, during which he has served in the Middle East, Darwin, and New Guinea. When returning from the Middle East, his ship put into a harbor in Java, but sailed out again before the Japanese arrived.

Col. Beare, who was a captain in the last war, was promoted to major soon after the outbreak of the present war, and rose to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in 1937. It was while he was in the Middle East that he was made a full colonel.

In 1931, he studied in England, and in 1936 was awarded the Efficiency Decoration. In civilian practice he was a specialist in psychology. Col. Beare has three sons.

Lt-Col. F. A. G. (George) Tucker, who is 33, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. B. A. A. Tucker, of Wellington terrace, Pullarton Estate. He joined the militia at the age of 14, and served with that body for about 13 years, rising to the rank of lieutenant. For about a year after the outbreak of war, he was stationed at Woodside with the militia. He then transferred to the AIF with the rank of captain, and embarked for the Middle East about three months later. He was one of the "Tobruk Rats," serving throughout the Middle East campaign in command of the 2/48th Battalion. He was wounded at Tobruk. Two years ago he returned to Australia with the triumphant 9th Division, and was promoted to the rank of major.

Transferred to New Guinea, he took part in many actions in New Guinea, including the capture of Lae. He again received promotion, this time to lieutenant-colonel, and was given command of the 2/23rd Battalion, a Victorian unit, in November, 1943. He was twice mentioned in dispatches.

Before enlisting in the AIF, Lt-Col. Tucker held the position of chief plumbing instructor at the School of Mines and the Trades School. In 1937, he married Miss Elva Jacobs, and they have one son.

Former Golf Champion

Capt. W. S. Rymill was well known before the war as a golfer and yachtsman. When he enlisted in 1939, he held the State and open golf championships of South Australia. In 1940, he arrived in England with the first contingent of Australian soldiers. He later served in the Middle East, Syria, and New Guinea. He was in Tobruk during the siege, and at the battle of El Alamein.

Capt. Rymill, who joined the AIF as a private, is a son of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Rymill, of Macgillivray, Kangaroo Island. He married a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Monfries, of Grange. Before

married a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Monfries, of Grange. Before enlisting he was employed by the Texas Oil Company. He was educated at St. Peter's and Scotch Colleges. Originally attached to the 6th Division, he was later transferred to the 9th.

Chaplain Donald Llewellyn Redding, of Largs Bay North, was the first Army padre appointed in South Australia in this war. He has been twice mentioned in dispatches—in December, 1941, and again in December, 1943. He resigned from the rectorship of St. Barnabas's Church of England, Clare, to become a padre in the Army in 1939. He served with a mixed battalion in England and later in Syria, the Middle East, and New Guinea.

Chaplain Redding was born in North London, and was educated at the Quaker school at Saffron Walden. He completed his education in Western Australia, where he took land at Dowerin. He completed his theological training at St. Barnabas' College, North Adelaide. He has been in the parishes of Mount Gambier, Port Adelaide, Henley Beach, Walkerville, Robe, Maitland, Burra, and Clare.

One Of First Nurses

Maj. Olive A. Kestel, whose home is at Rudall, Eyre Peninsula, was one of the first nurses to enlist from South Australia at the outbreak of war. She went overseas as a sister, being one of the first three nurses chosen from this State. She was with the first contingent of SA nurses, attached to 2nd AGH.

Maj. Kestel served in an Australian Hospital in Palestine and an English hospital in Cairo. Then, for 10 months, she was at El Kintara with the 2/2nd AGH. From there, she took charge of the 2/11th AGH in Palestine, and returned with that unit to Australia in 1942. She served in Queensland for eight months and then for six months assumed command of the 2nd Australian Women's Hospital in Brisbane.

In August, 1943, she was in charge of the 2/11th AGH which went to New Guinea. These nurses were the first Australians to serve in the Owen Stanley Ranges. She nursed at Lae, Buna, and Madang. Maj. Kestel then returned to Australia and is now in charge of the 114th AGH at Goulbourn.

Flt-Sgt. B. P. Turner is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Turner. He has been operating in Vulture Vengeance dive-bombers in the New Guinea theatre of war. He joined the RAAF when 18, three years ago, and completed all his training in Australia. He was promoted to warrant-officer about six months ago.

Flt-Sgt. Turner had one brother in the AIF, a sister in the Army Nursing Service, and two brothers on the land.

Before enlisting, he was employed as a clerk in the Bank of Adelaide.

Capt. P. H. G. Geddes, who is 34, is the son of Mrs. and the late Mr. James Geddes, of Port Pirie. He joined the AIF in 1941 with his three brothers. He went to the

Mr. James Geddes, of Port Pirie. He joined the AIF in 1941 with his three brothers. He went to the Middle East early in 1942 as a sergeant with the 2/27th Battalion, and returned to Australia after that period of action with the rank of captain.

In 1943, Captain Geddes embarked for New Guinea, and took part in operations in that theatre. He is at present a staff captain with the 19th Brigade in New Guinea.

Captain Geddes married Miss Helen Grumby, of Mitcham, last year, and they have a two-months-old daughter.



Col. Beare



Capt. Rymill



Lt-Col. Tucker



Chaplain Redding

Profile Compiled by: Beth Filmer (AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee)