

Lieut. Wilfred Windham Cooper



Played with Adelaide University



Football Club: 1911

(Intervarsity Football: 1908, 1910 & 1911)

Cricket Club: B Grade 1909/1910

Degree: BSc (1911), BE (1913)

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 Wilfred Windham Cooper. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.

AUFC/AUCC WW1 MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Biography

Early Life

Wilfred (Wilf) Windham Cooper was born in Prospect, Adelaide, SA on 9th March 1890, the son of George Windham Cooper and Bertha Hannah Cooper (nee Bostock).

Wilf's siblings were Constance May (b 1881), Leonard Windham (b 1883), Raymond Windham (b 1885), Gladys Mary (b 1887).



Christmas 1900

WW Cooper

Wilf attended the Tynte Street Baptist Sunday School. Wilf's father, George, was employed by Messrs Elder, Smith & Co and in 1892 he was appointed manager of the wool department. He was a highly respected businessman and in 1904 he was elected president of the Adelaide Chamber of Commerce.

Schooling

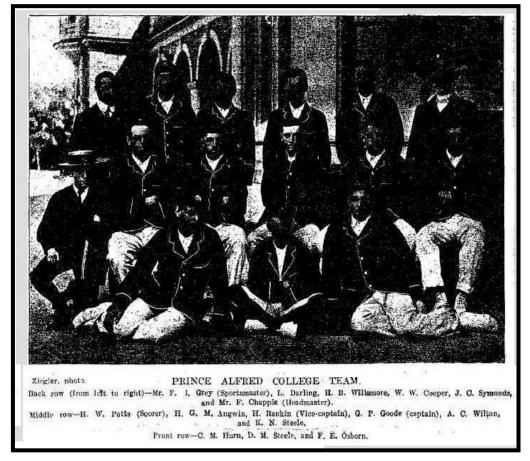
Wilf attended Prince Alfred College, Adelaide from 1900. He passed the Primary Examinations in October 1902, Junior Examinations in December 1904 (coming second in the General Honours List for Inorganic Chemistry). In December 1905 he passed the Senior Examinations.

The family were living at George Terrace, Medindie, SA. Sadly, on the 12th May 1906, Wilf's father, George Windham Cooper passed away. By this time Wilf's eldest sister Constance May Cooper was a doctor having gained her MB BS at Adelaide University in 1904.

In December 1906 Wilf passed three subjects at the Higher Public Examinations. In April 1907 Wilf was appointed a Lieutenant on probation in the Senior Cadets. In December 1907 Wilf passed the Higher Public Examinations coming 15th on the General Honours List.

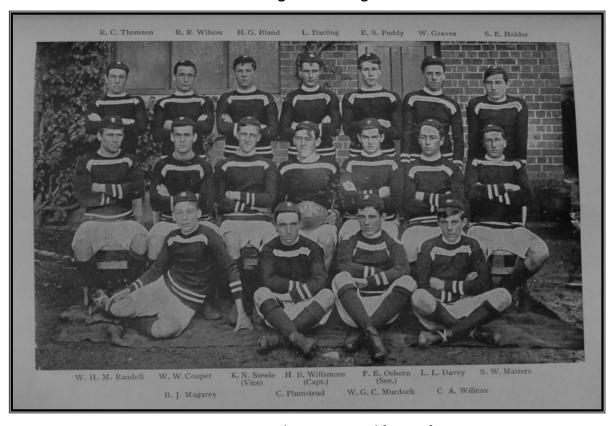
Wilf represented PAC in Intercollegiate Football, Athletics and Cricket against St Peter's College 1906 and 1907 and Intercollegiate Football against Scotch College, Melbourne in 1907.

1906 Prince Alfred College Intercollegiate Cricket Team



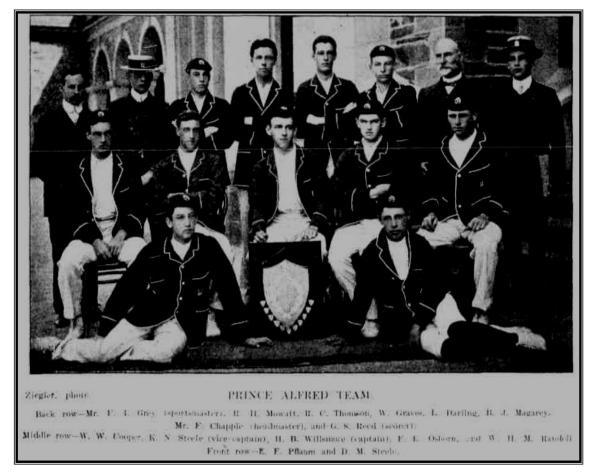
WW Cooper – Back Row – Fourth from Left

1907 Prince Alfred College Intercollegiate Football Team



WW Cooper -Back Row - Second from Left

1907 Prince Alfred College Intercollegiate Cricket Team



WW Cooper - Middle Row - Far Left

University

Wilfcommenced studying Engineering at the University of Adelaide and the School of Mines in 1908.

He passed Second Grade Plane Geometry at the Design School in July 1908 and Intermediate Freehand in October 1908, he also passed Fitting and Turning, Chemistry and Physics in December 1908.

He was on the committee which organised the Science Students dinner for December 1910.

In December 1911 Wilf completed all the academic work required for the fellowship from the School of Mines and was awarded his BSc from the University of Adelaide in December 1911. Wilf was an applicant for the 1912 Rhodes Scholarship which was won by Edmund Britten Jones.

In December 1913, having completed the necessary practical work, Wilf was awarded the fellowship diploma in electrical engineering from the School of Mines.

Wilf surrendered his BSc for a BE (Bachelor of Engineering) in 1913..

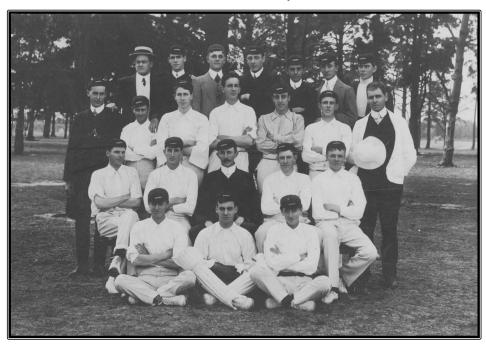
Adelaide University (& other) Sport

Cricket

Wilf had played cricket for North Adelaide Baptist II in the North Adelaide Association during the 1907/08 and 1908/09 seasons. He travelled with the team to Melbourne in December 1908 and played in a match against the Melbourne and Metropolitan Baptists' Association. Although he had been eligible to play for University in the Clubs

first season in 1908/09, there was only had a single team which was playing in the SACA District A Grade competition and was not able to force his way into the team.

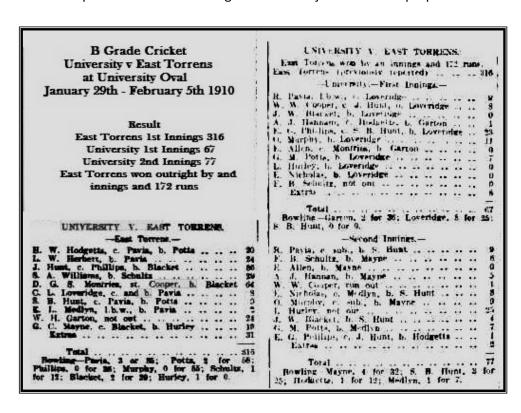
1908 North Adelaide Baptist Team



W.W. Cooper - Front Row - Centre & elder brother Raymond - Back Row 1st on Left

Back row: R.W.Cooper, V.E.Cox, L.Martin, J.S.Philps, K.Elphick, S.W.Belcher, A.A.Copping.
Second row: A.Basely, H.H.Schulze, E.S.Puddy, T.H.Moody, W.F.C.Wells, T.R.Mellor, A.Bennett(ump). Third row: I.A.C.Puddy,
V.L.Brown(vice capt), C.E.Pullin(mngr), D.B.Maitland(capt), V.Joyner.
Front row: G.Carne, W.W.Cooper, H.Tonkin.

After gaining a place in the SACA B Grade competition the following season, Wilf played B grade Cricket for Adelaide University in the 1909/10. A wicket-keeper and batsman he was a member of the University B Grade team that was comfortably beaten outright by a stong East Torrens team who went on to take out the premiership that year. A member of the East Torrens team was the sharebroker and SACA identity, Harry Hodgetts who in 1934 enticed Don Bradman to Adelaide with a position in his firm. Hodgetts was later jailed for missapropriation of clients money.



Football

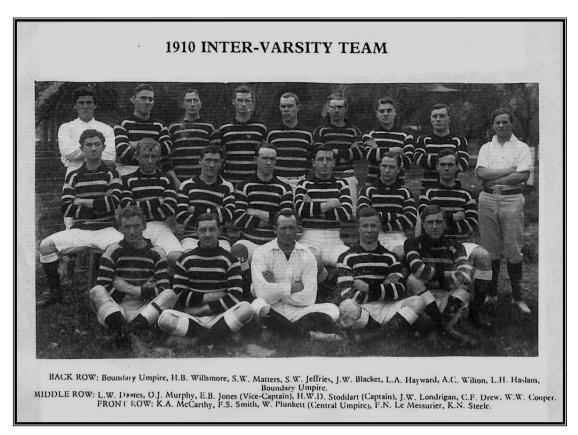
Wilf played Intervarsity Football for Adelaide University in 1908, 1910 and 1911 (there was no Intervarsity match in 1909). When the Amateur league was formed in 1911, Wilf played for Adelaide University and was a member of the first Amateur League premiership team. Wilf was awarded a Blue for Football in 1911.



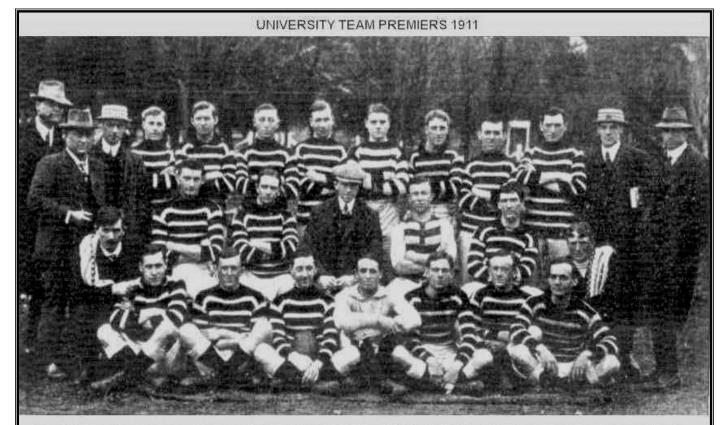


WW Cooper - Second to Back Row - Second from Right

Back row: G. Earle (boundary umpire), B. Hand (Hon. Sec.), H.V. Lampe, W.J. Ford (boundary umpire).
3rd row: H. Humphries, R.H. Begg, S.W. Jeffries, H.S. Annells, V. Cresdee, W.W. Cooper, W.B. Angwin.
2nd row: J. Jona, C.F. Drew, D.R.W. Cowan, H.W.D. Stoddart (Captain), W.A.V. Drew, A.C. Wilton, E. Holder.
Front row: J.W. Blackett, R.A. Goode, H.R. Reynolds (Central umpire), L.H. Haslam, O.J. Murphy.



1911 Adelaide University Amateur League Premiers



Back Row - C. F. Pitcher, F. Schmidt, J. Symon, R. Badger, E. L. Baylis, A. E. Kain, L. G. Caust, A. C. Wilton, K. N. Steele, H.B. Willsmore, L. J. B. Hurley, S. D. Ronald, and L. A. Hayward, Middle Row - J. J. Forrester (trainer) S. W. Jeffries, C. F. Drew, H. W. D. Stoddard, T. N. Le Messurier, E. B. Jones, and T. Margitich (Trainer).

Front Row - C. G. H. McDonald, A. Williams, F. Seymour-Smith, B. Coleman (Umpire).

W. J. E. Phillips, T. Williams, and W. W. Cooper

WW Cooper - Front Row - Far Right

Rowing

Wilf was a member of the Adelaide University Rowing Club and he represented the University at the Intervarsity competitions 1910 and in 1911 (taking position 2 in the eight in 1911).

November 1910

The University crew, who won the Port Adelaide Amateur Rowing Club's junior eight-oar championship last season, were presented with medals on Saturday by Mr. W. G. Auld, on behalf of the sea iders. He referred to the successful season the students had enjoyed last year when they not only won the premiership of South Australia, but also captured the honors attached to the inter-University race. The crew which won the junior eights consisted of F. F. Espie (stroke), T. M. Hardy (7). H. H. Swift (6), P. C. A. Fornachon (5), W. W. Cooper (4), L. G. Tassie (3), E. B. Allen (2), J. Hannam (bow), and A. S. Ferguson (cox.).

Inter Varsity Boat Race 1910 – Adelaide University Crew



WW Cooper - Back Row - Far Right

Back row: H.H.Swift, C.T.Madigan, S.M.Hardy, T.A.Hardy, P.C.A.Fornachon, W.W.Cooper. Front row: F.F.Espie,
R.W.Scott, A.L.Kennedy, C.L.Abbott, G.H.Burnell.
On Ground: G.M.Potts (cox).
Race held in Melbourne June 7th 1910; won by Adelaide by five lengths

Athletics

Wilf came second in the One Mile race at the AU Sports in 1909. He was a Dressing Room Steward at the 1910 AU Sports and on the committee for the Intervarsity Sports in 1911.

Adelaide University Sports Association

Wilf was an assistant treasurer of the AU Sports Association in 1911.

Rifle

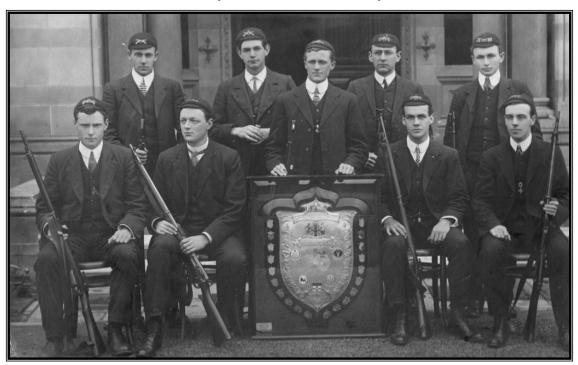
Wilf was a member of the Adelaide University Rifle Club in 1910 and 1911 and he represented the University at the Intervarsity in both years. He was awarded a Blue for Rifle in 1911 making him a Double Blue.

1910 University of Adelaide Intervarsity Rifle Team



WW Cooper – Back Row – Far Right
Back: R.H.Chapman, A.O.Boer, S.W.Coombe, A.C.V.Melbourne, W.W.Cooper.
Front: E.C.Grigson, C.T.Madigan (capt), H.D.Simpson (vice capt). Won by Melbourne.

1911 University of Adelaide Intervarsity Rifle Team



WW Cooper – Front Row – Second from Right
Back: J.H.Hill, N.B.G.Abbott, A.O.Boer, P.C.A.Fornachon.
Front: A.L.Kennedy, E.C.Grigson, H.D.Simpson (capt), W.W.Cooper, H.H.Coles (emerg).
Won by Adelaide

Pre War Career

In April 1912 Wilf left for England on the RMS 'Maloja' and by December 1913 he was working with the Westinghouse Company in England.

World War I

Wilfred enlisted in the Royal Engineers in 1915 and was commissioned a temporary 2nd Lieutenant on 27th June 1915 as a member of the 22nd Battalion Royal Fusiliers (Kensington).

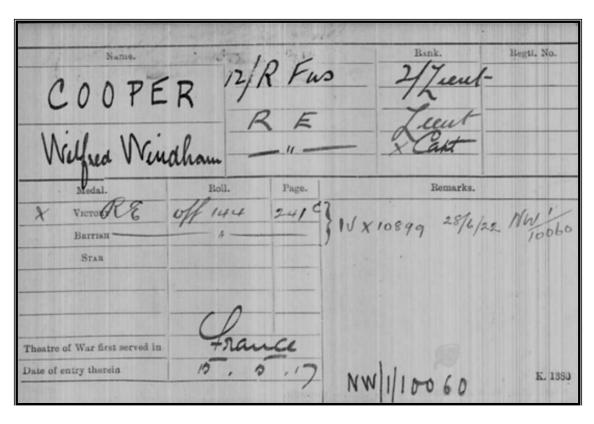
22nd Battalion (Kensington)—

The undermentioned to be temporary Second Lieutenants:—

Dated 27th June, 1915.

Alvert Edward Hughes. Edgar Charles Rossell. Wilfred Windham Cooper.

The British War Record relating to Wilf's WWI medals (below) states that his first theatre of war was in France and first entered on the 15th May 1917. He later became a Lieutenant in the Royal Engineers and appears to have also been an acting or temporary Captain.



Miss May Cameron

Before WWI, May Cameron of Melbourne Victoria, had been working as a missionary in the Solomon Islands. In early November 1918 she was the educational secretary of the Melbourne Young Women's Christian Association and left for England in response to a call from the British Association. Fortunately hostilities had ceased while May was travelling to England. She was then involved in running the Australasian Blue Triangle Hut at Wimmereux (sic), France(Wimereaux is a coastal town situated on the English Channel some 5 kilometres (3 mi) north of Boulogne) and in demobilising members of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps.

At some stage either in France or England May met Wilf Cooper as the couple were married in September 1919 at Chelsea, Middlesex, England. May returned to Australia on the 'Orsova' in March 1920. Wilf returned to Australia onboard the 'Borda' from London via Durban and Capetown, arriving in Sydney on the 6th August 1920.



Wilfred Cooper (formerly Miss Mrs May Cameron), who left Australia in 1918 to take charge of the only Australasian Blue Triangle Hut at Wimmereux. France, for the use of the W.A.A.C., returned to Melbourne by the Orsova. Mrs Cooper used to be the educational secretary of the local Y.W.C.A.

Career and Family Life

The UK Electrical Engineers List gives Wilf's address in 1921 as Newcastle, NSW. However by the Electoral Rolls of 1924, the couple were living at 23 Derby St, Camberwell, Melbourne, Victoria.

Wilf and May had a son (Graham Windham Cooper) who was born at Guildford Private Hospital, Camberwell on the 17th May 1925. Wilf and May were living at Derby St, Camberwell until at least 1925. From 1928 to 1941 Wilf and May were living at 8 Valency Road, Glen Iris, Vic.

On the 31st May 1933, Wilf's mother Bertha Hannah Cooper, of Gover Street, North Adelaide, passed away in South Australia.

At an engineer's debate on Melbourne traffic in October 1935, Wilf support Melbourne's system of the right hand turn.

Mr. W. W. Cooper said the Melbourne system of the right-hand turn was the best for the city. In forming traffic laws the conditions of the individual city must be taken as a guide. There was no standard rule for all cities. The tram traffic would hamper the "filtering through" opposing traffic for a quick right-hand turn.

In April 1938, Wilf was elected to the committee of the Melbourne division of the Institute of Engineers. By this stage Wilf was a golfer and he competed in the AIF Cup in Melbourne in September 1938 and in an Architects versus Engineers Four-ball Best-ball match in September 1939.

In August 1940, Wilf was working for Australia General Electric Ltd and was considered to be a leading representative of the electrical engineering industry when he became a member of a new panel of the Directorate of Ordnance Production to advice on electrical problems.



From 1942 to 1949 Wilf and May were living at 57 Berkeley St, Hawthorn, Vic.

Wilf and May's son, Graham, studied medicine at the University of Melbourne. He was awarded a Blue for Athletics in 1945 and in May 1946 he ran in the One Mile race at the intervarsity Sports in Hobart. Graham gained his MB BS from the University of Melbourne in 1948. By March 1952 he was practicing at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, having had experience in Korea and Japan.

In June 1953 Wilf was awarded a Coronation Medal.

From 1954 to 1968 Wilf and May were again living at 8 Valency Road, Glen Iris, Vic. Wilf was on the Institute of Electrical Engineers Victoria & Tasmania committee from 1949-1956 and vice chairman 1956-59.

In February 1958, Graham married Alison Mary Davis and they lived at 52 Glen St Hawthorn for at least the period 1967 to 1972.

Death

Wilfred Windham Cooper died in on the 10th June 1969, aged 79 at Fitzroy, Victoria.

The date of May Cooper's death is not known for certain but she might have passed away in 1977, aged 85 years at Hawthorn, Victoria.

Legacy

Son - Dr Graham Windham Cooper, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P., M.R.A.C.P. Lecturer in Surgery

https://www.scotch.vic.edu.au/greatscot/2013sepGS/90a.htm

Dr Graham Windham COOPER ('42) was born at Camberwell on 17 May 1925, the son of an electrical engineer. He attended Scotch from 1938 to 1942. After graduating in Medicine at Melbourne University (1948), Graham was appointed a reinforcement medical officer serving with the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan. In 1953 he was medical registrar of the Royal Melbourne Hospital. He won the Cleveland Fellowship from Cleveland University Hospitals. Travelling to the USA early in 1954, in 1955 Graham was working in a department of medicine under a Fulbright Travel Grant. From 4 March to 2 June 1971 he served in the Vietnam War as a colonel in the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps. On 20 February 1959 Graham married Alison Mary Davis at Scotch. Their sons attended Scotch: Howard Windham Cooper (born 6 March 1960, SC 1966-77, died 20 September 2005), Michael (SC

1968-79) and David (SC 1970-82). Currently at Scotch are his identical twin grandsons Conrad (11 SS) and Leo (11 LN)). Graham died on Anzac Day 2013.

In addition to Conrad and Leo (mentioned in the SC article, Graham was also the fond papa of Hedda, Eleanor, Audrey and Sophia, Amy and Daniel.

Grandson - Dr Howard Windham Cooper

https://www.scotch.vic.edu.au/greatscot/2005decgs/51obit.htm

Dr Howard Windham Cooper ('77) was born on 6 March 1960, and attended Scotch from 1966–77. He was a member of the 1977 Athletics team, a member of the Cross Country team, a house prefect, dux of British History, and winner of the Frank Fleming Memorial Prize. Howard graduated MBBS, MPM and was a FRANZCP. He was Director of Child Psychiatry Training at the University of Melbourne. Also at Scotch were Howard's brothers Michael (1968–79) and David (1970–82), all of whom followed in the footsteps of their father, Dr Graham (1938–42). Howard died on 20 September 2005.

http://mhyfvic.org/blog-4/files/3819907e1d1412b46617316b28823b3d-10.html

Death of Dr Howard Cooper

MHYF Vic Committee and friends were shocked and saddened by the untimely accidental death of one of our most talented and active members. The following Obituary by Professor Bruce Tonge of Monash University is reprinted from the Newsletter of the RANZCP Victorian Branch.

Howard Windham Cooper,
MB BS, MPM, FRANZCP, Cert Child Psych RANZCP
6 March 1960 – 20 September 2005



"The successful creative and compassionate life of Howard Cooper marked with integrity, wisdom, energy and fun cannot be contained and adequately expressed by the written word. Howard has made an extraordinary contribution to the profession of child and adolescent psychiatry. After training in psychiatry in the Prince Henry's Hospital rotation training program he completed his RANZCP accredited child and adolescent psychiatry training in 1991-93 at the South Eastern Child & Family Centre and Monash Medical Centre. Alert to the opportunities and wisdom to be gained from an international perspective, he spent 18 months broadening his experience as a Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist in England, particularly in Cambridge. This interest in a global perspective, was seen earlier, when as a medical student he sought medical experiences in Mount Isa, Papua New Guinea and Vellore, India; then more recently when he contributed his knowledge to a review of adolescent health services in Mongolia for the World Health Organisation.

After several years as the head of the Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Consultation Liaison service at Monash Medical Centre, Howard was appointed, in 1997, to the position of Director of the Victorian Postgraduate Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Training Program. Howard led a vigorous strategic review and development of this program, auspiced by Melbourne and Monash Universities, which led to its naming as Mindful – a Centre for

Training and research in Developmental Health. Howard invigorated Mindful resulting in an expansion of staff and courses to ensure that it continued to provide quality professional training for child and adolescent psychiatrists, clinical staff in the state child and adolescent mental health services and others who work with children, adolescents and their families who suffer mental health problems. He took a particular interest in supporting the training of child and adolescent psychiatrists from other countries including, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Bahrain, Canada, USA, New Zealand and the UK. He played a central role in the development of new multimedia teaching techniques, including the use of Telepsychiatry, which is now in routine use. He had an outstanding capacity to communicate effectively with children and their families. His students were all inspired and encouraged by his clinical skill and up-to-date knowledge. His specific clinical research interests were in the treatment of anxiety disorders in children, particularly OCD, which is one of the most challenging fields of work.

My memories of Howard include: carefully guiding across a faltering video link, a confused and perplexed colleague, struggling with a difficult family, to reach a creative understanding and a therapeutic way forward; gently guiding, in his study surrounded by the artwork of his partner, Lindy and refreshments to suit all tastes, a conference planning group that culminated in a most successful national conference; advocating for the rights and needs of children with mental illness with tenacity, knowledge and passion in a forum that was developing national policy; joyfully hosting a dinner to welcome newly qualified child and adolescent psychiatrists; speaking with excitement about the successful funding of his shared vision to develop the innovative "taketwo" service for vulnerable children in care; and more ...

Then there is Howard's life as a sportsman and triathlete, as a friend and as an extraordinary father to Hedda, Conrad and Leo and partner with Lindy, of whom he spoke with a glow of pride and love.

Farewell Howard, our lives and the community are so much richer for what you gave to us."

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

Sources and Acknowledgements

RSL Virtual War Memorial https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/

https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people/796803

The Adelaide University http://www.adelaide.edu.au/records/archives/

1908 AU Football https://digital.library.adelaide.edu.au/dspace/handle/2440/36772

1908 NABSC Cricket https://digital.library.adelaide.edu.au/dspace/handle/2440/63494

1910 AU Boat http://hdl.handle.net/2440/59658
 1910 AU Rifle http://hdl.handle.net/2440/60891
 1911 AU Rifle http://hdl.handle.net/2440/60892

The National Library of Australia http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/

(Trove Newspaper articles tagged – Wilfred Windham Cooper)

SA Genealogy https://www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/online-databases.html

Ancestry.com.au

Portrait of WW Cooper, Christmas, 1900

State Library of South Australia http://www.catalog.slsa.sa.gov.au/

Prince Alfred College Chronicle

75th Anniversary 1906-81, Adelaide University Football Club (1981)

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Institute of Electrical Engineers

https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/ielx5/5176125/5179498/05179509.pdf?tp=&arnumber=5179509&isnumber=5179498 Graham Windham Cooper

http://tributes.theage.com.au/obituaries/theage-au/obituary.aspx?pid=164461699

Kym Bielby & Rob O'Shannassy AUFC/AUCC WW1 Researchers

Cooper, Wilfred Windham v.2