



Capt. John Forrest Gardner



Played with Adelaide University



Football Club

1910 v St Peters, 1911 v PAC

Degree – MB BS (1914)

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 John Forrest Gardiner. 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=107493>



John Forrest GARDNER

Place of birth	Adelaide South Australia
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Medical practitioner
Address	Adelaide, South Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	25
Next of kin	Father, G F Gardner, Exchange, Adelaide, South Australia
Enlistment date	7 April 1916
Rank on enlistment	Captain
Unit name	Medical Officers
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A15 <i>Port Sydney</i> on 8 March 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Captain
Unit from Nominal Roll	Australian Army Medical Corps
Fate	Effective abroad (still overseas)


Correction – J.F. Gardener passed away on 6th of August 1928

Service Record

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=4028102>

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STRALIAN  MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. _____ Name John Forrest Gardner
Unit Amc. Transport Staff
Joined on 4 April 1916

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name? ... Gardner John Forrest
2. In the Parish of _____ in or near the Town of Adelaide in the County of St Aust
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) ... B.S.
4. What is your Age? ... 25
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? ... No
7. Are you married? ... No
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) ... Father, G.F. Gardner, Stock Exchange, Adelaide, S Aust
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 ... Yes, 2 1/2 years Cavalry Cadet Corps 3 months A.A.M.C.
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 in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with pay would reach eight shillings per day? ... No
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against small pox and enteric fever? ... Yes

3, John Forrest Gardner 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 ~~be~~ ^{two-fifths} ~~not less than~~ ^{three-fifths} of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my ~~wife~~ ^{wife and children}.

Date 4.4.16 J. F. Gardner
Signature of person enlisted.

D.277/11.1A—C.1879a. * This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 15 years of age. † Two-fifths must be allotted to the wife, and if there are children three-fifths must be allotted.

RSL Virtual War Memorial

<https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people/62463>

GARDNER, John Forrest

Service Numbers: Not yet discovered

Enlisted: Not yet discovered

Last Rank: Captain

Last Unit: Medical Officers

Born: Adelaide, South Australia, 30 July 1890

Home Town: College Park, Norwood Payneham St Peters, South Australia

Schooling: St Peter's College, Adelaide University

Occupation: Medical Practitioner

Died: Tetanus, Richmond, Victoria, August 1929

Cemetery: Not yet discovered

Memorials:

World War 1 Service

28 Jan 1916: Embarked Captain, Medical Officers, HMAT Themistocles, Melbourne

28 Jan 1916: Involvement Captain, Medical Officers

8 Apr 1916: Embarked Captain, Medical Officers, HMAT Aeneas, Melbourne

8 Apr 1916: Involvement Captain, Medical Officers

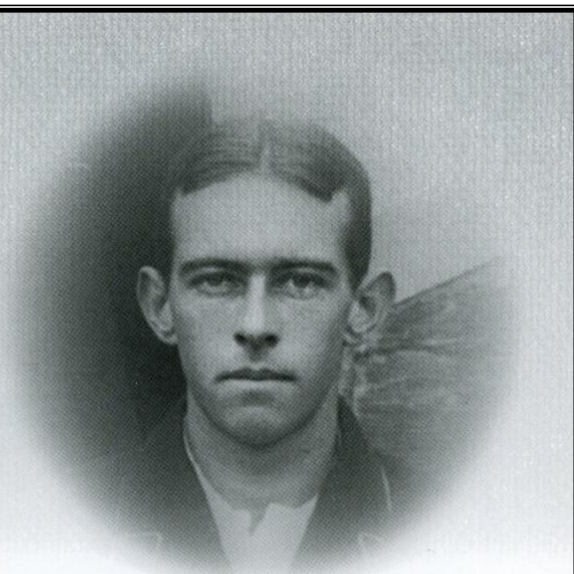
Published Biography

"Blood, Sweat and Fears" ISBN: 978-0-64692-750-3 Medical Practitioners and Medical Students of South Australia who served in WW1

GARDNER John Forrest

MB BS

1890 - 1929



John Forrest Gardener was born on the 30th July 1890 in Adelaide. He was the younger son of Gavin J and Mary Josephine Gardner. He was educated at St Peter's College and studied medicine at the University of Adelaide graduating in December 1914. He lived with his parents at Trinity Street, College Park, South Australia.

Gardner enlisted in the AIF on 4th April 1916 at 25 years of age. His father, whose address was given as the Stock Exchange, Adelaide, was named as his next of kin. He had 2½ years experience in the Commonwealth Cadet Corp and 3 months in the AAMC. He was 5ft 11ins tall, weighed 142lbs, of fair complexion, grey eyes and dark hair. He was posted, as a captain, to the AAMC Transport Staff. Gardner undertook two Transport Trips from Melbourne to Suez and returning with invalided soldiers, between the 28th January 1916 and the 22nd July 1916. His appointment was terminated on the 23rd July 1916. He was issued with the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Gardner moved to Richmond, Victoria after the war. He married Hilda Josephine Florey from Mitcham, SA on 17th February 1917. She was the older sister of Howard Florey, whom he had met at the Adelaide University. Hilda Josephine Florey was born in 1890 at Malvern, South Australia. After leaving Miss Thornber's School for Girls, she entered the University of Adelaide in 1908, and graduated MB BS in 1912 and was an outstanding student. She held resident appointments at the Adelaide Hospital, the Adelaide Children's Hospital, and the Women's Hospital, Melbourne between 1913 and 1917. John Forrest Gardener died in Richmond Victoria at the beginning of August 1929 from tetanus. He was survived by his wife and his daughter, Joan, who became a distinguished microbiologist with a special interest in antibiotics, sterilisation and infection control. Gardner also had a son who died of septicaemia at the age of seven.

Sources:

Photo: Adelaide University Archives; 1912 Intervarsity Tennis team.

<http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/scripts/Imagine.asp?B=4028102>
<http://www.racp.edu.au/page/library/college-roll/college-roll-detail&id=395>

The Adelaide Mail 27th December 1919.

Correction - J.F. Gardener passed away on 6th of August 1928

Biography

Early Life

John Forrest (Jack) Gardner was born on 30th July 1890, the son of Gavin Forrest Gardner and Mary Josephine Brown (Sa Birth Registration 463/283). His father, Gavin, was a well regarded member of the Stock Exchange and his grandfather, the Reverend John Gardner.

Schooling

Jack attended St Peter's College from 1899-1908. While at St Peter's he passed his primary Examinations in 1902, Senior Examinations (1906), Higher Public Examinations (1908) and Special Senior Examinations in March 1909. While at St Peter's Jack passed Adelaide University Music and Music Theory Examinations (1903-6) including Pianoforte Examinations. He also spent 2½ years in the Cadets.

University

Jack commenced studying medicine at Adelaide University in 1910 and qualified MB BS in December 1914.

Adelaide University - Second Year Medical Students
"The Ruffians of 1909"



Included are: Prof. Watson, A.E. Williams, S. Holder, L.G. Tassie, H.C. Nott, J. Gardner, F.N. Le Messurier, K. Godfrey, G.H. Burnell, H.J. Penny, R.A. Baker, F.E. Osborn, H.C.C. Rennie.

University Sport

Football

Jack played football for the University in College matches in 1910 and 1911. He played against his old college in 1910 and against PAC in 1911.

Tennis

Jack competed in the Inter-Varsity Tennis competition in 1912 & 1914. He played for the University in the South Australian Lawn Tennis Class II in the 1912/13 & 1913/14 seasons and in Class I in 1914/15. He also competed in the SA Lawn Tennis Association Tournaments in 1913 & 1914.

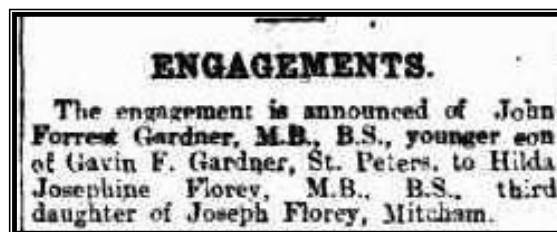
Inter-Varsity Tennis 1912



*Back row, left to right: G.Fisher, S.E.Holder, P.Cockburn.
Front row, left to right: M.Giles, H.Nott (capt), J.F.Gardner.
Won by Melbourne, held in Melbourne.*

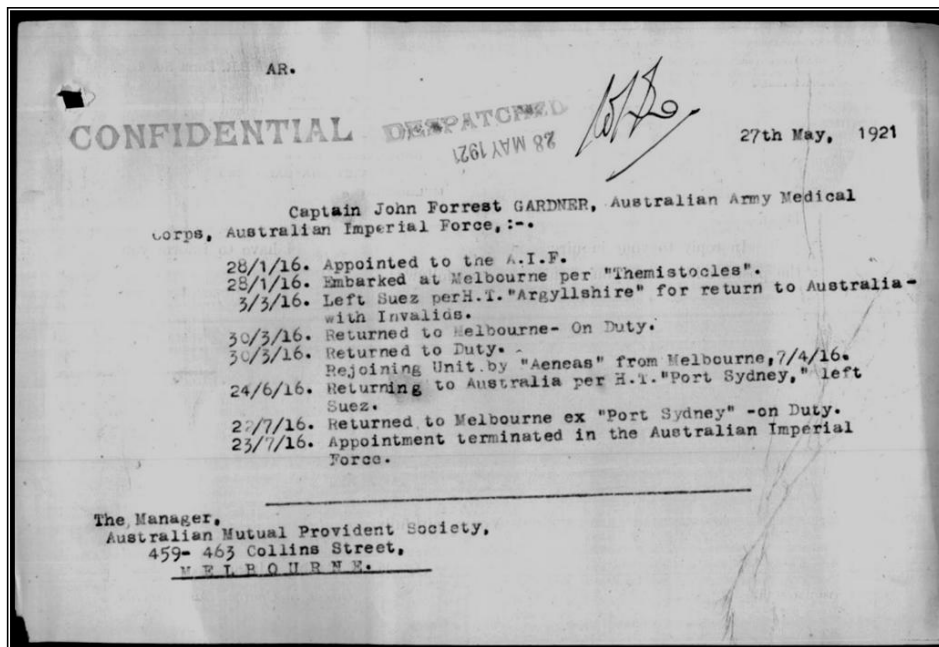
Early Career

In February 1915 Jack was appointed as a house surgeon in the Broken Hill Hospital and he took up his duties there on the 9th of February. He also became engaged to Hilda Josephine Florey, MB BS, the third daughter of Joseph Florey of Mitcham, SA and the sister of Howard Florey (who developed penicillin).



World War I

Jack's WWI service was relatively brief. He received his first commission on 3rd January 1916 and was appointed to the AIF, Australian Army Medical Corps on 28th January 1916. He completed two transport trips to the Suez and back as the medical officer on duty caring for the sick and wounded being repatriated home. His second 3 month commission was received on 6th April 1916, departing the following day for Egypt. His appointment was terminated on 23rd July 1916.



Career and Family Life

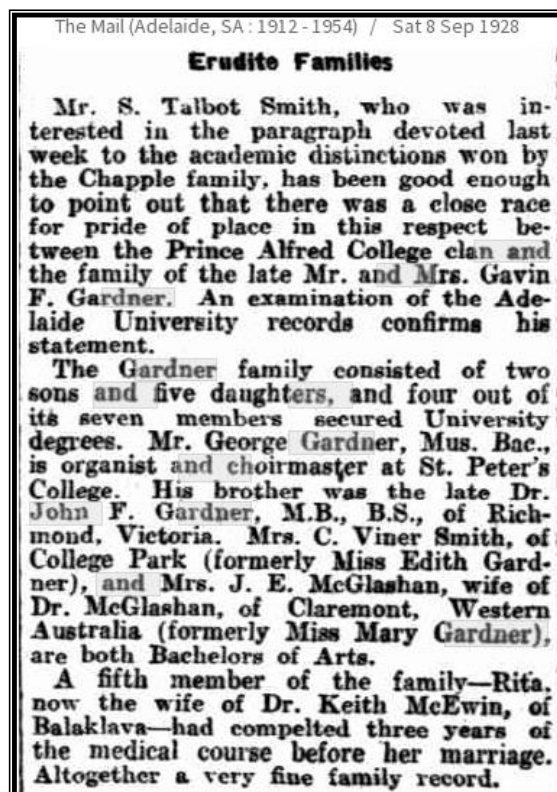
After his war service Jack commenced a practice in Richmond, Victoria. Jack married Hilda Florey on Saturday 17th February 1917 at St Michael's Church Mitcham, SA. The couple was living at Church Street, Richmond when their daughter (Joan Forrest Gardner) who was born on 18th June 1918 at Mena House, East Melbourne.

In March 1919, Jack's father passed away. In September 1919, Jack "gave away the bride" when his youngest sister, Ethel Forrest Gardner married Keith Rogers Scarfe at St Peter's College Chapel.

On the 22nd of October 1924, Jack and Hilda's son, David Gavin Gardner was born.

Death

Jack passed away on the 6th of August 1928, aged 38 years, leaving his wife to raise their two children. He left personal property valued at £2385 to his widow. Hilda, Joan and David moved to 132 Riversdale Road, Hawthorn. Tragically Jack and Hilda's son David passed away on the 11th July 1932 (aged 7 years).



Family Legacy

Biographies for both Hilda and Joan are included below.

RACP: College Roll : Gardner, Hilda Josephine

<https://members.racp.edu.au/page/library/college-roll/college-roll-detail&id=395>



Qualifications: MB BS Adel (1912) FRACP (1951)

Born: 6/9/1890

Died: 18/5/1953

Biography:

Dr Hilda Gardner was educated in Adelaide, South Australia. She graduated from the University of Adelaide in 1912 after a brilliant course. Her renowned brother, Howard Florey, nine years younger, was an inspiration to her in her later years. After terms of residency at the Adelaide Children's Hospital and the Women's Hospital, Melbourne, she married a South Australian, Dr John Forrest Gardner, who practised after the War in Richmond, Victoria. He died in 1929 from tetanus, possibly developing in an old war injury. There was a daughter and a son of the marriage, the son dying of septicaemia, at the age of seven years, prior to the advent of adequate chemotherapeutic agents.

Hilda Gardner became assistant bacteriologist to the Royal Melbourne Hospital in 1929, and took charge of the department as clinical pathologist after Dr Lucy Bryce's resignation in 1934. Her laboratory in the old Walter and Eliza Hall Institute with a minimum of staff did all the bacteriology and haematology for the 400 bed hospital. The Institute had in those days a small but extremely well-trained group of versatile scientists. One of the few laboratory training posts of those days was as assistant clinical pathologist and a succession of bright aspirants who subsequently became surgeons, neurologists, physicians and sometimes pathologists trained under her. She was a demanding taskmaster but her serious nature was readily melted by a smile, a touch of humour or a need to discuss a human problem. She was regularly consulted on bacteriological, haematological and allergy problems by clinicians because of her breadth of knowledge and willingness to extend herself to solve a problem. As a result she tended to over-commit her energies in her work. She was an excellent teacher, clinical pathology being then taught by her in a series of lectures at the hospital. Her notes were highly regarded by students. During World War II she trained a series of young doctors in clinical pathology for the Army and the director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Dr Charles Kellaway, was for a time Director of Pathology for the Army.

She was one of the pathologists instrumental in starting a formal training course for laboratory technicians under the auspices of the Australian Institute of Medical Laboratory Technologists (now Scientists) and served on their examining council.

She went overseas immediately after the War, working mainly in Oxford, her brother's home for many years. She returned refreshed and began re-organising the work in the splendid new laboratory at the new RMH. She was active in the affairs of the Australian Association of Clinical Pathologists.

In 1951 she was elected as a Fellow of The Royal Australasian College of Physicians. Her daughter, Dr Joan Gardner, was close to her mother and it is little surprise she became a distinguished microbiologist with a special interest in antibiotics, sterilisation and infection control.

As Hilda Gardner became older she became more forceful in her dealings with young doctors. But she was revered for her knowledge and dedication and dislike of carelessness or shoddiness. She became a severe asthmatic and was frequently out of action. Her successor, Dr David Cowling, often consulted her and she kept her microscope at the ready by her bedside.

Hilda Gardner was a pioneer of laboratory medicine. She was particularly interested in infections and infectious diseases, such as leptospirosis. Perhaps the tragedies of her own family reinforced this interest. She was not a prolific publisher of papers and she will mainly be remembered as a central figure in the training of a generation of pathologists and physicians and for her devotion to the patients of the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

Author: DC COWLING

References: *Med J Aust*, 1953, **2**, 118-19; Inglis, KS, *Hospital and Community*, Carlton, Vic, 1958, 84; *The Melbourne School of Pathology*, Melb, 1962, 67;

CSIRO PUBLISHING | Microbiology Australia

Dr Joan Forrest Gardner

<http://www.publish.csiro.au/ma/Fulltext/ma14037>



JRL Forsyth Mary Maslen Rosemary Davidson Margaret M Peel

Microbiology Australia 35(2) 112-113 <https://doi.org/10.1071/MA14037>

Published: 15 May 2014

Dr Joan Forrest Gardner was born in Melbourne on 16 June 1918, the only daughter of Dr John (Jack) Forrest Gardner and Dr Hilda Josephine Gardner. Her mother was an older sister of Sir Howard Florey, the famed developer of penicillin. Joan's early life was beset by tragedy as her father died from tetanus after a car accident when she was 10 years of age and her only brother died six years later from a mastoid infection. Her mother then joined the staff

of the Melbourne Hospital (now Royal Melbourne Hospital) where she became bacteriologist and serologist. Dr Hilda Gardner was a distinguished and effective professional, who set a high standard for her daughter to follow.

Joan was educated, first at Tintern Girls School (1929–1936), and then at The University of Melbourne as a resident student at Janet Clarke Hall. She graduated BSc (1940), and MSc (1941), in bacteriology and biochemistry. She gained honours in six of 10 undergraduate courses and honours again in her fourth year examination. In addition, she achieved honours in Chemistry III taken as a single subject. She also received a part-time research scholarship in biochemistry and, from 1941 to 1946, investigated enzymes in wheat flour in that department. While she was at The University of Melbourne Joan started bushwalking which, for bushwalks on Wilsons Promontory, involved first riding a horse from Yanakie to the original old Chalet at Darby River.

After the war and when transport allowed, Joan went up to Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, (1947–1949). She worked at the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, at which her uncle, Sir Howard Florey, held the chair. In 1949 she graduated D Phil (Oxon) for her work on antimicrobial agents. Her interest in the sterilisation of medical equipment was also kindled during this period.

Joan returned to Australia as a research fellow in the, then, Department of Bacteriology at The University of Melbourne in 1951. Until 1958 she worked in the field of citric acid fermentation. She was appointed Lecturer in 1954 and Senior Lecturer in 1958. Sydney Rubbo, who had succeeded to the chair of the department in 1944, became interested in the problem of hospital cross infection. This led to work on sterilisation and infection control and, from 1959, Joan became a vital and practical support in this area of study. While Rubbo was taking sabbatical leave, Joan prepared comprehensive teaching notes on the topic. When Rubbo returned, these notes were the foundation of a collaborative work: Rubbo SD, Gardner JF, *A review of sterilization and disinfection as applied to medical, industrial and laboratory practice*, London: Lloyd Luke; 1965.

Joan was naturally reserved and unassuming but she flourished in the stimulating and productive environment engendered by the outgoing, charismatic and dynamic Sydney Rubbo, as did her academic colleagues. For the rest of her professional career, Joan worked and taught in the field of sterilisation, disinfection and infection control, a specialty that requires knowledge of physics, chemistry and the principles of chemical engineering, as well as microbiology. She developed a formidable expertise that earned her the respect of colleagues in Australia and abroad.

Joan foresaw the need to train all those involved in the whole chain of action in the delivery of sterile medical equipment of various kinds. For example, she considered it essential that every person who operated a pressure steam steriliser was fully trained in its correct functioning so that errors could be avoided. She was involved in the gestation of the Central Sterile Supply Departments in hospitals in Victoria and the training of their staff. Joan collaborated with Sister Mary Felix Thornburn AM of the Sisters of Charity of Australia in raising standards for sterile supplies and infection control procedures in Operating Rooms. She stimulated the foundation of advanced training courses for infection control nurses at Mayfield Centre, and participated in the teaching. These courses still continue.

As a member of various committees of Standards Australia, Joan contributed to the preparation and updating of standards for sterilisers and related hospital equipment. She was a joint founder, and later an Honorary Life Member, of the Sterilization and Disinfection Society Victoria (now Sterilizing Research Advisory Council of Australia).

Joan was a conscientious university teacher of her specialty to the four faculties of Medicine, Dentistry, Science and Agricultural Science. She also taught mycology to medical students. Joan was a competent photographer and prepared slides for lectures and presentations for herself and others. In this, and in many other ways, Joan was kind, generous and helpful.

In collaboration with Dr Margaret Peel, Joan wrote three editions of a new book on sterilisation, disinfection and infection control, the first of which was published in 1986. The third edition: Joan F Gardner, Margaret M Peel, *Sterilization, disinfection and infection control*, London: Churchill Livingstone; 1998 is still in demand, including by chemical engineers.

In recognition of her substantial contributions over many years, Joan received an Order of Australia award (AO) in 1992 for service to medicine in the field of sterilisation, disinfection and infection control.

In addition to commitment to her area of professional expertise, Joan had other major interests. She belonged to the Handknitters Guild and produced beautiful and complex knitted garments, many of which she gave to friends. These works are treasured by the recipients. Less expected was Joan's great interest in, and in-depth knowledge of, the rigging and sails of different types of sailing ships. As a child, she liked to go to the docks and watch the movement of the ships in and out of the Port of Melbourne. She was a friend of the late Master Mariner, Alan John Villiers; adventurer, author and an expert in the sailing of diverse, exotic, and even primitive vessels. Joan enjoyed attending social functions at the University House staff club and entertaining her friends, family and neighbours in her elegant Parkville home.

Joan died peacefully after a long illness on 19th November 2013. Her legacy would extend to a great many others in the community, unknown and unknowing, who have been beneficiaries of the contributions of Joan Gardner to infection control.

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

Sources and Acknowledgements:

The AIF Project <https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/>

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

The National Archives of Australia <http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/>

Australian War Memorial <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/>

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

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

(Trove Newspaper articles tagged – John Forrest Gardner)

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

"Blood, Sweat and Fears" ISBN: 978-0-64692-750-3 Medical Practitioners and Medical Students of South Australia who served in WW1

<http://hdl.handle.net/2440/36774>

<https://members.racp.edu.au/page/library/college-roll/college-roll-detail&id=395>

<http://www.publish.csiro.au/ma/Fulltext/ma14037>

<https://digital.library.adelaide.edu.au/dspace/handle/2440/24867>

<http://hdl.handle.net/2440/56436>

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