



# **Capt. Arthur Howes Guymer**

**Recommended for Military Cross**



**Played with Adelaide University**



**Football Club 1912-1914 (A & B)**

**Degree obtained MB BS (1915)**

## ***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 Arthur Howes Guymer. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.***

## AIF Project

<https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=121810>



### Arthur Howes GUYMER

Date of birth	6 March 1893 ; secondary dob: 06/03/1894
Place of birth	Kilkenny, South Australia
School	Prince Alfred College, Adelaide, South Australia
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Medical officer
Address	Wilpena Terrace, Kilkenny, South Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	23
Next of kin	Father, George Hufften Guymer, Wilpena Terrace, Kilkenny, South Australia
Enlistment date	15 October 1915
Rank on enlistment	Captain
Unit name	<a href="#">43rd Battalion, Headquarters</a>
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Adelaide, South Australia, on board HMAT A19 <i>Afric</i> on 9 June 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Captain
Unit from Nominal Roll	Australian Army Medical Corps
Promotions	Captain Unit: 11th Field Ambulance Promotion date: 1 March 1916
Recommendations (Medals and Awards)	Military Cross Recommendation date: Unspecified
Fate	Discharged 11 October 1919
Family/military connections	Brother: Major Ernest Albert GUYMER, Australian Army Medical Corps, discharged 7 November 1919.

Other details

War service: England, France, Belgium (wounded at Passchendaele while attending the wounded; invalided to Wandsworth Hospital, London, recovered, returned to duty with the 11th Field Ambulance).


Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal



**Ernest and Arthur Guymer<sup>ii</sup>**

## Service Record

<http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=4362024>

<b>AUSTRALIAN</b>		<b>MILITARY FORCES.</b>
<b>AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.</b>		
<b>Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.</b>		
No. <u>434</u>	Name <u>Arthur Howes Guymner</u>	
	Unit <u>43rd Battalion</u>	
	Joined on <u>Oct 1st 1915</u>	

<b>Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestment</b>	
1. What is your Name? ...	1. <u>Arthur H. Guymner</u>
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? ...	2. In the Parish of <u>Kilkenny</u> in or near the Town of <u>Adelaide</u> in the County of <u>8th Australia</u>
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) ...	3. <u>Yes</u>
4. What is your Age? ...	4. <u>23 3/2 years</u>
5. What is your Trade or Calling? ...	5. <u>Medical Officer</u>
6. Have you, or have you been an Apprentice? If so, to whom, and for what period? ...	6. <u>no</u>
7. Are you married? ...	7. <u>no</u>
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) ...	8. <u>Father George Huftten Guymner Wilpena Terrace Kilkenny</u>
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? ...	9. <u>no</u>
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incorrigible 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? ...	10. <u>no</u>
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 ...	11. <u>3 1/2 years A.A.M.C.</u>
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? ...	12. <u>Yes</u>
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? ...	13. <u>no</u>
14. For married men, widowers with children, and soldiers who are the sole support of their wives and children, 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 \$5 per day? ...	14. <u>Yes</u>
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever? ...	15. <u>Yes</u>

I, Arthur Howes Guymner, 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 and children.

Date 13/4/16

Arthur Howes Guymner M.B.E.  
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.

AMC<sup>1</sup> MeD. Of

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

C.M. Form A. 22.

(Revised 1.7.14.)

## Application for a Commission in the

A.M.C. (A.I.F.)

No.	Particulars.	
1.	Surname ... Other names (in full) ...	GUYMER. ARTHUR HOWES.
2.	Educational Qualifications... (Certificate to be attached for notation at District Head-quarters.)	M.B.B.S.
3.	Military Qualifications (previous Military Service, if any, to be stated) (Attention is directed to third sub-para. of C.M. Regulation 65.) Present rank and corps to be stated.	nil
4.	Date on which applicant qualified at a competitive examination for first appointment as 2nd Lieutenant (U.T. Regulation 132)	GAZETTED O. OF A. GAZETTE No. 40 30/3/16
5.	Present Civil Employment ...	House Surgeon Adelaide Hospital.
6.	Date of Birth, and Age ... (Certificate of Birth or Statutory Declaration to be attached for notation at District Head-quarters.)	Date of Birth. March 6 <sup>th</sup> 1893. Age. 22 Years. 7. Months.
7.	If a British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject ... (In the case of the latter, date and place of Naturalization to be stated.)	British Subject.
8.	Married or Single ...	Single.
9.	Postal Address ...	11 Lyons Terrace Kilkenny. Battalion Area.
10.	Next of Kin ...	G. H. Guymer Kilkenny.

Date 25.9.15

(Signature of Applicant)

A. H. Guymer

NOTE.—Candidates for Commissions in the Permanent Forces are required to attach a satisfactory certificate of moral character, or, if they are serving in the Permanent or Citizen Forces, to be recommended by their Commanding Officer. They are also to state on the back of this form the subjects in which they desire to be examined in Part II., and where exemptions are claimed for educational subjects, the authority for same is to be stated, and where necessary to be supported by certificates.

## MEDICAL CERTIFICATE.

In the cases of Candidates for Commissions in the Permanent Forces, Proceedings of Medical Board, in accordance with instructions contained in "Standing Orders for the Army Medical Services," will be substituted for this Certificate; such Board, however, will not be assembled until after the nomination of the Candidate to undergo examination has been approved by the Military Board of Administration.

I, Mr. J. H. Russell, do hereby certify to the correctness of the following particulars respecting the above-named applicant. I further certify that the applicant is not ruptured, has not been operated on for Hernia, and is capable of bearing the fatigue incident to the performance of military duty.

Height 5' 9" Weight 9 st 12 lbs.  
Chest Measurement 32"-35" Eyesight 6/6

(Signature of the Examining Medical Officer)

J. H. Russell

## RECOMMENDATION AND CERTIFICATE OF COMMANDING OFFICER.

(Not required in the cases of Candidates for Commissions in the Permanent Forces.)

I recommend that the candidate above named be appointed a Captain A.M.C. in the Corps under my command, and I certify:—

1. That such appointment will be within the authorized establishment for the current year.
2. †(a) That the provisions of U.T. Reg. 33 have been fully complied with, or  
†(b) That the provisions of U.T. Reg. 132 have been fully complied with.  
(c) That all candidates higher in order of merit, by competitive examination, have been absorbed.

On appointment the candidate will be posted to Squadron, Battery, or Coy., &c.

H. H. C. Russell  
Lt Col.

Date

29/9/15

Commanding

Regt. or Corps.

## RECOMMENDATION OF DISTRICT COMMANDANT.

Recommended, candidate considered suitable.

Date

OCT 1 - 1915

Col.

COMMANDANT, 4TH MIL. DISTRICT.  
Military District.

† Sub-para. not applicable to be struck out.

N.B.—Record of War Service (if any) to be shown on back of Form.  
Seniority of Candidates as determined by competitive examination to be stated when two or more applications are forwarded on the same date.

B. 267/7.14.—C. 7812.

B.R.



# Australian War Memorial

## Honours and Awards

<https://www.awm.gov.au/people/rolls/R1583781/>

**Arthur Howes GUYMER**

**Rank:** Captain

**Unit:** 11th Australian Field Ambulance

**Conflict / Operation:** First World War, 1914-1918

**Recommendation:** Military Cross

[M1787] W10712/M1107-1000m 12/10 rpr G & S - E. 088. Form W. 3121/4 Army Form W. 3121.

11th Infantry Brigade 3rd Australian Division Australian Corps Date of Recommendation.

Serial No. (To be left blank)	Unit	Regt. No.	Rank and Name (Christian names must be stated)	Action for which commended (Date and place of action must be stated)	Recommended by	Honour or Reward	(To be left blank)
	11th Aust Field Ambulance		Captain Arthur Howes GUYMER.	For devotion to duty during the period March to Sept and continued excellent work and gallantry. During this period he has been in command of a section of bearers and took part in both the HAMEL operations in July and the operations during the advance since August 8th till August 30th. He has carried out his work in an exceedingly fine way and at all times is a splendid example of courage and cheerfulness to his men. His work during the first stage of the advance in August was of a particularly bold nature deserving of very special mention. He has on many occasions had to do his work in positions exposed to very heavy fire and has always done it well.	Lieut Col. R. N. CHAMBERS.	M.C.	

*W. H. Chambers*

"For devotion to duty during the period march to Sept and continued excellent work and gallantry. During this period he has been in command of a section of bearers and took part in both the HAMEL operations in July and the operations during the advance since August 8<sup>th</sup> to August 30<sup>th</sup>. He has carried out this work in an exceedingly fine way and at all times is a splendid example of courage and cheerfulness to his men. His work during the first stage of the advance in August was of a particularly bold nature deserving of very special mention. He has on many occasions had to do his work in positions exposed to very heavy fire and has always done it well."



## Published Biographies

*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

### GUYMER Arthur Howes

MB BS FRCS(Ed)

1893 - 1962

Arthur Howes Guymer was born at Kilkenny, SA on 6th March 1893, youngest son of George Huften and Mary Elizabeth Guymer, of 8 Wilpena Terrace, Kilkenny, and younger brother of Ernest Albert. He was educated at Prince Alfred College and studied medicine at University of Adelaide graduating in 1915. He was a junior house surgeon at the Adelaide Hospital for only a few weeks before enlistment.

He enlisted in the AIF on 1st October 1915 just 2 weeks after his older brother. He was single, 23 years old, 5ft 11ins, and weighed, 9st12lbs and his father was named as his next of kin. He had one year of previous AAMC reserve service and applied for a commission as a captain in the AAMC. He was posted for general duty to 43 Bn of the 11 Bde and attached on the 13th April 1916. This Bde was part of 3rd Div then assembling in Australia. They embarked from Adelaide on the *Afric* on the 9th June 1916 and did not go into action in France until late in 1916. He was transferred to Alexandria in October 1916 and then from 3 AGH to the RAMC base Depot at Mustapha and subsequently joined the BEF per *Minnetonka* finally posted to 43 Bn from 11 FdAmb. He suffered a severe gunshot wound to the left arm at Wimereux (Passchendaele), France on 18th October 1917 and transferred to the 3rd London General Hospital. After recovery he was posted for duty to 11 FdAmb in May 1918 and then to several field ambulance attachments in France. Whilst with 11 FdAmb in 1918 he was recommended for a Military Cross, but no award was made. At the cessation of hostilities he was granted leave from 7th March 1919 to 7th September 1919 with pay for medical experience at the Royal Berkshire Hospital at Reading. His appointment was terminated in England on the 11th October 1919. He issued with the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Guymer returned to Australia on the 30th March 1922 and by special dispensation of the Bishop he

married Sylvia C Ninham, a singer and youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs F W Ninham of Croydon at St Margaret's Church, Woodville. At this time he had been appointed as the Health Office for the District of Morgan in South Australia. However Guymer then lived and had a general practice in Mosely St, Glenelg. The family moved to Ballarat from 1925-1935 where he worked with his brother. On return to Glenelg the family were prominent in the social news of the day and his love of golf was shown by being Vice Captain of the Glenelg Golf Club. He often shared Anzac Day with members of the 43 Bn. Arthur Howes Guymer died on the 15th December 1962 aged 69 years, at Somerton Park. He was survived by his daughter Joan and son, Dr Max Guymer.

#### Sources:

<http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/scripts/Image.asp?B=436202>.  
Photo: AWM A03389;  
Photo brothers from Robert Likeman;  
NLA Trove  
The Register (Adelaide) 8th April 1922  
Adelaide Advertiser 17th October 1916

#### The Psychological Effect of War

It has been asserted by more than one authority that in war the side will win which can hold out a quarter of an hour longer than the other side. This saying not only pithily expresses the fundamental importance of *moral* in warfare but it lays bare impassionately, indeed almost cynically, the kind of *moral*... The State demands of its fighting men the ability to suffer and to go on suffering the terrific and nerve-shattering onslaught of modern gun-fire and still retain in their depleted ranks an effect and alert organization.

BMJ, 13 March 1915, p. 475



1951.

**GUYMER, Arthur Howes,**



Captain (1893–1962). *MB BS Adel 1915, FRCSEd 1921.*

Guymer was born in Kilkenny, SA, son of George Hufften Guymer and his wife Mary Elizabeth Howes. Major *Ernest Albert Guymer* was his older brother. Arthur Guymer was educated at Prince Alfred College and Adelaide University. He completed his residency at Adelaide Hospital and volunteered for the AIF in September 1915. He was assigned to 3 Div, and posted to 43 Bn in April 1916. The Bn embarked from Adelaide in June and reached England via Marseilles. They went to France in November 1916, but for reasons unknown Guymer did not join the Bn until December and was temporarily replaced by John Love from 11 Fd Amb. In October 1917 at Ypres Guymer suffered a GSW in the left arm, and was evacuated to England to 3 LGH. In January 1918 he was discharged to duty at 1 AAH at Harefield, and did not return to France until March 1918. He was briefly attached to 2 AGH, then posted to 11 Fd Amb. In May he was detached to his old unit 43 Bn for a month. He was recommended for the MC for his work during the Battle of Hamel and the advance that followed in August, but no award was made. At the end of August he was posted to 7 FAB and remained with this unit until the Armistice. He was then attached to 3 AGH for the rest of his service. Guymer was granted study leave from March to September 1919 at the Royal Berkshire Hospital in Reading, and then took his discharge in London. He returned to Australia in October 1921 and took up an appointment as Health Officer for Morgan, SA. In 1925 he moved to Ballarat and went into practice with his brother Ernest. He returned to Adelaide in 1935, and opened rooms in Glenelg. He moved to Somerton Park in 1959 and died there in 1962.

## **Additional Biography**

### **Schooling**

Arthur attended Prince Alfred College<sup>iii</sup> and won the Malpas Scholarship in 1910. He commenced studying Medicine at Adelaide University in 1911.

### **Sporting Career**

It is difficult to separate the sporting careers of Arthur and his older brother Ernest as they were both involved in sport at PAC and Adelaide University and newspaper reports of the time frequently only recorded the player's surname.

#### *Rowing*

In 1911, Arthur and Ern rowed in the 'Forresters Fours' for the newly formed Adelaide University Boat Club.<sup>iv</sup> Arthur was also involved in the Boat Club in 1912.<sup>v</sup>

#### *Tennis*

In 1913, Arthur and Ern played tennis for the Kilkenny Congregational Church team.

#### *Football*

One of the brothers played in an Intercollegiate football game for PAC against Roseworthy Agricultural College in 1909.<sup>vi</sup>

From 1912 to 1914 the name Guymer appeared frequently in the Adelaide University Football Club team sheets for both the A grade and B grade (1913-1914). During that period both Arthur and Ern were studying Medicine.

#### *1912*

Ern was named for the Blacks for the match v Glenferrie on 17<sup>th</sup> August 1912.<sup>vii</sup>

#### *1913*

Arthur was a member of the 1913 Intervarsity team.<sup>viii</sup>

#### *1914*

In 1914 when the Adelaide Student's Association was formed, Ern was the first Secretary Treasurer and Arthur represented the University on the Adelaide Student's Association General Committee.<sup>ix</sup>

On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September 1914, Arthur was named for the A's in a match v Glenferrie.<sup>x</sup> On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 1914 Adelaide University defeated Adelaide High School winning the first Premiership for the Adelaide Student's Association. A picture appeared in The Mail on 17<sup>th</sup> September 1914 of the Adelaide University B team, while it is not explicitly stated, the logical conclusion is that it is a picture of the Premiership team. Both the Guymer brothers are

in the photo (it is the only evidence to hand to show the brothers playing in the same team on the same day).<sup>xi</sup>(see photo below). One of the Guymer brothers was named in the Amateur League Premiership game played on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 1914 (University losing to Semaphore Central).<sup>xii</sup>

### 1914 Adelaide University Football Club B Grade Premiers



The Guymer brothers are seated in the middle row, one either side of the Captain (Turner) or wearing the striped strips. The lack of clarity of the newspaper reproduction makes it difficult to decide which brother is on the left and which is on the right.

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

<sup>i</sup> 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 1914

<sup>ii</sup> <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~guymer/longsutton.html>

<sup>iii</sup> "Prince Alfred College." *Australian Christian Commonwealth* (SA : 1901 - 1940) 23 December 1910: 8. Web. 15 May 2017 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article214049259>

<sup>iv</sup> "ROWING NOTES." *Chronicle* (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954) 9 December 1911: 19. Web. 15 May 2017 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article88739998>

<sup>v</sup> "ROWING." *The Mail* (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954) 21 September 1912: 3 (THIRD SECTION.). Web. 15 May 2017 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article58189981>

"LAWN TENNIS." *The Advertiser* (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931) 25 November 1913: 10. Web. 15 May 2017 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article5386020>

<sup>vi</sup> "FOOTBALL." *Evening Journal* (Adelaide, SA : 1869 - 1912) 30 June 1909: 3. Web. 15 May 2017 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article203439643>

<sup>vii</sup> "AMATEUR LEAGUE." *The Advertiser* (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931) 17 August 1912: 17. Web. 16 May 2017 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article5324960>

<sup>viii</sup> Adelaide University Sports Association records of IV teams.

<sup>ix</sup> "FOOTBALL." *The Register* (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929) 14 April 1914: 8. Web. 16 May 2017 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article58503644>

<sup>x</sup> "ATHLETICS." *The Register* (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929) 5 September 1914: 13. Web. 19 May 2017 <<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article59276343>>

<sup>xi</sup> "THE FOOTBALL FIELD" *The Mail* (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954) 17 September 1914: 3. Web. 16 May 2017 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article59740391>

<sup>xii</sup> "SPORTING NEWS." *The Advertiser* (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931) 19 September 1914: 14. Web. 19 May 2017 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article6432886>