

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 <u>43rd Battalion, Headquarters</u>

Embarkation details Unit embarked from Adelaide, South Australia, on board HMAT A19 Afric

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

Service Record

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

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2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born?	near the Town of Adelaide in the County of Sth hustralia
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.)	
4. What is your Age?	5 hedical Officer
What is your Trade or Calling?	^
o. ou, or have you been an Apprentice? If so, with 190 whom, and for what period?	6
7. Are you arried?	8. Father George Hufften Grupm
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated)	With Server Kilkenmy
o. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power?	
Have you ever been discharged from any part of His M. jesty'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. 00
t. 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. (12 years. 71.71.1:1.U.
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous	12. Yes.
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds?	13. No inselle box restat
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15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation agains smallpox and enteric fever?	1 15. Yes.
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Date 13/4/16.	Signature of Person Enlisted.

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C.M. Form A. 22. (Revised 1.7.14.)

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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

now w	1 March		2.088. Form, W. 9797, a.	Division, <u>Australian</u> Corps.		Army Form W. 3121. Recommendation.
Scheinie No. do te sei timbi	Unit	Regtl. No.	Bank and Name (Christian names must be stated)	Action for which commended (Date and place of action must be stated)	Recommended by	Honore or (To be left blank)
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				his work in petitions expected to vary heavy fore and has always done it will	Milke	L- HAT

"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 to August 30th. 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 sold 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:

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 that 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 Collegeⁱⁱⁱ 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. ivArthur was also involved in the Boat Club in 1912.v

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. vi

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 17th August 1912. vii

1913

Arthur was a member of the 1913 Intervarsity team. viii

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. ix

On Saturday 5th September 1914, Arthur was named for the A's in a match v Glenferrie.* On Saturday 12th 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 17th September 1914 of the Adelaide University B team, while it is not explicitly stated, the logical conclusion is that it is as 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). ^{xi}(see photo below). One of the Guymer brothers was named in the Amateur League Premiership game played on the 19th September 1914 (University losing to Semaphore Central). ^{xii}

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 stripped 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

¹ 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

http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~guymer/longsutton.html

[&]quot;Prince Alfred College." *Australian Christian Commonwealth (SA : 1901 - 1940)* 23 December 1910: 8. Web. 15 May 2017 http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article214049259

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

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

[&]quot;LAWN TENNIS." The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA: 1889 - 1931) 25 November 1913: 10. Web. 15 May 2017 http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article5386020

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

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

viii Adelaide University Sports Association records of IV teams.

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

^{* &}quot;ATHLETICS." *The Register (Adelaide, SA: 1901 - 1929)* 5 September 1914: 13. Web. 19 May 2017 http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article59276343

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

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