



Major Ernest Albert Guymer

Mention in Dispatches



Played with Adelaide University



Football Club 1912-1914 (A & B)

Degree obtained 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 Ernest Albert 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=121813>



Ernest Albert GUYMER

Date of birth	10 February 1891 ; secondary dob: 10/02/1892
Place of birth	Kilkenny, South Australia
School	Prince Alfred College, Adelaide, South Australia
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	General practitioner
Address	Kilkenny, South Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	24
Next of kin	Father, G H Guymer, Wilfrena Terrace, Kilkenny, South Australia
Enlistment date	19 September 1915
Rank on enlistment	Captain
Unit name	1 Australian General Hospital 1-6 Special Reinforcements
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A71 <i>Nestor</i> on 11 October 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Major
Unit from Nominal Roll	Australian Army Medical Corps
Promotions	Captain Unit: No 2 Australian General Hospital Promotion date: 11 October 1915 Major Unit: Australian Army Medical Corps, AIF Depot s in the United Kingdom Promotion date: 28 February 1918
Fate	Discharged 7 November 1919
Family/military connections	Brother: Captain Surgeon Arthur Howes GUYMER, Australian Army Medical Corps, discharged, 11 October 1919.

Other details

War service: Egypt, England, France, Belgium (contracted illness; invalided to England; recovered; returned to duty).

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal



Ernest Guymer and his brother Arthur Guymerⁱⁱ

Service Record

<http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=4362026>

C.M. Form A. 22.
(Revised 1-7-14)

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

2nd AGH
4TH MILITARY DISTRICT
AG 142 359
Application for a Commission in the A.A. MC. (A.I.F.)

13/4/1915
A.I.F.

No.	PARTICULARS	
1.	SURNAME ... Other Names (in full) ...	GUYMER. GUYMER. Ernest Albert. ERNEST ALBERT
2.	Educational Qualifications ... (Certificate to be attached for notation at District Headquarters.)	MB. B.S. - Adelaide
3.	Military Qualifications (previous Military Service, if any, to be stated) ... (Attention is directed to third sub-para. of C.M. Regulation 66.) Present rank and corps to be stated.	None.
4.	Date on which applicant qualified at a competitive examination for first appointment as Second Lieutenant (U.T. Regulation 100) ...	140 7/11/15
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 Headquarters.)	February 10th 1891. 24. 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 ...	Wilpena Terrace. Kilkenny. S. Aus.
10.	Next of Kin ...	Dr. Walter & Mother. G. H. Guymer. Kilkenny

Date 19-9-15 (Signature of Applicant) E. 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, Arthur Francis Augustus Lynch 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 1/2 in. Weight 11 stone 1 lb
Chest Measurement 33-36 Eyesight Very good 6/6 each

Signature of the Examining Medical Officer. A. F. Lynch M.D. A.M.B.

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 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 H. H. Russell Squadron, Battery, or Coy., &c.

Date 22/9/15 Commanding A.P.M.O. Regt. or Corps.
22. SEP. 1915

RECOMMENDATION OF DISTRICT COMMANDANT.
Recommended, candidate considered suitable.

Date 25/9/15 Base Records Commandant 4 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.

wo 54060

Australian War Memorial

Honours and Awards

<https://www.awm.gov.au/people/rolls/R1597047/>

Ernest Albert Guymer

Rank: Captain

Unit: Australian Army Medical Corps (Attached 4th Australian Field Artillery Brigade)

Conflict / Operation: First World War, 1914-1918

Recommendation: Mention in despatches

Date of recommendation: 9 September 1917

Schedule 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)
	Headquarters 4th A.F.A. Brigade.		Captain Daniel Arthur FOULER.	Has shown consistent ability and rendered excellent service as Section Commander and Adjutant. As F.O.O. he has, on many occasions, shown conspicuous gallantry.		Brigadier-General, C.A.F., 2nd Australian Division.	MENTION IN DESPATCHES.
	A.A.M.C. Attached 4th A.F.A. Brigade Headquarters.		Captain Ernest Albert GUYMER.	For consistent devotion to duty and gallantry displayed on many occasions when attending wounded under fire at considerable personal risk.			

Captain Ernest Albert Guymer

Has shown consistent ability and rendered excellent service as Section Commander and Adjutant. As F.O.O. he has, on many occasions, shown conspicuous gallantry.

For consistent devotion to duty and gallantry shown on many occasions when attending wounded under fire at considerable personal risk.

<https://www.awm.gov.au/people/rolls/R1610291/>

Rank: Major

Unit: 4th Australian Field Artillery Brigade

Conflict / Operation: First World War, 1914-1918

Date of recommendation: 30 December 1918

**AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE DEPOTS
IN
UNITED KINGDOM.** (CR. AIF. 25124/1/R.)

SECRET

a. DEPOT UNIT Overseas Training Brigade *Op one*

b. REGIMENTAL NUMBER (in the case of a/c ranks) _____

c. RANK Major
(Permanent rank to be stated and supplemented by any acting or temporary rank at present held)

d. SURNAME GUYMER (in CAPITAL LETTERS)

e. CHRISTIAN NAMES ERNEST ALBERT (in full)

f. FIELD UNIT Rmo 4th Tdls Atty Bde

g. PRESENT APPOINTMENT OR EMPLOYMENT
Rmo Overseas Training Brigade

h. PERIOD OF SERVICE OVERSEAS AND THEATRES OF WAR
(If not served overseas to be stated.)
12 months - France

i. PERIOD OF HOME SERVICE AND SPHERES OF EMPLOYMENT
11 months Overseas Training Brigade

j. PREVIOUS REWARDS OR MENTIONS DURING PRESENT WAR
Nil

k. STATEMENT OF HOME SERVICE DESIRED TO BE BROUGHT TO NOTICE
This officer has carried out important duties at the Overseas Training Brigade with zeal and thoroughness, and success and has done excellent work.

(Signature of
Commanding Officer)

(Place) Adson

(Date) 20/12/18

"This officer has carried out important duties at the Overseas Training Brigade with zeal and thoroughness, and success and has done excellent work."

Published Biography

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

GUYMER Ernest Albert

MB BS FRCS(Ed)

1891 - 1982



Ernest Albert Guymer was born on the 10th February 1891 in Adelaide. He was the eldest of three sons of George Huften Guymer of Kilkenny, South Australia. He was educated at Prince Alfred College and was prominent in athletics and tennis. He rowed in a school eight at the Henley on Torrens race and played Amateur League Football whilst at University. He partnered his brother Arthur in local and interstate tennis. He studied medicine at the University of Adelaide graduating in 1914. He then completed his residency at the Adelaide Hospital and was a house surgeon for 6 months before enlisting in the AIF.

Guymer joined the AIF on 19th September 1915 and was commissioned as a captain for general duties in the AAMC. He was single, 24 years old, 5ft 9ins, weighed 11st, of dark complexion, with brown hair and eyes. Shortly after enlisting in October 1915 he became engaged to Blanche Perry of Wilpena Terrace, Kilkenny. He embarked on 11th October 1915 with reinforcements for 2 AGH and proceeded to Gallipoli on 23 November 1915, but within a week was posted to 3 AGH on Lemnos. After the evacuation from the Dardanelles he remained with 3 AGH. He was detached to 4 LHR. When 3 AGH moved to England, Guymer went to France as RMO of 17 Bn. The Bn was then at Flers, bogged down in mud and suffering badly from trench foot. Guymer was transferred to 4 AFA Bde in April 1917, but was sick for several weeks with mumps, and did not return to the Bde until the beginning of June. Guymer was Mentioned in Despatches on the 9th September 1917 whilst attached to the 4th Field Artillery Brigade Headquarters. He was promoted major in February 1918, posted to 5 FdAmb for a short time, but was unwell again and sent back to England. During this time he had several bouts of pyrexia of unknown origin seemingly as a result of his illness with mumps.

After recovering he did not return to France, but was posted to the Overseas Training Bde in England, where he remained until the end of the war. He used his accrued leave to gain surgical experience at Norwich Hospital, and in November 1919 he resigned from his AIF appointment. He returned to Australia the following year after passing the FRCS Edinburgh examination and his appointment was terminated at 4 MD, Adelaide on 20th August 1920. Guymer was issued with the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal with Oak Leaves.

Guymer set up a surgical practice in Ballarat on return to Australia and began a family with the birth of a son, Len Farrer, on the 23rd November 1923 at "Muiravon", 9 Drummond St, South Ballarat. He was appointed Honorary surgeon at the Ballarat Base Hospital in 1937 and informed them that he was going to the Coronation in England and then for post graduate work in surgery in England, Vienna and United States. Guymer was often mentioned in the local press until 1947 as a Club golfer. The family left Ballarat in August 1960 and had address of Golightly St, Port Lonsdale Victoria. Ernest Albert Guymer died on the 2nd July 1982, aged 91 years, at Queenscliff, Victoria, and was buried at Ballarat, Victoria. His son Rex, a Melbourne Radiologist, died in Melbourne on the 20th February 2006.

Sources:

Likeman R., Gallipoli Doctors, Slouch Hat Publications Melbourne, 2010
<http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/scripts/Imagine.asp?B=4362026>;
Photo: PAC, WW1 Doctors
<http://www.awm.gov.au/collection/records/awm28/1/awm28-1-91-0045.pdf>
The Mail Adelaide 16th October 1915.

Additional Biography

Schooling

Ern attended Prince Alfred College and won the Gethering Scholarship in 1909.ⁱⁱⁱ He commenced studying Medicine at Adelaide University in 1910.^{iv}

Sporting Career

It is difficult to separate the sporting careers of Ernest (Ern) and his younger brother Arthur 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.

Athletics

In 1912, Ern competed in the Adelaide University Sports competing in the 135 yards flat race.^v

Rowing

In 1911, Ern and Arthur rowed in the 'Forresters Fours' for the newly formed Adelaide University Boat Club.^{vi}

Tennis

In 1913, Ern and Arthur 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.^{vii}

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 Ern and Arthur were studying Medicine.

1912

Ern was named for the Blacks for the match v Glenferrie on 17th August 1912.^{viii}

1913

Arthur was a member of the 1913 Intervarsity team.^{ix}

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.^x

On Saturday 5th September 1914, Arthur was named for the A's in a match v Glenferrie.^{xi} 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).^{xii} (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).^{xiii}

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 Adelaide University WW1 Memorial Committee

ⁱ 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

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

ⁱⁱⁱ "SPEECH DAYS." *The Advertiser* (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931) 17 December 1909: 9. Web. 15 May 2017 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article5208114>

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

^v "UNIVERSITY SPORTS." *Evening Journal* (Adelaide, SA : 1869 - 1912) 20 June 1912: 2. Web. 19 May 2017 <<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article204512385>>

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

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

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

^{ix} Adelaide University Sports Association records of IV teams.

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

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

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

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