



**Major
William James Ellery Phillips
MC**



Played with Adelaide University



Football Club: A Grade 1911-15

(Intervarsity 1911, 1912 & 1914)

Blue: Football 1915

Degree: 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 Charles Julius Perry. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.

The AIF Project

<https://aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=240761>



William James Ellery PHILLIPS


Date of birth	18 September 1891
Place of birth	Adelaide South Australia
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Medical practitioner
Address	Hyde Park, South Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	24
Next of kin	Father, J H Phillips, Mitchell Street, Hyde Park, South Australia
Enlistment date	1 December 1915
Rank on enlistment	Captain
Unit name	Medical Officers
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board RMS <i>Osterley</i> on 15 January 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Major
Unit from Nominal Roll	Australian Army Medical Corps
Promotions	Captain Unit: MED Promotion date: 1 December 1915
Fate	Effective abroad (still overseas)
Medals	Military Cross 'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on 6th and 7th September 1918, during an advance on Roisel. He worked continuously for 48 hours in charge of the evacuation of the wounded from the forward aid posts. Although the area was heavily shelled, he got his ambulance cars right up and cleared the wounded with great rapidity. His energy and perseverance set a splendid example to those working with him.' Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 67 Date: 3 June 1919
Other details	Medals: Military Cross, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Service Record

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=1991514>

Copy

Certified true copy
C. W. A. Rossell
Capt. or
admiral

AUSTRALIAN  MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 2274 Name Phillips William E.
Unit (A.F.M.C.) 1st Australian Stationary Hospital
Joined on November 30th 1914 *(2nd Reinforcements)*

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name? ... 1. William Phillips
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? ... 2. In the Parish of Adelaide in or
near the Town of ...
in the County of Adelaide
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) ... 3. Yes
4. What is your age? ... 4. 23 years 2 months
5. What is your trade or calling? ... 5. medical student (5th year)
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? ... 6. no
7. Are you married? ... 7. no
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) ... 8. Father
James Henry Phillips
Trutchell Street
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? ... 9. no Hyde Park
Sa
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? ... 10. 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 ... 11. 2 years in old Cadets
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? ... 12. Yes
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? ... 13. no
14. (For married men and widowers with children)—
Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued to you either before or after embarkation during your term of service? ... 14. no
15. All have prepared to undergo inoculation for small pox and
3. William Phillips 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 30/11/14 (Sgd) W. E. Phillips
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.
D.377/9.14.—C.12293. †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/295771>

PHILLIPS, William James Ellery

Service Numbers: Not yet discovered
Enlisted: Not yet discovered
Last Rank: Captain
Last Unit: Medical Officers
Memorials: Unley HB01 Town Hall*

World War 1 Service

22 Dec 1915: Involvement Captain, Medical Officers
22 Dec 1915: Embarked Captain, Medical Officers, HMAT Kanowna, Sydney



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 2014

PHILLIPS William James Ellery

MC MB BS

1891 - 1952



William James Ellery Phillips was born in Adelaide on 18th September 1891, the second of nine children. His father was James Henry Phillips, a compositor, and mother was Esther Jane, nee Ellery of 107 Mitchell Street, Hyde Park. He was educated privately and at Goodwood School where he was awarded a bursary in 1904 for Prince Alfred College. He was awarded a university scholarship in 1911 and studied medicine at the University of Adelaide. He was named the St Alban's scholar for 1913 and graduated MB BS in 1915. Prior to WW1 he had served in the school cadets.

Phillips enlisted on 30th November 1914 at Oakland's Camp, South Australia. He was a single, fifth year medical student. On the order of the PMO he was discharged on 26th February 1915 to complete his medical degree. He re-joined on 23rd September 1915 having completed his degree and 3 weeks of practice at the Adelaide Hospital. He was 5ft 8½ins, weighed 133lbs, of dark complexion with grey eyes and light brown hair. His father was named as his next of kin. Phillips was allotted to the 3rd Reinforcements for 1 ASH. He embarked from Sydney on the *Kanowna* on 22nd December 1915. He was appointed RMO to the 13 Bn and on 20th August 1916 he was transferred to the 4 FdAmb and later still to the 2 AGH. He was sick on two occasions; the first saw him admitted to 3rd London General Hospital and he was admitted again to 20th General Hospital on 15th February with bronchitis. He was transferred to the 1 FdAmb on 17th May 1917. He was severely gassed and admitted to the 5th British Red Cross Hospital on 8th March 1918 and transferred to 3rd London General Hospital on 13th March 1918. He was promoted major on 10th September 1918. He was awarded the Military Cross "for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on 6th-7th September 1918. During an advance on Roisel. He worked continuously for 48 hours in charge of the evacuation of the wounded from the forward aid posts. Although the area was heavily shelled, he got his ambulance cars right up and cleared the wounded with great rapidity. His energy and perseverance set a splendid example to those working

with him." He was granted leave with pay from 24th June 1919 to 24th December 1919 and leave without pay from 25th December 1919 to 30th June 1920. He returned to Australia with his wife accompanying him on the *Narkunda* disembarking in 4 MD on 19th August 1920. His appointment was terminated in 4MD on 19th October 1920. He was issued the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

Phillips moved to England and was a ship's doctor after the war; he was a senior medical officer in Palestine from 1937 to 1945 and had served in the British and American sectors of UNRRA. He had retired by the time he was 45 years of age and in a report of him pleading guilty for stealing chairs from a sports club he said he had not been well. At the time of the court case he was resident in Blackheath, England. William James Ellery Phillips died on the 25th December 1952, when he was living at Chateau de la Freyere La Bocca, Cannes, Alpes Maritimes in France.

Sources:

National Archives of Australia
<http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/NameSearch/Interface/ItemDetail.aspx?Barcode=1991514>
South Australian Bibliographical Index 1836-1885
Morning Bulletin Rockhampton Queensland 6th September 1946
Chronicle 14th August 1920
Photo: Adelaide University Archives Medical Graduates 1915
Prince Alfred College archives.

The Germans Medical Profession in War Times

Germany is suffering from a severe dearth of medical men many thousands of whom have joined the colours

BMJ, 24 October 1914, p. 726

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Additional Biography

Early Life

William James Ellery Phillips was born on the 18th of August 1891, the son of James Henry Phillips and Ester Jane Ellery (SA Birth Registration 485/308). William's father James was a compositor at "The Advertiser".

Education – Primary and Secondary

William attended Goodwood Public School where he passed his Primary Examinations in 1904, gaining sufficient marks to be offered an Exhibition to the Pupil Teachers' School (later to become Adelaide High School in 1908). He was awarded the exhibition in January 1905.

Mr. J. H. Phillips, of Hyde Park, who is a compositor in The Advertiser office, has received an intimation from the Inspector-General of Schools (Mr. L. W. Stanton) that his son, W. J. E. Phillips, a pupil of the Goodwood State school, has been awarded an exhibition, tenable for three years, at the Pupil Teachers' School. Master Phillips qualified at the examinations in December last.

William attended the Pupil Teachers' School in 1905 and 1906. He passed his Junior Examinations in 1905 and three subjects in the Senior Examinations in December 1906.

William then attended Prince Alfred College, Adelaide for his final years at school, passing his Senior Examinations in 1907 and his Higher Public Examinations in 1908. William was awarded a scholarship to attend Adelaide University as an Evening Student in Science.

Adelaide University

William commenced studying for a Bachelor of Science at Adelaide University in 1909, however later was able to gain entry to study medicine after passing the prerequisite science subjects during 1909 and 1910. In March 1913, William was awarded the St Albans Scholarship.

Mr. W. J. E. Phillips, eldest son of Mr. J. H. Phillips, of Mitchell street, Hyde Park, has been granted the St. Albans Scholarship, tenable at the Adelaide University for three years. He is in his third year of the medical course at that institution.

William's Student Cards are below:

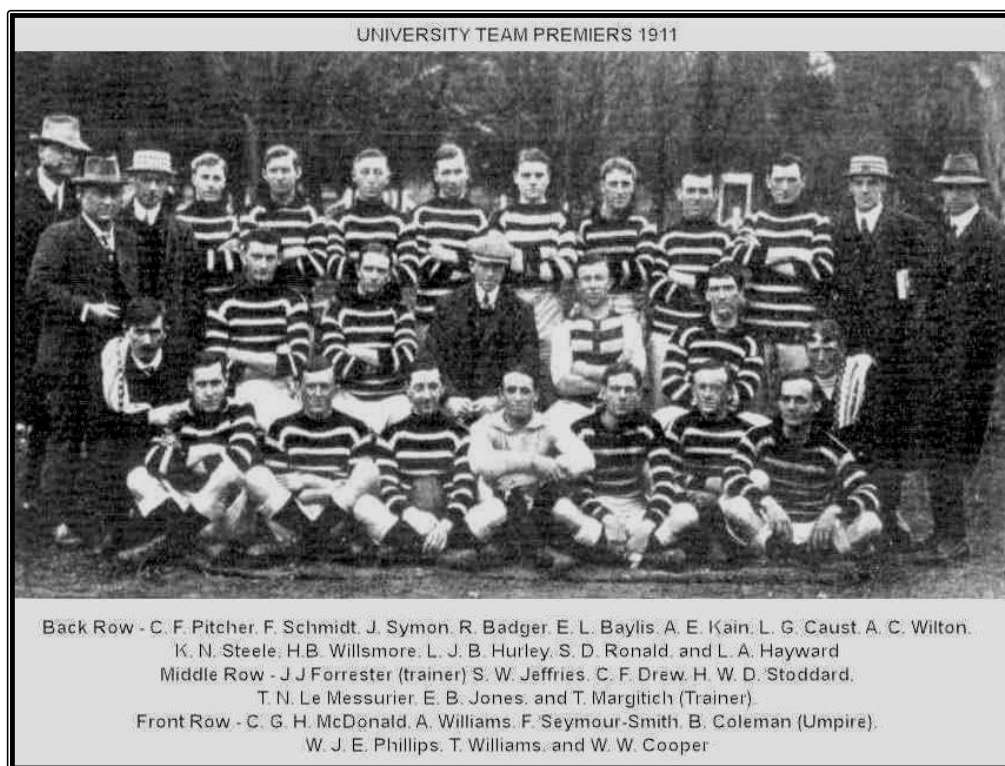
NAME AND ADDRESS		REGISTERED NO.	GRADE	
Phillips, William James Ellery Mitchell St Hyde Park		2113	Grad	
COURSE	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF MATRICULATION	SEE OTHER CARD	
B. Sc	18/7/91	23/7/09	ON WAR MEMORIAL	
REASON 1907 Lat. Germ. Math. Alg. Geom. Trig. Physics, Inorganic Chem.				
B.Sc. Physics, Biology Chem. M. 1911 English, Higher 1908. Germ. Physics;				
STATUS GRANTED Card 1. Excluded 1.12.15				
YEAR	SUBJECT	RECEIPT	EXAM. RESULT	REMARKS
1909	Physics 1 st Yr	10534	75%	Exe. Schip
	Chemistry 1 st Yr	10607	75%	Exe. Schip
1910	Org Chemistry		810 P II	Exe. Schip
	Biology		810 P II	Exe. Schip
	Comp. Maths.		810 P II	Exe. Schip
1911	Final Year M. B.	B4318	85745 1/2	NO
	Anatomy	2/41	2/41	
	Physiology	1/41	1/41	
	Physical Chem	7/1	7/1	
	Micrology	2/41	2/41	
	Physiological Chem	1/41	1/41	
	Org Chem. Inorg	B5361		

NAME AND ADDRESS		Phellips, William James O'Leary.		M.B.B.S.		REGISTER NO.		2113		
COURSE		DATE OF BIRTH		DATE OF MATRICULATION		SEE OTHER CARD		GRADE		
M.O.								One War Memorial		
SENIOR				band No 2				Year 9.		
STATUS GRANTED										
YEAR	SUBJECT	RECEIPT	FIRST TERM	RECEIPT	SECOND TERM	RECEIPT	THIRD TERM	EXAM.	RESULT	REMARKS
1921	Mo. W. Exam.							12609 1810	N21 F	
1922	Mo. D. Exam.			28670	15 16 0				N25 Not improved	

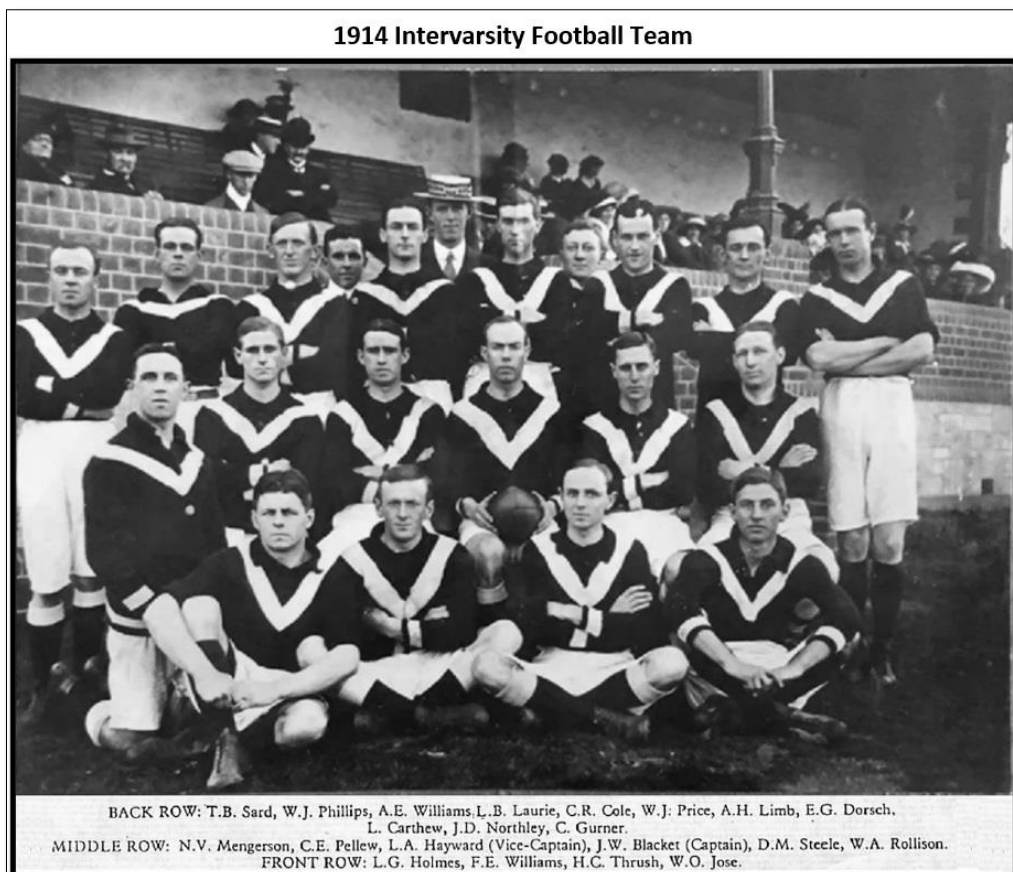
In August 1910 William rowed for the Science School in the Adelaide University Schools Regatta.

Football

William represented Adelaide University in A Grade football in the Amateur League for five seasons from 1911 to 1915. He was a member of the first Premiership team in the Amateur League in 1911. He competed in a match against PAC the same season. He was a member of the Adelaide University Intersvarsity team on three occasions (1911, 1912 and 1914) and was awarded a Blue for Football in 1915. While at University he also competed for P.A.C. in Old Collegiate Football matches against St Peters.



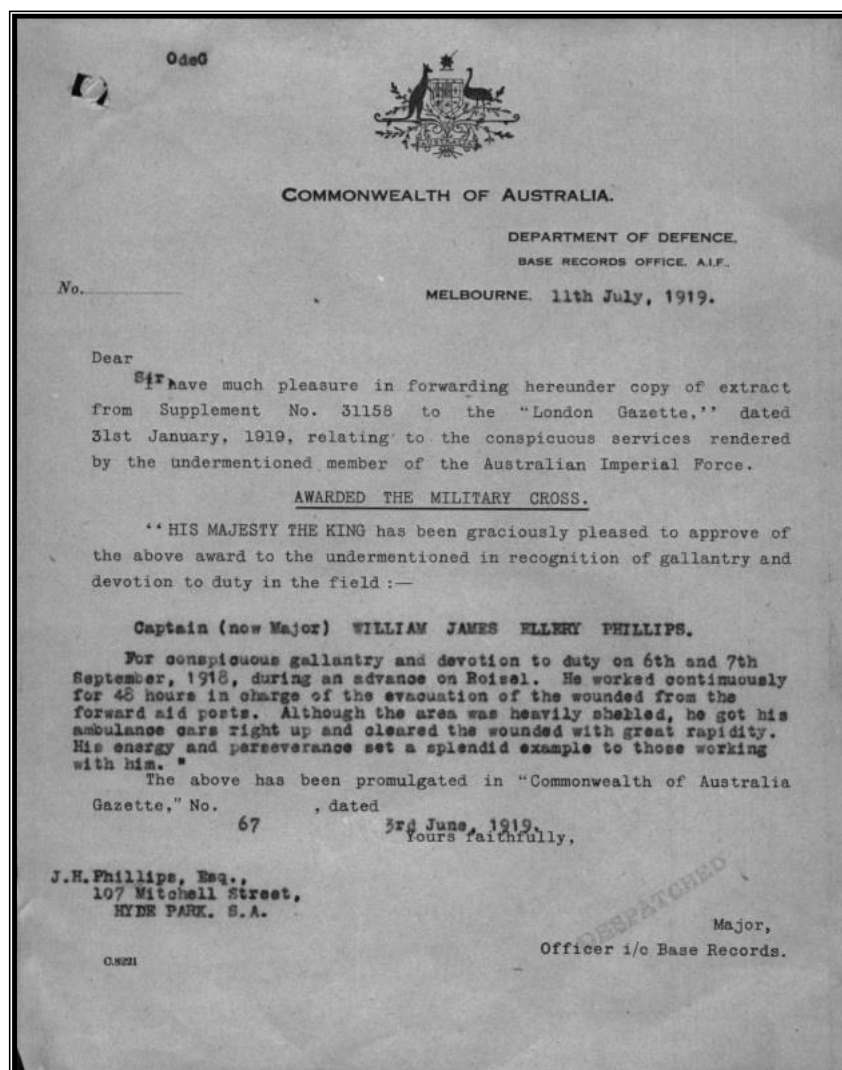
1914 Adelaide University Intersvarsity Team



William originally enlisted on the 30th of November 1914 but was discharged to complete his medical training. He re-enlisted on 26th February 1915. His WWI service is detailed well in the “Blood, Sweat and Fears” biography above.

A black and white photograph of a group of 14 young men in military uniforms, arranged in three rows outdoors. They are wearing hats and button-down shirts, posing for a formal group portrait.

William was awarded the Military Cross 'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on 6th and 7th September 1918, during an advance on Roisel.



In early November 1918, William was transferred to the 1st Australian Convalescent Depot in Le Havre. He was given leave from the 18th of January until the 8th of February 1919. He then remained in France until June, then returning to England again on leave where he took positions in hospitals to gain further experience, including at East Cornwall, Plymouth and Great Northern Central Hospitals (December 1919). He is said to have also worked at Southampton. He remained in England until December 1919. He was then granted extended un-paid leave until the end of June 1920.

The French Connection

A newspaper article in 1938 states that William was at Villers Bretonneux, on the Western Front, France during WWI. William and his wife returned to Australia on the 19th August 1920. A report in the WA Newspapers in 1921 said that William's wife was French.

The French generally had a great admiration and respect for the Allied Forces and many of our Australian men serving in France fell in love with local French girls, some they left behind and some they brought home. William had met Elsa Aimee Bideleux (b Marseille, France 5/6/1901) and they married on 18th June 1920 in Le Havre, France.

Left Document: MARIAGE

Le futur époux déclare qu'il n'a pas été fait de contrat de mariage.

Aucune opposition n'ayant été faite, les contractants ont déclaré l'un après l'autre vouloir se prendre pour époux et nous avons prononcé, au nom de la loi, que Hector Stewart COCKBURN & Renée Henriette DUROUX sont unis par le mariage.

En présence de Charles Assol négociant et de Alfred Hunter médecin vétérinaire tous deux majeurs domiciliés au Havre.

Lecture faite les époux les père et mère de l'épouse et les témoins ont signé avec Nous.

(Suivent les Signatures.)

Pour le 17 DEC 1920

Le Maire.

Right Document: ACTES DE MARIAGES

Le dix huit juin mil neuf cent vingt à dix sept heures trois quarts devant Nous, Léon RUYER, Maire de la Ville du Havre, officier de la Légion d'Honneur,

Ont comparu publiquement en la Mairie commune:

William James Henry PHILLIPS, chirurgien, né à Adelaide (Australie) le dix huit septembre mil huit cent quatre vingt deux, vingt sept ans, domicilié à Londres (Angleterre) rue Holloway, fils de James Henry PHILLIPS, journaliste, et de Esther Jane HILARY, son épouse, sans profession, domiciliés au dit lieu d'Adelaide,

Et Elsa Aimee BIDELEUX, sans profession, née à Marseille (Bouches-du-Rhône) le cinq juin mil neuf cent un, dix neuf ans, domiciliée au Havre rue Sébastien 17, fille de Arnold Patric BIDELEUX, négociant et de Marie BRAGLUND, son épouse, sans profession, domiciliée au Havre présente et consentante.

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Et Elsa Aimee BIDELEUX, sans profession, née à Marseille (Bouches-du-Rhône) le cinq juin mil neuf cent un, dix neuf ans, domiciliée au Havre rue Sébastien 17, fille de Arnold Patric BIDELEUX, négociant et de Marie BRAGLUND, son épouse, sans profession, domiciliée au Havre présente et consentante.

It is not clear when William and Elsa met and romanced, however in 1918 at the same time William was stationed in Le Havre, the 17-year-old was residing there with her father Arnold Bideleux (an English born businessman) and Swedish mother Anna. Arnold had been a champion English Rugby Union player who had been recruited to play in France in the 1890's for clubs in Le Havre and Marseille. He likely would have appreciated William's athletic past in Australia and that his daughter had fallen for a handsome Australian Medical Officer.



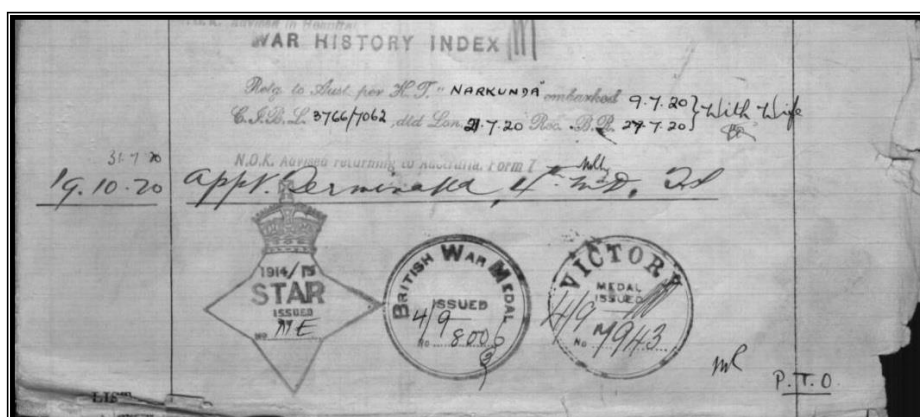
Marseille Football Club
Arnold Fatio Bideleux (Back row - second from left)

It would be shorter to list Athletic Sports that arnold bideleux did not practice but to reverse. This great champion's record remains to be written. Only for 1899, he won two titles of the coastal champion, in two different disciplines, with his club football club in Marseille, chaired by René Dufaure de montmirail.



Arnold Fatio Bideleux far left

After their wedding in Le Havre on the 18th of June 1920, William now nearly 29 years of age and Elsa having only just turned 19 years, returned to Australia together the following month aboard the H. T. "Narkunda".



Leaving her family behind in Europe, Elsa and her new husband arrived back in Australia. William's A.A.M.C. appointment was formally terminated on 19th August 1920.

During 1921, according to Adelaide University records, he took the M.D. exam and then submitted an M.D. thesis in 1922. Unfortunately, he failed the M.D. exam, and his thesis was not approved.

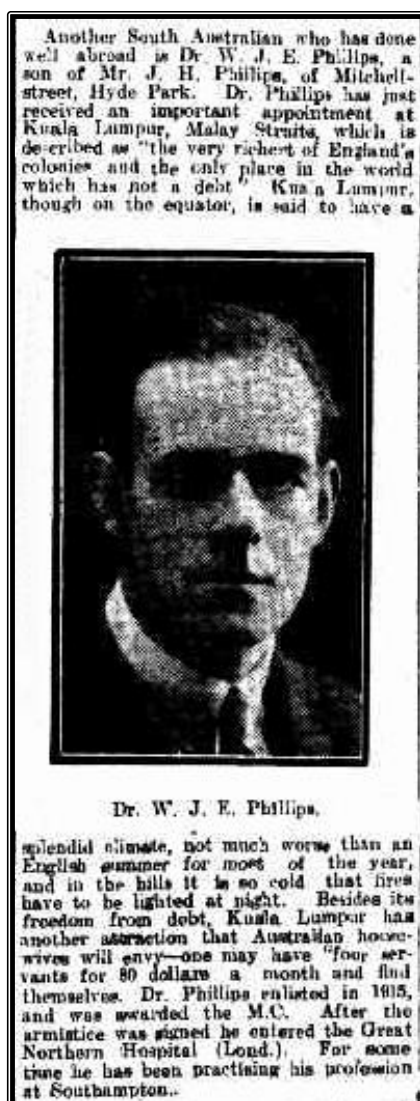
In February 1921 William and Elsa had moved to Perth, Western Australia where he joined Dr Ferguson Stewart in his professional practice. William practiced from 106 Parker Street, West Guildford and from Perth Road, West Guildford. He was appointed medical officer for the West Guildford Road Board in August 1921. In August 1921 William accepted a position at the Fremantle Base Hospital.

A son, Peter Howard Phillips was born on the 21st of January 1922 at Miss Harvey's Hospital, Aberdeen Street, Perth.

The 1922 WA Electoral Rolls show the family was living at 5 Bateman Street, Fremantle. William and Elsa were in Western Australia until at least March 1922.

In 1923, William, was listed as temporarily living at Mitchell Street, Hyde Park, South Australia (his parent's address).

Having graduated with a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from London University, William received a United Kingdom Colonial Office appointment in July 1923 as Medical Officer to the colony of the Malay Federated States in Kuala Lumpur, Malay Straits. Later newspaper reports state that William was in Tiaping and Jahore (both in Malaysia).



William and Elsa had two more children (Geoffrey and Anita). By 1932, William was now the Acting Director of Social Hygiene in Singapore.

William made a visit to Adelaide at Christmas time in 1933 and then departed on the 4th of January 1934 on the 'Strathaird', which was sailing for London.

After 12 years in Malaysia, William was posted to Cyprus in about 1934 and remained there for three years until October 1937. He was based at Nicosia while in Cyprus.

In the London, England, Electoral Register of 1936, William and Elsa were registered at her parent's residence at 10 Morden Road, in the Electorate of Greenwich, London. At the time however they were still residing in Nicosia, Cyprus, with Arnold and Anna Bideleux apparently visiting them.

London, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1965 for William James Ellery Phillips				
Greenwich > Greenwich > 1936				
1631	R	O	Turner, George Frederick Brown	6 MORDEN ROAD—contd
1647	R	O	Avis, George James	10 (Basement)
1648	Rw	Dw	Avis, May Eva	10 (Ditto)
1649	Rw	Ow	Frazer, Lucy Langley	10 (Flat 2)
1650	R	O	Owen, Arthur Douglas—J	10 (Flat 3)
1651	Rw	Dw	Owen, Janet Mabel	10 (Ditto)
1652	R	O	Rosselli, Charles	10 (Flat 4)
1953	Rw	Dw	Rosselli, Sylvia	10 (Ditto)
1954	R	O	Copping, George	The Plantation
1655	Rw	Dw	Copping, Rosina Lilian	Ditto
1656	R	O	Symonds, Edgar Robert	Garage (rear of 8)
1657	Rw	Dw	Symonds, Frances Amy	Ditto
1658	R	O	Bideleux, Arnold Fatio	Nicosia
1659	Rw	Dw	Bideleux, Anna Maria	Ditto
1660	R	O	Phillips, William James Ellery	Ditto
1661	Rw	Dw	Phillips, Elsa Aimee	Ditto

Elsa returned to the Port of London from Nicosia in April 1937 and was to reside with her parents at Morden Rd Blackheath adjacent to Greenwich.

UK, Incoming Passenger Lists, 1878-1960 for Elsa Aimee Phillips									
London, England > 1937 > Apr									
Ship "PORTER"		Port of Arrival LONDON		Date of Arrival APRIL 2nd. 1937		P.M. 23			
Line P. & O. S. N. Co.		Where Arrived		SCTRY.					
NAMES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF BRITISH PASSENGERS									
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
First	Second	Third	Fourth	Address	Profession	Age	Sex	Country of Birth	Country of Residence
Phillips, Elsa Aimee	"Nicosia"	Morden Rd.,	"	H.D.	35	Female	CYPRUS	1	
Blackheath, S.E.3.									
Peacock, Sarah Eliz.	Grinton, Radlett, Hert.	"	"	H.D.	50	Female	England	1	
Southern, Irene The Knoll, Wexley,	"	"	"	Student	17	Female	"	1	
Rudolphsfeld									
<p>By permission residence is to be understood residence for 1 year or more</p> <p>Northern Ireland and the Irish Free State are to be regarded as separate countries.</p> <p>10/10/2633 16</p> <p>Sec. 21301 1936</p> <p>4C 2F 4 4 9</p> <p>C. No. 439a</p>									

In October 1937, William was appointed by the U.K. Imperial Government as senior medical officer in Palestine with their headquarters at Jerusalem.

Dr. W. J. E. Phillips, eldest son of Mr. J. H. Phillips, of Mitchell street, Hyde Park, has been appointed by the Imperial Government as senior medical officer in Palestine with headquarters at Jerusalem. Dr. Phillips, who was educated in the Adelaide University and the London University, entered the services of the Imperial Government and was sent to Malaya, where he stayed 12 years, and later to Cyprus, where he remained three years. Dr. Phillips left for the war in a hospital ship in 1914. After the war he practised at Southampton, England.

On the 11th of May 1939 William was present at the Old Reds (P.A.C. Old Scholars) reunion dinner in London at the Connaught Rooms.

He returned to Jerusalem and was visited there by South Australian Cpl. Douglas Dollman, the son of Colonel Dollman.

Adelaide Doctor In Palestine
WRITING from Palestine, Corporal Douglas Dollman, son of Colonel Dollman, of "The Advertiser," says he recently visited Jerusalem, and called on Dr. W. J. E. Phillips, senior medical officer in Palestine, and a son of Mr. J. H. Phillips, also of "The Advertiser." Dr. Phillips was a major in the A.A.M.C. in the Great War, and has not seen Adelaide for more than 10 years. Before transferring to Palestine a couple of years ago, he was at Malaya and then Cyprus. Douglas Dollman said he had a warm welcome from Dr. Phillips and his family, and enjoyed the chance of passing on news of South Australia to an interested listener.

In mid-1944, William had a pleasant meeting with Sir Howard Florey, who was in Jerusalem demonstrating the use of penicillin.

SIR HOWARD FLOREY
ONE of South Australia's Rhodes Scholars to achieve world-wide fame is Professor Sir Howard Florey. I heard interesting news about him last week. Dr. William J. E. Phillips (senior medical officer in Palestine) has written to his father, Mr. J. H. Phillips, of Hyde Park, to say that he had had the pleasure of meeting Professor Florey in Jerusalem, where the latter was demonstrating the use of penicillin. Of course, they had a good old talk about their contemporaneous undergraduate days at the University of Adelaide.

In January 1945, William retired after 28 years of Colonial Office service. The family then move to England.

ADELAIDE friends of Dr. W. J. E. Phillips, who graduated in medicine at the University of Adelaide in 1915, and who has been a senior medical officer in Palestine for seven years, is retiring after 28 years in the Colonial Office service, and will leave Jerusalem to live in England with his wife and family.

Their elder son, Lt. Peter Phillips, enlisted from Cambridge and has been with the Ghurka Regiment in India. Geoffrey is taking the medical course in London. Their daughter Anita is also in England. Dr. Phillips is a son of Mr. J. H. Phillips, of Mitchell street, Hyde Park.

By June 1946, William was working in Austria for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA). While he was with the UNRRA he was a medical officer at the Belsen prison in Germany.

TO AUSTRIA FOR UNRRA

I HEARD interesting news last week about Dr. W. J. E. Phillips, who graduated in Medicine at the University of Adelaide in 1915.

After 28 years' service in the Colonial Office, he recently retired to England from Palestine, and now he has been posted to Austria to work under UNRRA.

Dr. Phillips has had broad experience. He served as a major with the 11th Field Ambulance in Great War I., and was awarded the MC at Villers Bretonneaux. After the Armistice he did post-graduate work at London University, and gained a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

He then went out to Talping, and was for 10 years in Johore, four in Cyprus, and for more than six in Palestine as senior medical officer with headquarters in Jerusalem. Dr. Phillips is the eldest son of Mr. J. H. Phillips, of Mitchell street, Hyde Park.

IN AN UNRRA CAMP

AFTER many years' medical service in Palestine and elsewhere, Dr. W. J. E. Phillips is enjoying his experience in an UNRRA camp in France, according to a letter he has sent his father, Mr. J. H. Phillips, of Mitchell street, Hyde Park.

"I am enjoying it, especially as it is practically all foreigners—Americans, French, Cubans, Poles, and so on," he writes. "Food is good, and although we sleep in a hut in one of those beautiful pine-woods that are studded all over Normandy, we have made ourselves very snug. We have two charming Americans, an Australian from an Armidale station, and myself in one section; the other section is occupied by French."

William was back in England before September 1946 and living at Blackheath when he was fined £10 for 'souveniring' four chairs from the local sports club.

STOLE FOUR CHAIRS.

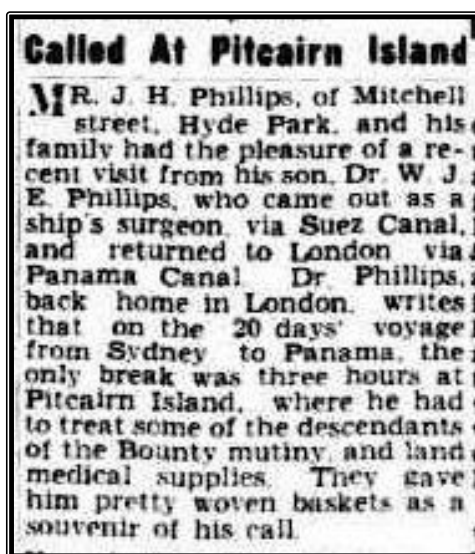
ALLEGED KLEPTOMANIA.

AUSTRALIAN IN LONDON

LONDON, Sept. 4 (A.A.P.).—William James Ellery Phillips (54), a retired Australian doctor residing at Blackheath, was fined £10 after pleading guilty to a charge of stealing four chairs from a sports club house. Phillips said he came to England with the Australian forces in the Great War. "I would feel happy if I could give a motive for taking the chairs."

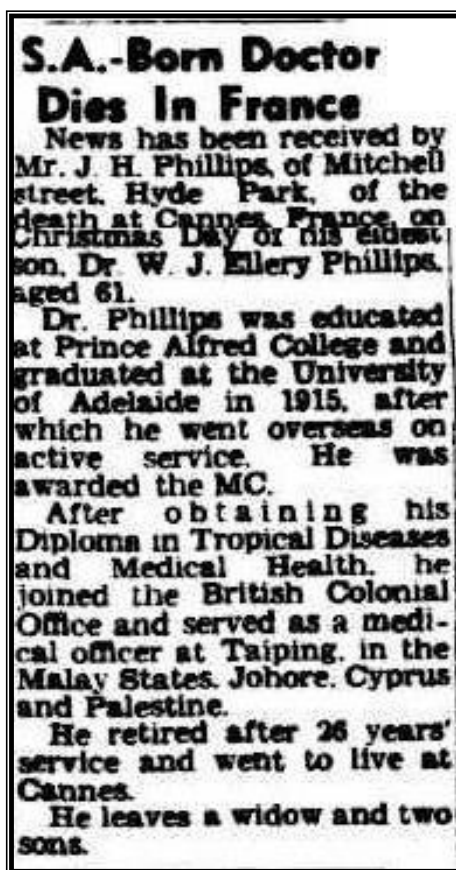
"I have not been well since I returned from Germany, and could only suggest that I am not mentally normal. Our attitude in Australia is easier going as far as stuff hanging about is concerned," he said.

In 1948, William visited his elderly father in South Australia. He came via the Suez Canal as a ship's surgeon and returned to London via the Panama Canal, having visited and provided medical assistance to the residents of Pitcairn Island.



Death

William and Elsa then moved to Cannes, France, where on Christmas Day, 25th of December 1952, William died aged 61. The report below mentions his widow and two sons; however, he was also survived by his daughter, Anita (also known as Tita) who married Edmund Purdom, an actor in 1951 and was the mother of his children, Lilan (born 11th of October 1952) and Marina Ann (born 8th of July 1954), the couple divorced 1956).



Elsa died on 1 April 1997 in Rouen, Seine-Maritime, France, at the age of 95, not far from Le Havre where 78 years earlier she had met her Australian husband.

Sources

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