

# Capt. Walter Rupert Reynell

(Royal Army Medical Corp)



### **Played with Adelaide University**



Football Club – Intervarsity (1904)

**Rhodes Scholar (1906)** 

**Degrees** 

MA Oxon(1913) BM BCh Oxon(1913) DM Oxon(1918)

MRCS LRCP(1912) MRCP(1918) FRCP(1934)

## **Background**

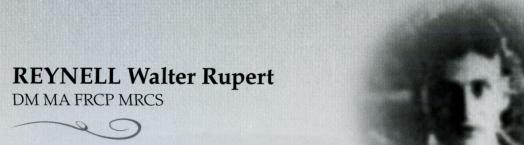
Coinciding with the Centenary of Anzacs our incentive behind the series of biographical publications is the Adelaide University Football and Cricket Club's desire to honour our players who served in the Great War (1914 - 1918). These brave men put on hold their academic, professional and sporting careers 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 Walter Rupert Reynell. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.

#### **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



1885 - 1948

Walter Rupert Reynell was born at Payneham, South Australia on 5th July 1885. He was the son of noted South Australian wine grower and pastoralist Walter Reynell, who died in 1919, and his wife Emily nee Bakewell. He was educated at Queens's College where he won 17 prizes for his academic ability and was dux of the school before going to St Peter's College where he excelled at cricket. He was the South Australian Rhodes Scholar for 1906. He studied medicine at Balliol College, Oxford, and Guy's Hospital graduating in 1913. Walter married Una Mary Shaw-Stewart the daughter of Reverend Charles Robert Shaw-Stewart and Ida Fannie Caroline, nee Afken on the 5th June 1916. Their children were Peter Carew Reynell (1917), Joan Katherine Reynell (1918), Anne Lenore Reynell (1923) and Anthony Charles Reynell (1930)

Reynell was appointed as a captain in the RAMC on the 2nd September 1914 whilst he was serving with an Australian Medical Unit and was posted to the Australian Voluntary Hospital. When the Hospital closed, he was transferred to the Seale Hayne Hospital at Newton Abbot, Devon, which was pioneering the treatment of shell-shock. His time at Seale Hayne stimulated Reynell's interest in neurological diseases, and led him to pursue a career in that field.

Reynell gained his MRCP in 1918 and his DM in 1919. He went on to become the Senior Physician at the West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases, London, and kept rooms in Harley Street. Walter Rupert Reynell died in London on 21st March 1948. Reynell's older brother Lieutenant Colonel Carew Reynell commanded 9 LHR for a short time at Gallipoli and was killed in August 1915 during the attacks on Hill 60.

# Rapulla. Stain W. R. Reynell on the out book orned the australian Voluntary Housela with the rank of captain. He se man fondon to take charge of the Co Dec. 8 1916

#### Sources:

http://www.onkaparingacity.com/libraries/localstudies/view\_ photo\_enlarged.asp?RefID=2182 The Register Adelaide 2n March 1902

The Adelaide Advertiser 23 December 1902

The Register Adelaide 9th April 1919

Photo: cropped from the University of Adelaide Archives, 1906 medical students group photo

Response to the University of Adelaide's request about

Reynell's war service.

#### **Published Biography**

#### Royal College of Physicians, London

#### **Walter Rupert Reynell**

b. 4 July 1885 d.21 March 1948

MA Oxon(1913) BM BCh Oxon(1913) DM Oxon(1918) MRCS LRCP(1912) MRCP(1918) FRCP(1934)

Walter Rupert Reynell was born in Adelaide. His father was Walter Reynell, wine grower, of Reynella, South Australia, and his mother was Emily, daughter of William Bakewell, solicitor, of Adelaide. He was the youngest of a family of five and his childhood was spent among the family vineyards. He was educated at Queen's School and St. Peter's College, Adelaide, where physics became his first interest. He soon showed an aptitude for ball games, and he rowed for South Australia. In 1906 he obtained a Rhodes scholarship to Balliol College, Oxford, where he studied chemistry, and boxed and played lawn tennis for the University.

In 1910 he entered Guy's Hospital where he was later house physician and house surgeon. On the outbreak of World War I he joined the R.A.M.C, with the rank of captain and served in France with the Australian Voluntary Hospital. He was then recalled to the Coulter Hospital in London. This was a fortunate appointment for him as Una Mary, daughter of the Rev. C. R. Shaw Stewart, was working there as a V.A.D. They were married in June 1916 and then moved to the Military Hospital at Seale Hayne. Here he had the pleasure of working again with his old teacher, Arthur Hurst, the physician whom, throughout his life, he loved and admired above all others.

At Seale Hayne remarkable results were obtained in the treatment of shell shock by relatively superficial suggestion. This formed the subject of his D.M. thesis, and determined his subsequent move into the field of psychiatry. After the war he became neurological specialist to the Ministry of Pensions and was appointed to the honorary staff of the West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases in 1919, and later to that of the Royal Northern Hospital. Thereafter an increasing amount of his time was taken up by a growing psychiatric private practice.

Shortly after the outbreak of the Second World War he became a specialist in neuropsychiatry at the Military Hospital for Head Injuries at Oxford, where he carried out original work on the value of psychometric tests in assessment and prognosis. After demobilisation he resumed practice in London until his final illness. He had three sons and two daughters. His eldest son, Peter Carew, was elected F.R.C.P, in 1962.

Rupert Reynell was by nature a retiring man who shunned the committee and the public occasion. He preferred the company of his family and a small circle of close friends to that of a wider circle of acquaintances, and was at his happiest and his best at the small dinner party rather than the big reception. He remained a formidable tennis player well into his fifties, and enjoyed skiing; each winter he led to the Bernese Oberland a large party consisting indiscriminately of family, friends, professional colleagues and patients.

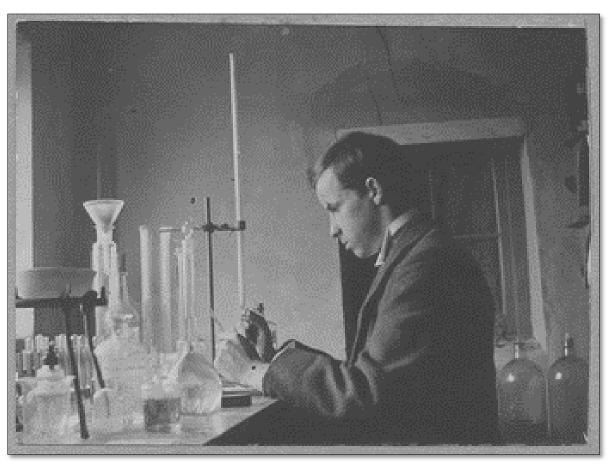
Richard R Trail

[*Brit.med.J.*, 1948, 1, 666; *Lancet*, 1948, 1, 578.] (Volume V, page 345)

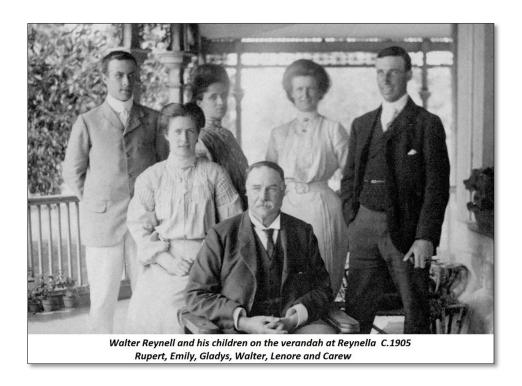
### **Additional Biography**

#### **Early Life**

Walter Rupert (Rupert) Reynell was born on the  $5^{th}$  of July 1885 at Payneham, South Australia, the son of Walter Reynell (1846 – 1919) and Emily Bakewell (1851 – 1887). Rupert's father was Walter Reynell, of Elder Smith & Co., and the family own the fine vintage estate of Reynella, where the first vines in the South Australia were planted. Rupert was the youngest of five children.

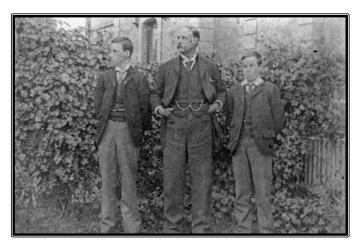


Performing Chemical Analysis in the Reynella Winery laboratory c.1902 – W.R. Reynell (State Library of South Australia)



#### **Education**

Rupert attended Queen's School, Barton Terrace, North Adelaide, from 1895 to 1901 and St Peter's College in 1902.



Carew, Walter and Rupert Reynell

Rupert was a fine sportsman and represented St Peter's College in the inter-collegiate cricket and football teams in 1902.

INTERCOLLEGIATE CRICKET.  —St. Peters v. Prince Alfred.—	PRINCE ALFRED COLLEGE,
Played December 13, 15, and 17.	First Innings.
- I	W. A. V. Drew, b. Bakewell
Full scores:— ST. PETER'S COLLEGE.	H. C. Bowen, b. Bakewell
First Innings.	S. Hill, run out
G. C. Campbell, c. Bowen, b. Jeffries 8	H. C. Darling, b. Bakewell 4
G. C. Campbell, c. Bowen, b. Jeffries 8 W. R. Beynell, c. Homburg, b. Christoph 3 A. B. Fotheringham, c. Christoph, b. Jef-	W. Christoph, b. Jay
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W. H. Stevenson, c. Hill, b. Christoph 80	I D. Strele, not out
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G. L. Smith, c. Steele, b. Jeffries 27	
n. M. day, C. Hill, O. Consan	Total
G. T. Harvey, b. Christoph	Bowling Analysis.
L. G. Toms, not out	0. M. R. W
	Toms 23 4 66 Bakewell 34.1 2 138
Total 179	Bakewell
Bowling Amalysis.	Jay 12 1 39
0. M. R. W.	Campbell 4 - 15 -
Christoph	Umpires-Messra. T. A. Reeves and G. A.
Jeffries 16 0 01 0	Watson,
Townsend	Played, 26. St. Peter's, 14; Prince Alfred, 10;
Bowen	drawn, 2.
Cowan ye 4 - 20 1	Mar. 7, 1878 S.P.S.C. 47 runs
Second Innings.	Service and the service and th
G. C. Campbell, run out se we se se 21	Nov. 25, 1879 S.P.S.C. 64 runs
W. R. Reynell, l.b.w., b. Hill 25	Nov. 17, 1880 S. P.S.U. 7 wickets
W. H. Stevenson, b. Hill w vs Fs 25	Nov 14, 1831 S.P.S.C. 23 runs
W G Duncan c Townsend h Hill 22	Nov. 22, 1882 Drawn P.A. C. 3 wickets t
A. B. Fotheringham, c. Drew, b. Christoph 6	mit, 13 fully to wi
U. L. Smith, c. Townsend, b. Christoph 1	Nov. 14, 1883 P.A.C. 4 wickets Nov. 20-21, 1884 S.P.S.C. 118 runs Nov. 19-20, 1885 Drawn S.P.S.C. 8 wkts. t
G. C. Campbell, run out	
tr. Mr. may 1 fr. sourcement or commendate at the sec	fall, 369 runs to wi
L. G. Toms, not out	
Byes 2, leg byes 3 as as as as as as	INDY LINE LOST III FARALL ALTURE
	Nov. 14-15-16, 1889 S.P.S.C. 24 runs
Total Fe :: 115	Nov. 13-14-15, 1890   B.P.S.C.   8 wickets
Bowling Analysis.	Dec. 10-11-12, 1891 P. A.C. 3 wickets
0, M. R. W.	Dec. 8-9-10, 1892 P.A.C. 10 wickets
Christoph 30.3 14 38 5	
Jeffries 10 3 21 -	Dec. 67, 1894 P.A.C. 72 runs Dec. 12-13-14, 1895 S. P.S.C. 9 wickets
Hill	Dec. 10-11-12, 1896 S.P.S.C. 6 wicket
Connermy of 11 pd 10 pg A TO -	Dec. 10-11-; 3, 1897 S.P.S.C. 6 wickts
	Dec. 2-3-5, 1898 S.P.S.C. 263 russ
	Dec. 1-3-4-5, 1899 S.P.S.C. 287 runs
	Nov. 30, Dec. 1-3-4,
National Library of Australia	
National Library of Australia	Dec. 13-14-16-17. P.A.C. 159 runs
National Library of Australia	Dec. 13-11-16-17, 1901 S.P.S.C. 65 runs

#### 1902 Intercollegiate Cricket Team



W.R. Reynell – Seated on Left



W.R. Reynell – Middle Row 3<sup>rd</sup> on Right

#### **Adelaide University**

In 1904, Walter commenced a diploma in electrical engineering at the School of Mines and subjects toward a Bachelor of Science degree at Adelaide University.

Further details of Rupert's academic and sporting achievements are detailed in a newspaper report (below) from March 1906 when Rupert was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship.

# RHODES SCHOLARSHIP.

#### MR. W. R. REYNELL SELECTED.

Mr. Walter Rupert Reynell has been selected as the Rhodes scholar for South Australia for 1906. There were six candidates. Mr. Reynell is 20 years of age, and a son of Mr. Walter Reynell, of Reynella. The successful candidate entered Queen's School when ten years of age, and was bottom of the lowest At the end of the year he was second in his class. In the six following years he gained the form prizes of the remaining classes, and was "dux" when he left in 1901. He won 17 prizes while at Queen's School, and during his last three years there passed the preliminary in 1899, junior in 1900 (fourth on list), and senior in 1901 (twelfth on list). He entered St. Peter's College at the beginning of the second term, and left at the end of the year. At the age of 17 he passed the higher public examination. During his school life he attended only three out of the four terms The first term of each year each year. was spent on his father's estate, gaining experience in farming, viticulture, winemaking, and the chemical analysis of wines and soils. He also did a considerable amount of riding, driving, and shooting. The whole of 1903 was spent in this way. He began the course for the diploma in electrical engineering at the School of Mines in 1904; with the following record to his credit:-First year chemistry, first class, chemistry year place; second second class. first (theoretical). year chemistry (practisecond place: third place; first class. cal). second year mathematics, second class, fourth place; first year physics, second class, first in second class; fitting and turning, second class, first in second class; mechanical engineering I., first class, first place; applied mathematics, second class, first in second class. Has also passed in building construction, drawing I., applied mechanics I., fitting and turning I., mechanical drawing II., iron, steel, and alloys. In 1905 he passed in Greek in the March senior public examination. At Queen's School his record

examination. At Queen's School his record us a lad of 16 is spoken of as phenomenal. As captain of the football team he was excellent in attack and defence. In cricket he had a batting average of 41, and was the best school wicket keeper the head master had seen in 18 years' experience. He also held the second bowling average. He was a member of the school hockey team which won the South Australian premiership. While at St. Peter's he played in the cricket, football, and tennis teams. At cricket he had the second highest batting average, kept wickets, and played in every match. He also played football in every match except one, when he was playing tennis against Prince Alfred College. In 1904 he played football for the University against Melbourne University, and was one of the selection committee. In the same year he played once for Norwood team, who were premiers of South Australia. He was regularly in the University A tennis team during 1904. He began rowing at the end of 1904, and after three weeks' practice was chosen a member of the University crew to row in the Champion Eights in February, 1905. Three weeks after the race he rowed for the University in senior-junior fours on the Torrens. In May he was one of the South Australian crew in the eightoar championship on the Parramatta. In June he rowed with the University crew, which came second in the Australian Universities' boat race on the Port River, and in December in the Le Hunte Fours, and with the University crew which won the Dash Eights. In the three first eight-oared races he rowed No. 4; in the Dash Eights No. 6. He played tennis for University A team during the 1905 season, in March was selected to practise for the interstate team. but could not do so on account of rowing, and in November he was again chosen and played for South Australia against Victoria in Melbourne.

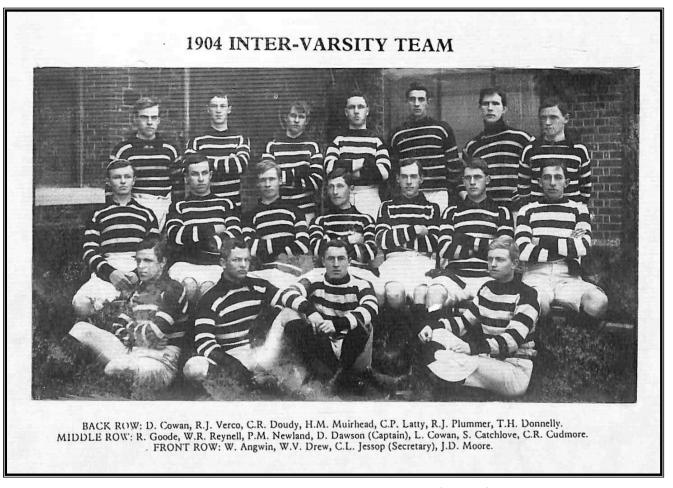


Walter Rupert Reynell.
Selected from among six candidates as Ithodes Scholar for South Australia. He boasts a splendid scholastic record, and is a good cricketer and footballer. He has played for S.A. v. Victoria in Interstate Tennis, and rowed in the S.A. crew in the eight-oar championship on the Parramatta.

#### **University Sport**

#### **Football**

Rupert represented Adelaide University in the Intervarsity Match against Melbourne University in 1904. In 1905 he played for the University against a combined Colleges side.



#### **Tennis**

Rupert played A Grade tennis for Adelaide University in the 1904/05 and 1905/06 seasons.

Rupert was selected to play tennis for South Australia against Victoria on two occasions but was unable to play on one occasion due to a clash with rowing commitments.

#### Rowing

Rupert was a member of the Adelaide University Boat Club and he rowed with them at the South Australian Association Champion Eight race on the Port River in February 1905 and in the Maiden Senior Fours at the Junior Regatta in March 1905.

He was a member of the Adelaide University eight at the Intervarsity boat races in 1905 and 1906. He rowed for University in the Summer Regatta in December 1905 and the Autumn Regatta in April 1906.

Rupert represented South Australia at the Australian Eights in May 1905 and May 1906.





W.R Reynell – Boat Position 4 – Fourth from Right



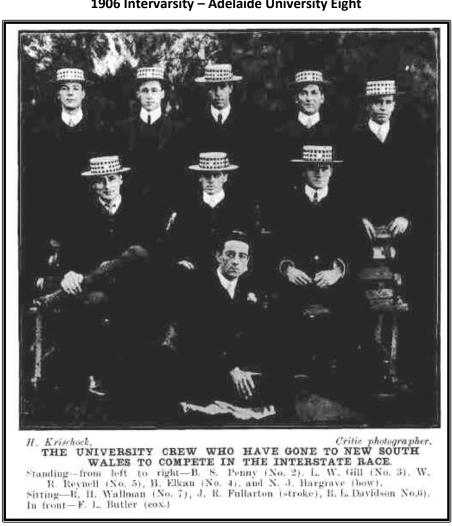
W.R. Reynell

#### May 1905 – Australian Eights



W.R. Reynell – Back Row – Second from Right

#### 1906 Intervarsity - Adelaide University Eight



W.R. Reynell – Standing – Third from Left



1906 Rupert Reynell jumping over a post and rail fence



Rupert Reynell's Room c.1906

State Library of SA

#### **Oxford University**

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of July 1906, Rupert left onboard the *Mooltan* for London and commenced his studies at Oxford University in October 1906. In a change of direction from his Adelaide studies, Rupert commenced studying for a Bachelor of Arts at Oxford.

May 1907 - Australian and New Zealand Rhodes Scholars on the Steps of Balliol College, Oxford



W.R. Reynell - Back Row - Second from Right

In July 1907, Rupert represented Oxford in an Intervarsity tennis match against Cambridge and March 1908, Rupert won the heavy weight Intervarsity Boxing competition.

Mr. W. R. Reynell, of Balliol College, Oxford, won the heavy-weight boxing competition in the inter-university matches held on Tuesday night at the Oxford Town Hall, in the presence of a large assemblage of spectators. His antagonist, Lilly, of Chins, was outclassed by the South Australian in atteast two of the three rounds, for Reynell was not only in splendid condition, but showed much superior knowledge of the science. The programme also included several fencing events, besides some excellent boxing in the bantam, featherweight.

Few Rhodes men have as yet reached that pinnacle of fame in the University athletic world known as a "blue," the wearing of the dark blue colors awarded to all who represent Oxford in certain annual contests with Combridge. I use the word certain advisedly, because in some departments of athletic skill a "half-blue" The possession of two half-blues is given. does not carry the right to a full blue (probably about the only instance of two halves not making a whole), otherwise one of South Australia's representatives, W. R. Reynell, of Balliol, would be entitled to this decoration. This very promising Rhodes scholar successfully represented Oxford in decoration. the lawn tennis (doubles) match with Cambridge, and added immensely to his reputation (and ipso facto, to that of South Australia), by winning the heavy-weight boxing championship for Oxford. Prior to the tennis match against Cambridge the Oxford pair, Reynell and Winston, met H. Doherty (champion of the world for the last five years), and G. W. Hillyard (another doubles champion), and to the letense de light of the spectators and of the whole University, defeated them. This victory over All-England was in itself a far finet performance than the subsequent overthread of Cambridge.

Reynell's performance in the boxing arena against Cambridge-to quality for which part he had to defeat all comers at Oxford -will long live in the memory of the vast crowd of undergraduates present on the occasion in the huge Oxford Town Hall. The building is immense, but notwithstanding its size, it was veritably packed from floor to ceiling, and proved inadequate to hold all who wished to be present. It must have been a very trying and nerve-racking ordest for all taking part as principals, but doubly so for Reynell, as his performance was the last of a very exciting evening, and decided whether Oxford won the whole competition or only established a draw. Our man had rather the better of the first round, but the second bout was fairly level pegging. In the third round his opponent began to tire, and the superior condition of Reynell (largely due to winding up his training at Brighton) began to tell. The result was that he did nearly all the scoring, and seeured the victory to the intense and up-roarious joy of all Oxford with considerable

South Australians will be pleased to know that Reynell has been persuaded to take up rowing again the ad a seat in his college Balliol boat, last year, during the Torpids race week), and will row in his college eight "Torpids" are rowed on fixed this term. "Torpids" are rowed on fixed seats, and "college eights" on sliding seats. This should give Reynell a chance for his "trial eights" in December. To the uninttinted it may be as well to explain what "trials" are. Before the 'Varsity eight Before the 'Varsity eight (which has to meet Cambridge on the Thames) can be picked, about 50 men are tried. These men are chosen from the college eights of the previous summer—two or three from each college. These are again drafted and weeded out until 16 remain, and these two eights race against one another. From them the Varsity crew is Each of these 16 gets a finally chosen. "trial eight" cap, which is the next best honor to a rowing "blue." Revnell's weight (13 st. 10 lb.) is a hand/cap to him, as every bound over 13 st. tells against rather than in favor of rowing.

Reynell is taking up medicine for his final schools, and is desirous of covering the four years' ground of study in three years. Under these conditions he can hardly expect to get a better qualification than a second class, as it is well high impossible for any man to cover the ground necessary for a first within the time at his disposal.

The Rhodes men bave nearly all joined the King's Colonisls. The glowing secounts of the good times experienced in camp last year have done much towards making this movement a very popular one. Whatever distinctions may have been, or are to be, gained by representatives from other States, public opinion here at Oxford gives the palm to Reynell, of Balliol, and incidentally to South Australia, for the way in which he has up to date "kept his end up."

Rupert was selected to represent Oxford at the Tennis Intervarsity again in July 1908 and in 1909, he captained the Oxford Intervarsity Tennis team to a win over Cambridge.

#### TENNIS.

The Oxford team beat that of Cambridge at lawn tennis by fifteen matches to three. Mr. W. R. Reynell, of South Australia, was captain of the winners.

Having gained his BA at Oxford on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July 1908, Rupert commenced studying medicine. While at Oxford University Rupert became a member of the Oxford troop of the Royal Colonials.

Mr. Walter Rupert Reynell, one of the South Australian Rhodes scholars, who is at Balhol Coilege, Orford, took his B.A. degree on July 11. He passed in chemistry after only 15 months' reading. This is a three years' course, but, as Mr. Reynell was anxious to begin his medical studies, he decided to spend as short a time as possible in preparing for the examination in chemistry. Nevertheless, he succeeded in beating all the candidates in the practical examination, and secured a second-class in the whole examination. Mr. Reynell is a member of the Oxford troop King's Colonials, and recently scored the highest total for that troop at rifle practice.

In 1910, he entered Guy's Hospital, where he was later house physician and house surgeon. Rupert gained his Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians (an initial qualification in medicine) in 1912 and graduated from Oxford in 1913 with a Master of Arts and a Bachelor of Medicine.

#### World War I

On the outbreak of World War I, Rupert joined the Royal Army Medical Corps (R.A.M.C), with the rank of captain and he then served in France with the Australian Voluntary Hospital.

Compaign:— B, E. F	=. 19 14.			A) Where decoration was earned.  B) Present situation.
GRIC . Name	Corps	Rank	Reg. No.	Roll on which included (if any)
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Correspondence.

6.6.32 Stationery Essepital (Late aust 900l Stock) forwards application 1914 Star. 13-1-18

2) 6. G. A.M. S. submite application perior 14 Star. 4-12-17.

3) W. D. Reynell applies for 1914 Star. 26-11-19.

4) ""

14-1-18.

Capt Reynell applies for Ribbon

address - Coulter Stockpital

× & Foreld 23-11-21.

Address: 52. Station any Hospital.

\* 26 Nottingham Place.

W. ...

D. ..

Tragically for the Reynell family, Rupert's older brother Carew, a Lieutenant Colonel in the 9<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Regiment, was killed in Action at Gallipoli on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 1915, aged 31 years.

Rupert was recalled from the western front to take charge of the Coulter Hospital (a large military hospital) in London.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1916 Rupert married Una Mary Shaw-Stewart at All Saints, Ennismore Gardens, London. Rupert them moved with Una to the Military Hospital at Seale Hayne (a military neurasthenic hospital for the treatment of soldiers suffering from shell shock), near Newton Abbott in Devon.

One June 7, at All Saints, Ennismore-gardens, by the Rev. H. R. L. Sheppard, Rector of St. Martin's-inthe-Fields, Capt. Walter Rupert Reynell, R.A.M.C., son of Mr. Walter Reynell, of Reynells, was married to Miss Una Mary Shaw-Stewart, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. C. R. Shaw-Stewart, of 19, Hereford-square, S.W.

Rupert and Una's two eldest children, Peter Carew Reynell (b. 1917) and Joan Katherine Reynell (b. 1918) were born during WWI. Rupert gained his Doctor of Medicine from Oxford in 1918 and became a Member of the Royal College of Physicians.

#### **Post War Career and Family Life**

Rupert returned to Australia onboard the *Margha* in February 1919. He was still in Australia when his father, Walter Reynell, passed away in April 1919. Rupert left Australia on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May 1919 onboard the Blue Funnel liner, *Ascanius*.

After the war, he became neurological specialist to the Ministry of Pensions and in 1919 was appointed to the honorary staff of the West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases and later to that of the Royal Northern Hospital. Thereafter an increasing amount of his time was taken up by a growing psychiatric private practice.

Rupert and Una had three further children, Michael John Reynell (b. 1920 – d. 1945), Anne Lenore Reynell (b. 1923), Antony Charles Reynell (b. 1930) and.

Rupert became a leading Harley Street specialist in nervous diseases. He became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in 1943.

REYNELL, Walter Rupert, M.A., M.D. (Oxon.), F.R.C.P. (Lond.), Physician, specialist in Nervous Diseases: son of Walter Reynell of Reynella, S.A.; b. July 4, 1885, Shirley, Paynham, S.A.; ed. Queen's School, St. Peter's Coll. & Balliol Coll., Oxford; Physician Royal Northern Hosp., Lond.; publications, various articles in Medical Journals; m. June 7, 1916, Una Mary, d. Rev. C. R. Shaw-Stewart; 3 s., 3 d.; recreations, tennis, golf, ski-ing; address, 87 Harley St., London; clubs, Athenaeum, Saville.

#### World War II

In early 1940 Rupert again joined the RAMC and served at the Hospital for head Injuries at Oxford. Sadly, his son, Michael, was killed in action during WWII.

UK, Commonwealth War Graves, 1914-1921 and 1939-1947 for Michael John Reynell
1939-1947 > Netherlands > Jonkerbos War Cemetery, Nijmegen Part 2 (McA-Zed), Nijmegen (Rustoord) Cemetery

REYNELL, Maj. MICHAEL JOHN, 170281. 9th Royal Tank Regt. R.A.C., 12th February, 1945. 10. B. 6.



Rupert Reynell (date not known)

#### **Post WWII**

After WWII, Rupert returned to London. He retired from the West End Hospital in 1946.

#### Death

Rupert passed away on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March 1948 aged 63. His obituary was published in the British Medical Journal (see below).

#### **Walter Rupert Reynell**

# British Medical Journal M, #525826, d. 21 March 1948

### Obituary

#### W. R. REYNELL, M.A., D.M., F.R.C.P.

We announce with regret the death on March 21, at the age of 63, of Dr. Walter Rupert Reynell, who until two years ago was senior physician to the West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases.

Dr. Reynell was born in South Australia and educated at Queen's School and St. Peter's College, Adelaide. In 1906 he came to Balliol College, Oxford, as a Rhodes scholar, and there he distinguished himself as a boxer and at tennis. He was a student at Guy's Hospital and graduated in 1913, a year after he had taken the conjoint diploma. He was a house-surgeon, out-patients officer, and house-physician at Guy's Hospital until July, 1914. He served with the R.A.M.C. in the 1914–18 war and was with the Australian Voluntary Hospital in Belgium for some time and at the Seale-Hayne Hospital for neurological cases at Newton Abbot.

Dr. Revnell took the M.R.C.P. in 1918, and was elected assistant physician to the West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases in 1920 and physician in 1926. Most of his active work was done at this hospital, and he soon became more interested in the psychopathological problems of diseases and disorders of the nervous system than in the purely organic side of neurology. He was always a sound neurological diagnostician, but he devoted an increasing amount of his time and energy to psychotherapy. His interest in this work was well shown in some of the papers he published in the 1930's on morbid depression and anxiety and similar subjects. In 1934 he was elected F.R.C.P. Then early in 1940 he was again commissioned in the R.A.M.C., and with the rank of major he joined the Hospital for Head Injuries at Oxford. There he continued to work throughout the war, concerning himself mainly with the psychiatric aspects of head injuries. He returned to London at the end of the war, but retired from the West End Hospital in 1946.

Dr. C. Worster-Drought writes; W. R. Reynell was my valued hospital colleague for more than twenty-five years; very early in this period I became aware of his reliability, loyalty, and integrity, the realization of which increased as the years passed by. Always of somewhat retiring disposition, at times almost self-effacing, he disliked teaching in the form of set lectures or demonstrations and was not altogether keen on hospital committee work. Nevertheless he could always be relied on to respond to any suggestion that his help in a course of demonstrations would be appreciated, or that his presence at a particular committee would be of value. In such circumstances the opinions he expressed were invariably sound and of great assistance. On many occasions of difficulty with regard to hospital matters I have been deeply conscious of his loyal co-operation. One could always discuss any such problem with Reynell and be sure of sympathetic understanding and sound advice.

In earlier days he was attracted by the more organic aspects of neurology, but gradually became more and more interested in the psychopathological problems of nervous disease, and particularly in psychosomatic disorders. In the out-patient department Reynell was at his best, and there is no doubt that he was happier in the purely clinical side of his work than in any other. Reynell, a great sportsman, will be sadly missed by patients and colleagues alike.

Dr. W. Ritchie Russell writes: Throughout the late war Dr. Reynell was a much valued member of the staff of the Military Hospital for Head Injuries, Oxford. His wide experience of practical psychiatry in civilian life and of battle neurosis during the first world war made him a specially useful addition to the neurological staff. He took great interest in devising psychometric tests for detecting loss of mental capacity after head injury, and the large number of reports he made are carefully preserved for reference; these are still of great value in the treatment and care of those many soldiers and airmen who when convalescent from brain wounds were studied by Dr. Reynell. He was a natural physician and never failed to take extra time and trouble if by so doing he could help his patients or colleagues. He had the highest ideals and his conscientious devotion to duty never faltered. We who worked with him came to admire his philosophy and to enjoy his friendship. His death brings a feeling of personal loss and deep regret that we shall not again meet to take part in the stimulating discussions we remember so well. One cannot think of Rupert Reynell without picturing him at home with his wife and family, of whom he was rightly so proud, and we can only send them our deepest sympathy.

#### Profile Compiled by: Beth Filmer and Rob O'Shannassy AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee

#### **Sources**

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Carew Reynell

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