



## **2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. Thomas Balfour Cooper Sard**



**Played with Adelaide University**



**Football Club: 1914**

(Intervarsity & Blue for Football 1914)

**Cricket Club: 1913/14 - 1914/15 - B Grade**

**Teacher and Arts Student: 1913 - 14 & Economics 1921**

## ***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 Thomas Balfour Cooper Sard. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.***

## The AIF Project

<https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=266611>



### Thomas Balfour Cooper SARD

Date of birth	27 November 1892
Place of birth	Port Adelaide South Australia
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	School teacher
Address	Eastwood, South Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	24
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs B A Sard, 4 Park Terrace, Eastwood, South Australia
Enlistment date	1 October 1916
Rank on enlistment	2nd Lieutenant
Unit name	Special Draft, AIF Officers
AWM Embarkation Roll number	34/13/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A71 <i>Nestor</i> on 28 February 1918
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board RMS <i>Ormonde</i> on 7 March 1918
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia, on board RMS <i>Ormonde</i> on 13 March 1918
Rank from Nominal Roll	2nd Lieutenant
Unit from Nominal Roll	special DRAFT
Promotions	2nd Lieutenant
	Unit: Unallotted (Aust)
	Promotion date: 1 October 1916
	Lieutenant
	Unit: INF32
	Promotion date: 18 August 1918
Fate	Returned to Australia 28 February 1919
Miscellaneous details (Nominal Roll)	*Given name Thomas Balfour
Date of death	28 April 1971

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=8074865>

P. 249/24. IT.—C. 2216.—1904.

## Biography



**Family of Samuel Austin Sard in Adelaide,  
South Australia circa 1910.**

Left to Right the photo is...  
Eunice Deborah Elizabeth, Sarah Phyllis Muriel,  
Samuel Austin, Barbara Skea Matilda, Rupert  
Wards, Thomas Balfour Cooper, Barbara Anne  
Cooper, Ellen Mary, Samuel Austin

### Early Family Life

Thomas Balfour Cooper Sard was born on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November 1892 to Samuel Austin Sard (1860 - 1925) and Barbara Alice (nee Cooper - 1868 - 1950).

### Family History

Thomas's father, Samuel, was less than one year old when he had departed from Plymouth, England in 1861 to South Australia with his father Richard William Sard (1827 - 1905) and mother, Deborah (1830 - 1898). After arriving, the family settled in the Port Adelaide Area. Richard had been a rope and sail maker and able seaman prior to immigrating to Australia. The Sard family had been well off and owned "Sard's Ship and Rope Chandlers" factory in Bermondsey, London. The ropes were manufactured and laid out in long rows called "rope walks".



**"The Rope Walk" - Bermondsey, London**

The Sard family also owned a row of rental houses nearby for their factory workers. After the business had been passed down to his older brother, Richard decided to take to the sea and travelled widely including voyages to Sydney and the Dutch East Indies. This was in the decade before deciding to immigrate to South Australia.



In Australia, family life was not easy. Richard and Deborah lived in Dale Street Port Adelaide initially and unfortunately police records show two episodes of domestic violence. Then tragedy struck in 1875 when three of the family's young girls all died in 1875 within 60 days of each other from Scarlet Fever.

The Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922) /

Mon 10 May 1875 / Page 2

#### DIED.

**SARD.**—On the 7th March, at Port Adelaide, of scarlatina, Sarah Phillis, aged nine years and six weeks; on the 30th March, Harriet, aged six years and six months; and on the 6th May, Catherine Mary, aged five years, the beloved children of R. W. and D. Sard, of Port Adelaide, S.A., and grandchildren of the late Mr. Sam Austen Sard, of Horseleydown, Surrey, England. London papers please copy.

On 17 November 1887, at 27 years of age, Samuel Austin Sard married Barbara Alice Cooper in Port Adelaide, South Australia, and they were later residing in Spring Street, Queenstown. Thomas Balfour Cooper Sard was their third born of seven children.





# Thomas Balfour Cooper Sard

BIRTH 27 NOV 1892 • Alberton South Australia

DEATH 28 APR 1971 • Oaklands Park South Australia

1892  
(AGE)

Birth

27 Nov 1892 • Alberton South Australia



Samuel Austin Sard

1860–1925

1895  
2

Birth of Sister Ellen Mary Sard (1895–1981)

05 Apr 1895 • Glanville South Australia



Barbara Alice Cooper

1868–1950

1897  
4

Birth of Brother Samuel Austin Sard (1897–1988)

3 Apr 1897 • Glanville, South Australia

Siblings ^



Barbara Skea Matilda Sard

1888–1969

1900  
7

Birth of Sister Eunice Deborah Elizabeth Sard (1900–1987)

03 Oct 1900 • Queenstown South Australia



Sarah Phillis Muriel Sard

1890–1979

1904  
11

Birth of Brother Rupert Wards Sard (1904–1987)

15 Sep 1904 • Queenstown



Ellen Mary Sard 1895–1981

1925  
32

Death of Father Samuel Austin Sard (1860–1925)

4 Oct 1925 • Adelaide



Samuel Austin Sard 1897–1988

1950  
57

Death of Mother Barbara Alice Cooper (1868–1950)

29 Sep 1950 • Rose Park South Australia



Eunice Deborah Elizabeth Sard

1900–1987

1969  
76

Death of Sister Barbara Skea Matilda Sard (1888–1969)

15 Nov 1969 • Rose Park South Australia



Rupert Wards Sard 1904–1987

1971  
78

Death

28 Apr 1971 • Oaklands Park South Australia

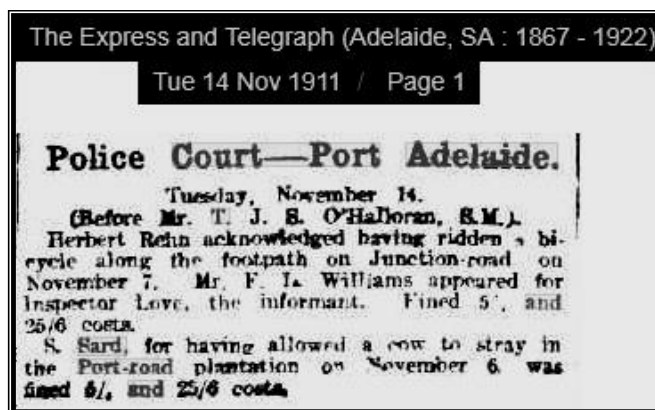
Thomas's father Samuel had a variety of employment during his life and was working at a flourmill where he suffered a broken leg in 1900.

The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931)

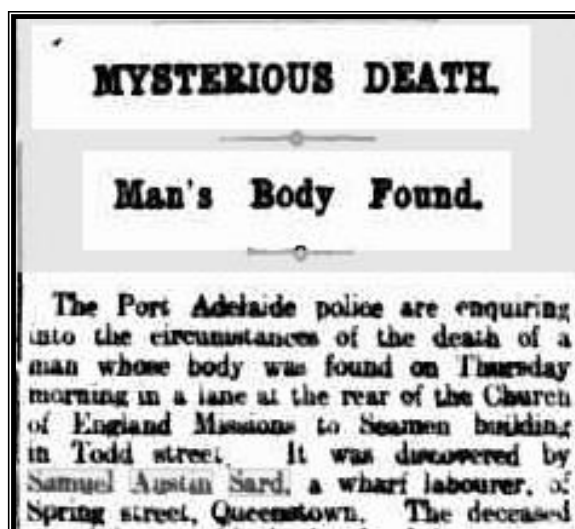
Wed 7 Feb 1900

Samuel Austin Sard, aged 38 years, a resident of Spring-street, Queenstown, was on Tuesday admitted into the Port Adelaide Casualty Hospital. A bag of flour fell on him at Messrs. Harrison & Co.'s flourmill, and fractured his right leg. Dr. Getting out the limb.

In 1911 his father was fined again for allowing a cow to stray onto the Port-road plantation.



In 1912, Samuel was working as a wharf labourer, when a newspaper reported that he had discovered a dead man.



From *The Register Adelaide* Friday 2nd Feb 1912 Page 5

Thomas's father, by age 65 was working as a ship's cook, however sadly, in October 1925 he is reported to have died on board a ketch returning to Port Adelaide.

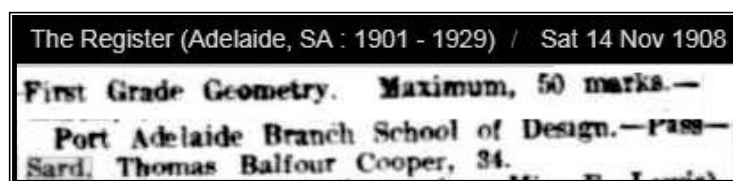
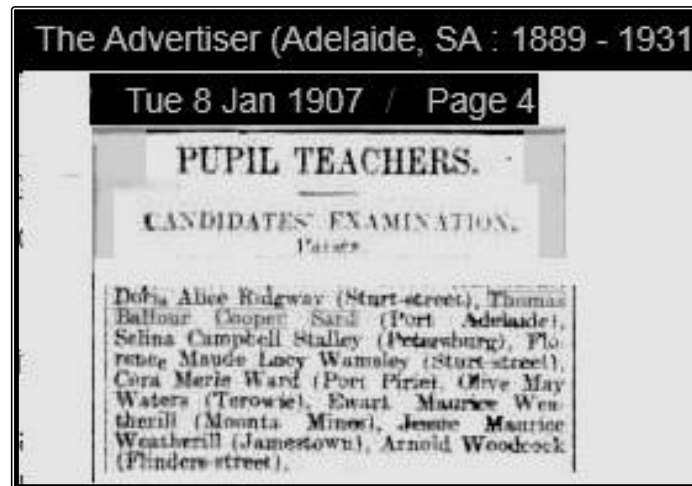


## Education

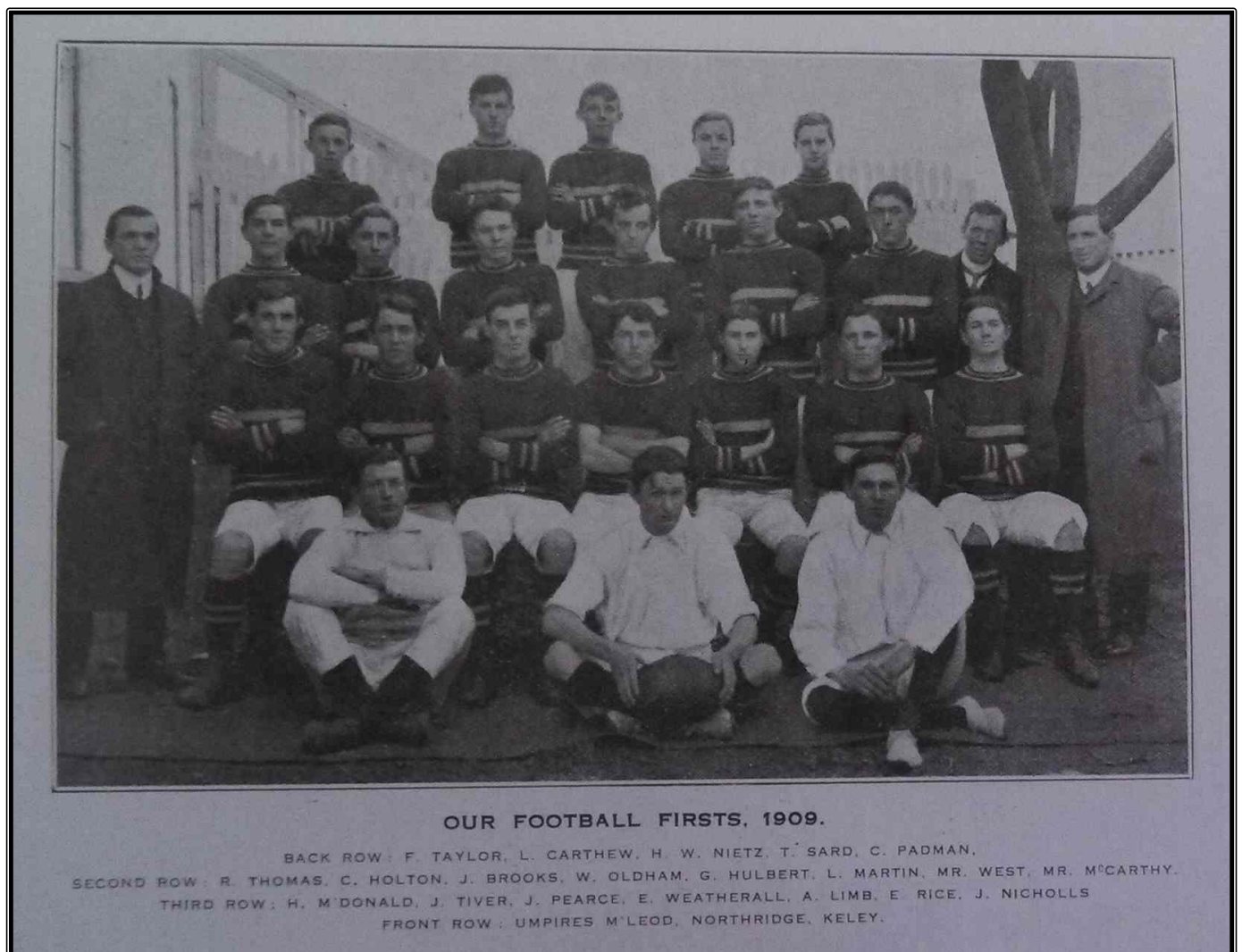
Thomas's early schooling was at the Port Adelaide Public School (opened 1878) and in late 1906, age 14, he sat for and passed the Pupil Teachers Examination which allowed him from 1907 to complete his secondary education at the Pupil Teacher's School in Grote Street Adelaide (became Adelaide High School from 1908). Pupil Teachers would



act as monitors and assistant teachers while they also had to study and sit for the junior and senior public examinations.



While at Adelaide High School he was a member of the First XV111 Football Team and in 1909 played a match against the old scholars.



## HIGH SCHOOL.

The annual match between teams representing the Old Scholars' Association of the exhibition classes of the above school, and the present students, will be played on the Jubilee Oval afternoon. The following are the teams:—Present students—J. Brooks, Carthew, G. Halbert, Holten, A. Limb, W. Martin, C. G. McDonald, J. K. Nicholls, H. Nietz, W. Oldham, C. Padman, J. E. Pearce (vice-captain), E. R. Rice, T. C. Sard, Taylor, S. Tiver, R. Thomas, and E. M. Weatherill (captain). Emergencies, L. Essery, A. Keley, and H. Handfield. Old Scholars' Association—E. Allen, A. C. Ayliffe, A. J. Baker, A. S. Baily, V. S. Bowen, R. R. Carmichael, T. F. Flaherty, E. J. Gray, W. L. Heatherly, H. N. Henwood, G. C. Leaker, L. B. Mawby, H. S. Melbourne, O. J. Murphy, R. W. Murphy, H. G. Pope, E. J. Rigby, and E. H. Shapter. Emergency, A. L. Pinches.

## Teaching Career and Football

In 1910, he received a promotion while teaching at Kilkenny. That winter, he was playing football with the Portland Imperial Football Club, playing in the SA Football Association. The following year the team merged with Port Adelaide Football Club to become the Port Adelaide II's (Seconds Team).

## EDUCATION NEWS.

(From the "Education Gazette" of February 23.)

Boards of Advice.—Members appointed by the Governor—Moonta, Messrs. William Cowling and Richard James Maddaford. Members resigned—Carrieton, Mr. G. H. Dunn; Kangaroo Island, Mr. R. C. Thorpe (chairman); Ororoo, Messrs. B. W. Dunn and L. Judell.

From Second to Third Grade.—Abbott, Helena Jane Lockyer, High School; Andrew, Ima, and Argall, Marcella Gladys, Observation School; Benfield, Vera Reid, Petersburg; Bevilacqua, Gwendoline Ivy, High School; Clinto, Raphael West, Port Pirie; Collins, Eva Elizabeth, Walkerville; Crawford, Jessie, Goodwood; Darke, Clarissa Mary, Glanville; Ede, Fern Richards, Port Adelaide; Ellis, Laura May, Parkside; Gellert, Leon Maxwell, Unley; Gunn, Jessie Georgina, Lefevre's Peninsula; Halbert, George Edward, Quorn; Helen, Dora Maeye, Payneham; Hanlon, Alice, High School; Hill, Dorothy Kathleen, Sturt-street; Hill, Fanny Dewbery, Woodville; Hodges, Dora Elizabeth, North Adelaide; Hoffmeister, Beatrice Elizabeth, Lefevre's Peninsula; Hoskins, Howard Berthold, Solomontown; Jones, Lois Gwendoline, High School; Keley, Arthur Harold George, Port Adelaide; Laird, Vida Ribton, Gawler; Lanyon, Jane Ruth, Norwood; Lawry, Serena, High School; McDowell, Coral Gwendoline, Gawler; Nicholls, Jonathan Kingsley, High School; Oldham, Wilfrid, Balaklava; Padman, Clarence Swann, and Poynton, Mary Mabel, High School; Richards, Minette, Wallaroo Mines; Richardson, Harriet Isabel, Sturt-street; Sard, Thomas Balfour Cooper, Kilkenny; Sowter, Eliza

## Hindmarsh Oval.

West Torrens versus Portland Imperial.—Portland Imperial—C. Anderson, H. Akeroyd, E. Butler, P. Crowley (vice-captain), A. Channon, P. Duncan, A. Duncan, H. Davis, H. Kellog, J. Lane (captain), G. Moore, M. O'Dea, C. Renphrey, L. Pryor, T. Shiels, T. Sard, H. Soar, G. Wright, and S. Woolman. West Torrens—Adcock (vice-captain), Aldersey, (captain), Kersley, Geddes, Gluyas, Hassel, Kimber, Low, Mackenzie, McDonnell (2), McDonnell, O'Leary, Renfrey, Smith, A. Taylor, Wainwright, Willsmore, and Willett.

## Hindmarsh Oval.

West Torrens versus Port Adelaide II.—Port Adelaide (from)—Allwood, Anderson, Beane, Bowen, Chaplin, P. Crowley (vice-captain), Dare, Dunston, Fletcher, Godson, L. Johnson, Knapman, J. Lane (captain), Martienssen, Rowen, A. and R. Sangster, Sard, Shiels, and S. C. Stidson.

West Torrens—C. Adcock, E. Battye, T. Correll, W. Drummond, A. Fooks, S. D. Geddes, E. Gluyas (vice-captain), G. Kersley, G. Levi, G. Low, T. McKenzie (captain), O. McInnis, P. H. Phillips, A. Renfrey, W. G. Scott, H. D. Smith, and A. Taylor.

In the summer of 1911, he was also turning out for the Ethelton Cricket Club.

The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931) / Sat 4 Mar 1911

## CRICKET

Adelaide A.N.A., 33; R. Siebert two for 39.  
Ethelton, five for 166; F. Ward 15, T. Sard 23,  
L. Gilbert 14, L. Wilkins 45 and two for 16,  
J. Billsborrow two for 10, W. Bacon 17 n.o., F.  
Mark 41 n.o. and six for 9.

In 1912, he received an appointment to be "Locum Tenens" as the temporary Head Teacher at the Sutherland's school, a small country town north of Adelaide, just east of Eudunda.

Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924) / Sat 27 Apr 1912

### GAZETTE NOTICES.

#### APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS, ETC.

The following notices appear in the current issue of the "Education Gazette":

**Appointments.**

**Head Teachers.**—Ottho Eric Goldsworthy, Renmark West, £200, March 3; Wilfred Theodore Lawrie, Port Victoria, £150, January 1.

**Locum Tenens for Head Teachers.**—Laurence Charles McCarthy, Kalangadoo, £140, March 24; Thomas Francis Rice, Gumeracha, £150, March 31; Thomas Balfour Cooper Sard, Sutherlands, £100, March 3.

In May 1912, he was appointed to a provisional teaching position at Koorngabie and Tallala, on the West Coast of SA and was playing tennis for the local team. After a day's tennis in October 1912, he was reported as providing some of the music at the dance. His musical talents seem to be part of his life story as he is often reported as performing at his sporting club socials.

West Coast Sentinel (Streaky Bay, SA : 1912 - 1954)  
/ Fri 18 Oct 1912 / Page 2

### —Tennis.—

On Saturday, the 5th inst., a tennis match of unusual interest was played here between the Koorngabie and Fowler's Bay clubs. Almost perfect weather and a record number of visitors were the outstanding features of a very enjoyable afternoon. Commencing about 2 p.m., the play soon became exciting, and every game evoked the keenest enthusiasm. The play was characterised by some brilliant strokes on both sides, which were recognised by frequent applause, and the match was so closely contested that it was uncertain which side victory would favor till the final score announced equal honors. As a further test, two more sets of mixed doubles were played, and again the result was a draw. The scores were as under, Koorngabies mentioned first:—

A. Winter and Miss J. Fox v. J. Darby and Miss F. May	1—6
O. Dignum and Miss T. Giles v. A. Flavel and Mrs Brown	3—6
C. Giles and Miss F. Winter v. W. Beattie and Mrs O'Brien	6—4
T. Sard and Miss F. Winter v. F. Smart and Mrs Campbell	6—1

Misses T. Giles and F. Winter v. Miss F. May and Mrs Brown	3—6
Misses T. Giles and J. Fox v. Mrs Campbell and Mrs O'Brien	6—4
A. Winter and Miss F. Winter v. J. Darby and Miss F. May	6—3
O. Dignum and Miss T. Giles v. A. Flavel and Mrs Brown	3—6
Total, 14 games all.	

In the evening a very successful dance, in honor of the visitors, was held in the local hall, and there was a record attendance. The floor was in perfect order, and it soon became evident that the skill shown as tennis players was none the less adapted to dancing. The music was supplied by Messrs O. Dignum, T. Sard, and Miss Muegge, while the task of M.C., was efficiently carried out by Mr. F. Brown. The dancers made merry till midnight, when all dispersed, after having done ample justice to an excellent supper.

In June 1913, he passed Intermediate Freehand Drawing at the Adelaide School of Art. He also continued playing football with the Port Adelaide Football Club B Grades when they played off against Sturt in the Grand Final in August 1913. Although Port had finished minor premiers they were defeated in both the regular grand final and the challenge final.

The Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922)  
 Fri 29 Aug 1913 / Page 1

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION PREMIERSHIP.**

Port Adelaide B versus Sturt B, on the Unley Oval. Port Adelaide B—C. Anderson, S. Bettison, W. Boon, C. Burton, P. Crowley, H. Eames, S. Howie, J. Lane, C. Lincoln, O. Martiensen, P. Rowen (captain), C. Stidston, H. Soar, T. Sard, P. Tapp, J. Thomas, L. Wisdom, and S. Woolman. Emergency — B. Crisp. Sturt B — Bennett, Clarke, Baulderstone, Shepherd, Edwards, Fox, Offe, Jenkins, McGlaughlin, A. Kappler, Richardson, Hendry, Livingston, Lewis, Saunders, McGlaughlin, Ryan, and R. Kappler (captain).

Port Adelaide News (SA :1913 - 1933) / Fri 5 Sep 1913 / Page 4

**"B" GRADE PREMIERSHIP.**

**PORTS BEATEN IN FINAL QUARTER.**

The B Grade League championship was fought out in a challenge game between Port (minor premiers) and Sturt, at the Unley Oval on Saturday afternoon. There was a fair attendance of spectators. Port were defeated by Torrens two weeks ago, and in turn Torrens were defeated by Sturt. Port, as minor premiers, exercised their right and challenged the Unleyites, and again were vanquished. The play was not of a high quality, although at times system was shown by both teams. Sturt were the better side, and had it not been for their shockingly erratic kicking they would have had a much bigger margin to their credit at the call of time. The double blues were rather slow at the start, and let their opponents get in front of them; but after the first term they got properly into their stride and easily had the measure of their rivals. There was a lack of high marking, and that was the more noticeable as both sides are usually strong in that department.

Scores:—

**FIRST QUARTER.**  
 Sturts—0 goals 2 behinds.  
 Ports—4 goals 2 behinds.

**SECOND QUARTER.**  
 Sturts—2 goals 7 behinds.  
 Ports—4 goals 3 behinds.

**THIRD QUARTER.**  
 Sturts—2 goals 8 behinds.  
 Ports—5 goals 8 behinds.

**FINAL.**  
 Sturts—4 goals 17 behinds.  
 Ports—5 goals 8 behinds.

Goalkickers—Winners—Offe, Clarke, Kappler, and Richardson (1). Losers—Lane, Crowley (2), and Burton (1). Best players:—Sturt—Ryan, Richardson, Edwards, Baulderstone, Fox, Lewis, Clarke, Kappler, and Offe. Port—Boon, Eames, Rowen, Howie, Crowley, Martiensen, Sard, Thomas, and Stidson. Umpire Carter was strict and impartial.

The following week he played in an Adelaide high School Old Scholars v Present Scholars match.

The Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929)  
 Mon 8 Sep 1913 / Page 5

**Adelaide High School Past v. Present.—**This match was played on the south park lands on Saturday, and resulted in a good win for the present scholars, who were faster and better trained than their heavier and older opponents. The scores were 13.10—2.5. Goalkickers:—Present—Blacket, Jose (3), Kiley, Pomroy, Treloar (2), Dowling, Johncock, and Maddigan (1). Past—Sard (2). Best players:—Winners—Johncock, Bawden, Blacket, Dowling, Treloar, Pomroy, Jose, and Maddigan. Losers—Sard, Nieta, McDonald, Gluis, Pope, and O'Neill.

## Adelaide University Enrolment

In 1913 while still teaching he was also selected to attend the Teachers Training College and was able to take relevant subjects at Adelaide University. In 1913 he was enrolled in the Arts Faculty studying the subject "Education" and passing with a Division III level. In 1914 he was studying and passed Botany.

## University Sport

While studying at Adelaide University student, Thomas played two seasons of cricket (1913/14 & 1914/15 in B Grade) and one season of football (1914 in A Grade)

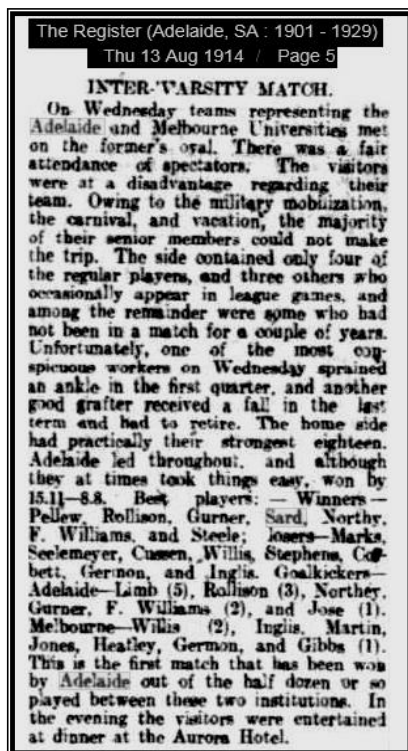
The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931)	
Mon 1 Feb 1915	
WEST TORRENS VERSUS UNIVERSITY.	
WEST TORRENS.	
Groves, c. Hunt, b. Mengerson .. .. .	18
Yeoman, b. Mattner .. .. .	1
Sanders, c. —, b. Badger .. .. .	00
Richards, c. —, b. B. Sard .. .. .	21
Hamilton, c. —, b. Sard .. .. .	10
Lanyon, b. Badger .. .. .	1
Edwards, b. Sard .. .. .	1
Danielson, b. Hunt .. .. .	18
Davies, c. —, b. Sard .. .. .	15
Knight, not out .. .. .	12
Reed, c. —, b. Williams .. .. .	15
Sundries .. .. .	9
Total .. .. .	101
Bowling—Sard, four for 41; Mattner, one for 12; Mengerson, one for 49; Hunt, one for 48; Williams, one for 21; Badger, two for 21.	
UNIVERSITY.	
V. Mengerson, c. Davies, b. Yeoman .. .. .	10
R. Moore, not out .. .. .	10
T. Sard, b. Sanders .. .. .	0
Webb, b. Sanders .. .. .	0
H. Tregenza, run out .. .. .	0
Carthew, not out .. .. .	1
Sundries .. .. .	7
Total (for four wickets) .. .. .	28
Bowling—C. Yeoman, one for 7; W. Reed, none for 7; Lanyon, none for 10; E. Sanders, two for three.	

Already recognised as a talented young footballer, he was a good acquisition for the University team and his only season of football for the "Blacks", saw him regularly amongst the best players. His first game was a pre-season trial match against league team North Adelaide.

The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931)	
Sat 25 Apr 1914 / Page 22	
FOOTBALL.	
North Adelaide versus University, on the University Oval.	
University (from)—Badger, Carthew, L. E. Clarke, Cole, Hayward (captain), Havard, Holmes, Johncock, Jose, North, Northey, Phillips, Pomeroy, Rollison, Sard, Steele, Williams, Williams.	
North Adelaide (from)—W. Barna, D. Cole, A. Gunn, H. Hodgson, E. Johns, W. Jones, A. Klose, P. Lewis, T. Leahy, F. LeMessurier, C. Murch, D. O'Brien, A. Sanders, S. Seccombe, L. Thomas, G. Tressowthick, K. Threadgold, J. Wainwright, S. Williams, C. Zeugofage.	



Later in the year after a fine season he was a member of the victorious 1914 Intervarsity football team and was awarded a Blue that year.



### 1914 Intervarsity Football Team



**Adelaide University 15 goals 11 points defeated Melbourne University 8 goals 8 points**



Now an assistant teacher at Hindmarsh School during the 1915 football season, Thomas was no longer eligible to play with University and he returned to his original club, Port Adelaide, where he played two league games. Playing most of his games with the Port Adelaide B Grade, he was a member of their premiership team. In 1916, he played with the Port Adelaide Patriotic League team, before enlisting in October 1916.

## World War II Service

Thomas Balfour Cooper Sard's Service Record shows him enlisting on 1<sup>st</sup> of October 1916, with the commissioned rank of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant (Special Draft AIF Officers). He would have been a suitable candidate, having previously had two years experience in the Senior Cadets (between 14 - 18 years of age), and is listed also as having nine months with the AIF, probably undergoing officer training. The "Special Drafts" of suitable men for officer training was in response to shortages of officers on the Western Front, a result of the horrific losses at Gallipoli and in France.

At the time of enlisting for service abroad, Thomas was nearly 24 years of age, 5 ft 5¾ in tall and weighing 146 lbs. He was not married and his mother, Barbara Alice Sard who was living at 4 Park Terrace Eastwood, was listed as his next of kin.

It is unclear from his service records where he was sent initially after enlisting in October 1916 and it was not until the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 1918, before he embarked for overseas service from the Port of Melbourne on the troop ship *HMAT Nestor A71* (pictured below - Australian Maritime Museum Photo).



Arriving in Liverpool England on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 1918, Thomas was sent to the No. 3 School of Instruction for Infantry Officers, Kandahar Barracks at Tidworth in Wiltshire, England. Following his training course, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July 1918, he embarked for France from Southampton and arrived at Le Havre on the Normandy coast the following day. Two days later he was assigned to the 32nd Battalion.

Thomas remained in the "Field", until the 14<sup>th</sup> of December 1918, when he was granted leave in England until Christmas Day after which he re-joined his Unit in France. Thomas had been promoted to Lieutenant on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September 1918.

Service records do not give details of any action he saw, but some idea comes from the following Extract from Australian War Memorial Reference AWM4/23/49/1-23/49/44.

*"Unlike some AIF battalions, the 32nd had a relatively quiet time during the German Spring Offensive of 1918 as the 5th Division was largely kept in reserve. The Allies launched their own offensive with the battle of Amiens on 8 August, in which the 32nd Battalion participated. It was subsequently involved in the operations that continued to press the retreating Germans through August and into September. The 32nd fought its last major action of the war between 29 September and 1 October when the 5th and 3rd Australian Divisions and two American divisions attacked the Hindenburg Line across the top of the 6-kilometre-long St Quentin Canal tunnel; the canal was a major obstacle in the German defensive scheme.*

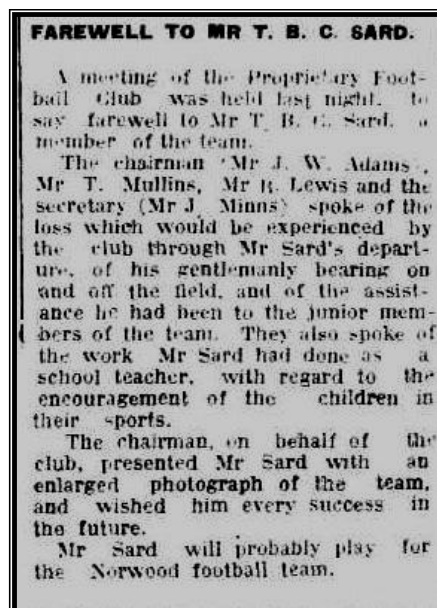
*The 32nd was resting and retraining out of the line when the war ended on 11 November 1918. On 8 March 1919, after the gradual repatriation of men to Australia, the remnants of the 32nd Battalion were merged with the 30th Battalion."*

Thomas remained in France until late January 1919 and returned to Australia, departing France from the Port of Boulogne and then boarding the *HMAT Anchises* (A68) at Devonport, England on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February, arriving in Adelaide on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April. He was formally discharged to return to civilian life on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 1919. He received The British War Medal and The Victory Medal.



## After World War 1 - Return to Teaching and Football

On his return from the War Thomas resumed teaching and returned to his football career. The absence in the War years and frequent school transfers would mean he was unable to have a long career at league level. His first appointment after being discharged was at Sturt Street School in Adelaide and during his time there 1919 and 1920 he managed to play 7 games for the Norwood League team. A teaching appointment until July 1920 in Port Pirie also saw him play some games with the Proprietary Football Club and then was able to complete the season with Norwood.



*Recorder (Port Pirie, SA : 1919 - 1954), Saturday 3 July 1920*

In 1921, Thomas re-enrolled at Adelaide University, studying and passing Economics. Also, during the winter, he played 7 league games for North Adelaide. Thomas was then appointed to the New Barmera School, which was opened in January 1922. The Education Department could not have made a better choice as its first head teacher.

Murray Pioneer and Australian River Record (Renmark, SA : 1913 - 1942), Friday 27 January 1922, page 3

## BARMERA STATE SCHOOL.

### The Official Opening.

Barmera, January 23.

In boisterous weather the State school at Barmera was opened this afternoon by Mr. R. Y. Langdon (Resident Engineer). There was a good attendance, and the proceeding were marked by enthusiasm.

Mr. T. Sard, who will have charge of the school, introduced the Rev. Mr. McCullough (chairman of the School Committee), who asked Mr. Langdon to declare the school open. Mr. Langdon expressed the hope that the efforts made in bringing the school into being would continue as energetically in the school's interest. Mr. Langdon unlocked the door, and all present filed into the building, which, with its appurtenances, was critically examined by parents and wonderingly gazed at by many youngsters about to start their school days.

More speeches were then made, Mr. A. P. Smith (secretary of School Formation Committee) outlining the whole period of their efforts to realize that which was now an accomplished fact. Pastor Mudford also spoke. Mr. T. Sard (secretary of School Committee), who is in charge of the school, was spoken of in high terms for the work done by him in the short time he has been here. The Rev. Mr. McCullough's practical help in placing his Church Hall at the disposal of the Education Department, and teaching the children himself until the arrival of a teacher, was also referred to. The school will start in earnest to-morrow.

The building seems rather isolated from the present portion of the township, but by the time the latter has assumed its hoped for proportions, the school will be very centrally situated. It is a landmark at present, being at the top of the rise that fronts the lake, and is quite on its

own, except for the hospital, which is being erected a short distance away. The building will accommodate about 70 pupils in each room, of which there are two. As the roll already numbers 118, and 16 were enrolled this afternoon, with more to follow, space will be fully taxed to

Mr. Sard has been given an assistant, a Miss Kathleen M. Griffin, from Edithburg. Miss Griffin left the High School three years ago, and was teaching at Edithburg prior to her appointment here. Mr. Sard is a good teacher, having been chief assistant in a number of the leading Adelaide schools. He was a League footballer in Adelaide, and served in the war as a lieutenant.

Murray Pioneer and Australian River Record (Renmark, SA : 1913 - 1942)

Fri 25 Jul 1924

## DIRECTOR AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION VISIT SCHOOL.

Barmrea, July 21.

Last Thursday was a red letter day at the Barmera school, when the Director of Education (Mr. McCoy) Minister of Education (Hon. L. L. Hill) with their wives, and Messrs. McIntosh and McMillan (M'sP for the district) paid them a visit. The Chairman of the school committee (Mr. A. C. Warsap) was present.

Mr. Warsap, in welcoming the visitors, expressed the committee's thanks for the practical sympathy the education authorities had shown to any requests they had made.

The visitors expressed keen appreciation of the work exhibited by the scholars. The scholars and their work reflected credit on the teaching staff.

The Minister complimented the scholars, the Head Teacher (Mr. T. B. Sard) and his assistants (Misses Griffin and Ellis-Smith.)

A half holiday was granted the school for Friday afternoon, and the visitors then left for Cobdogla.



The following newspaper article titled "A Teacher Loved By Scholars and Parents", shows how well he was thought of by the Barmera community. Thomas took an interest in all the local sports and although now in his early thirties he was still a good footballer and cricketer. While in Barmera, he also developed a keen interest in golf. He involved himself in wider club activities, presenting a musical item (vocal) at a football club social and similarly at a golf club function in 1924. The following article was written at the time "Tom" Sard received a transfer to Nuriootpa in April 1925.

Murray Pioneer and Australian River Record (Renmark, SA : 1913 - 1942),  
Friday 3 April 1925, page 12

## **"TOM" SARD**

### **A Teacher Loved By Scholars and Parents**

It falls to the lot of few men to do their work fearlessly and well, and yet to be loved by all sections of the community, young and old of whatsoever creed or belief. Such, however, is the lot of Mr. T. Sard, familiarly known as "Tom", who has just passed through another phase of his schoolteaching career by leaving Barmera to undertake more responsible scholastic duties at Nuriootpa.

Mr. Sard has been in this district for about 3½ years. For a very long time, Barmera then in its heyday, with hundreds of men variously employed in developmental work, was starving for a school. Children of various ages and stages were here for months without the advantage of a school, when the department decided to open one. In its desire to cope with a difficult task it sought its best and found it in Mr. Sard.

Few men could have tackled such a problem and won out so definitely as he did. When he took up the work he found children varying in ages from 5 to 14 who, whatever schooling they had had, were completely raw. Discipline was almost unknown and educational rudiments were either forgotten or untaught. How to classify them and where to start was the difficulty that was solved in a particularly bold kind of a way. The children were ranged according to their ages and put in classes accordingly, quite irrespective of their knowledge or ability. Mr. Sard and his staff then set out to train them up to the standard they had given them. It was a bold course to pursue and yet looking back over the years that have since elapsed one can see how completely successful was the experiment and what magnificent results have been secured. Chiefly has this been possible because the Department correctly judged its man and the man judged the position.

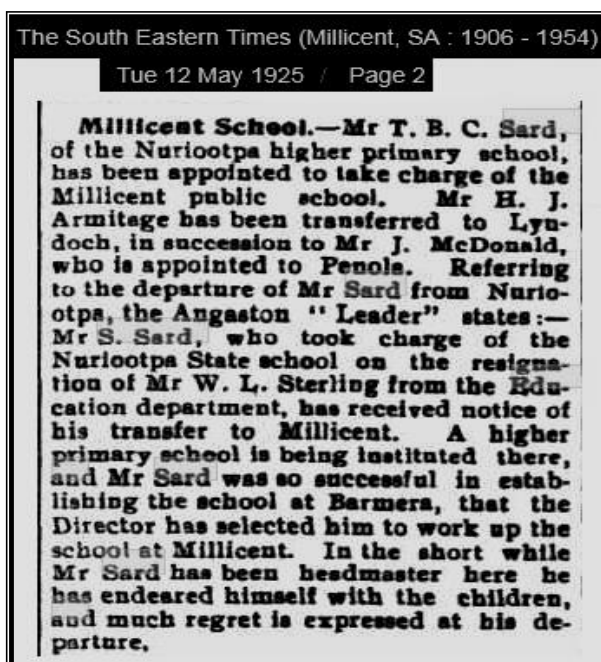
Barmera school has a very enviable position amongst the schools of the Upper Murray. There has not been a failure in the qualifying exam, the class aggregates have been abnormally high, and the moral tone of the school has been a matter for wonderment; and behind it all has been the strong kindly guiding of the much beloved "Tom" Sard.

There were few functions that he was missing from but nothing was ever allowed to interfere with his work, and his reward has been great. How tremendously loyal the children were to him is common knowledge. The parents too were intensely loyal to him. Corporal punishment was seldom meted out, when it was known to be merited, and the way the parents helped the children at home to grapple with their work was in itself a tribute of respect to the teacher.

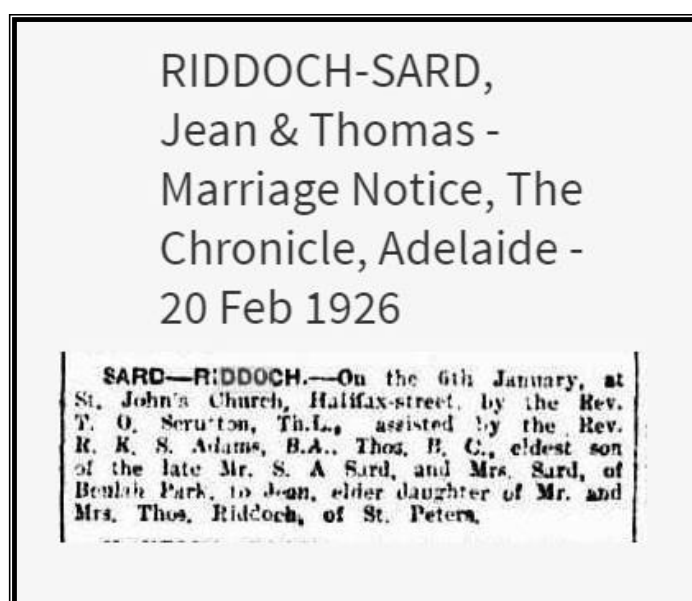
In the usual round of events which are part of every community Mr. Sard has more than played his part. Cricket, football, tennis, golf are all the better for his association, whilst he has been of immense assistance in causes that were worthy and waning. The recent effort to establish a fund for a hall found him working with great vigour. The children worked for their "King" with such good results as to see him successful in the King Competition as "King of the Kids".

He has been described as a friend of everyone, and although this claim is somewhat dangerous and frequently incorrectly made, it was quite true in this case. His genial smile has never been absent when needed, and many a settler, full of his troubles and uncertain of himself, has been lifted on to a higher plane because of a happy word and a cheery smile from the man who has moved on to continue his good work elsewhere. It is said that he will soon have a companion to help him; few men will carry with them such multitude of good wishes on such an occasion.

No sooner had he been transferred to the Nuriootpa Higher Primary School, Thomas received notice of his appointment as the head teacher at the upgraded Millicent School.



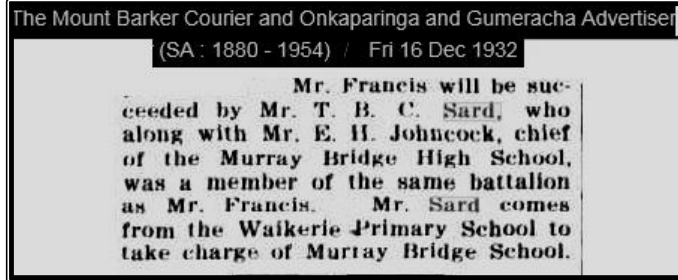
On the 6<sup>th</sup> of January 1926, Thomas married Jean Leggat Riddoch, eldest daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Thos. Riddoch of St Peters. Jean was born in Glasgow, Scotland in 1906. Thos. Riddoch had been a professional golfer.



Thomas and Jean had three children (all girls), with their first daughter born on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November 1926, in Millicent. Thomas stayed involved with football and coached and played for a local team (The Warriors). It would be characteristic of all his school appointments, that he became involved not only in education duties, but also in local sport and community affairs.

In 1928, after three successful years at Millicent, Thomas was transferred back to the Riverland, as Head Teacher at Waikerie Higher Primary School. After the High School was established at Millicent, his position would have been downgraded, so he was relocated to Waikerie to maintain his status. On the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 1931, daughter number two, was born at Waikerie. He was a vice-president and league delegate for the Waikerie football club.

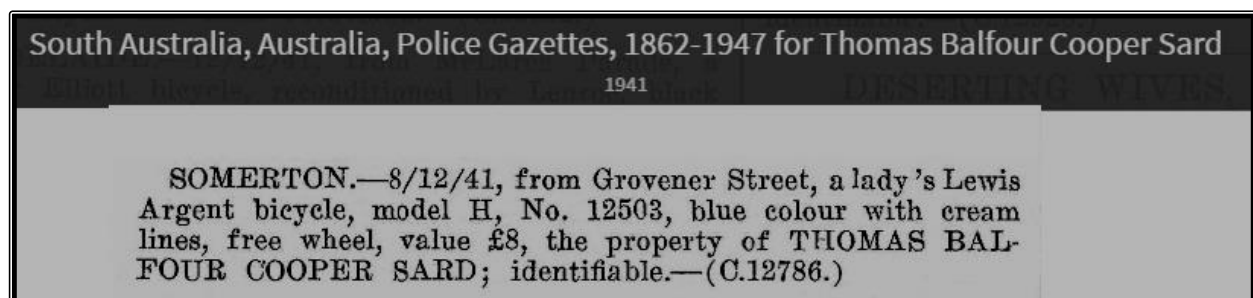
In 1932, Thomas was appointed Headmaster of the Murray Bridge Primary School. On the 14<sup>th</sup> of November 1933, Jean and Thomas had their third daughter born at the Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, Murray Bridge.



By 1935, Thomas was acting as Registrar of Murray Bridge Technical School. He was a member of the Murray Bridge Golf Club Pennant team. In January 1937, he returned to Adelaide to be Headmaster of East Adelaide Public School. In August that year he played in the AIF Golf Cup at Kooyonga.



In 1941, after 5 years at East Adelaide School, Thomas was transferred to Black Forrest Primary School. A Police Report of the day then indicates he was living at Somerton South Australia.



By 1943, Electoral Rolls have Thomas and Jean, living at Tarlton Rd Summerlea (later Somerton Pk).

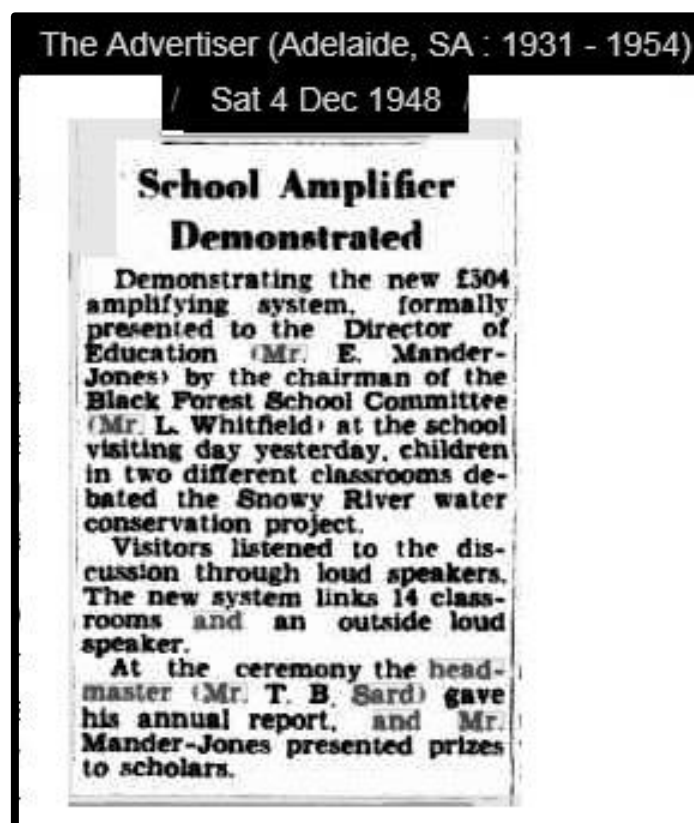
During the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War, Thomas's younger brother, Samuel Austin Sard enlisted. He had also enlisted in WW1 but was still in the Mitcham Camp at the time of the cessation of hostilities and did not serve overseas. Unfortunately,



Samuel was taken prisoner by the Japanese, however he survived and was eventually repatriated to Australia at the end of the War.



Thomas was still Headmaster at Black Forrest Primary School in 1948.




Newspaper records are not available after 1954, however Thomas was still headmaster in April 1954, when he reported the theft of a 16mm projector from the school. He would have been 61 years of age at the time so it would be anticipated that he would have remained at Black Forrest Primary School until retirement.



During his later years, he had moved to New South Wales and in 1968, he is in the NSW Electoral Rolls, living at 46 Ernest St Belmont NSW; probably on holidays and residing with a family member.

His Army Records show that in retirement in 1969, he was living at Flat 6, 22 Sussex St. Glenelg. His records were being sought by the South Australian Branch of the Repatriation Department in connection with an application lodged for repatriation benefits.

  
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

RL 21  
Form D736  
(1968)

Address of Mail to:  
The Deputy Commissioner  
Repatriation Department  
Box 928, G.P.O.  
Adelaide, S.A. 5001  
Telephone: 23 4888 Ext. 277.

REPATRIATION DEPARTMENT  
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BRANCH  
188 PULTENEY STREET  
ADELAIDE

PLEASE QUOTE NO. R3.

5 JUN 1969

The Officer-in-Charge,  
Central Army Records Office,  
Albert Park Barracks,  
MELBOURNE, VIC. 3004

REQUEST FOR DOCUMENTS

Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: L.FUT.

Christian Names: THOMAS BALFOUR COOPER Surname: SARD

Unit: 32<sup>ND</sup> BTN. Period of Service: 1/10/14 - 28/4/19.

☒ SERVING } (Strike out one.)  
☐ DISCHARGED

Declassified: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address: Flat 6 - 22 Sussex St. Glenelg. SA 5045.

This Department is considering an application lodged for Repatriation benefits.

2. Please forward the documents indicated below as soon as possible.

- ☒ \* (1) Statement of Service B103
- ☒ \* (2) Medical Documents Photo
- ☒ \* (3) Micro Films AP
- ☒ \* (4) X-rays D2
- ☒ \* (5) Attestation Paper


\* Tick items (1) to (5) as applicable.

3. If a previous request has been made for the originals or copies of these documents, please advise the date and the branch from which the request originated.

R. G. Collins  
(R.G. COLLINS)  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER 10/6/69

## Death

**Thomas Balfour Cooper Sard passed away in 1971 at the age of 78**

Birth: 1893 Death: Apr. 28, 1971	
Note: from Glenelg; AGE at Death: 78	
Burial: <u>Centennial Park Cemetery</u> Pasadena Mitcham City South Australia, Australia Plot: RSL, Wall 114, Niche G012	
Created by: <u>jlong</u> Record added: Sep 17, 2015 Find A Grave Memorial# 152447603	Cemetery Photo Added by: <u>Red</u>

Thomas's wife Jean passed away on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August 1992, aged 86.

**Sources and Acknowledgements:**

AWM4/23/49/1-23/49/44: 32nd Battalion war diary

Freeman, R R (Roger R), Second to none : a memorial history of the 32nd Battalion A.I.F. 1915-1919(Norwood, S. Aust. : Peacock Publications, 2006)

University of NSW - The A.I.F. Project

National Archives of Australia - WW1 Service Records

Genealogy.com - Sard Family History - Steve Sard July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010

Ancestry.com - Thomas Balfour Cooper Sard - Public Family Tree and Gallery

Copies of Reports, Photographs and Results: Trove (Digitised newspapers and More): National Library of Australia (tagged as Thomas Balfour Cooper Sard)

Series 108 University of Adelaide Calendars: Adelaide University Archives

Series 524 Sports Association Members and Intervarsity Team Photographs: Adelaide University Archives

**Appendices**

North Adelaide Football Club History Committee

Norwood Football Club History Committee

## Appendices – League Football Records

### North Adelaide Football Club History Committee Publication Players Who Served in WW1



### Thomas Balfour Cooper Sard

**32nd Battalion, AIF**

Born 27/11/1892 (Port Adelaide, South Australia) - Died 28/04/1971 (Oaklands Park, South Australia)  
7 Games 8 Goals (1921)

*Sard was a student at Adelaide High School, where he represented the school at football. On leaving school he studied to become a teacher. In 1910 he played with Portland Imperial. He played with Port Adelaide II in 1911. Sard got his first teaching appointment in 1912 at Koorangabie, and spent nine months there.*

*He spent the 1913 season with Port Adelaide's B side before joining the University team in the Amateur League in 1914, where he was high in their best players in the losing side to Semaphore in Grand Final. Sard played two games for Port Adelaide in 1915, playing the rest of the season with Association side and featuring in their Grand Final side. Sard played the 1916 season with the Port Adelaide Patriotic League team before enlisting on 1<sup>st</sup> October 1916.*

*He returned to Australia 28 February 1919 and joined Norwood upon his return.*

*Whilst playing for North Adelaide he taught at the Sturt Street School leaving at the end of the 1921 season to take up teaching position at Barmera, where he continued to play football. He left Barmera for Nuriootpa in 1925, but shortly after his arrival was moved onto the new school at Millicent (1925-28). Sard then moved onto Waikerie (1928-32) and Murray Bridge (1933-1936). He was Head Master at East Adelaide School (1937-1941), before moving onto Black Forest Primary.*

*He died on 28<sup>th</sup> April 1971 and is buried at Centennial Park cemetery.*

ENLISTMENT DETAILS	PLAYING RECORD
<b>Height</b> - 5ft 5 ¾ inch <b>Weight</b> - 146 lbs <b>Religion</b> - Church of England <b>Address at time of enlistment</b> Park Terrace, Eastwood <b>Occupation</b> - School Teacher <b>Age at enlistment</b> 23 years , 11 Months <b>Date of enlistment</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> October 1916 <b>Returned to Australia</b> 28 <sup>th</sup> February 1919 <b>Next of Kin</b> Mrs Barbara Alice Sard (Mother), 4 Park Tce, Eastwood, South Australia	<b>League Career</b> 1921 <b>Games</b> 7 Games <b>Goals</b> 8 Goals <b>Debut</b> South Adelaide 26/06/1921 (Round 8 - Adelaide Oval) <b>Final Game</b> Norwood 03/09/1921 (Round 16 - Norwood Oval) <b>Guernsey # 22</b> <b>Other Clubs :</b> 1915 Port (2 Games 5 Goals) 1919-20 Norwood (7 Games 2 Goals)

Norwood Football Club History Committee  
Players Who Served in WW1



**REDLEGS MUSEUM**  
HISTORY OF THE NORWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB



**PLAYERS - SARD, Thomas**

**Thomas SARD**

**STATISTICS**

Guernsey Number: 7, 2  
Career: 1919 to 1920  
NFC Games: 7  
NFC Goals: 2  
Debut: v Sturt (Unley) 12th July 1919  
Finale: v Sturt (Unley) 17th July 1920



<< Back