

Tpr. Walter Hunter Stevenson



Played with Adelaide University



Football Club: Intervarsity (1905)

Wesley College (1905) Combined Colleges (1906)

Student: Medicine 1905 - 1906

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 Hunter Stevenson. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.

The AIF Project

https://aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=288194



Walter Hunter STEVENSON

Regimental number 3527

Place of birth Fitzroy South Australia

Religion Church of England

Occupation Farmer

Address Burra, South Australia

Marital status Married

Age at embarkation 31

Next of kin Wife, Mrs. Dora Helen Stevenson, Mount Lofty, South Australia

Enlistment date 28 February 1917

Rank on enlistment Private

Unit name 3rd Light Horse Regiment, 31st Reinforcement

AWM Embarkation Roll

number

10/8/5

Embarkation details Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A73 Commonwealth on 2

November 1917

Rank from Nominal Roll Private

Unit from Nominal Roll 3rd Light Horse Regiment

Fate Returned to Australia 5 March 1919

Service Record

 $\underline{https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=8089613}$

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE. ATTESTATION PAPER OF PERSONS ENLISTED FOR SERVICE ABROAD. No. 3527 Nam. STEVE NS. N. WALTER HUNTER Unit 31 REINFTS. 3 L H.	mainer .
Joined on 38 19 churry 1914	
Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation. 1. What is your name? 2. In the Parish of in or	
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? near the Town of Anth Suchialies.	
Naturalized British Subject / (N.B.—If the latter,) 3. Mer. Natural B. mm.	
4. What is your age? 4. I Sixt years?	
5. What is your trade or calling? 5	
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, } 6.	
7. Are you married? 7. New	
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) The answer to this question shall not be construed as in the 9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? 9. Jo	-
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Porces with Ignominy, or as Incurrigible 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)	
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? It so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge.	
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous 12.	
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds?	
14. (For more of medical marker) Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be insued to you in respect of your service beyond an amount which tagether with pay would reach it. par day?	
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against 15. 4.0	
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 go beyond the librate of the Commonwealth. And I further agree to allot not less than three-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife **	
Date Tel 35th 1914 beller Helevenson	
Signature of Person Entirted The alone wheeld be stock set in the same of accounted over as endowers actions children under 18 years of ago, The fifthe most be effected to the action and if there are children three-fifthe most be effected.	

Biography

Early Life

Walter Hunter Stevenson was born on the 6th of August 1885, the son of Walter Hunter Stevenson (Snr) and Harriet Elizabeth Brook. Walter's father was a well-known Adelaide Jeweller and businessman who owned property on Barton Terrace, North Adelaide (which later became Ru Rua Hospital in August 1920). Walter (Junior) was known by the nickname "Inky".

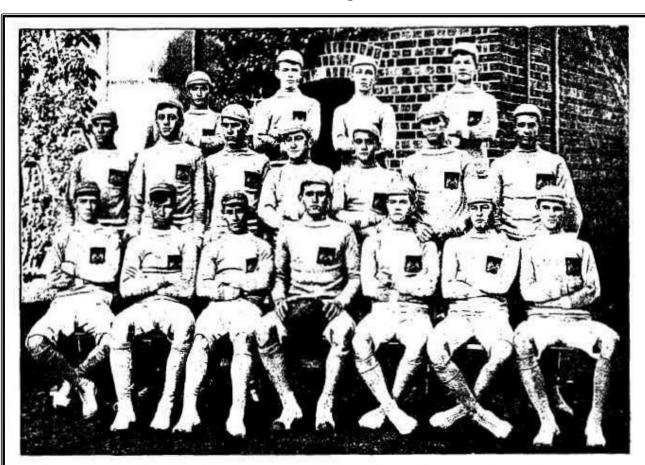
Schooling

Walter attended St Peter's College, Adelaide from 1897 to 1904. He passed his Junior Examinations in 1902 and Senior Examinations in 1903 and 1904.

He was a fine sportsman and he represented St Peter's at Inter-Collegiate Cricket from 1901-1904 and Inter-Collegiate Football in 1904 He also played football in the Combined Colleges match against Adelaide University in August 1904.

Walter was on the committee to run the St Peter's College Sports in 1904 and won the 100 yards flat race in the 1904 Inter-Collegiate Sports.

1904 – St Peter's College Football Team

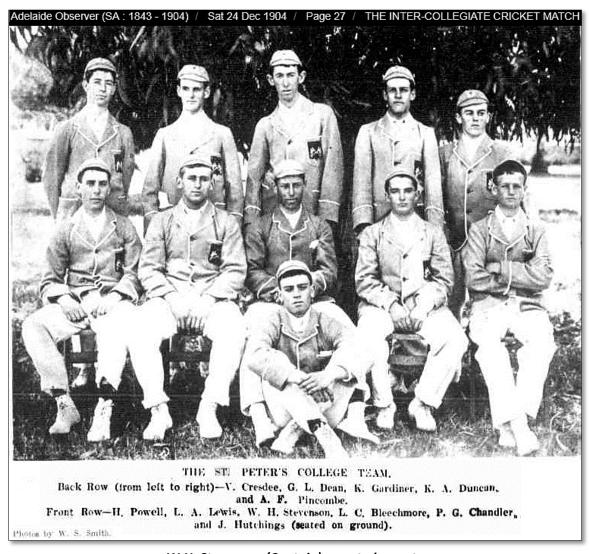


Front Row (from left to right)—H. M. Moyes, V. Cresdee, W. H. Stevenson (vice-captain), L. A. Lewis (captain), H. B. James, M. G. D. Murray, and L. B. Dean,
Middle Row—C. R. Wallmann, L. W. Gill, A. V. Stephen, J. Forrest, E. P. Turner,
A. J. S. Lindsay, and A. E. Ross.

Back Row-H. F. Pincombe, H. J. Webb, G. G. Hawkes, and W. R. Warren.

THE ST. PETER'S COLLEGE TEAM.

1904 - St Peter's College Cricket Team



W.H. Stevenson (Captain) – seated – centre

Adelaide University

Walter passed Latin, French, Arithmetic and Algebra and Geometry in the Special Senior Examinations in March 1905 under the private tuition of Mr D.H. Hollidge. Walter studied medicine at Adelaide University in 1905 and 1906 but did not continue studying after 1906.

W.H. Stevenson - Medical Student



1906 – Adelaide University Medical School



W.H. Stevenson – Second to Back Row – Eighth from Right

1st row (Front): N.Shierlaw, Catchlove, Miss M.George, Miss Delprat, Prof.Watson, Miss Delprat,
Miss M.Moffat, R.A.Goode, St.John Poole, C.Yeatman, E.C.Black, S.L.Corry, E.J.R.Holder.

2nd row: J.Dyer, Thomas, J.J.O'Grady, D.M.Steele, Drew, E.Arnold, H.M.Jay, W.Ray, G.R.West, L.G.Muirhead, J.Leon, H.Powell,
E.B.Jones, W.D.Rosengarten, N.E.Seppelt, W.R.Reynell, T.H.Donnelly, R.Trudinger, Everard.

3rd row: H.Elkan, C.D.Pitcher, F.E.McAree, E.H.Lewis, J.L.Jona, E.A.H.Russell, G.Harvey, W.H.Stevenson, C. Dolling,
W.A.V.Drew, W.Jacobs, T.G.Fleming, M.Erichsen, R.J.Verco, L.O.Betts, L.W.Jeffries.

4th row: E.J.McGlashon, H.Fry, P.T.S.Cherry, R.Plummer, H.W.D.Stoddart, D.R.W.Cowan, Sinclair, D.Parkhouse.

University Sport

Football

Walter represented Adelaide University in a match against Wesley College, Melbourne on Adelaide Oval in July 1905 and in the Inter-Varsity football match against Melbourne University in Melbourne in September 1905. He also represented University in a match against the Combined Colleges team in 1906.

VISITING UNIVERSITY TEAMS

The Adelaide University football and incresse teams arrived in Milbourne yesterday, and were tormally welcomed by Sir Henry Wrixon, the Vice-Chanceller of the Melbourne University at the University Club, Swamstonerreet. The football bearn is as tollows:—D. Dawson, W. A. V. Drew, C. R. Dondy, W. Dempster, W. R. Angwin, S. G. L. Catchlove, L. Cowan, D. R. Cowan, H. M. Muirbead, W. G. Reid, L. R. Hastam, G. D. Moore, R. Cade, W. H. Sevethon, C. L. Jessep, R. W. Taleie, T. Donnelly, F. N. Young and L. W. Gill, Lucrosse team:—N. Harczave, J. S. K. Machinean, H. Grechway, N. Sterlaw, D. R. Cowan, D. M. Steele, R. Bruntmutt, R. Goode, L. O. Betts, M. Erickson, G. Houcaut, G. C. Campbell and R. W. Bennett (manager).

Sir Henry Wrixon, in proposing the toust of the visitors, said it was the first occasion a team from the Adelaide University had visited Melbourne, and he trusted it would not be the late (Applaise.)

Mr. R. W. Bennett briefly responded, and the gattering dispersed,

Express and Telegraph Tuesday 27 June 1905

FOOTBALL.

THE UNIVERSITY TEAM.

The decision of the S.A.F. not to admit a University football team into the association has had the effect of almost disintegrating that team. When it was suggested, however, that the University should get together a team to play a match against Wesley College the proposal met with cordial support. The match will acagainst Wesley College the proposal met with cordial support. The match will accordingly be held on the Adelaide Oval on July 5. The University will be captained by W. A. V. Drew, who is a member of the North Adeaide club, for which he plays half-forward centre. L. Cowan, of Norwood, and his brother, who formerly played for Norwood, and his brother, who formerly played for Norwood, and his brother, who formerly played for Norwood, are also available, while other for Norwood, are also available, while other players in the senior association who may be counted upon are Haslam (Sturt), C. Jessop (North Adelaide), D. Dawson (Norwood), Dempster (Port Adelaide), Catchlove (North Adelaide), Moore (Port Adelaide), and Cudmore (who played for North Adelaide last year). Other good players qualified to play are R. A. Goode, Reynell, Donnelly, Verco, Plummer, M. Muirheau, and Stevenson (formerly of St. Peter's College). The University can therefore put a formidable combination in the field, a formidable combination in the though the fact that they have not had regular practice will handicap them con-siderably. The University team are also arranging to visit Victoria in September next to play a match against the Melbourne University.

Athletics

Walter came first in 'Throwing the Cricket Ball' at the Adelaide University Sports in 1906.

Tennis

Walter competed in the Adelaide University Tennis Club's annual tournament in April 1906.

Sport - Other Teams

Cricket

Walter played cricket for North Adelaide in 1904-05, 1906/06 and 1906/07 seasons in the SACA competition. Adelaide University did not have a cricket team until the 1908/09 season.

Athletics

Walter competed in the 100 yards flat race for Old Scholars at the inter-Collegiate Sports in 1905.

Football

After leaving St Peter's College, Walter played football for Glenferrie from 1905-1907. He also represented North Adelaide in two matches at the end of the 1906 season; the grand final versus Norwood (won by North) and the challenge grand final versus Port Adelaide (won by Port).

¹ At this time many sports had a rule that allowed the Minor Premiers to challenge the winners of the Grand Final for the ultimate Premiership.



Pre-War Activities

In March 1908 Walter's father purchased the Spring-bank Estate, Kooringa, a property consisting of 4,231 acres of freehold and 497 acres of leasehold land, situated four miles south-west of Burra, SA and Walter moved north to manage the property.

Walter became engaged to Miss Dora Helen Smith, the third daughter of Mr John Smith of Yackandandah, Anama (north of Clare, SA) in July 1908.

While residing at the property near Burra, Walter played cricket for the Ramblers and Kooringa. He also played football for the Ramblers and was captain of the Burra Football Association in a match against Petersburg (Peterborough) in August 1908 and against Riverton in August 1909.

Walter married Dora Helen Smith on the 17th of November 1909 at Dora's parent's home near Clare, SA. The couple's first child (Helen Charlotte) was born at Spring-bank but tragically died five hours later, on the 11th of November 1910.

In March 1911 Walter's horses and buggy were involved in an incident in Burra.

A Ranaway.

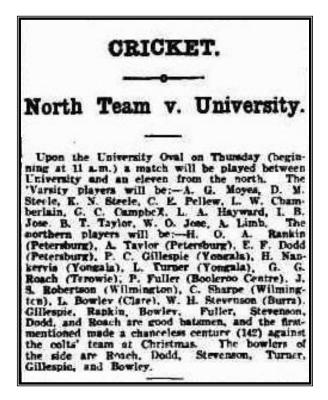
On Saturday one of the most sensational, but withall lucky, events witnessed in Burra for some considerable time took place. A belonging to Mr W. H. Stevenson, of Springbank about four miles south of Burra, were left for a few minutes in front of the postoffice when something frightened them and caused them to break the bridle they were tied up to a verandah post with, and they pulled down the post and getting free made off for home. The animals travelling at a terrific speed took the main road for it, and passed along from Kooringa through Aberdeen and past the railway-station until they were caught near the gate at Springbank by Mr L. Lewis, who had followed in a motor car, and after having covered the distance in the fastest time on record went through the whole business without suffering any further damage than the broken bridle above mentioned. At the same time it was wonderful how everything on the road was passed in safety.

On the 1st of May 1912, Walter and Dora's daughter Elizabeth May Stevenson was born. Later that year Walter exhibited sheep at the Burra Show.

Walter was captain of the Burra Football Association team which played the Norwood Union Club in September 1912

Walter and Dora's third daughter, Helen Isobel Stevenson was born on the 27th of July 1913. By 1913, Walter was a member of the Burra Rifle Club and he competed in rifle shooting matches.

In April 1914 a combined cricket team from the North played Adelaide University on University Oval.



Walter represented the Burra Association in a cricket match against Manoora in November 1914. In late December 1914 and early January 1915 Walter played in the Country Cricket Carnival in Adelaide. He played in several games for North Team, including a match against SACA 2nd XI. Walter was the best batsman for North and the best batsman in the Country v City match winning two bats.

Country Cricketers in Adelaide.

BURRAREPRESENTATIVE'SSPLENT DID ACHIEVEMENT.

During Christmas week a team of cricketers picked from country clubs journeyed to Adelaide to try conclusions with city teams. Although the country men were defeated, some good individual play was recorded and much pleasantness resulted from the play during "the country week," and it is quite possible this will be made an annual fixture. Local enthusiasm was manifested in the proceedings on account of the brilliant play of the Burra representative, Mr. W. H. Stevenson. In the first match against the city cricketers he made 53 runs and took 2 wickets; in the North v. South match he made 34 and took 4 wickets and won the bat presented by Mr. E. I. S. Tuck for the best all-round player from the North; in the final match, Country v. City he made 69 runs in the first innings and 18 in the second and took 4 wickets. He also won the bat presented by Mr. K. H. Quist for the best all-round player in the country.

January 1915 – Country Week



W.H. Stevenson – Left

On the 12th of February 1915, Walter and Dora's only son, John Hunter Stevenson was born at Glenelg, SA. In April 1915 Walter captained the Burra Association in a cricket match against the Gawler Association. Walter quickly accumulated 78 runs before being caught by R.J.Rudall off the bowling of A.E. Butcher, he also took 3 for 60 helping Burra to a win in the match.

In addition to his continued involvement in the Rifle Club and the Burra Show, Walter was also assistant Clerk of Scales for the Burra Racing Club.

In April 1916, Walter's father commenced the process of selling Spring-bank. The land was purchased by the South Australian government and was to be set aside for Returned Soldiers.

World War I

On the 6th of May 1915, Walter's brother, Malcolm who had been farming with Walter at Spring-bank, joined the 3rd Light Horse Regiment. Malcolm was single and his father Walter Hunter Stevenson was listed as his next-of-kin. With the sale of Spring-bank, Walter joined up on the 28th of February 1917.

Walter was 31½ years old, 5′ 5½″, 155 lbs, with a dark complexion, blue eyes and dark hair. He was a private (SN 3527) in the 3rd Light Horse Regiment. Before Walter left Australia, Dora had the couple's youngest daughter, Freda Patricia Stevenson, on the 27th of June 1917 at the Mount Lofty Rest Home, SA.

Walter entrained for Melbourne on the 29th of October 1917 and embarked on the *HMAT A73 Commonwealth* on the 2nd of November 1917. Walter disembarked at the Suez on the 10th of December 1917 and marched to Camp Moascar, a training area in north Egypt. On the 11th of February 1918, he marched out of camp and was taken on the strength of the 1st Light Horse on the 28th of February. While acting Corporal Walter, wrote home about his experiences near the Dead Sea. The letter was published in July 1918 (below).

Burra Lad Near Dead Sea.

Cpl. W. H. Stevenson, of an Australian Light Horse Regiment, has written as follows from Palestine to friends at Burra: We are practically out of the hills. V are only four miles from Jericho. We have a section of the engineers with us, and are putting pontson bridges across the Jordan. We put in two nights and did a great stroke. One night we left camp with the pentoons after dark and went to the river and started work. The scrub is thick on both sides of the river, and we had a lot of clearing to do first and to cut an approach; but we did not start till about daylight, and had the bridge across in one and a half hours. The Tommies tried in two other places, but they could not get across on account of the Turks, who were only a few hundreds of yards from us. Bullets were whitened on yards from us. Bullets were whizing over us all the time, but only four got hit. All the generals and start and the Duke of Connaught came we and inspected our bridge, and we could congratulations on having but the set bridge across the Jordan. It is only 100 ft. wide, and runs a strong stream, and is up to 20 ft. deep in the centre. There are all sorts of scrub, reeds, and bamboos on either side, and we had to out through about 100 yards to make a track for troops to go through. A few Tommies had to go across on rafts before dark and came down or processite our heiden, and the Turks opened. opposite our bridge, and the Turks opened on them and cut them up badly. Thirty were buried there that day, and a lot were wounded; but it was clear by midday, and we had a look around in safety. We thought we were going to have a rest that night, but the regiment came on, and we started off about 10 p.m., rode till daylight, had breakfast, and rest for an hour or two, and then went out on patrol. They shelled our horses out of their position, but did not hit one. The next day we started on a trip through the hills of Moab and Amment but the Monkiter and Amment the mon; but the Mosbites and Ammonites for dinner at the bottom of chose W

camped for dinner at the bottom of the hills, where there was pretty green fee about 1 ft. high, and all sorts of wil wild flowers. We 7 nt in single file, jeading our horses up hills nearly like the side of a house, rougher than any I had ever struck. Then it started to rain, and our load got very beavy, and when it became dark things were only middling. We were not too gay when we camped for a rest, and did not care much what happened Most of us were walking round to try and keep warm. After a cup of tea, eight of us, with a sergeant and English officer, were sent to a town over the hill to look for water. Things did not look too good for us coming into the town. Es Salt was crowded with natives. Hundreds of them had rifles, and I thought we were in for a rough time; but the Turks had done a get during the night. We found the water after a good bit of palavering and argning in various languages, and started for camp again, but got out on the wrong road with hundreds of these people all round us, with rifles, revolvers, knives, and any amount of ammunition. Just as we turned back one of these fired his revolver in the air and frightened the life out of us. Then they started all around us, and we thought we were done, but soon mw that they were rejoicing and welcoming ne into the town. t was a great experience. Then shifted camp closer, watered all the horse had a spell, and dried our clothes. The night work is a killer, and we were always on outpost or picket, and it was colder than the Burra. Since then, at our cam near the Jordan, we have had

On the 5th of October 1918, Walter was in hospital with malaria. With the War over, Walter embarked on the 5th of March 1919, onboard the *HMAT A15 Port Sydney* from Kantara (north east Egypt) and he arrived in Adelaide on the 13th of April 1919. Walter was discharged on the 6th of April 1919.

Post War Career and Family Life

On returning from the war, Walter purchased Kongal Station, 18 miles west of Bordertown in the south east of South Australia. He rapidly integrated into the local community, joining the Bordertown Picnic Racing Club, the Mundalla Cricket Club and the Mundalla Football Club.

Walter won the Tatiara Association medal for the best batting average (56.9) in the 1921/22 cricket season. In the 1922/23 season he took 5 wickers for 12 runs and made 70 runs in a match against Wolseley.

Walter was active in the RSL and President of the Bordertown Old Collegiate Association. He also became patron of the Mundalla Gun Club in 1923. Walters preferred car at this stage of his life was the 11.4 Citroen (Feb 1923) and later the 1926 Model Citroen.

1925 was a tragic year for Walter. In late March 1925, Walter and Dora went on a motoring trip and while at Portland, Dora became ill. Dora passed away on the 16th of April 1925. She was buried at the Bordertown Cemetery. Then on the 4th of August 1925, Elizabeth May (Betty) Stevenson, died aged just 13 years.

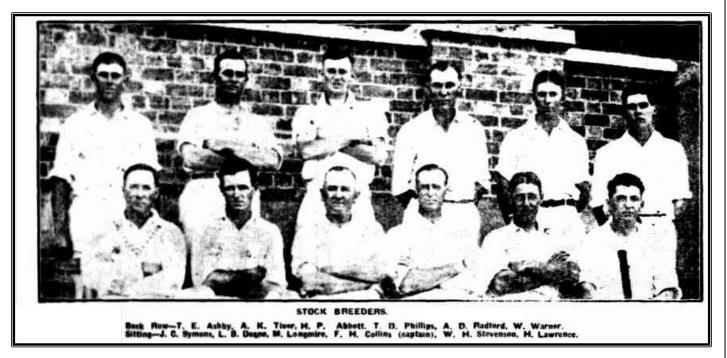
Deep regret was felt throughout the listrict when word came that Mrs. W. Stevenson, wife of Mr. W. H. Stevenson. of Kongal, had died in a private hospital at Portland (Victoria). Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson, with a party, went for a trip about three weeks ago by motor, and while at Portland Mrs. Stevenson was Although at first it was taken very ill. not considered serious, grave developments set in later, resulting in her death on Mrs. Stevenson was the daughter of the late Mr. John Smith, a wellknown grazier of Yackandandah Estate. Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson came Tatiara about seven years ago, bought Mr. W. McGrice's Kongal Station. Mrs. Stevenson has left four children, the youngest bein, seven years old. Bordertown Croquet Club, of which Mrs. Stevenson was a member, adjourned play on Saturday afternoon as a tribute of respect to the deceased.

Death of Miss Steven Very deep sympathy was expressed on all sides for Mr W. H. Stevenson, when it was known that his eldest daughter, Elizabeth May, aged 13 years, had died in Adelaide on August 4. The girl, whose mother died only a little time ago, had been living in Adelaide to attend school and succumbed to the after effects of an attack of measles. The body was brought to Bordertown and buried in Bordertown Cemetery yesterday, in the presence of a large gathering of sympathetic friends. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Evans.

Walter represented the Tatiara Association against the Naracorte Association in December 1925. In June 1926 Walter became a member of the Tatiara District Council, representing the Buckingham Ward.

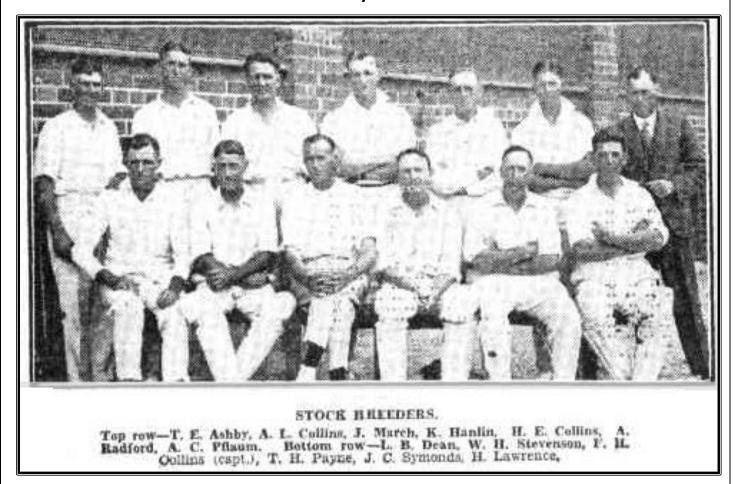
Walter played in the Country Cricket week in February 1928 and again in February 1929 representing the 'Stock Breeders' team.

1928 - Country Cricket Week



W.H. Stevenson – Front Row – Second from Right

1929 - Country Cricket Week



W.H. Stevenson – Front Row – Second from Left

By 1928 Walter was playing golf at Bordertown. In August 1930, Walter listed "Kongal Station" for sale, however it appears that he did not sell the station as he was still living there in 1938.

IMPORTANT LAND SALE

"KONGAL STATION" — 15,308 ACRES.

(Situated 18 miles West of Bordertown). ON A WALK-IN WALK-OUT BASIS. Including 3,500 Sheep and Station Plant. AT

WOOL EXCHANGE, GRENFELL-STREET, ADELAIDE, NEXT THURSDAY, AUGUST 14th, at 2.30 p.m. GOLDSBROUGH, MORT & COMPANY, LIMITED,

have received instructions from Mr. W. H. Stevenson, to offer for sale, by suction, his well-known property, comprising—

1.967 ACRES PREEHOLD,

AND

13,341 ACRES PERPETUAL LEASEHOLD.

Rental, £22 17/11.

IMPROVEMENT'S comprise a SUBSTANTIAL STONE HOMESTEAD OF PROOMS and conveniences, telephone connected; detached STONE COTTAGE of 3 ROOMS, U.G. tank, stables, and loose boxes, stone garage, WOOLSHED, DIP AND DRAFTING YARDS, and 3-stand "Wolseley" Shearing Machine. THE PROPERTY IS WELL FENCED AND SUBDIVIDED into about 13 SHEEP-PROOF PADDOCKS, and is WATERED BY WELLS AND BORES FULLY EQUIPPED, also dans.

THE LAND IS ALL ARABLE, with the exception of about 2,000 acres, and approximately 3,000 ACRES ARE CLEARED and ready for the plough. There are 300 ACRES PLANTED WITH SUBTERRANEAN CLOVER (recently top-dressed), and a much larger area is available and SUITABLE FOR CLOVER GROWING. 90 acres under crop.

"EONGAL STATION" is situated 18 miles West of BORDERTOWN, 12 miles from MUNDALLA, and 3 miles from KONGAL SCHOOL.

THE PROPERTY is being sold on a WALK-IN WALK-OUT BASIS, com-prising approximately 3500 SHEEP 9 HORSES, 3 COWS, and STATION PLANT, including oil engine, drill, 3-furrow plough, spring trolly and cart, super broadcaster, scoop and harrows, &c.

The above Station is being offered for sale by auction, subject to the con-nt of the Hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Terms—10 PER CENT. DEPOSIT. balance in cash over and above existing Mortgage of 14,000, UN CONSENT TO TRANSFER BEING OBTAINED.

For inspection and further particulars apply to the Auctioneers, Adelaide For inspect

Walter's parents and sister had a lengthy holiday in Britain and the Continent and returned to Adelaide in later 1929. While he was in the UK, Walter's father published he autobiography "Stepping Stones – a Jeweller's Journeyings." Sadly, for the family Walter Hunter Stevenson Senior died on the 6th of November 1930.

News (Adelaide, SA: 1923 - 1954) / Thu 6 Nov 1930 / Page 14

MR. W. H. STEVENSON DEAD Jeweller, Author, Sportsman

Mr. Walter Hunter-Stevenson, Fitzroy terrace, Fitzroy, who had been a leading Adelaide jeweller for about 50 years, died this morning after an illness of a week.

He was associated with many public organisations in this State and was a keen sportsman.

Born of Glasgew parents at Carlton, Victoria, 75 years ago, Mr. Stevenson travelled extensively. During a visit abroad in 1928 he published an autobiography en-titled "Stepping Stones—a Jeweller's Journeyings." in which he related many experiences of his life on sheep stations and in the business world.

As a youth Mr. Stevenson was employed a manufacturing warehouse in Little lins street. Melbourne. Later he Collins street. Melbourne. Later he worked as a journeyman for P. Falk and Co., jewellers.

BOYHOOD INCIDENT

One of the most dramatic incidents of is boyhod was when he witessed the departure of Burke his nessed the departure of Burke and Wills, with camels and firearms, on an expedition to the interior. Much of the life of Mr. Stevenson in the outback was spent at Wilcannia, on the River Darling, and at Menindie. In 1878 River Darling, and at Menindie. he married Miss Harriet Elizabeth Brooke, who survives.



MR. W. H. STEVENSON Adelaide jeweller, whose death occurred this morning at Ru-Rua Hos-pital, North Adelaide. He was 75 He was 75 years of age.

With Mr. William Stevenson (a brother) as partner, he founded in Rundle street the firm of Stevenson Bros., which became a limited company in 1920. The business grew rapidly, and is now one of the largest jewellery establishments in the State.

Mr. Stevenson represented Robe Ward in Adelaide City Council in 1886. He was also a member of the Choral Society in the 'eighties. Other offices he formerly held included president of the Retail Jewellers' Association, Federal president of the Federated Jewellers' Association of Australia, and member of the boards of the Young Men's Chris-tian Association and Strangers' Benevolent Society. He was actively associated with the Royal Institution for the Blind, North Adelaide, shortly after its foundation.

PLAYED MANY SPORTS

In his younger days Mr. Stevenson played tennis, cricket, football, and bowls. Golf was his principal pastime. He was a member of Royal Adelaide (Seaton) and Mount Osmond Clubs.

Surviving sons and daughters are Messrs Walter (Bordertown), and Malcolm Stevenson (Fullarton), and Mesdames F. Ingham Cox (Gilberton), N. Hector (North Adelaide), Douglas Mitchell (Singapore), and Misses Winifred Priscilla and Rene Stevenson (Prospect). There are 13 grandchildren.

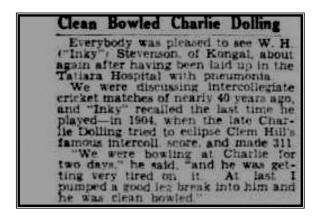
The remains of Mr. Stevenson will be buried tomorrow morning in North Road Cemetery.

Walter (Snr.) was survived by his wife, two sons and five daughters and 13 grandchildren. He left an estate in South Australia sworn not to exceed £29,795, plus assets outside SA valued at £743. Walter's mother passed away less than two years later, on the 5th of July 1932.

Walter was still playing cricket for Mundalla in 1933. His children were growing up and often holidayed with relations in Adelaide and Clare.

World War II

In September 1939, Walter's only son, John Hunter Stevenson joined RAAF. In May 1940, Walter listed 6,309 acres of perpetual leasehold land for sale. He was ill later in 1940 and spent time in the Tatiara Hospital with pneumonia. At the time, he recalled the 1904 Intercollegiate cricket match against Prince Alfred College when he got the wicket of Charlie Dolling, for 311. Dolling went on to play for South Australia and captain the Adelaide University team.



In December 1941, Walter's youngest daughter, Freda Patricia, married Norman Nightingale, the only son of Mrs. A.E. Nightingale, Edgecombe Street, Kew and the late Mr. Nightingale, at Littlejohn Memorial Chapel, Scotch College, Melbourne.

Walter enlisted as a Private on the 28th of April 1942 at Bordertown, SA (SN S75919). However, his WWII record is not yet open to the public. His daughter Helen was listed as his next-of-kin. Walter was discharged on the 27th of September 1945.

By November 1942, John Hunter Stevenson was a Sergeant in the RAAF and was listed as seriously ill in Ceylon, following an operation, however Walter received a cable from his son in December 1942 stating that he 'was making rapid recovery from the operation'. Tragically on the 17th of January 1943, John Hunter Stevenson was killed in an airplane accident in India. The death was first listed as an accident, but it was later reported that he was killed in Air Operations.



Post WWII

In October 1945, Walter's elder daughter became engaged to Leslie Edward Munro (Mick) Salter, second son of Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Salter of McLaren Vale. The couple married in June 1946.

Failing health saw Walter retire to Le Fevre Terrace in North Adelaide in 1948.

Death

Walter died on the 6th of June 1949 and is buried in the North Road Cemetery with his parents.

STEVENSON.—On June 6, at a private hospital, Walter Hunter, of Lefevre terrace, North Adelaide, and late of Bordertown, beloved husband of Dora Stevenson, and loving father of Betty (dec.), Helen (Mrs. Mick Salter), Pat (Mrs. Norman Nightingale), and John (R.A.A.F., deceased).

Inky Stevenson

WHEN I saw the notice referring to the passing of W. H. Stevenson, I recalled that he was a pleasing personality of my impressionable youth when he played intercollegiate cricket.

My surmise was substantiated by this welcome note from my old friend Norman Hiles Pearse, member of the well-known pastoral family:—

"With many others I will mourn the passing of my old friend Walter H. (Inky) Stevenson. He and his brother Mal. will long be remembered for their prowess on the cricket and football fields. A natural hard case, Inky was the live wire in the 3rd Light Horse in Mitcham Camp.

"A lovable, large-hearted man, he was popular with all sections of the community, both when he was on the land at Springbank, near Burra, and at Kongal in the SE.



A biography for Walter Hunter 'Inky' Stevenson by the North Adelaide Football Club is below.

Walter Hunter "Inky" Stevenson

Red, White and Khaki – North Adelaide footballers and the Great War #3527

3rd Light Horse Regiment
Born 06/08/1885(Fitzroy, South Australia)
Died 06/06/1949 (North Adelaide, South Australia)
2 Games 2 Goals (1906)

The older brother of Malcolm, Stevenson was named after his father who had been a Vice President of the club back in the days of Medindie. Like his brother he also attended St Peters College where he represented the school at football and cricket. He represented Saints' First XVIII in 1904, as well as a combined Saint Peters and Prince Alfred College team which took on the University side on Adelaide Oval on August 7th. The combined team lost the match 7-6 to 13-19, and Stevenson kicked two goals and was named high in the best players.

He went onto University where he played football in 1905. In 1906 North secured his playing services for the Grand Final and the Challenge Final from Glenferrie in the Amateurs. His form was excellent, but unfortunately they were to be his last two in red and white, and next season he continued to play for Glenferrie, where he was captain. The following year Stevenson was sheep farming at Kooringa (near Burra), where he played for (and captained) The Ramblers in the Burra Football Association.

He was married to Dora Helen Smith at Yackandandah on 17th November 1909.

Stevenson joined up in February 1917 and was in camp in Suez by December.

After the war he didn't follow his brother into the family business of Jewellery and watch matchmaking and continued to work the land. He ended up purchasing the Kongal station (near Bordertown) and ran it for many years.

Failing health saw him retire to Le Fevre Terrace in North Adelaide in 1948. He died there on the 6th of June 1949 and is buried in the North Road Cemetery.

ENLISTMENT DETAILS	PLAYING RECORD
Height – 5ft 5 inch Weight – 155 ½ lbs	League Career
Religion	1906
Baptist	Games
Address at time of enlistment	2 Games
Mount Lofty, South Australia,	Goals
Occupation - Farmer	2 Goals
Age at enlistment	Debut
31 years, 6 Months	Norwood 08/09/1906
Date of enlistment	(Grand Final – Adelaide Oval)
28/02/1917	Final Game
Returned to Australia	Port Adelaide 15/09/1906
03/04/1919	(Challenge Final – Adelaide Oval)
Next of Kin	Guernsey #
Wife – Dora Helen Stevenson, Mount Lofty, South	N/A
Australia,	

Profile Compiled by: Beth Filmer AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee

Sources and Acknowledgements:

The AIF Project https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/

RSL Virtual War Memorial https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/

https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people/77472 https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people/549536

The National Archives of Australia http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/
Australian War Memorial https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/

The Adelaide University http://www.adelaide.edu.au/records/archives/

https://digital.library.adelaide.edu.au/dspace/handle/2440/27205

The National Library of Australia http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/

(Trove Newspaper articles tagged – Walter Hunter Stevenson (JNR))

SA Genealogy https://www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/online-databases.html

Ancestry.com.au

North Adelaide Football Club

https://nafc.com.au/history/player?playerId=5c807604-dde8-4c28-9668-e0bfd2fd64b6

https://billiongraves.com/grave/Walter-Hunter-STEVENSON/12047792

Rob O'Shannassy AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee Researcher.