



## **Pte. Eric John Swann**



**Played with Adelaide University**



**Football Club: 1918 - 1924**

(Intervarsity Football 1920 & 1921 - B Grade Captain 1922)

**Cricket Club: 1919/20 – 1924/25 (A & B Grade)**

**Degree: MB BS (1924)**

## ***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 Eric John Swann. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.***

## The AIF Project

<https://aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=293263>



### Eric John SWANN

Regimental number	20570
Place of birth	Angaston South Australia
Religion	Methodist
Occupation	Student
Address	Angaston, South Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	18
Next of kin	Father, J E Swann, Angaston, South Australia
Previous military service	78th Infantry
Enlistment date	24 November 1917
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	Army Medical Corps, General Reinforcements
AWM Embarkation Roll number	26/99/2
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	Australian Army Medical Corps RFTS
Fate	Returned to Australia 17 March 1919

# Service Record

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=8096358>

*Preferential  
Artillery*

*DUPLICATE*

**AUSTRALIAN**

**AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.**

**Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.**

**No.** 20570

**Name** { Surname SWANN

**in full** { Christian Name ERIC JOHN

**Unit** 16th to 18th B. Reconnaissance

**Joined on** NOV 24 1917

**CERTIFIED TRUE COPY.**

*A. L. Harpals* **Lieut.**

**Camp Adjutant** *B.*

*Induced*

**Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.**

You are hereby warned that if after enlistment it is found that you have given a willfully false answer to any question set forth in this Attestation Paper, you will be liable to be tried for the offence.

1. What is your Name? ... Eric John Swann

2. In or near what Town were you born? ... Angaston

In the State or Country of South Australia

3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) ... Natural Born

4. What is your Age? (Date of birth to be stated) ... 189/12 year

Feb 9 1899

5. What is your Trade or Calling? ... Student

6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? ... no

7. Are you married, single, or widower? ... Single

8. Who is your next of kin? (Address and relationship to be stated) ... FATHER SWANN JOHN EDWARD

ANGASTON

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

"WILL" No. 29167 held by Q.L. Base Records

9. What is your permanent address in Australia? ... ANGASTON

South Australia

10. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy, or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge ... No

11. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? ... Yes

12. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? ... no

13. (For married men, widowers with children, and soldiers who are the sole support of widowed mother)—  
Do you understand that no separation allowance will be issued in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with pay would reach ten shillings per day? ... Yes

14. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against small pox and enteric fever? ... Yes

3. Eric John Swann do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife†

NOV 24 1917

E. Swann

Signature of Person Enlisted.

\* This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 16 years of age.  
† Two-fifths must be allotted to the wife, and if there are children three-fifths must be allotted.

D.849/4.17.—C.2314.—20M.

## Biography

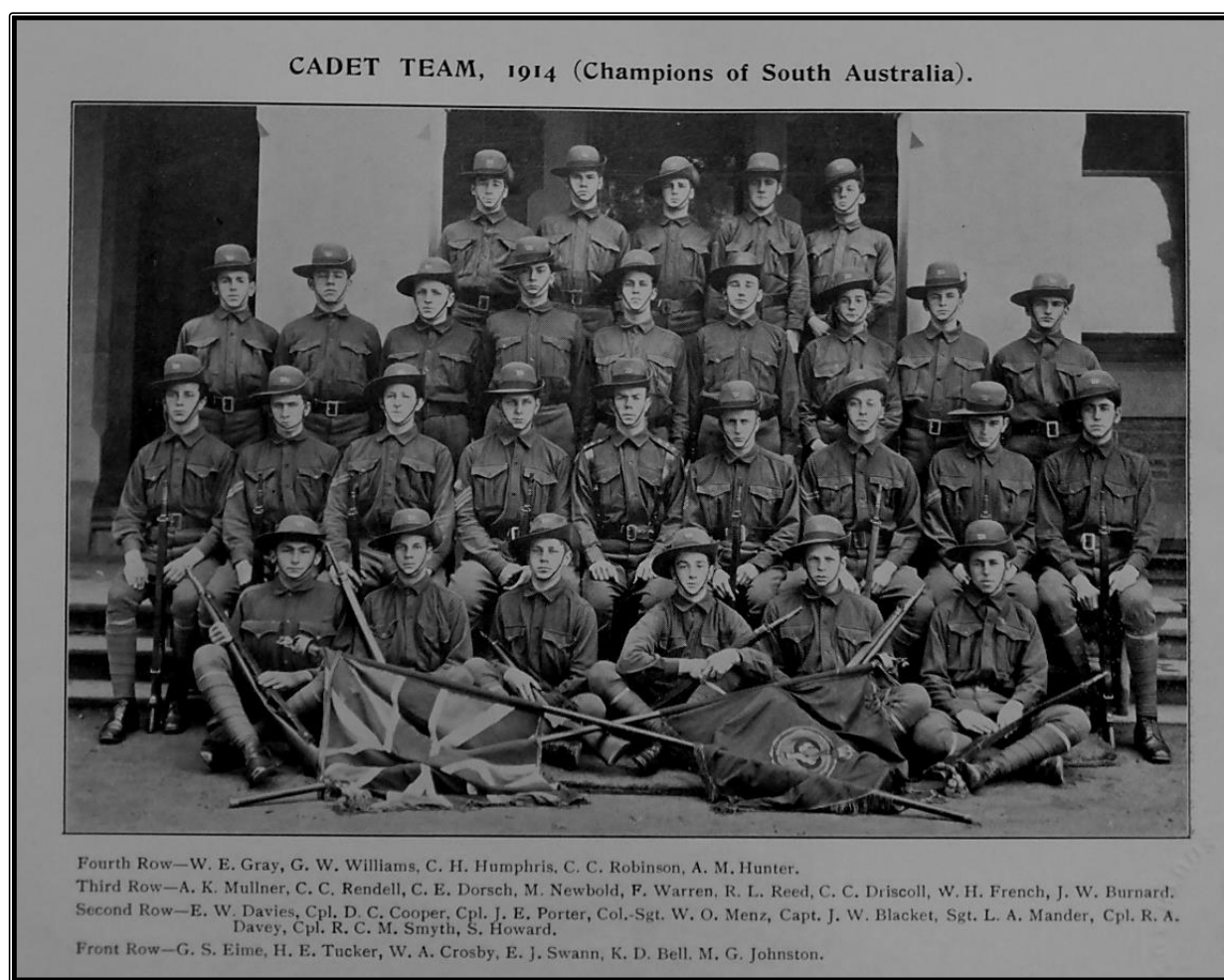
### Early Life

Eric John Swann was born on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 1899, the only son of John Edward Swann and Mary Jane Holmes of Angaston, SA. Eric was the youngest of four children, his siblings were, Nora May (b1888), Edith Emily (b1893) and Doris (b1896). Eric's father owned a store in Angaston.

### Schooling

Eric's early schooling was undertaken at the local school at Angaston. In 1913, Eric commenced at Prince Alfred College, Adelaide where he studied until 1916. Eric passed his Primary Examinations in 1913, Junior Examinations in 1914, Senior Examinations in 1915 and Higher Public Examinations in 1916.

While at PAC, Eric was a member of the Cadets and was part of the PAC Cadet team who were champions of South Australia in 1914 and represented South Australia in the Commonwealth competition in June 1914. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1917, he was promoted to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Senior Cadets.



***E.J Swann – Front Row – Third from Right***

Eric represented PAC at Intercollegiate matches against St Peter's College in tennis, cricket and football in 1915 and 1916. He captained the Inter-Collegiate tennis side in the 1916. In the 1916 Inter-Collegiate cricket match against St Peter's College, he scored 62 runs in the second innings from the 204 runs required to win.

Eric played cricket for PAC in the SACA B Grade competition in the 1914/15 and 1915/16 seasons.

He was on the committee which organised the 1916 Inter-Collegiate Sports and was a Prefect at PAC that year.

September 1915 – Tennis – PAC v St Peter's

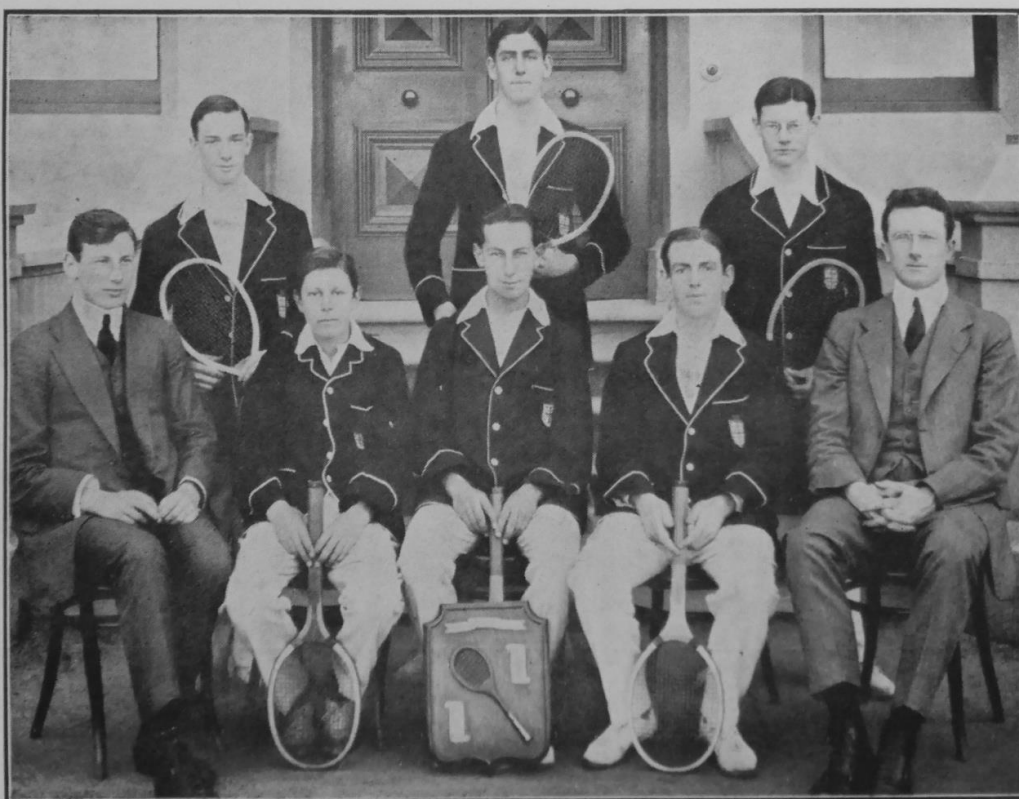


*E.J Swann*

INTERCOLLEGIATE TENNIS, 1915.

Won by P.A.C.

P.A.C.—9 Rubbers, 18 Sets, 159 Games. S.P.S.C.—6 Rubbers, 15 Sets, 141 Games.



E. J. Swann	S. Howard	L. S. Plush
F. R. Hone	G. M. Hone	A. K. Mulner
	E. T. Rowe (Captain)	J. F. Ward, Esq.

*E.J Swann – Back Row - Left*



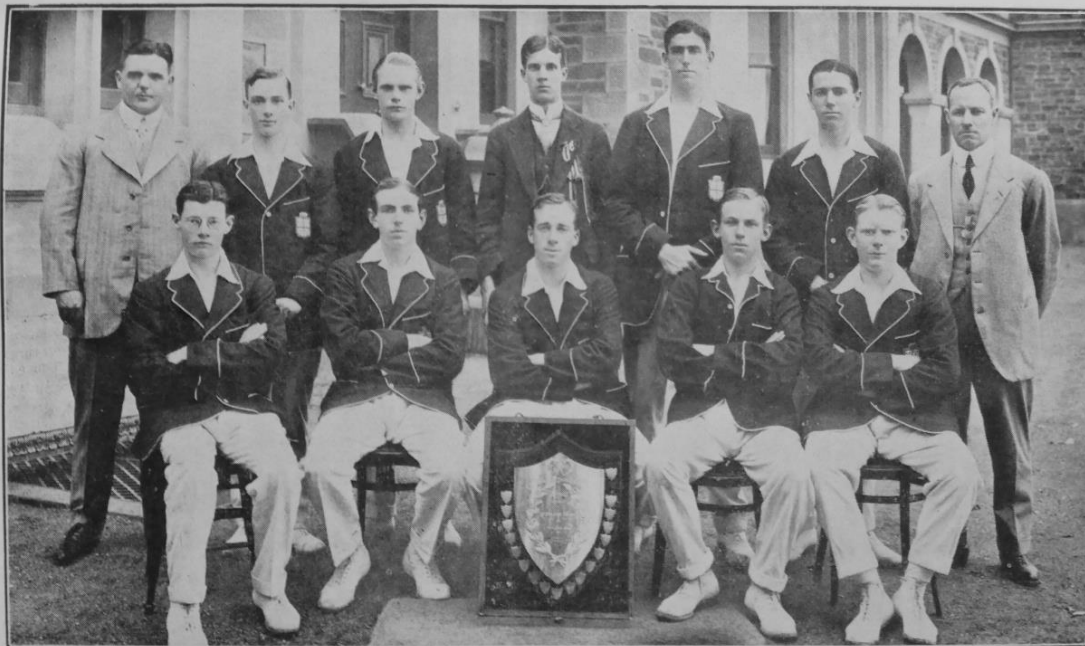
## Inter-Collegiate Football, 1915.



BACK ROW—H. W. McGregor, E. J. Harbison, C. B. Carlin, E. B. Willsmore, H. M. Cleland, E. J. Swann.  
 MIDDLE ROW—Mr. F. I. Grey (Sports Master), H. Torr, F. R. Hone, S. Howard, J. E. Porter, A. K. Mullner, Mr. R. Dreyer.  
 FRONT ROW—H. G. Prest, C. C. Robinson, W. E. Gray (Vice-Captain), A. H. White (Captain), K. H. Taylor, M. May, T. W. Tassie.  
 KNEELING—F. R. Wilson, L. Clarkson.

***E.J. Swann – Back Row – Right***

## INTERCOLLEGIATE CRICKET, 1915.



C. R. Davies, Esq.	E. J. Swann	A. H. White	H. E. Tucker (Scorer.)	S. Howard	J. A. Vawser	F. I. Grey, Esq. (Sports Master)
L. S. Plush	A. K. Mullner (Vice Capt.)	W. E. Gray (Capt.)	L. S. Clarkson	H. G. Prest	F. R. Hone (absent)	

***E.J. Swann – Back Row – Second from Left***

PREFECTS, 1916.

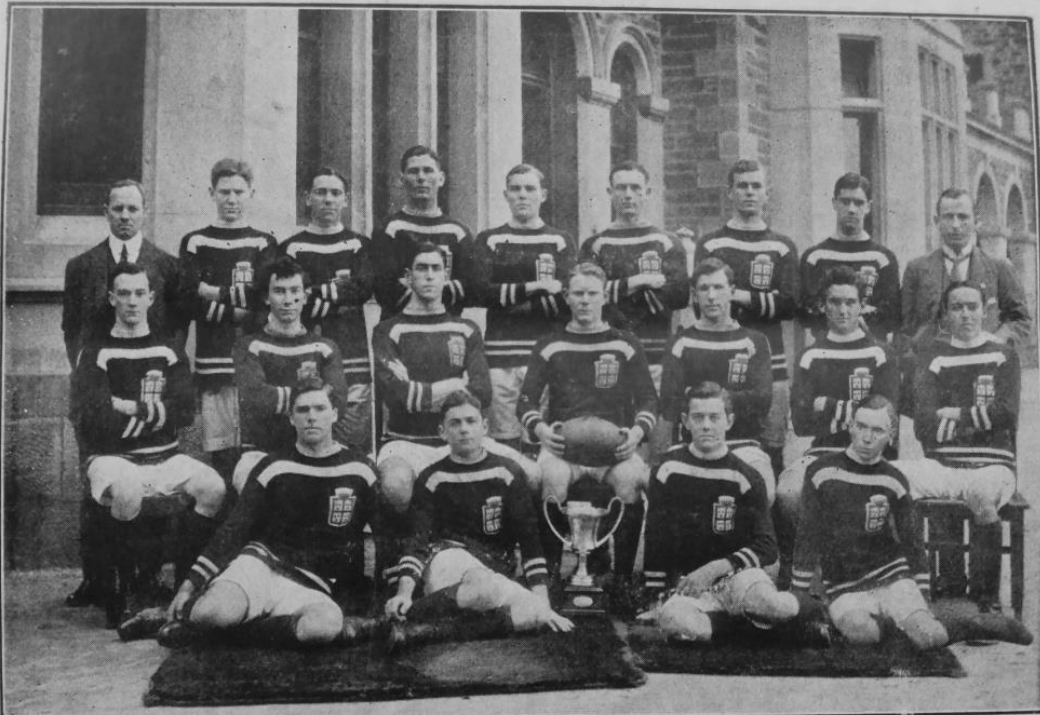


W. A. Crosby      H. G. Prest      R. A. Piper      E. J. Swann  
T. E. Cooper      S. Howard      W. R. Bayly, Esq.      A. F. Hobbs      M. Newbold  
(Head Prefect)      (Head Master)

***E.J. Swann – Back Row – Right***

**1916 Inter-Collegiate Football**

INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOTBALL TEAM, 1916.

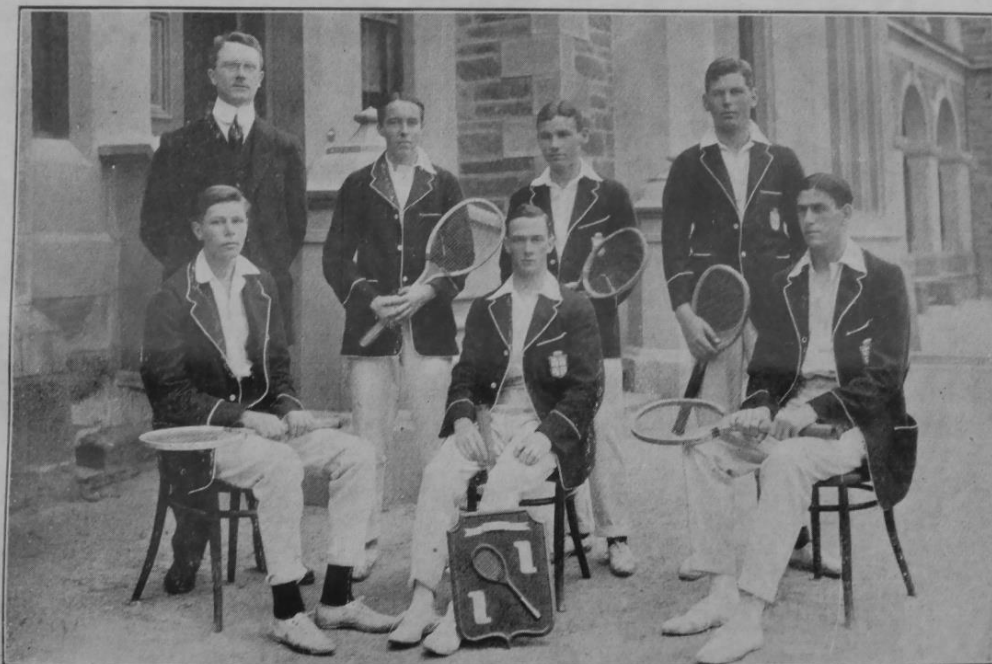


Back Row—F. I. Grey, Esq. (Sports Master), C. P. Prest, J. A. Vawser, R. B. Hone, H. R. Muirden, C. A. Tudor, R. N. Jones,  
D. S. Smith, G. R. Dreyer, Esq. (Coach).  
Middle Row—E. J. Swann, F. R. Wilson, S. Howard (Vice-Captain), H. G. Prest (Captain), T. W. Tassie, E. J. Harbison,  
R. M. Fowler.  
Front Row—A. F. Hobbs, H. R. Finch, R. O. Fox, F. E. Leaver.

***E.J. Swann – Centre Row – Left***



# INTERCOLLEGIATE TENNIS TEAM, 1916.



J. F. Ward, Esq.  
G. M. Hone

R. M. Fowler

R. J. Eaton

E. J. Swann (Captain)

R. B. Hone

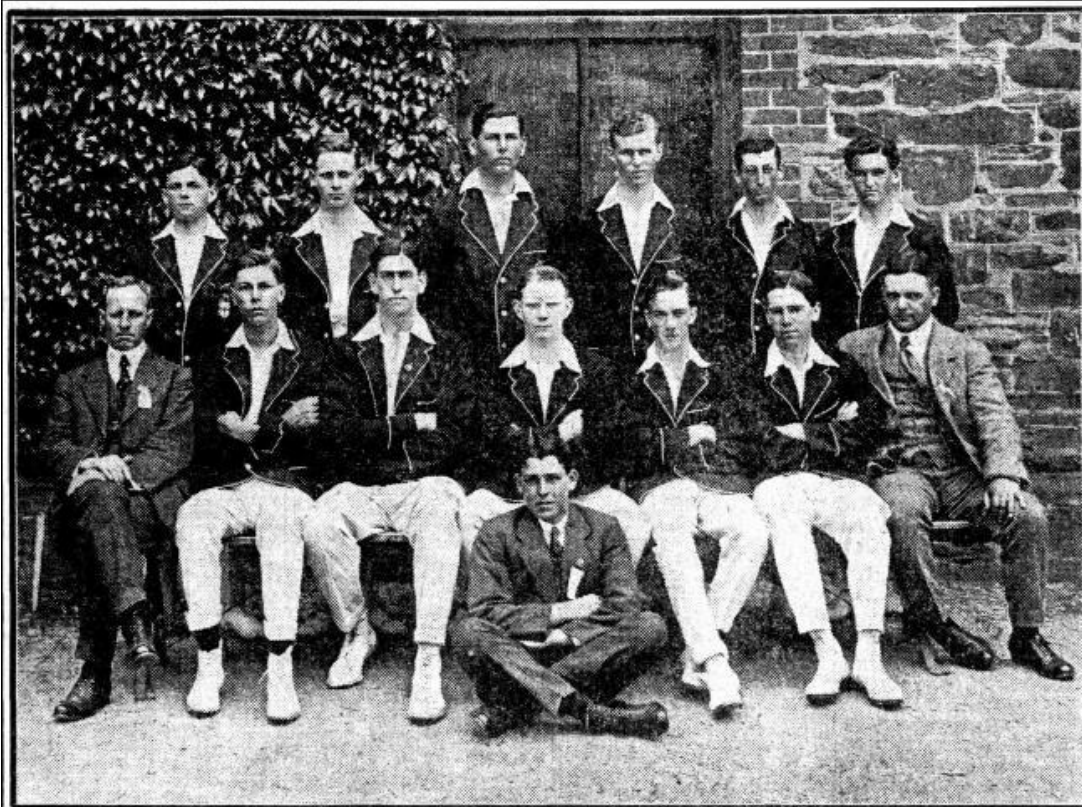
S. Howard

## 1916 – Inter-Collegiate Cricket

### INTER-COLLEGIATE CRICKET.

#### THE VICTORIOUS PRINCE ALFREDS.

Top Row (left to right)—H. R. Finch, W. A. Crosby, R. B. Hone, R. N. Jones, L. Pflaum, E. J. K. Harbison.  
Sitting—Mr. F. I. Gray (Sports Master), G. M. Hone, S. Howard (Vice-Captain), H. G. Prest (Captain), E. J. Swann, J. A. Vawser, Mr. C. B. Davies (Coach).  
Front—A. R. Shepley (Scorer).



**Back Row: H.R. Finch, WA Cosby, R.B. Hone, R.N. Jones, L.H. Pflaum, E.J Harbison**

**Seated Row: Mr F.I. Grey, G.M. Hone, S Howard, H.G. Prest, E.J. Swann, J. A. Vawser, Mr C.R. Davies**

**Front: A.R. Shepley**

## Adelaide University and Sport

Eric commenced studying toward a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1917. He was still in Adelaide on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 1918 and represented the Adelaide University in the patriotic football match at Adelaide Oval against a combined College's side.

## World War I

Eric enlisted on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November 1917 when he was 18  $\frac{3}{4}$  years-old (SN 20570), he required his parent's permission to enlist and his father, John Edward Swann, was listed as his next-of-kin. Eric was 5' 5", 126 lbs, with a medium complexion, hazel eyes and brown hair. He was a Private in the nursing staff of the Australian Army Medical Corps.

CONSENT OF PARENTS OR GUARDIANS. (For Persons under 21 years of age.)	
I HEREBY CERTIFY that I approve of the above application, and consent to the enlistment of my <sup>son</sup> <del>son</del> for Active Service Abroad.	
Statement regarding Death or Absence of either or both Parents.	Father's Signature <i>J. E. Swann</i>
	Mother's Signature <i>Mary J. Swann</i>
	or
	Guardian's Signature

Eric embarked onboard the *HMAT S.S. Gaika* on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August 1918 and disembarked at London on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 1918. Unfortunately, Eric contracted influenza and was sent to the Fovant Military Hospital on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 1918. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 1918, Eric commenced duty at the Australian Army Hospital at Sorthall, only to contract pleurisy on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January 1919. He again returned to duty on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January 1919. Eric returned to Australia onboard the *HMAT Plassy* on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March 1919 and disembarked on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 1919. He was discharged on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 1919.

### Troopship *HMAT Plassy*



### Another Angaston Soldier Welcomed.

On Monday evening last a welcome home was tendered at the Angaston railway station to Pte. Eric Swann, who enlisted with the Army Medical Corps about eighteen month ago. Eric is the only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Swann, of this town. The Band was in attendance, and, as the train arrived, rendered Home Sweet Home. Mr. F. Salter extended the Cheer Up's greetings, and Cr. Sibley, in giving welcome on behalf of the District Council, paid a great tribute to Mr. Swann and family. Chairman J. P. Heggie (Angaston District Council) also spoke of the hero and the family. He's a Jolly Good Fellow was sung, and cheers given. Pte. Swann very appropriately responded. There's no place like Aussie he said; and in Aussie there was no place like Angaston. The gathering was an exceedingly large one.

## Post-War – Adelaide University

Eric recommenced studying toward his BSc on his return from the war, but in 1920 he transferred to study medicine. Eric gained his MB BS in December 1924. While still at University, Eric was best man at the wedding of his sister, Doris, to Len Plush of Light's Pass. Len had been at Prince Alfred College at the same time as Eric.

## University Sport

### Football

Eric played the bulk of the 1919 football season for Angaston Football Club; however, he appears to have played some games for University late in the 1919 season.

Eric Swann, owing to circumstances, has been compelled to play for the University. While we are sorry to lose Eric, we congratulate him on being selected to play for such a good team.

Eric represented Adelaide University in the A Grade (Amateur League) in 1920 and 1921 and played Intersarsity football in those years. Eric was named in the goal scorers in the premiership winning match in 1920. In 1922 Eric captained the B Grade to a premiership and in 1923 he played for both the A Grade and B Grade. He captained the B Grade to the premiership again in 1924.

## 1919 Intersarsity

### INTER-VARSITY FOOTBALL.

#### ADELAIDE DEFEATED.

The annual football match between the Adelaide and Melbourne Universities resulted in a win for the visitors by 13 goals 17 behinds to 10 goals 13 behinds in the presence of a large number of spectators at the University oval, north park lands, on Wednesday afternoon. The players were:—Melbourne—Richards, Abernethy, Cook, Benson, Jaffray, Hall, Morrison, Heatley (captain), Mitchell, Cash, Taylor, Lear (vice-captain), Lennon, Nilsson, Broadbent, Tulloh, Byrne, and Rush. Adelaide—A. H. White (captain), D. R. Sumner (vice-captain), T. W. Tassie, H. G. Best, G. M. Hone, T. Finney, E. H. Johncock, W. Symonds, G. H. Jeffrey, E. J. Harbison, I. C. Barton, F. B. Leditachke, A. B. Jones, R. O. Fox, E. J. Swain, F. H. Fischer, C. E. Wilking, and A. F. Hobbs. Mr. W. E. Blumberg was the central umpire. The victorious Melbourne under-grads played a much more scientific game, but the local students exhibited better stamina, and came with a splendid rattle at the finish. Prest undoubtedly played the best game on the ground. Immediately after the bounce the visitors forced the ball to their arena, and favoured by a strong north wind, they started scoring quickly. Their superior marking and deft handling outclassed the home team, and Rush, Cook, and Lear sent the sphere through the uprights in quick succession, and the results at quarter-time were:—

Melbourne, 5 goals 6 behinds; Adelaide, 2 behinds. Adelaide started off with a dash, and gained supremacy for some time. Play was most "willing," and Symonds, Prest, and Swann gave a sterling exhibition for the local representatives. Willing (back) made remarkably long kicks out of goal. The tally at half-time was:—Melbourne, 5.11; Adelaide, 2.8. Afternoon tea over, Melbourne forced the ball to their citadel, where Lennon scored nicely off a difficult angle shot, and Cook followed up with an easy one in front of goal. However, Adelaide asserted themselves, and Fox notched two goals in quick succession. Mitchell retaliated with another for Melbourne, and at "lemons" the board read:—Melbourne, 10.17; Adelaide, 5.10. When the final quarter started Adelaide showed their staying powers, and the ubiquitous Prest gave his team three fine goals, much to the delight of the home barrackers. Swann and White took a hand in the fine rally on the part of Adelaide, and each contributed much-needed majors for their side. Final:—Melbourne, 13.17; Adelaide, 10.13. Goalkickers:—Melbourne—Mitchell and Lear (3 each), Lennon (2), and Cook, Morrison, Heatley, Cash, and Rush (one each); Adelaide—Prest (3), Fox and Swan (2 each), White, Sumner, and Symonds (1 each). Best Players:—Melbourne—Cook, Abernethy, Jaffray, Morrison, Mitchell, Heatley, Lear, Lennon, and Tulloh; Adelaide—White, Tassie, Prest, Finney, Symonds, Fox, Swann, and Wilking.



## 1920 Premiership

**AMATEUR LEAGUE.**  
 Premiership Match—University, 10.18; Henley and Grange, 2.11. Best players:—Winners—Prest, Finney, Simmons, Hone, White, Jeffrey, and Leditschke. Losers—W. Man, O'Grady (2), Johns, Oswald, Taylor, Monton, and Johnson. Goalkeepers:—University—Fox (3), Finney (2), Summer, Prest, Ashton, Hone, and Swann. Henley and Grange—Taylor (2).

## 1920 INTER-VARSITY TEAM



BACK ROW: A.F. Hobbs, F.B. Leditschke, T. Finney, G.M. Hone, A.B. Jones, I.C. Barton, F.H. Fischer.  
 MIDDLE ROW: E.H. Johncock, W. Symonds, D.J.R. Sumner (Vice-Captain), A.H. White (Captain), T.W. Tassie, G.H. Jeffrey, R.O. Fox.  
 FRONT ROW: E.J.K. Harbison, E.J. Swann, H.G. Prest, C.E. Willing, J. Ashton.

*E.J. Swann – Front Row – Second from Left*

## 1921 A TEAM



Back Row: J. Ashton, D.K. McKenzie, W. Hutton (Coach), C.K. Haskard, O.L. Ziegler, F.H. Fischer  
 Middle Row: W.M.C. Symonds, I.C. Barton, T.W. Tassie (Vice Captain), H.G. Prest (Captain), R.O. Fox, G.M. Hone, A.L. Davy  
 Front Row: T.A. Farnut, C.E. Willing, A.S. de Cock, D.J.R. Sumner, E.J. Swann

*E.J. Swann – Front Row – Right*





### **1922 AUFC 'B' TEAM PREMIERS ASFA**

BACK ROW: J.F. Koerner, P. Shanahan, C.W. Crompton, F.B. Leditschke, F.L. Collison, D.K. McKenzie, G. White.

MIDDLE ROW: N.A. Plunkett, F. Finlay, T.A. Farrent, E.J. Swann, C.T. Piper, R.T. Kleemann, C.E. Roberts.

FRONT ROW: S. Krantz, K.B. Gross, R. Walsh, K.D. Gray.

ABSENT: L.N. Allen, B. Roberts, P.A. Read.

*E.J. Swann – Middle Row – Fourth from Left*



### **1924 AUFC 'B' PREMIERS ASFA**

BACK ROW: C.M. Adamson, N.E. George, D.F. McKenzie, A.G. Alexander, L.D. Hodley, H.P. Matthews, W.D. Walker, L.N. Allen.

MIDDLE ROW: E.C. Playford, B.S. Hanson, C.W. Crompton (Vice-Captain), E.J. Swann (Captain), F.W. Wagner, T.A. Farrant, F.L. Collison.

FRONT ROW: R.C. Walsh, S. Krantz, R.R. Van Senden.

*E.J. Swann – Middle Row – Fourth from Left*



## Adelaide University Cricket Club

Eric represented the Adelaide University during the 1919/20 -1924/25 seasons playing both A Grade and B Grade for the club. He captained the B Grade team in the 1923/24 season.

### 1921/22 A Grade Statistics

UNIVERSITY.					
—Baiting.—					
	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Agg.	Avg.
Pellaw, L. V. . . . .	14	1	111	505	35.84
Prest . . . . .	4	1	55*	113	37.06
Jose . . . . .	11	—	90	354	34.90
Gun . . . . .	13	3	119*	328	32.0
Finney . . . . .	10	—	91	325	32.5
Symonds . . . . .	8	2	59*	160	27.06
Bednall, B. H. . . .	6	—	51	165	27.5
Willing . . . . .	6	1	45	62	20.6
Bednall, M. W. . . .	6	—	48	104	17.33
Barker . . . . .	11	—	52	174	14.5
Pridmore, R. V. . . .	9	2	50	58	14.5
Fisher . . . . .	7	—	26	92	13.14
Smith . . . . .	7	2	25*	61	12.2
Harbison . . . . .	4	1	18*	32	10.66
Astley . . . . .	13	4	31	87	9.66
Swann . . . . .	5	—	17	42	8.4
Also batted:—Colman, 11, 80, 14; Ohlstr m, 14*; 18; L. S. Walsh, 81*; Ziegler, 15; Culross, 11*; C. G. Evans, 0.					
—Bowling.—					
	O.	M.	R.	W.	Av.
Symonds . . . . .	36	3	154	7	22
Harbison . . . . .	31	2	60	4	22.50
Fisher . . . . .	54.4	6	203	8	25.37
Astley . . . . .	106.4	8	532	18	30.66
Pridmore . . . . .	49.6	5	279	7	39.85
Gun . . . . .	75.6	2	370	8	46.25
Also bowled:—B. H. Bednall, 3 for 154; L. V. Pellaw, 2 for 209; Colman, 1 for 14; Swann, 1 for 57; Finney, 1 for 120; Prest, 0 for 10; Ziegler, 0 for 21; N. A. Walsh, 0 for 29; Barker, 0 for 38; Willing, 0 for 36; Jose, 0 for 103.					

In the 1921/22 Season bowling for University in A-Grade against the powerful Sturt team that included Vic Richardson and former University and State player Hurtle Willsmore, Eric was hit for three sixes at University Oval with one nearly going into the Torrens River. Willsmore had hit seven sixes in a row after having hit the last four ball of Astley's previous over.

Critic (Adelaide, SA : 1897-1924) Wed 29 Mar 1922

### CRICKET

By "Sport."

Though the season is drawing to a close, and little hangs on to the result of the final match, the batsmen, with but a couple of exceptions, were not prepared to open out and play anything of an interesting game.

On all ovals, with the exception of the Sturt v. University match, play was dull and uninteresting. In this game, however, the spectators were treated to a glorious display of hurricane hitting, and scoring was at a wonderful rate.

Hurtle Willsmore, in his partnership with V. Y. Richardson, played a very rare innings, and was responsible for a wonderful display of hitting. In scoring 187 he hit 8 shots over the boundary and 17 fours. In 10 consecutive balls he added no less than 54 runs, and in another over he scored 34.

After passing his 100 he opened out properly. Off Astley he piled on the 34 above mentioned (four sixes), and in the next over off Swann he lifted three out of the ground (one nearly into the river). His powerful driving and his total, while being the highest individual score of the season, was reminiscent of some of the big knocks of old times.

Eric also frequently played cricket for the Angaston Cricket Club when not required for University teams.

## Athletics

No evidence has been found that Eric competed in the Adelaide University Sports, but he acted as a track steward at the Sports in 1923 & 1924.

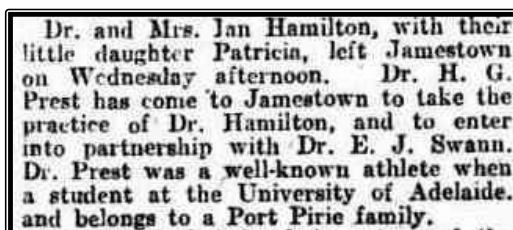
## Career and Family Life

Eric was appointed a medical officer at the Adelaide Hospital shortly after his graduation in December 1924. By August 1925, Eric was in practice at Jamestown, SA with Dr Dunstone. He married Nellie Gertrude Sandland, the daughter of the late John Chester Sandland and Mrs Caroline Sandland of Kooringa, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 1925 at St Mary's Church Burra.



Eric was appointed the medical officer at Jamestown in February 1926. When Dr Dunstone left Jamestown, Eric was joined by Dr Ian Hamilton. Eric and Nellie had two daughters, Nelleen Judith Swann (Judith), born on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1926 at Blairgowrie, Jamestown and Mary Caroline Swann, born on the 4<sup>th</sup> of January 1928 at the Jamestown Hospital.

In June 1928 Dr Ian Hamilton left Jamestown and Eric's new partner was Dr H.G. "Gordon" Prest a former Adelaide PAC and University sporting teammate.



### August 1925 – Jamestown Golf Course



PRG 1638/6/24

***Dolly McKnight with Dr. and Mrs. Swann on a golf course in Jamestown***

Eric played golf at Jamestown and he was medical officer for Jamestown Racing Club. In a professional capacity, he was also the medical officer to the destitute poor of the district.

In January 1931, the family had a holiday at the seaside. Later that year, Dr Prest returned to Adelaide and Eric was joined in his practice by another former Adelaide University teammate, Dr E.J. Harbison. The doctors played doubles together in the State Hard Court Championships which were played at Jamestown in 1931. Eric became a Vice-Patron of the Jamestown Swimming Club.

By 1933 Eric was playing Lawn Bowls for the Jamestown Bowling Club.

In January 1935, Eric's father died, he was 72 years of age and had lived in Angaston for over 50 years.

March 1935



In May 1937, the Swann family had a holiday in Adelaide, staying at the Oriental Hotel and in July that year, Eric won the Digger's Cup at the northern areas golf championship at Jamestown.

At the laying of the foundation stone for the extension to the Jamestown Hospital in June 1938, Eric commented on the improvements in local health care in the area.

**Address by Medical Officer.**

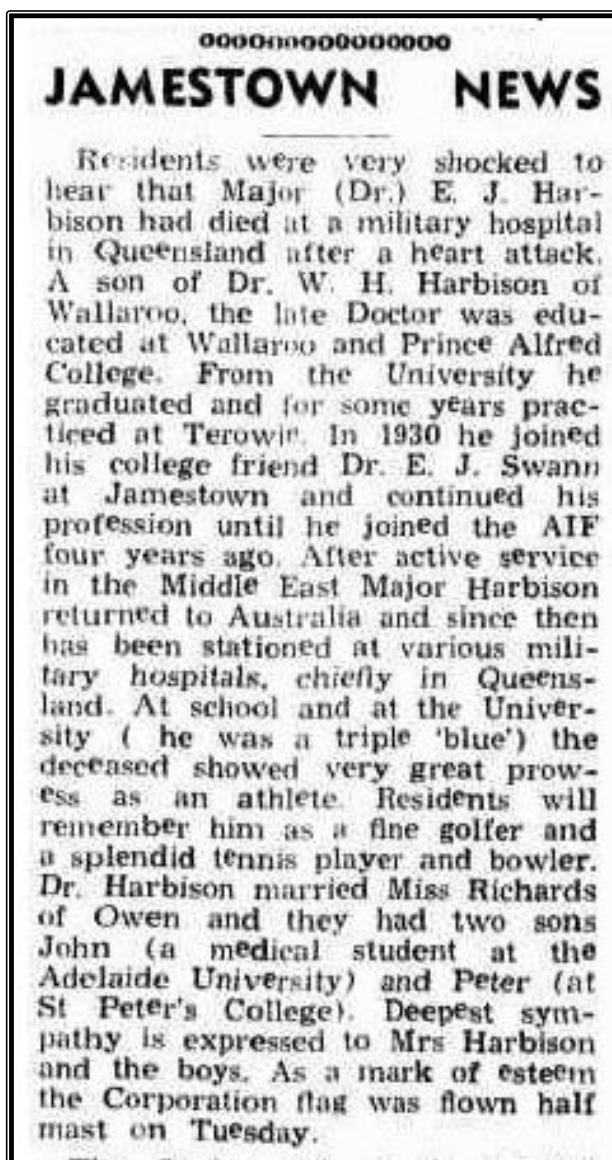
Dr. E. J. Swann in a short address said that during the past thirteen years, since he had been at Jamestown, there had been a great improvement in the buildings and facilities at the Hospital for which he congratulated the Board. Such progress meant better service and more comfort for the patients. The new extension now in progress would be a valuable addition to the hospital and lead to increase comfort for patients, visitors and staff.

By 1938 Eric was patron of the Jamestown Cricket Club and president of the Jamestown Golf Club. Eric was involved in putting a case to the government for Jamestown to receive a supply of water from the River Murray, should the Morgan-Whyalla pipeline "become an accomplished fact" as the hospital at Jamestown found it hard to keep up its water supply and the sanitary system of the town was most unsatisfactory.

The Swann family couple lived at 2 Clifton Street, Jamestown from at least 1939.

In January 1940, the family holidayed at Victor Harbor. Eric remained as medical officer at Jamestown during WWII but his partner, E.J. (Ernest) Harbison enlisted. Ernest served in the Middle East and was promoted to Major by November 1943.

The family spent the January 1945 holidays visiting Port Lincoln, Whyalla and Port Augusta and then in March 1945 came the tragic news that Eric's medical partner, Major Ernest Harbison, had died while at a military hospital in Queensland.



Eric was a member of the RSL, and he led an appeal to acquire a piano for the RSL Hall at Jamestown in 1945 and he recited the "Digger's Creed" at the victory celebrations held at Jamestown to celebrate the end of WWII.

After almost 21 years, Eric sold his practice at Jamestown and moved to practice at Glenelg in April 1946.

# CIVIC FAREWELL TO DR. AND MRS. E. J. SWANN

## A Large and Enthusiastic Attendance.

There was a large attendance at the Jamestown Institute on Monday, April 29, when the residents of the town and district tendered a Civic Farewell to Dr. E. J. and Mrs. Swann, who after a residence of 21 years were leaving to take up residence at Glenelg. The Mayor, Mr. E. T. Daly, was in the chair, and was supported by the Chairman of the Jamestown District Council, Mr. M. J. Cronin; others on the stage were: Mrs. A. J. Symonds (Red Cross), A. J. Both (R.S.L.), H. K. Moore (Jamestown Hospital), R. M. T. Cox (Golf), and P. J. McCarthy (Racing Club). After the singing of the National Anthem, the Mayor expressed his pleasure at seeing such a capital attendance of the residents of the town and district to say farewell to Dr. and Mrs. Swann, who had proved such splendid citizens for over 20 years. Among the apologies for absence read by the Mayor was one from Mr. S. Trango of Spalding, conveying the very best wishes for a successful and happy future to Dr. Swann, his wife and family from the residents of Spalding and district.

His Worship said that during his 8 strenuous years of office in the Mayoral chair he had greatly appreciated the moral support he had received from Dr. Swann and Mrs. Swann in carrying out his duties as Mayor, and that very willing support had made his job a lot easier. Both Dr. and Mrs. Swann were strong Jamestownites. They agreed with him that Jamestown was the best town in the State.

Mr. M. J. Cronin (Chairman of Jamestown District Council) in speaking for the district stressed the splendid work done by Dr. Swann as Medical Officer for the Council and the value of the advice given had proved most helpful. He wished Dr. and Mrs. Swann and family a long happy life with the best of health. He also on behalf of the district extended to Dr. Magarey a very hearty welcome and felt sure that he would continue the very pleasant relations that had been enjoyed with Dr. Swann.

Mr. H. K. Moore spoke for the Hospital Board to which Dr. Swann had given such untiring and valuable service, and joined in the good wishes expressed by the Mayor.

Other speakers were: Mr. A. J. Both (R.S.A.), Mr. P. J. McCarthy

(Racing Club), Mr. R. M. T. Cox (Golf Club), Mrs. A. J. Symonds (Red Cross Aid and other Women's Organisations in the Town and District), in which Mrs. Swann had rendered such valuable help.

The Mayor made a presentation to Dr. and Mrs. Swann of an electric shaded lamp as a token of the high esteem in which they were held in Jamestown and District.

Dr. Swann, in his reply, said he felt very touched at the farewell arranged for himself and his wife. He thanked all for the very nice things said about Mrs. Swann, the family and himself; his 21 years here had been happy ones. He thanked all for making their stay in Jamestown so successful and happy. He thanked especially the Mayor, the Hospital Board and Staff, especially Matron Law, who had been a very great help to him, Miss N. McNamara, who had done for him more than he could repay. He wished the Jamestown District all the very best of prosperity in the coming years.

Mrs. Swann also spoke in response and thanked all for their kindness, her years in Jamestown had been happy ones, and with her husband she would be paying visits to her friends in Jamestown.

The singing of "Auld Lang Syne" concluded the function.

During the evening musical items were rendered by:—Mrs. J. C. Skurray (piano selections), Miss Lawrie and Mrs. Skurray (duet); Violin Solo, Mrs. D. Rowe, encored; song, Mr. D. Cram (Yongala).

## FAREWELL TO DR. AND MRS. SWANN AT CALTOWIE.

On Tuesday afternoon a large crowd of friends gathered in front of the Institute to bid farewell to Dr. and Mrs. Swann as they were passing through on their way to Adelaide. The children were present from the Convent School also Public School. Mr. Allan Both introduced the guests. Mr. Merv. Holland and Mr. McCallum also spoke. Little Aileen Royal spoke on behalf of the school children. Mr. Holland presented Dr. and Mrs. Swann with a silver tray from the residents of the district of Caltowie. Dr. Swann suitably responded. After singing "For they are jolly good fellows," the children marched past Dr. and Mrs. Swann to bid them goodbye.



In April 1951, Eric and Nellie left onboard the *Strathmore* for a trip to the UK and they were away until mid-October 1951.



*Left: Dr. and Mrs. E. J. Swann, of Glenelg, were farewelled at Outer Harbor when they left for a trip to the UK in the Strathmore.*

## **GLAMOR GOWNS**

Billowing glamor gowns in tulle and net at Cannes . . . duster coats in taffeta and moire at Royal Ascot . . . Oxford with Sir Howard and Lady Florey . . . Capri in a jalopy . . . are some of the highlights of Mrs. Eric Swann's six months abroad. She and Dr. Swann returned home to Glenelg at the week-end.

Although she travelled extensively into Austria and through Italy, the only disturbance noted by Mrs Swann was a waiters' strike at the Taj Mahal in Bombay. She found San Michele "out of this world," was equally enchanted with Interlaken in Switzerland.

struck Venice after it had been washed clean by rains, enjoyed the Fun Fair at Battersea Park, visited Scotland and Ireland and had a few hours at Ceuta, Spanish Morocco, on the homeward voyage. Passengers were told the *Strathmore* was the first big ship to call there in 12 years. "The natives made quite a gala occasion of our visit," said Mrs. Swann.

In July 1953, Eric moved his practice from 118 Jetty Road, Glenelg to 219 North Terrace, Adelaide and in January 1954 Eric and Nellie moved from Glenelg to their new home at 58 Tusmore Avenue, Tusmore.

Eric and Nellie travelled to Sydney by sea in December 1954 to visit Ian, Mary and Simon. They stayed at Watson's Bay Hotel and returned to Adelaide by train in early January.

Sadly, for Eric, his wife, Nellie Gertrude Swann passed away in 1961.

Eric lived for almost 30 years after Nellie's death, however no further details regarding the final years of Eric's life are currently known as most South Australian newspapers have only been digitised to 31 December 1954 (at the time of compiling the profile in November 2017).

### **Death**

Eric John Swann passed away on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July 1990, aged 91 and was interred at Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide. His last abode had been at Belair.



### **Family Legacy**

In January 1946, Eric and Nellie's elder daughter, Nelleen "Judith" Swann became engaged to Dr Alexander Roy Magarey (Roy), the second son of Dr and Mrs Rupert Magarey, of Gilberton.

Judith and Roy married at St Peter's College Chapel in February 1947 with Judith's sister, Mary acting as bride's maid.

Roy and Judith were in England in 1952, so Roy could undertake post graduate studies at Sheffield. Roy gained his diploma in obstetrics from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. They returned to their home at Colonel Light Gardens by Christmas 1952.

Mary attended Adelaide University and was studying medicine when she turned 21 in January 1949. Mary graduated with a Bachelor of Science in 1951 and worked at the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science in Adelaide.

In June 1952, Mary Swann married Dr Ian Carter at the St Peter's College Chapel. Their son, Simon Carter was born on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July 1953 at Calvary Hospital. Dr Ian Carter moved to practice in Sydney. Ian returned to Adelaide for the christening of Simon at St Peter's Church, Glenelg. Mary and Simon joined him at Mons Road, Vaucluse, Sydney once their home was completed.

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