

# Ritchie, Harry



Harry Ritchie MM : Civilian , Post WW1 / William ( Father ), Harry & or 1 of 3 Daughters Shirley ( Weeks nee ) Ritchie Timeline/s :-

Posted by: Jeff M. Weeks, 06/10/2017

1916 Feb17 At time of his AIF Attestation : Occupation : Trolley Driver for Murphy Fromen & Co Ltd, Blende & Beryl Streets, Broken Hill, NSW ; Distributors of Poultry, Fruits & Iced, Products ; Residence: C/o Mother Sarah Ann Starr nee White ex Campbelltown, South Australia : 151 Oxide Street, Broken Hill, New South Wales ( later 163 Oxide Street, Broken Hill, New South Wales ; whilst giving Red Cross evidence of JE Curtis wounded & or Missing 1918 Sep 14 at the Cheltenham Racecourse Hospital : 3rd wounding left Shoulder "gsw" ; possibly failed frontal attack Scutari Trench, after successful Kassa & Usler Trenches attacks, Mont St Quentin 1918 Aug31 ) ; Everything our Grandfathers ( & Mothers ) & Great Grandfathers ( & Mothers ) Generation experienced is incomprehensible from :- the depressed commodity prices beginning in 1884 to Droughts interspersed 1885, 1896-7 & 1902 during 1893 Financial Panic & drawn out World Depression to 1910, WW1 to the 1928 - 1939 Great Depression ( poor Buggers ! ) & for some, to WW2 as well ! ( 2nd eldest of the 4 WW1 WEEKS Brothers ) ; 1911 Jun29 Protestant Hall Amusements : Future Wife, Freda Hocking, Dance Character : Victorian Lady 1918 Jul19 151 Oxide St, Broken Hill : 1917 Oct4 MM award notification to Mother : Mrs SA Ritchie ( Sarah Ann Starr nee White ) 1918 Sep14 163 Oxide St, Broken Hill, Home Address : Harry Ritchie MM Red Cross identification of MIA 1918 Jun1 3034 JE Curtis 1920 May5 Marriage 4th Son, Harry Ritchie to 2nd Daughter Freda Hocking, Broken Hill, New South Wales 1923 Nov3 Death Mother : Sarah Ann Starr nee White 1924 Jan8 Advertisement Father William Ritchie : Wanted girl about 18 for Fruit & Cool Drinks, 163 Oxide St, Broken Hill ; 1924 May2 Father William Ritchie, Fruiterer in business since 1890 : Oxide St Shop & Dwelling, construction 1926 Apr6 middle Daughter : Shirley aged 4 years Combined Methodist, Thomas Street, Sunday School Picnic, Little Athletics 1926 Jun25 Father William Ritchie 163 Oxide St, Broken Hill : To Let London Ham Shop & Dwelling 1927 Apr26 Barry Ritchie, 38 Wright St, Broken Hill ; platelayer, Zinc Corp, Broken Hill 1929 May28 Charles Ritchie : Shop & Office Fitters ; 1930 Feb18 Barry Ritchie, Back injuries ; platelayer, South Blocks, Broken Hill 1931 Jun19 - Nov30 North Girls School Class 4a eldest Daughter Beryl 1932 May10 North Girls School Class 4a middle Daughter Shirley 1931 - 1933 Change of Schools : Likely Father William Ritchie, lost his Businesses during largest Peak ( Trough ) of the Great Depression 1928 - 1939 ; 1932 Jul28 Cobera School Arbor

Day : tiny tots race, Shirley Ritchie 1933 Apr25 Semaphore Yeo St : eldest  
Daughter Beryl 11, broke arm in School Yard Le Fevre Peninsula School 1933 Jul26  
Cobera School Arbor Day : 4th Division & tiny tots races, Shirley Ritchie 1933  
Semaphore : Shirley & Beryl with Cousins Maurice & Daphne ( Wilson ? ) 1934  
Dec22 Cobera School Annual Christmas Tree : Shirley Ritchie 1934 Cobera :  
Grasshoppers swarming District ; Harvesting in full swing, grain good & fairly  
heavy ; recent Storm, no rain, sheds unroofed & Haystacks blown off ; 1936 Oct27  
Father William Ritchie late of 163 Oxide St now Lindstrom, chocolate coated ice  
cubes 1937 Sep28 Plane Passengers Australian National Airways : from Adelaide  
to Broken Hill, H Ritchie 1938 Sep18 Collector of Customs enquiry, Re  
Remembrance Day Tonic, brewed lager beer, Harry Ritchie of Franklin Street,  
Adelaide ( late ? Clayton Ave, Plympton ) 1940 Sep6 Death Father : William Ritchie,  
50 years in business, Broken Hill, NSW ; left 4 Sons : Messrs Charlie, George,  
Barry, Harry & 1 Daughter : Mrs L Boland ; 1945 Apr21 Damage to 167 Oxide St,  
Broken Hill by Boland Brothers : Shaw Fish Shop owned by Charles Ritchie ; 1952  
Jul5 Mr & Mrs C Ritchie, Plympton formerly Broken Hill, son Robert engagement  
to Diana Kennedy ; 2012 Dec12 For Sale 1st time in 30 years : 163 - 165 Oxide St,  
Broken Hill ; Desert Flower Deli & 2 Br Dwelling Bring alive past spirituality  
through History Research & relive past Lives Many thanks & sincere regards Jeff  
M. Weeks CPA, SA Fin Researcher Analyst M: PREFERRED Contact SMS txt 7 days  
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other ] Projects incl NAA AWM, ANZAC Tradition incl Family Histories WW1 &  
WW2 & Domesday Book ] Macro/Micro Economics, World Financial Markets,  
Currencies & Precious Metals, Research & Analyses ) All 4 WEEKS Brothers  
enlisted in WW1 : Francis James ( Jim ), Leslie Horace, Stanley William ( wounded 3  
or 4 times Romani Beersheba etc with 3rd LHR ) & Roy Eric ; As did All of Francis  
James Weeks 4 Sons enlisted WW2 : Stan, James ( Jim ), Max & Charlie listed in  
order of seniority : from 1847 William Weeks & Mary Prideaux, Noarlunga, South  
Australia, Colonial Pioneer Farming Family to Francis Allen Prideaux Weeks &  
Elizabeth nee Northey



Harry Ritchie MM, 43rd Battalion, D Company, XV  
Platoon Lewis Gun ; 1917Oct Zonnebeke, Broodseidne,  
Passchendaele ; 1918Sep Scutari Trench, Mont St  
Quentin

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Occupation : Trolley Driver for Murphy Fromen & Co  
Ltd, Blende & Beryls Streets, Broken Hill, NSW ;  
Distributors of Poultry, Fruits & Iced, Products ;  
Residence: 151 Oxide Street, Broken Hill, New South  
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Wales ; whilst giving Red Cross evidence of JE Curtis  
wounded &or Missing 1918 Sep 14 at the Cheltenham  
Racecourse Hospital : as a result of his 3rd wounding left  
Shoulder "gsw" ; possibly failed frontal attack Scutari

Trench, after successful Kassa & Usler Trenches attacks, Mont St Quentin  
1918Aug31 ) ; Born: 18 October 1893 Broken Hill, New South Wales Religion :

Methodist ( Thomas Street ) School : Son of William Ritchie, Fruiterer ( born Angus Fillen, Aberdeen, Scotland ) & Sarah Ann Starr ( born near Adelaide, Campbelltown ) Marital Status : Single Next of kin: Father : William Ritchie & Mother : Sarah Ann nee Starr, 151 Oxide Street, Broken Hill, New South Wales Enlisted AIF : 17 February 1916 Morphettville, South Australia, Camp Training Base Infantry D Coy : 7 March 1916 Embarked: 9 June 1916 HMAT A19 Afric, Adelaide, South Australia Age at embarkation : 22 Returned: 14 May 1919 Shropshire, Melbourne ; 28 June 1919 Discharged ; Served : Western Front : France, Belgium participated in 9 of 10 Attacks ( 1917 March 27 - 1918 September 1 ) with the 43rd Battalion AIF, including :- 1917 October 3 " Advance on Zonnebeke " from Polygon Wood to Broodseinde / Oct 4 awarded Military Medal at victorious Battle of Broodseinde Crossroads & Ridge ( pill boxes, Hill 40 - Windmill Cabaret ) 43rd Battalion extended to Tyne Cott by Oct 13 - 15, 1917 ; developed into 2 of 5 failed Attacks ( last 4 spear headed by the Canadians Oct 26, Oct 30 ; only Nov 6 & Nov 10 were temporarily successful ) ; Passchendaele I ( Oct 9 ) or II ( Oct 12 ) 1st & 2nd woundings at 3rd Battle of Ypres ( Ypres III ) ; 1918 September 1 : successful Kassa Trench & failed Scutari Trench Attacks ( 3rd wounding ) ; later successful via Usler Trench only AFTER German Prussian Guards MGs subdued by 2nd Div when recaptured Mont St Quentin ( wrong tactically thought previous morning of 5.30am Sep1 to be already in Australian hands ) ; Medals : Military Medal, 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal Death: 1973 March 22 Adelaide South Australia Buried : Enfield Memorial Park, Browning Street, Clearview SA 5085 Place of Burial : Anglican, Stevenson Garden, V, 1 Thank you for your time in reading and acknowledging Dead men don't ( can't ) tell but each one of their stories need to be told, no matter how horrific ; Everything our Grandfathers ( & Mothers ) & Great Grandfathers ( & Mothers ) Generation experienced is incomprehensible from :- the depressed commodity prices beginning in 1884 to Droughts interspersed 1885, 1896-7 & 1902 during 1893 Financial Panic & drawn out World Depression to 1910, WW1 to the 1928 - 1939 Great Depression ( poor Buggers ! ) & for some, to WW2 as well ! ( 2nd eldest of the 4 WW1 WEEKS Brothers ) ; 1917 Centenaries this Month :- Flanders Fields - South Belgium in solemn & revered memory for Maternal Grandfather 732 Harry Ritchie MM & 43rd Battalion ( Butler - our South Australian Battalion ) & 11th Brigade ( Cannan ) & 3rd Division ( Monash ) & Anzac II ( Godley ) ; 1917 :- 1. October 3 " advance on Zonnebeke ", from Polygon Wood to Broodseinde ; 2. October 4 MM victorious Battle of Broodseinde Crossroads & Ridge ( pill boxes, Hill 40 - Windmill Cabaret ) ; 3. October 9 failed Passchendaele I attack & Manchesters sniper morass in Ravebeek Valley ; 4. October 12 failed Passchendaele II attack & Monash 3rd Division sniper morass in Ravebeek Valley ( Harry's 2nd of 3 woundings ) ; 5. October Monash 3rd Division suffered 3,199 casualties in 24 hours ; 6. October 13 - 15 43rd Battalion extended to Tyne Cott ; 7. October 17 Harry evacuated ? eventually to UK ; 8. October 26 failed Passchendaele III attack ( with Canadians ) ; 9. October 30 failed Passchendaele attack ( supporting Canadians ; 10. November 6 Passchendaele attack - Village ( Canadians ) ; 11. November 10 successful Passchendaele attack - Village & Heights ( Canadians ) ; Bring alive past spirituality through History Research & relive past Lives Many thanks & sincere regards Jeff M. Weeks CPA, SA Fin Researcher Analyst M: PREFERRED Contact SMS txt 7 days 04 2888 2844 as I am 75-80% deaf with a tone discrimination A: Unit 3, 371 Morphett Road, Oaklands Park, SA 5046 T: Home Messages 101 : 08 8298 3787 E: contacts@travellersoz.com.au ( I get 300 + / Day but only check several times / Mth, by speed reading SUBJECT Headings only 1st, because of my numerous [ other ] Projects incl NAA AWM, ANZAC Tradition incl Family Histories WW1 &

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CENTENARIES : Zonnebeke , Broodseinde, Passchendaele, Ravebeek Valley

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( Canadians ) ; In Solemn & Revered Memory of ALL whom, fought, wounded,  
maimed & or died, for the love of God, King, Country & or Comrades, in ALL Wars  
& Conflicts JMW = addition/s & or ( ) for clarity 1917 Oct 4 The Great War Forum  
Limited Posted 03 February 2010 - 01:27 AM Ray, The 43rd Bn led the 11th Bde  
attack at Broodseinde in phase 1 of the attack. This was on the right of the 3 Div  
area. Looking at Mick's map above, the 43rd start line was about 200 yards W of  
the road that runs NW past Hill 40 and they attacked with the railway on their  
right. Their left was just N of Windmill Cabaret, roughly along the line of the blue  
dotted Uudah (?) track (duckboard) running NE in the map. They met resistance  
almost immediately from the station on their right and from the rise at Windmill  
Cabaret (Hill 40), both of which were quickly overcome, they passed through Alma  
and stopped to the NE of it, where the 42nd Battalion took over the advance in  
phase II. This might narrow down your search area a bit. Cheers Chris -----  
----- 2017 AWM Bean Narrations by Jeff M. Weeks /  
Cowandilla Nominees Pty. Ltd. A.B.N. 64 008 081 838 1917 Oct 4 AWM Bean Vol4  
Ch XX Third Step-Broodseinde Ridge ( Attack ) pg17 of 49 " The advance of I  
Anzac had brought it, in this first stage, across remnants of the Flanders I line, and  
many pillboxes had consequently been met; ( Godley's ) I1 Anzac did not at this  
stage meet this line. On its front the resistance came first from the crest of  
Windmill Cabaret ridge, where this had not been seized on September 26th. (

Plumer's Step 2 [ of 3 ] Polygon Wood / The Buttes ( near Zonnebeke ) ] The II Anzac barrage was perceptibly denser than that of I An officer of the 43rd Battalion describes it as 'like a wall of flame.' ( pg12 of 49 " Some twenty officers are known to have been killed by the bombardment, and about a seventh of the attacking force of I Anzac appears to have been killed or wounded. ( North of the railway outside the area of intense barrage Capt F G Sims [ 3rd Div 11th Bde 43rd Btn D Coy Harry Ritchie MM Company CO ] Lieuts. T H Howden and C. L Herbert [all of the 43rd] and Lieut J Larkin (41st) were killed..... " ) pg17 of 49 The battalions of the 3rd Division did not differ from their sisters in following it more or less in one crowded line at the outset, the rear waves pressing upon the front ones in their haste to avoid the enemy's barrage. The 43rd, which led the right brigade, met Germans at once. On the right a machine-gun pg18 of 49 opened from a pillbox near Zonnebeke station; on the left some post threw bombs from the hilltop. All were quickly suppressed, the Germans on the crest fleeing. " 2017 AWM Bean Narrations by Jeff M. Weeks / Cowandilla Nominees Pty. Ltd. A.B.N. 64 008 081 838 ----- 2008 - 2017 c Copyright Family War Histories Narrations by Jeff M. Weeks / Cowandilla Nominees Pty. Ltd. A.B.N. 64 008 081 838 1. Military Medal \* 1917Oct4 awarded MM during " advance on Zonnebeke " ( possibly from Polygon Wood / The Buttes Oct3, during which Battle [ Sep26 - Oct3 ] Plumer's II Anzac Corps [ Godley ] relieved Gough's V Corps [ Fanshawe ] on Sep28 ) ; during the Battle of Broodseinde Cross Roads, 3rd Battle of Ypres ( 10 Military Medals & higher awards were awarded that same day to the 43rd Btn alone, mainly for engaging enemy machine guns &or pillboxes ) :- 43rd Battalion War Diary AWM 1917 Oct pg27 of 34 " During the advance N. of Zonnebeke on 4th Oct. 1917, when his platoon ( XV ) was held up by MG fire, he crawled forward & with his lewis Gun silenced the enemy MG and allowed the advance to continue " October 4, 1917 - The blockhouse in the centre of the Tyne Cott cemetery ( World's largest Commonwealth Cemetery of WW1 ) was captured by the Australian 3rd Division ( incl 43rd Btn ) Fearing that the fine weather which had accompanied operations over the preceding fortnight might change, preparations for the attack were hurried forward. On the night before the scheduled start, rain began to fall; it was, however, decided to persist with the planned advance. At dawn on the 4th, 40 minutes before the scheduled start-time at 6 a.m., the 1st and 2nd Divisions were suddenly assailed by a mortar barrage which fell on the shell-holes where they were waiting. Although considerable casualties were suffered in this bombardment, the troops could only wait it out ( AWM Bean Vol4 Ch XX Third Step-Broodseinde Ridge [ Attack ] pg12 of 49 " Some twenty officers are known to have been killed by the bombardment, and about a seventh of the attacking force of I Anzac appears to have been killed or wounded. [ North of the railway outside the area of intense barrage Capt F G Sims ( 3rd Div 11th Bde 43rd Btn D Coy Harry Ritchie MM Company CO ) Lieuts. T H Howden and C. L Herbert (all of the 43rd) and Lieut J Larkin (41st) were killed. ) Australian Ligh Horse Study Centre ( ) = JMW notations + 2010 Dec Dept Veteran Affairs & Board Studies NSW + Charles Bean, Anzac to Amiens, Canberra, 1948, p.371 [ ] = Australian Light Horse Study Centre The Battle of Broodseinde Ridge now commenced a few kilometres south of Passchendaele. The Australian 4th and 5th Divisions were replaced by the Australian 1st and 2nd Divisions which were also joined by the ( Monash's ) Australian 3rd Division ( incl 43rd Btn ) as well as a ( Russell's ) New Zealand division ( from right to left / from South to North ). It was the first time that 4 Anzac divisions had fought together. Twelve divisions would attack on a 12 kilometre front, the 4 Anzac Divisions Australian 1st, 2nd and 3rd ( incl 43rd Btn ) facing Broodseinde ridge and the New Zealand division facing Abraham heights

October 4, 1917 - The attack commenced at 6am after rain commenced falling the day before. Coincidentally, the Germans planned an attack for exactly the same time. At 5.20am the German artillery opened up and then at 6am the Australian artillery started, both in preparation for impending attacks. After both troops emerged from their trenches to commence attacking to their surprise they found the enemy doing exactly the same. The Australians managed to recover f



NO. 13 PLATOON, D COMPANY, 4TH BATTALION.