

2012 Premier's ANZAC Spirit School Prize

When Mr. Bartram, our school history teacher, put a note in the school bulletin about the ANZAC Spirit School Prize I decided to take up this challenge. I thought it would be a great opportunity to learn about a small but significant part of Australian history.

Mr. Bartram had previously shown us historic pictures of men from Angaston who served in the First and Second World Wars. I found it really interesting. Our school was really fortunate that the Angaston RSL decided to donate those pictures to our school.

I have chosen to do my response on William Wilfred Garrett, a man related to my family through marriage. I first heard that we were related to the Garrett's the last time that my grandfather, Alan Jewell, came down from Newcastle in New South Wales to visit us. He took us to the cemetery just outside of Nuriootpa, and told us that he had heard from his sister that our family are related to the Garrett's through a great aunt who married a Garrett when the Jewell's used to live in the Barossa Valley years ago. The Jewell's eventually moved closer to the city while the Garrett's stayed in the Barossa Valley. Interestingly my own family moved back to the Barossa Valley seven years ago. When we went to the cemetery we found a large number of graves belonging to the Garrett's. I wanted to find out more about William for my family, but mainly for my granddad.

William's great grandfather, Richard Garrett, immigrated to South Australia from Chichester, England, in 1840 with his wife and eight children. Richard Garrett the second had a son called Stephen, who was born in 1862. He married a woman called Pauline Sieboth, and eventually they moved to Angaston, in the Barossa Valley in 1889. Their second child was called Wilfred William Garrett, born 7th of December, 1891. His nickname was Ned but I haven't been able to discover the reason he was given that name.

William lived at Mount Mackenzie near Angaston, South Australia with his parents. He was single with no children and he had a job as a labourer before he set out to war. He was 23 years old when he signed up in Canberra where he joined the British Expeditionary Force on the 7th of June, 1916. He disembarked from Australia to Egypt on the 14th of June, 1916. Before he set out he sensibly made sure that he had a will in place just in case something happened to him.

William held the rank of Private and was in the 10th Battalion and 15th Reinforcements. The 10th Battalion was among one of the first units raised by the AIF (Australian Imperial Force) during the First World War.

William later joined the 50th Battalion which was established in Egypt in February, 1916, as part of the 'doubling' of the Australian Imperial Force. Half of the recruited men were from the 10th Battalion and the other half were new recruits from South Australia.

After they arrived in France on the 11th of June, 1916, the 50th Battalion fought their first major battle at Mouquet Farm between the 13th and 15th of August and they suffered heavily. I have learned that they took part in another major attack on the 3rd of September.

It seems that the battalion spent the rest of the year fighting on the front-line, training or labouring behind the front line and giving support to fellow soldiers. In early 1917 the battalion participated in an advance on the Germans as they were retreating to the Hindenburg Line and attacked at Noreuil on the 2nd of April.

William Wilfred Garrett died at the age of 25 on the 18th of October, 1917, in action in Passchendaele, Belgium. William was appointed Lance Corporal for the Nominal Roll on the 4th of April 1917 just two days before he died. His place of burial was listed as "near" the Ypres, the Menin Gate. Menin Gateway Memorial is a road that leads into the town of Menin. It was constructed on the site of the gateway in the eastern wall of the old Flemish town of Ypres. The Memorial is a monument to the men of the British Empire who fought in the war but unfortunately there is no body on record to bury. Inside the arch there is the name of the 6,178 Australian men who fought and died during the First World War as well as soldiers from the

Second World War.

A year later the 50th Battalion of the Australian Imperial Force moved their operations to the Ypres section in Belgium and the battalion was involved in the battle of Messines from the 7th of June until the 12th of June. On the 26th of September Williams battalion fought at the battle of Polygon Wood without him.

The Germans utilised troops freed by the collapse of Russia in October, 1917 to launched a major attack on the Western Front at the end of March 1918 (five months after the death of William). At Dernancourt, on 5 April, the 50th Battalion assisted in the repulse of the largest German attack mounted against Australian troops during the war. I'm sure he would have been proud of his comrades.

William had a loving family, wasn't in a relationship and had no children. He could have chosen to stay at home and find a wife, have a swarm of children and live the rest of his life, but William unselfishly decided that his country and the people in it were worth more to him than his life. Naturally, like all other soldiers, he was scared of the pain and loss that he would have to face when the friends that he fought alongside were blown up or shot at as well as fearing for his own life but he proudly went off to war. His efforts, along with the efforts of all soldiers, have shaped Australia and made it what it is today, the best country in the world.

William's family was awarded a British War Medal and a Victory Medal in honour of their caring and brave son.

In my eyes William Wilfred Garrett was a selfless and honourable young man and I am proud to have done a report on his life.

WILL.

7502

AMROS

Name in full. I, Wilfred William Garrett

Unit. Regimental Number 4779 serving in 50th Battrn.
of the Australian Imperial Force do hereby revoke all former Wills made by me and declare this to be my last Will.

Name and Address of person or persons to whom it is to go. H.B.C.
I DEVISE and BEQUEATH all my real estate unto H.S. W.W.G.

Name and Address of person or persons to receive personal estate (See Note). H.S. H.S.
~~abode~~ my personal estate I bequeath to my Mother Mrs. S.G. Garrett, wife of Mr. S.G. Garrett of Mt. McKenzie via Angaston South Australia.

Fill in Date. IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this twenty sixth day of July A.D. 1917.
W.W. Garrett (Signature).

All alterations to be initialled by Testator and Witnesses. Signed by the said Testator as his last Will and Testament the same having been read over and explained to him, in the presence of us both present at the same time who at his request and in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses

FIRST WITNESS. Signature of Witness H.W.H. Seager Capt
Address and Occupation 50th Battrn. A.I.F.

SECOND WITNESS Signature of Witness Howard B. Can
Address and Occupation 2/Lt 50th. Bn.

N.B. - Personal Estate includes Pay, Effects, Money in Bank, Insurance Policy, in fact everything except Real Estate.

Certified to be a true copy of the Will of No. 4779 Pte GARRETT Wilfred William 50th Btn. A.I.F.

Checked [Signature] Cpl.

[Signature] S/sgt.
Estates Branch,
Adm. Hdqrs., London.
22.11.17.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Receipt for Consignment from Defence Department.

I hereby acknowledge having received from the Officer in Charge of Base Records the undermentioned (1) Package being the effects of the late No. 4979, Private W. W. Garrett, 50th Battalion, consigned to me. ex "Toromeo", D/S 29990

No.	Description.	Signature <u>Mrs S G Garrett</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>Package</u>	Date <u>October 15th 1918.</u>



NOTE - This Receipt should be Forw'd to -
The Officer in Charge,
Base Records,
Victoria Barracks,
Melbourne, Victoria.

Casualty Form - Active Service. Army Form B. 101.

Regiment or Corps 50th BATTALION **4779**

Regimental No. 4779 Rank Pte Name Garrett W. W.

Enlisted (a) 28/10/17 Terms of Service (a) _____ Service reckons from (a) _____

Date of promotion to present rank _____ Date of appointment to lance rank _____ Numerical position on roll of N.C.O.'s. _____

Extended _____ Re-engaged _____ Qualification (b) _____

REPORT	Reason of promotion, reduction, transfer, discharge, &c. During active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36 or other official documents.
<u>P.O. Dept</u>	<u>Proceeded as scribe</u>	<u>ex Alexandria</u>	<u>7/11</u>	<u>185 11</u>
<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>Adm Camp</u>	<u>do</u>	<u>14/16</u>	<u>187 60/6</u>
<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>From hospital</u>	<u>do</u>	<u>27/16</u>	<u>188 20/20</u>
<u>3rd Lt</u>	<u>Carson's Company</u>	<u>do</u>	<u>1/17</u>	<u>189 10/10</u>
<u>CO</u>	<u>To be Lance Corporal</u>	<u>do</u>	<u>4/17</u>	<u>190 10/20</u>
<u>28.10.17</u>	<u>With Unit 25 B. 17. 5/17/17</u>	<u>Belgium</u>	<u>18/10/17</u>	<u>191 10/20</u>
	<u>Killed in Action</u>			<u>192 10/20</u>

ORIGINAL: Copies forwarded to Defence, ^{COM} Malbourne, and A.I.F. Headquarters, London, With A.F.B. 2090 a on 31/1/17

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into the Army, particulars of such re-engagements or enlistment will be entered.

(b) e.g. Signaller, Shermans, etc. &c. also special qualifications in technical Corps duties.

LIEUT
Officer in Charge

FIELD SERVICE. Army Form B. 2090A.

REPORT of Death of a Soldier to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt of notification of death on Army Form B. 213 or Army Form A. 36, or from other official documentary sources.

REGIMENT OR CORPS: 50th Battalion. A.I.F. Squadron, Troop, Battery or Company:

Regimental No. 4779 Rank Lance Corporal.

Surname GARRETT. Christian Name W.W.

Date 18th October 1917. Place Belgium

Causes of Death: Killed in Action.

Nature and Date of Report: Army Form B. 213 dated 28th October 1917.

By whom made: Commanding Officer 50th Battalion. A.I.F.

* Particularly state if killed in action, or died from wounds received in action, or from disease due to field operations or to fatigue, privation or exposure while on military duty, or from injury while on military duty.

State whether he leaves a Will or not Will not received.

(a) in Pay Book (Army Book 41) _____ (b) in Small Book (if at Base) _____

(c) as a separate document _____

All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital, as well as the Pay Book, should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office.

Any information received as to verbal expressions by a deceased soldier of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be reported to the War Office as soon as possible.

A duplicate of this Report is to be sent to the Fixed Centre Paymaster at Home, or to the D.F.A.G., Indian Expeditionary Force, or Field-Posting Officer, as the case may require, together with the Deceased's Pay Book (after withdrawal of any will from the latter). If the deceased's Small Book is at the Base, it should be forwarded to the War Office with this Report.

Anzac Section. 3rd Echelon. G.H.Q. B.E.F.

Station and Date: 29th Nov. 1917. Signature of Officer in charge of Section: W. J. Ford Lieut

Adjutant-General's Office at the Base: Officer in Charge

W 2090 B 1143-39, 388-11. A. 50.-311-(10487)-Form B 2090a.2.

Casualty Details

Name:	GARRETT, WILFRED WILLIAM
Initials:	W W
Nationality:	Australian
Rank:	Lance Corporal
Regiment/Service:	Australian Infantry, A.I.F.
Unit Text:	50th Bn.
Age:	25
Date of Death:	18/10/1917
Service No:	4779
Additional information:	Son of Mr. S. G. and Mrs. P. E. Garrett, of Mount McKenzie, Angaston, South Australia.
Casualty Type:	Commonwealth War Dead
Grave/Memorial Reference:	Panel 7 - 17 - 23 - 25 - 27 - 29 - 31.
Memorial:	YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL

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AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE—NOMINAL ROLL—continued

Regt. No.	Name (or No.)	Rank	Age	Trade or Calling	Height	Address at Date of Enlistment	Religion	Date of Enlistment	A.S.F. (if in receipt of Enlistment)	Home Embroideries		Pay		Daily Rate Privately Employed (if applicable)	Remarks	
										Rate per Annum	Rate per Week	Rate per Annum	Rate per Week			
4707	Elliott, Ernest Robert	Private	22	Labourer	5.5	Two Two Gully, S.A.	Meth.	20.10.15		5.0	8.3.16	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4708	Elston, Claude John	"	18	Driver	5.5	Children-street, North Adelaide, South Australia	Meth.	5.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	
4709	Eldon, Victor Charles	"	27	Head storeman	5.5	Children-street, North Adelaide, South Australia	Meth.	1.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	
4771	Ferguson, Roy Albert	"	25	Hairdresser	5.5	Mont Town, South Australia	R.C.	3.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4772	Fidge, Allen	"	21	Labourer	5.5	Port Pirie, South Australia	R.C.	3.8.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4773	Fisher, Robert	"	23	Hardware salesman	5.5	Davenport-terrace, Whyalla, South Australia	R.C.	11.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4774	Foggo, James	"	25	Labourer	5.5	Hope Valley, S.A.	Meth.	11.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4775	Forn, Donald	"	21	Cement finisher	5.5	General Post Office, Adelaide, South Australia	R.C.	13.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	
4776	Forrester, Kenneth Lyell	"	18	Labourer	5.5	Two Wells, South Australia	Pres.	4.10.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4777	Foster, Charles Edwin	"	23	Carpenter	5.5	17 Robert-street, Adelaide, South Australia	Pres.	19.10.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4778	Franson, Thomas Ernest	"	32	Blacksmith	5.5	Elmer-street, Exeter, S.A.	C. of E.	4.1.16		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	Acting Corporal
4779	Garnet, Wilfred William	"	23	Labourer	5.5	Mount Mackintosh, Adelaide, South Australia	C. of E.	28.3.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4780	Gassid, Beza	"	34	Farmer	5.5	Greenfield-street, Adelaide, South Australia	C. of E.	7.10.15		5.0	"	5.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	
4781	Giblin, Homer Michael	"	27	Carpenter	5.5	107 Edward-street, Norwood, South Australia	R.C.	25.10.15		5.0	"	5.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	
4782	Giesean, Edward Francis	"	43	Marine store dealer	5.5	192 Gilbert-street, Adelaide, South Australia	R.C.	19.10.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4783	Glover, John Sydney	"	40	Boot maker	5.5	Moonah, South Australia	C. of E.	3.9.15		5.0	"	5.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	
4784	Goodman, David Edward	"	22	Carpenter	5.5	McKinnon-parade, North Adelaide, South Australia	C. of E.	6.9.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4785	Gottsch, Charles	"	31	Labourer	5.5	Clare-street, Port Adelaide, South Australia	C. of E.	1.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	
4786	Green, Arthur George	"	20	Blacksmith	5.5	Ororon, South Australia	R.C.	2.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4787	Gray, David	"	22	Labourer	5.5	Southdown, S.A.	Pres.	29.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4788	Grove, Clarence Roy	"	22	Labourer	5.5	East-street, Glenville, S.A.	C. of E.	13.9.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4789	Gunnsmitt, Bertie Leigh	"	31	Bookbinder	5.5	Moonta, South Australia	Meth.	1.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4790	Haines, Robert	"	22	Boiler maker	5.5	South Australia	C. of E.	22.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4792	Hall, Richard	"	18	Picture Company engraver	5.5	78 Chloride-street, Broken Hill, N.S.W.	R.C.	12.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4793	Halvorsen, Andrew	"	24	Labourer	5.5	Port Pirie, South Australia	R.C.	12.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4794	Harper, Joseph Cyril	"	27	Marine fireman	5.5	43 Queen-street, Norwood, South Australia	R.C.	15.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	
4795	Harris, Bertman Bramwell	"	23	Labourer	5.5	Wallaroo, South Australia	C. of E.	5.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4796	Harris, Ray Roubel	"	24	Clerk	5.5	Kapunda, South Australia	C. of E.	5.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4797	Hartley, Arthur Gilmore	"	26	Labourer	5.5	Grant-avenue, Rose Park, South Australia	Pres.	20.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4798	Hawkins, Alfred Ernest	"	23	Labourer	5.5	Vernon-road, Elizabeth, South Australia	Meth.	5.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	
4800	Hirshman, Sydney Ferdinand	"	18	Miner	5.5	South Australia	Meth.	12.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4801	Hogan, Robert Patrick	"	37	Prospector	5.5	Chapel-street, Elizabeth, S.A.	R.C.	8.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4802	Hollis, Frederick William	"	31	Physical instructor	5.5	Angus-road, Oronville, South Australia	R.C.	7.1.16		5.0	"	5.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	
4804	Inskley, William John	"	24	Carpenter	5.5	South Australia	Pres.	6.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	2.6	2.6	1.0	
4805	Janket, Laurence Joseph	"	18	Miller	5.5	South Australia	R.C.	6.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.6	1.6	1.0	
4806	Jones, Albert Edward	"	23	Mason	5.5	75 King William-road, Uley, South Australia	Meth.	11.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4807	Kelly, Frank	"	24	Labourer	5.5	General Post Office, Adelaide, South Australia	R.C.	13.11.15		5.0	"	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	
4808	Kleeman, William Hurtle	"	30	School teacher	5.5	Linnoc-street, Carrington, South Australia	C. of E.	24.8.15		5.0	"	5.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	
4809	Lansell, Ernest Frederick	"	30	Tailor	5.5	20 Davenport-terrace, Adelaide, South Australia	Meth.	25.10.15		5.0	"	5.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	