

**Historical Officers Report
From the Pages of the Camden Advertiser
March 1941**

1st March: Lieutenant J.S. Mould RANVR, George Cross mine clearing Operations



6th March

YOUNGEST DIGGER IN PRESENT A.I.F. This newspaper nominates 16 year old Private Ernest Deane, of Campbelltown, as the "baby" of the present A.I.F. He enlisted in July last year at the age of 15 1/2 years. No matter what the official military records would disclose, we'll wager a new hat that Ernie Deane was born at Campbelltown on January 26 (Australia Day), 1925. As he left these shores a well known machine-gun unit around about December last, he possibly celebrated his 16th birthday when in the vicinity of Palestine. Ernest is a son of Mrs. N. Deane and the late W. O. C. Deane, of Campbelltown. His battalion mates include quite a number of Camden and Campbelltown lads, many of whom transferred to the A.I.F. from the 1/21st Machine Gun (Militia) Regiment.

Ban on Photos Anyone seen taking photos in the vicinity of the R.A.A.F. Central Flying School at Camden are viewed with a certain amount of suspicion. Recently someone sighted a motorcyclist with a camera near Macquarie Grove Bridge, and promptly reported the matter. Police eventually visited the photographer's studio at Fairfield to check up. They found that the camera-man was well-known Press photographer, Mr. S. H. E. Young, who, during one of his many visits' to Camden, was admiring the rustic beauty of Macquarie Grove, Being a former member of the R.A.A.F. and A.L.F.; Mr. Young, instead of being peeved, was delighted to Learn that someone had enough initiative to report the matter.

Official Photographer: Mr. Young is to-day n lieutenant on the reserve. He joined the R.A.A.F. during the 1914- 1918 War, and was later transferred to Army Corps as an official Australian photographer. His outstanding craftsmanship in war-torn France and Belgium gained him the King's commission. Some of his photographs were for army records, others, including several taken of the Duke of Windsor (then Prince of Wales) in the battle areas, were widely distributed by departmental circles. Mr. Young, too, was responsible for many of the earliest aviation pictures ever produced in England.

Elderslie boys, Roy and Eric Longley, have completed their anti-submarine training at one of the British naval colleges. In a letter to their parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Longley, now of Manly, they stated that they expected be drafted to the Mediterranean at any time, as submarine detectors on one of the British flotilla-leader destroyers of the Javelin class. Their father served with the 15th Battery of the 5th A.I.F. Artillery Brigade in the Great War of 1914-1918.

BURRAGORANG VALLEY DEFENCE

New Dam Will Give Sydney an Impure Water Supply, Residents State

LEAGUE FORMED AT SUNDAY'S MEETING Definite statements regarding the impurity of the Cox's and Wollondilly Rivers were made by speakers at the Lower Burratorang Hall on Sunday afternoon, when the "Burratorang Defence League" was formed.

9th March: Movement of Sixth Division to Greece discussed

18th March: 16th Brigade arrives in Greece

19th March: Fight for Giarabub begin



20th March

Petrol Tickets: The N.S.W Liquid Fuel Control Board advises that the currency of the present issue of petrol ration tickets will terminate on March 31. From that date the present style of tickets will be voided. Ration tickets for April and May will be available as from Wednesday next, March 26, and they will be current until May 31 next. The two months' ration will be made in one issue.

In Three Stints; The Australians captured thousands of Italian prisoners and hundreds of expensive Diesel trucks, reports Gunner H, (Merv.) Watson in a letter to his wife at Elderslie was resting out of the line after having participated in three "stunts," as he called the actions. The captured Italians, he added, appeared to be pleased to be out of the war. Merv also mentioned that he received a Christmas parcel from the Camden Centre of the Women's Voluntary Services.

Precious Water: "We have just had four days out in the wilderness, and what with the lack of water and the excess of sand, things were rather unpleasant at times," wrote Lance-Corporal Alan Dixon, now on active service abroad, in a letter to his mother. "I learned one very great lesson from the trip, and that is to conserve water as much as possible; it certainly gets precious when one has to last 24 hours on two pints of water, which has to do for washing and shaving, besides drinking purposes." Alan had previously spent a most interesting four days leave period in Jerusalem, where he visited many of the places mentioned in Biblical history. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Dixon, reside at Macarthur road, Elderslie.

Excellent reports have been received by motorists whose ration worries end when they blended Power Alcohol with their motor spirit. You can obtain the same good result by calling on H. R. Powe.

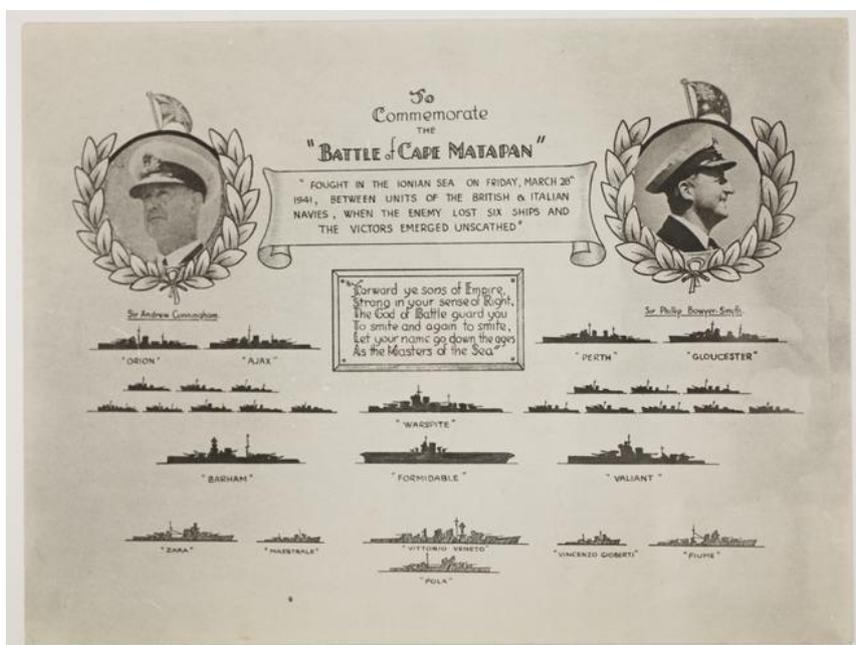
Former Orangeville Boy: Now with the Royal Australian Air Force at Darwin is Aircraftman Carl Greentree, a son of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. R. Greentree who resided at Orangeville for some twelve years.

23rd March: Big RAF raid on Berlin

24th March: Rommel re-occupied El Aghella on Tripoltania Cyrenaica border



29th March: HMAS Perth, Vendetta and Stuart involved in the battle for Matapan, Greece



30th March: Axis counter attack began in North Africa

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