
Half Page - 1 Photo | Approximately 350 words

This ANZAC Day we will remember the many military personnel who served not only in WW1 but also in ensuing wars and conflict zones. The Mundaring War Memorial contains the names of 24 men from the Shire of Mundaring who served and died during WW2.

One of these men, Lieutenant Ernest William Grigg (WX2725), has a link to Darlington. In the early 1930s his parents, Ernest and Myrtle Grigg, purchased 29 Hillsden Road Darlington.

In the mid-1930s Ernest, a builder, was the member of Glen Forrest Ward on the Greenmount Road Board (renamed the Mundaring Road Board in 1934). The house was later rented to Hilda Giles, a widow who ran the property as a Guest House.



Lieut. Colonel Caro addressing his troops, New Guinea.

Ernest junior, the eldest son of the family, was born in 1917. He attended Hale School from 1932 to 1934 and then studied architecture at UWA before joining the 2/16th Infantry Battalion on 15 May 1940. Formed in WA on the 20 April 1940, the Battalion arrived in Egypt on 25 November.

Involved in difficult actions in the Syrian campaign, the Battalion returned to Australia in early 1942. Information on the Australian War Memorial website (AWM) notes that while the troops were to disembark in Adelaide, over 350 members of the Battalion went AWOL on their brief stop-over at Fremantle - members of the WA-raised Battalion were eager to see friends and family!

By August 1942, the Battalion was fighting the Japanese on the Kokoda Trail as part of the 21st Australian Infantry Brigade. Forced to withdraw from the Trail following several fierce encounters, it was while the 2/16th was 'between actions' that Lieutenant Grigg enters the historical record.

The AWM has seven photographs taken by Grigg on the 4 October 1942, at a parade of the Brigade in Sogeri, New Guinea. Grigg was the official photographer for his unit. Three weeks later, Grigg was dead - accidentally killed by a falling tree. He was 25 years old.

Lest We Forget

The MHHS's exhibition on Chidlow's WW2 Army Camps closes on 29 April.

If you are attending the ANZAC Service make sure you visit the museum to see this important exhibition.

Half Page - text only | Approximately 400 words

Meeting held with street contacts on Monday, 19th April. Well attended by 22 street contacts. Unfortunately, Haley Hibbit, DFES Community liaison and Jamie O'Neil SOM CESM were an apology, but Jamie sent notes for meeting, and I have included them in this article.

Coordinator welcomed two new streets to Darlington BRG since last year. This now brings the number to 34 street contacts working in 27 actual streets. It is hoped to provide a locality map showing what current streets in Darlington do not have a Bushfire Ready group as Street Contacts believe is a very valuable tool for reducing fires where we live.

A lot of discussion was around "social media" and how in many cases wrong information can be provided in an emergency. Suggestion is for, where a credible source provides it, then should include name and authority for clarity. Many queries also raised on when is Total fire ban should be very prominently displayed on DFES web site. Shire SMS is also a very good method for awareness and contactable through www.mundaring.wa.gov.au/ResidentServices/FireEmergency/Pages/FireNotification.aspx.

Notes from CESM noted: Currently the Shire is in restricted season however permits are currently not being issued due to a warming trend, but residents may burn a 1mx1m pile between

1800-midnight, this however is being assessed and once conditions are more conducive for Brigades and residents to burn, residents will be advised through the Shire website.

- Hazard reduction burning priorities - burn plans have been completed for Chidlow, Helena Valley, Mt Helena, Glen Forrest and Sawyers Valley totaling over 1500ha, these burns will be conducted depending on conditions resourcing and weather.
- The Shire will again be running winter burning workshops between June and September, dates will be on the Shire website once determined however people may register at BFCO@mundaring.wa.gov.au
- Please remember to keep an eye on the Shire website for updated information on burning permits and a reminder to register to the Shire SMS register.

Numerous hazard locations were also noted and will be passed onto the Shire for review of. Remember now is the time to work on your gardens and reduce the fuel loads which can impact on the next fire season. Require more information come to the Fire station on Saturday mornings between 9.00am and 10.00am

Colin James - Coord

