

ORBOST & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

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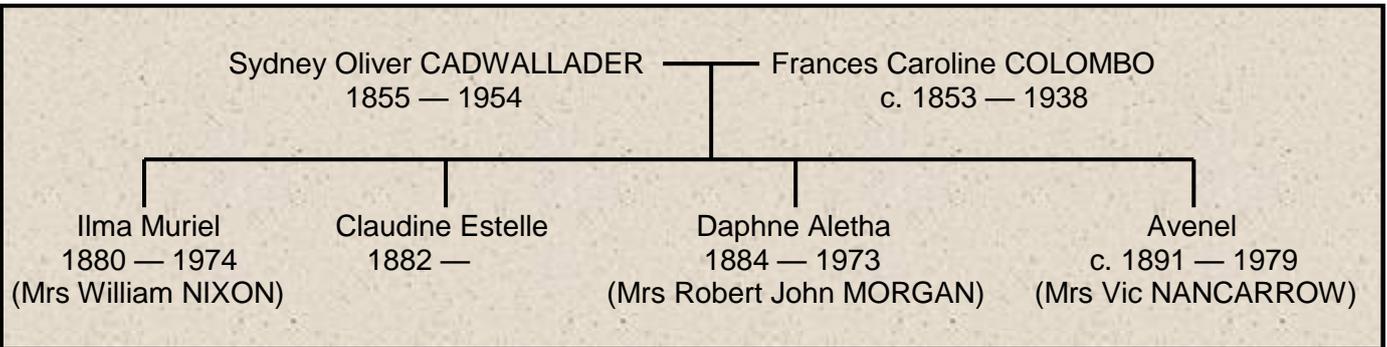


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NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY, 2011

THE CADWALLADER FAMILY



Sydney Oliver CADWALLADER was born on 21st August 1855 in Birmingham, England, the son of William CADWALLADER and Hannah PIPE.

His father, William, worked for a Birmingham engineering firm which had been commissioned to bring out to Australia the first rolling stock for the

Hobson Bay railway. William, was then persuaded to remain in Australia.

Sydney came to Australia with his mother in August 1859 to join his father at Geelong. The voyage, which took 4 months, was made on the sailing ship, 'Royal Bride', around the Cape of Good Hope.



Sydney CADWALLADER

CLUB TERRACE MINERS Mallina Mine

Man on stretcher broke his leg cutting timber.

Back: C. Richardson, J. Drew, A. Foster, J. Farquhar, W. Kennedy, R. Close, S. Davies.

Centre: J. Cooke, F. Little, R. Dobell, W. Davies, E. De Marchi, E. Farquhar, A. Walton, T. Hendrickson, J. Brough, J. Johnson, B. Johnson.

Front: W. Wilson, J. Bruton, J. Harrison, C. Henderson, P. Campbell, W. Long, **S. Cadwallader**, P. Cullinan, C. Moulder, G. Jessop.

After his schooling at Geelong College, Sydney joined the railways where he remained for a number of years. After his marriage in 1879 he, and his new bride, set out for the Kalgoorlie gold mines. Later he and his wife returned to Victoria and to East Gippsland in the employ of the Mines Department.

Gold was found at Club Terrace in 1896, and old hands in those days were 'Billy' Mustard, Mat Parker, Jim Hopkins and Jim Drew who was the first licensee of the Commonwealth Hotel (the name being suggested by Syd Cadwallader).

One of the best finds at Club Terrace was the 'Ace of Clubs' mine which was later sold to the Mallina Gold Mining Company. Syd Cadwallader was appointed manager of the company. The gold was smelted and brought to Orbost on horseback. The only protection against thieves was a revolver and riding crop, which the manager always carried.

The 'Ace of Clubs' was eventually closed as the company was unable to cope with the rising water problem. He then moved to the 'Bee Hive' mine at Bulumwaal, then to Cooper's Creek and Walhalla, before going onto the 'Home bush' gold mine at Maryborough. He retired from mining and went to live in Melbourne.

About 1914 he bought a property at McKenzie River and set to work clearing and farming. He stayed there for 11 years before selling out and returning to Melbourne. In 1938, with the death of his wife, he went to live with his daughter, Daphne (Mrs 'Bob' Morgan) at Bemm River.

Syd possessed a fine singing voice, and at one time was a member of the Ballarat Philharmonic Society and on one occasion sang a duet with Dame Nellie Melba. When he was stationed at Wallan he witnessed the arrest of Ned Kelly. Syd was a fine athlete and rowed for Geelong College.

He died on 27th May, 1954, aged 98, at the Orbost Hospital and was cremated at the Springvale Crematorium.

His wife, Frances Caroline COLOMBO was born in Bengal, and died in 1938 at Camberwell, aged 85. She was a daughter of Francis COLOMBO and Mary VINE, and had moved from Melbourne to Club Terrace in about July 1900, with her daughters, following the erection of a manager's residence at the Mallina mine. The following account of their journey is taken from Graham Dyce's book *Club Terrace - A Town and Its Diary 1895-1939*:

During the last few months, considerable activity has taken place at the Mallina mine with the erection of the manager's residence and several huts to accommodate the workers. In lieu of this arrangement, Mr. Syd. Cadwallader unhesitatingly sent for his wife and daughters who duly arrived this afternoon.

JOURNEY INTO EAST GIPPSLAND

After a tearful re-union, the young girls were very elated when they told us about their wonderful and adventurous trip up from Melbourne. The Gippsland train left Princes Bridge Station at 7:50

a.m., arriving at Warragul with a stopover of 10 minutes, when everyone was provided with a cup of tea, then on to Sale for lunch at 1 p.m..

Leaving the Sale Railway Station, passengers were taken to the canal, where they boarded the steamer "Omeo" and thence journeyed across the lakes to Cunninghamame in time for the evening meal at 6 p.m.. Rising early at 6.30 a.m. the next day, the journey continued by four-horse coach to Lake Tyers. On this occasion, the lake was open, which meant there was an entrance to the ocean and the passengers were conveyed to the other side by rowing boat. The harness traces were unfastened from the horses and thrown over their backs, each then swimming across to the bank on the opposite side and standing in its respective place at the second coach, which was waiting. While the horses were being coupled to the coach, the boat returned to be loaded with butter boxes for the Orbost factory. Incidentally, these were beautiful boxes made of New Zealand kauri pine.

The next phase of the drive through the bush was to Jonson's "half-way" house at Hospital Creek, and then on to Orbost during the late afternoon. The pungent aromas from the forests of eucalypts and the numerous sightings of native animals were a delightful experience to the young girls from the city.

The next morning, the party set out on the final stage for Club Terrace, stopping at Erikson's Bell Bird Hotel for lunch. The road was only a bush track with plenty of potholes and solid bumpy tree roots running diagonally across it. They arrived at the Terrace in the evening, and were met by Harry "the Butcher," who immediately invited them to attend his birthday party the following night at John Donald's Hotel.



Manager's Residence, Mallina Mine.

Sydney Oliver CADWALLADER is listed as Mine manager, Club Terrace in the 1903 Electoral Roll, and his wife, Frances Caroline as Home duties, Club Terrace. Sydney is listed as Farmer in the 1921 and 1925 Country Directories; and the 1949 Electoral Roll lists Sydney Oliver as Retired, of Bemm River.

Frances and Sydney were married in 1879 and had a family of four daughters: Ilma Muriel (b. 1880 at Rutherglen); Claudine Estelle (b. 1882 at Wallan); Daphne Aletha (b. 1884 at Creswick); and Avenel Niobe (b. c. 1891).

Ilma Muriel CADWALLADER

Ilma married William NIXON on 2nd April 1902 at St James Church of England, Orbost. William was a farmer at Newmerella but after selling the property in 1928 he bought a hotel at Narbethong. They later bought the Belvedere hotel at Daylesford and then a reception centre in St Kilda Road, Melbourne where William carried on a business until his death in 1944.

Ilma was a prominent member of the Orbost Golf Club where she served as Lady secretary, and was a foundation member of the Marlo Croquet Club. She died in 1974, aged 94.

Claudine Estelle CADWALLADER

In 1905, Claudine CADWALLADER, from Club Terrace, was taken on by the Matron of St. Helen's Private Hospital in Sale, until she was able to commence her nursing training at the Sale Public Hospital (later the Gippsland Base Hospital).



Claudine, at 34 years of age, enlisted with the Australian Army Nursing Service and served at the St Kilda Road and Caulfield Military Hospitals. She embarked on 26th December 1916, from Melbourne on R.M.S. 'Mooltan' and arrived in Bombay on 15th January 1917. Claudine returned from action on 22nd September 1919, and was discharged as medically unfit. Her father had taken up land on the McKenzie River, so she lived there for a few years until taking over the victualler's license for the Cabbage Tree Creek Hotel. The license was transferred to her from Alice Swallow on 15th May

1922. She and her mother left the Cabbage Tree Creek Hotel in November 1925, and moved to Marysville to conduct a tourist hotel. Claudine then lived for some years in Melbourne with her parents, and after her mother's death in 1938, she and her father returned to Bemm River to live with her sister, Daphne, and brother-in-law, Bob Morgan. Her father died in 1954, and after Bob's death in 1956, the two sisters continued their lives together at Bemm River.

In the 1925 Country Directory C. E. CADWALLADER, Cabbage Tree Creek hotel, is listed, and on the 1949 Electoral Roll Claudine Estelle CADWALLADER, is listed as a Retired army nurse of Bemm River.

Daphne Aletha CADWALLADER

Daphne trained as a nurse in Melbourne and I am not 100% certain, but I think at Prince Henry's Hospital. After the war, Daphne married Robert (Bobby) John MORGAN and lived on the Morgan farm, "Gillawheen", at Bemm River. Later, Claudine, who did not marry, lived with them. The nursing skills of Daphne and Claudine were often sought after in their isolated community.



Daphne was aged 32 when she enlisted with the Australian Army Nursing Service and served at the St Kilda Road and Caulfield Military Hospitals. She embarked on 26th December 1916, from Melbourne on R.M.S. 'Mooltan' and arrived in Bombay on 15th January 1917. Daphne served at the Alexandra War Hospital for about 4 months and then the Freeman Thomas Hospital. Later she was sent to Deolali for about 14 months where she nursed wounded British soldiers and Turkish prisoners-of-war. Late in 1918 Daphne transferred to the British hospital at Abossia in Egypt to nurse Australian and British troops. She left there on 27th December 1918, and sailed for England where she nursed at Weymouth. Daphne returned to Australia on 22nd June 1919. Her father had taken up land on the McKenzie River so she became a farmer.

Daphne married Robert John MORGAN, a farmer at Bemm River, in 1925. Bob was born in 1878 at

Lucknow, the son of George Ponting MORGAN and Annie WORSLEY. He died on 4th May 1965, aged 86.

Robert John MORGAN is listed as a farmer at Bemm River on the 1903 Electoral Roll, and on the 1949 Robert John is again listed as a farmer of Bemm River, and Daphne Aletha is listed as Home duties at Lower Bemm River.

Avenel Niobe CADWALLADER

Avenel married firstly Albert Frederick JURY in 1922. She then married Victor NANCARROW in 1935.

Notes from Gippsland Heritage Journal, No. 16:

Gippsland's Great War Nurses

John Pearson

Two sisters from Orbost also left in this group of nurses, Claudine Estelle Cadwallader, aged 34, and Daphne Aletha Cadwallader, aged 32. The nursing careers of both sisters in the AANS were similar. Both served at St Kilda Road and Caulfield Military Hospital before leaving on *Mooltan* on Boxing Day in 1916. Both disembarked at Bombay on 15 January 1917 and were appointed to the Alexandra War Hospital. They were later sent to Deolali (a 3,000 bed hill station) to nurse wounded British soldiers and Turkish prisoners-of-war. At the end of 1918 both sisters were transferred to the British hospital at Abbassia in Egypt where they nursed Australian and British troops. After the Armistice they were transferred to Weymouth in England, before leaving in July 1919 to return to Australia.

Sister Claudine Cadwallader recorded her experiences for Matron Kellett in the following account.

I embarked on the 26th December, 1916, on the 'Mooltan' for India, and disembarked at Bombay.

I was at the Alexandra War Hospital for about four months, and it was a beautifully equipped Hospital, which had been a big shipping Office, and lent itself very well for a Hospital.

We took mostly malaria, dysentery and para. typhoid cases from Mesopotamia. The conditions were very good,

and the Hospital was well organised.

We had a British Matron, and there were twelve Australian sisters loaned to them. We had very good quarters there, and our hours off duty were good. One day we would be given three hours off, and the next day we would have the whole afternoon off, and this was carried out on alternative days all the time when we were not too busy.

I then went to the Freeman Thomas Hospital, from the Alexandra War Hospital. This was another beautiful Hospital, which was a memorial to Lord Willingdon's son, who was killed in the War.

I was in the surgical ward, where the work was very heavy, as we had patients from the Kut-el-Amara and Baghdad stunts.

We were extremely comfortably billeted, but I felt the heat greatly, and was ill for about two months.

I was then sent to Deolali, which was a large 3,000 bedded Hospital. Here I was in the ward set apart for heart troubles, but the work in this ward was not very heavy.

We were three sisters and three orderlies to look after 90 patients. The hours off duty were the same as at the Alexandra War Hospital. The Matron and Nursing Staff were Australians, and the male personnel were R.A.M.C., but it worked extremely well.

Our amusements consisted of concerts and cinemas.

I was there for about 14 months, and was then transferred to Egypt, and detailed for duty at the 31st British Hospital, where the work was very heavy, as we had big convoys of influenza patients from Palestine, and we lost a great many of these.

I left there on the 27th December, 1918 and sailed for England. After furlough in England, I was detailed for duty at No. 2 C.D., Weymouth, where the work was very light indeed, as most of the patients were going, and the camps were closing.

I remained there until it closed, and then went to No. 3 A.A.H., Dartford, where I am now awaiting transport to Australia.

Acknowledgement: Thanks to Marilyn Morgan for contributing information for this Newsletter. Further information on the Cadwallader Family can be found in Mary Gilbert's *Personalities and Stories of the Early Orbost District*.



Back: Billy Thompson, Avenel Cadwallader, Maggie McLeod, Ria Thompson, Violet Donald, Daisy Donald, Jean Cooke, Mr McCarthy, Lottie Parker, Jack Donald, Jack Thompson.

Middle: Ted Parker, Angus Ross, Charlie Thompson, Joe Thompson, Frank Parker, Loch Ross, Victor McLeod, Norman McLeod, Bessie Donald, Sarah Ross, Elsie Cooke, Edie Parker, Arthur Thompson, Billy Cooke. [Angus Ross died aged 14 from appendicitis].

Front: Frank Donald, Robbie McMillan, Arthur Thompson, Alex Ross, May McMillan, Bill McLeod, Mona McLeod, Daphne Parker, Florence Parker, Ella McLeod.