

Researcher(s): Joseph Forsyth		ORIGIN:			
Date: 14 July 2016					
INFORMATION		DETAIL			
SOURCE(S)		COMMENTS			
Surname		Appleby			
Forenames		William			
Date/Place of Birth		April 1889, Easington Lane, Co. Durham			
Last Recorded Address pre enlistment		Old Mill House, Easington Lane, DUR			
1911 Census Address & details (or latest available)		1911 census RG14PN30079A RG78PN1737 RD553 SD2 ED9 SN1			
Schools/Colleges attended					
Religion/Church attended pre enlistment		Church of England			
Attestation paper					
Organisation/Society/Club membership					
Occupation/Trade pre enlistment		Station hand			
Attestation paper					
Place of Work pre enlistment					
Name of Father		John Appleby b. 1850, Newbottle, DUR d. 1927 Easington Lane, DUR			
Baptism record, Death index		Assumed place of death as had not moved in 40 yrs.			
Name of Mother (maiden name if possible)		Elizabeth Mitchell or Dixon b. 1854, Ouston, DUR			
Census records, marriage index		Unable to definitively find either in birth indexes.			
Parental Address (if known)		Old Mill House, Easington Lane, DUR			
Attestation paper					
Parent's marriage(s)		1872, Houghton le Spring Registration District			
Marriage index					
Siblings		Number			
		11			
		Charles Appleby b. 1873 Easington Lane. Likely d. 1910 Tynemouth John Appleby b. 1875 Easington Lane. Likely d. 1931 Durham registration district. Mary Ann Appleby b. 1877 Easington Lane, m. Mark Harrison 1898, James William Appleby b. 1881 Easington Lane, d. 1887 Easington Lane Ambrose Appleby b. 1887 Easington Lane, emigrated to Australia Dec 1910 and m. Doris E. Beaver in Sydney in 1920. Hotel proprietor. Jonathan Appleby b. 1891 Easington Lane, m. Louisa Burnside 1912; likely d. 1972 Durham SE registration district. Bertha Appleby b. 1897 Easington Lane,		All information derived from FMP birth, marriage and death indexes and census records.	
1911 census states 12 children, 6 living. 4 would have died as infants.					
Wife's name and maiden name		Margaret Ann Gray			
NSW marriage index, 1935 electoral roll					
When and where married		1922, Sydney, NSW, Australia			
NSW marriage index					
Children's names		Number			
		9			
		Carlington Jack Appleby b. 1921 Sydney, NSW m. Gwendoline Roma Alchin, 1942, d. 1980, Parramatta, NSW. Vera Jane Appleby b. 1922 Sydney, NSW d. 1925 Annandale, NSW. Eric William Appleby b. 1926 Sydney, NSW m. Valerie Goldsworthy, 1953 d. 2000, Sydney NSW Allan Robert Appleby b. 1928 Merrylands, NSW d. 2000 Lismore, NSW Kenneth Charles Appleby b. 1936 Guildford, NSW d. about 2008. Joyce Appleby is named in a newspaper article as being in a fair procession wearing		NSW marriage and death indexes; electoral roll 1943 and 1949 NSW death index NSW marriage index, electoral roll 1949 Sydney Morning Herald 4 Nov 1938 states 9 children, 8 under age 17.	
Unverified birth and death dates are taken from a family tree on Ancestry with the title 'Appleby Family Tree'					

		her father's medals, including his DCM. May have married 1952 Karl Thomas McFadden				
Remarriage of widow (if applicable)						
Relationship to other subjects						
Date of death and age	Date:	29 Jan 1938	Age:	48	NSW death index 348/1938	
Regiment at end of service	Australian Service Corps				All military details from service record	
Battalion at end of service	3 rd division, pack transport					
Rank at end of service	private					
Service Number at death/end of service	977					
Place of death (if pre 1921)						
Place of death (if post 1921)	Guildford, Surrey, NSW				Cumberland Argus 3 Feb 1938	
Address at death (if post 1921)	3 O'Neill St, Guildford, NSW				Letter from widow in service record	
Occupation at death (if post 1921)	labourer				1935 electoral roll	
Battle at death (if applicable/known)						
Field of action at death (if applicable)						
Cause/Circumstances of death (if known)						
Location of Grave/Memorial	Rookwood Church of England Cemetery, Sydney, NSW				Sydney Morning Herald 31 Jan 1938	
Grave/Memorial reference (if known)	Zone C, Section H, grave 6573				Rookwood cemetery data base	
Local/other memorials recorded on						
Details of any other WW1 service: Rank Service Number Regiment Battalion	Lance Corporal Hospitalised enteric fever Private following court martial 3 rd Div, pack transport Acting sergeant Awarded DCM		Anzac, 4 Sep 1915 20 Sep 1915 17 May 1916 29 May 1917 1 July 1917 29 Aug 1917		Service record	Complete proceedings of court martial in service record. AWOL for 47 days. Receives 40 days detention (remitted to 30 days), loses rank and fined 47 days pay.
Date of Enlistment (if known)	22 October 1914				Attestation paper	
Place of Enlistment	Mannockville, Sydney, New South Wales					
Medals, Decorations and Awards	Distinguished Conduct Medal				Service record	DCM citation attached.
Service Record(s) if surviving.	http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=3034527					
Destination Country	Australia					
Departure from UK	Date:	Vessel:	Port:			
	3 Oct 1912	Zealandic	London			
Arrival at Destination	Date:	Port:				
	15 Nov 1912	Sydney				
Return to England (if applicable)	Date:	Vessel:	Port:			
Other Immigration Info (if stated)	Travelled third class. Occupation labourer.					

Additional Information – include any information of note

William was the 5th surviving child of John and Elizabeth Appleby. His father was a hawker or peddler, someone who sold goods door to door or on the street. The family lived in Easington Lane, a mining community in central County Durham. The 1911 census shows William pursuing the same trade along with his brothers John and Jonathan. His older brother, Ambrose Appleby, had left the family in 1910 to emigrate to Australia and in 1912 William followed him to that country. He left London on 3 October 1912 on board the White Star - Scott Savill liner Zealandic. The liner's arrival in Sydney was documented in the newspaper Dominion on 12 November 1912. The news report stated that there were 1,280 passengers on board. Included in these were a number of young men called Dreadnaught boys, brought over to settle in New South Wales; a large number of young women domestics and 26 young women, brides-elect, who had come out to join the men who had nominated them. In fact there were 539 women and girls; 432 children under 12 and only 309 men on board. Notably on the voyage the ship's had operated successfully on a baby boy.

In the 1913 NSW electoral roll for the Corowa District William is shown as a labourer in Felton Wood. Corowa District is on the border between New South Wales and Victoria and William having stated his occupation on his attestation paper as "station hand" may have been working on one of the ranches there.

William enlists as a private on 22 October 1914 and the Australian Imperial Force Embarkation Roll shows him leaving Australia on 21 December in the 6th Company, 2nd Light Horse Brigade Train, Australian Service Corps. The Corps landed in Egypt for training and then went to Gallipoli where William contracted, on 20 September 1915, what is described as "enteric" in his medical record. This would have been typhoid fever and led to his being evacuated to the Graylingwell War Hospital in Chichester by November 1915. He was discharged from there to Montevideo Camp, Weymouth which was actually a collection of huts and a hospital housed in Montevideo House for Australian and New Zealand troops recuperating from injuries and diseases contracted at Gallipoli.
[<http://weymouthanzacs.moonfruit.com/the-camps/4575540279>]

It was there on 26 March 1916 that William failed to appear at tattoo and was not seen until 11 May. He was arrested and appeared before a regimental court martial on 17 May 1916 where he pleaded guilty to being absent without leave and gave no statement about his whereabouts, simply referring to his previous good conduct. The verdict of the court martial was that he be stripped of his rank of Lance Corporal; forfeit 47 days pay and be detained for 40 days. The officer in charge remitted 10 days of this detention in light of his previous good conduct record.

Following release on 17 June 1916 he was transferred to Tidworth, Salisbury and in July proceeded to France where he joined the 3rd division pack transport. He was made acting sergeant on 1 July 1917 and on 29 August 1917 was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) for conspicuous gallantry in the field. (see citation below) He returned to Australia on 10 August 1918 and is discharged on 25 Jan 1919

Although his attestation paper states he was single, and the next of kin on his service file is his mother, Mrs. E. Appleby of Old Mill House, Easington Lane, there is a letter dated 19 November 1915 addressed to Mrs William Appleby, River St, Canterbury, Sydney responding to a request about the seriousness of William's enteric fever. He married Margaret Ann Gray in Sydney in 1922 and the 1935 Commonwealth electoral roll finds them living at 3 O'Neill St and William is a labourer.

In late January 1938 William is kicked by a horse near his house, is hospitalised and dies in Prince Henry hospital outside Sydney on Saturday 29 January 1938. That hospital is now closed and a nursing museum is on the site, but is considered one of the 5 most haunted places in Sydney. There are several newspaper accounts about the situation faced by his wife and young children. His funeral expenses were paid by the Guildford Funeral Fund and he was buried in Rookwood Cemetery. Here is one of those articles:

Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers companion, Parramatta, NSW 12 Oct 1938

DIGGER'S WIDOW

HOME TAKING SHAPE

Nearing completion on a choice block in Albert Street, Guildford, is the home of the widow and five children of the late Digger William Appleby, D.C.M.

Appleby died recently in tragic circumstances. Returned soldiers at Guildford combined their efforts and were able to arrange the financing of the cottage,

which is being erected by the Homes for Unemployed Trust. Solidly built, it contains five rooms, a nine-foot rear verandah, laundry, etc.

The family should enter their new quarters next week.

Other articles reference that William left 9 children, 8 of whom were under the age of 17 at his death. I have entered the names of those who appear in a family tree on Ancestry entitled "Appleby Family Tree" as well as Joyce Appleby, referenced in a newspaper article about the Guildford Fair in 1938, when she was in the procession wearing her father's medals. The oldest child, Carlington Jack Appleby had a different mother, Daisy Catherine, according to the New South Wales death index and was born before William's marriage to Margaret Ann.

NC.

Copy of extract from Third Supplement No. 30251
to the London Gazette, dated 24th August, 1917, relating to
the conspicuous services rendered by No. 977 Driver W. APPELBY,
Army Service Corps, Australian Imperial Force.

x x x

AWARDED THE DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL.

"HIS MAJESTY THE KING has been graciously
pleased to approve of the award of the Distinguished Conduct
Medal to the undermentioned soldier, for acts of gallantry
and devotion to duty in the Field :-

No. 977 Driver (Acting Sergeant) W. APPELBY.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty.
He conducted 52 mule loads of grenades, ammunition and water to
the forward area under great difficulties, being frequently under
shell fire. He showed great initiative in overcoming such
obstacles as a river, trenches and wire. He successfully delivered
his load and returned without any casualties, and he has been
consistently cool and resourceful whilst engaged in pack work."

x x x

The above has been promulgated in Commonwealth of
Australia Gazette, No. 219, of 20th December, 1917.