

# Gordon Charles FARNHAM

19/08/2015

**Gordon Charles FARNHAM – DCM, MM**

**New South Wales Police Force**

**Regd. # ?**

**Rank: Constable**

**Stations: Broken Hill, Wagga Wagga,**

**Service 1: From ? ? ? to ? ? **pre 1914**  
– Broken Hill**

**Service 2: From 15 April 1919 to 10  
March 1920 – Wagga Wagga – Resigned**

**[blockquote]**

**Australian Imperial Force**

**Regiment 1: 3rd Field Ambulance, B  
Squadron**

**Regiment 2: 3rd Light Trench Mortar  
Battery**

**Enlisted: 24 August 1914, Morphetville,**

**South Australia**

**Service # 151 & 176**

**Rank 1: Corporal # 151**

**Rank 2: Lance Corporal # 176**

**Embarkation 1: 3rd Field Ambulance, B Squadron – Unit embarked from Adelaide, South Australia, on board Transport A12 " Saldanah " on 21 October 1914**

**Embarkation 2: 3rd Light Trench Motar Battery – Unit embarked from**

**Age: 26**

**Next of kin: Father: Thomas Farnham, Cessnock, NSW**

**Religion: C of E**

**Single / Married: Single**

**War Service: Egypt, Gallipoli, Western Front**

**21 October 1914: Lance Corporal, 3rd Field Ambulance**

**21 October 1914: Embarked HMAT Saldanha,  
Adelaide**

**1 March 1917: Corporal, 3rd Light  
Trench Mortar Battery**

**Returned to Australia: 4 December 1918**

**[/blockquote]**

**Awards: Distinguished Conduct Medal –  
granted 6 September 1915 – ‘For great  
gallantry on the 25th April, 1915, and  
throughout the landing operations near  
Gaba Tepe (Dardanelles). In attending to  
the wounded under a heavy fire, he showed  
the greatest zeal and disregard of  
danger, and at all times gave a fine  
exhibition of coolness and devotion to  
duty.’**

**Source: ‘London Gazette’ No. 8844**

**Date: 6 September 1915**

**Military Medal – granted on 7 October  
1918 – ‘In the operations against the  
enemy positions at MONT DE MERRIS near  
STRAZEELE on night 2nd/3rd June, 1918  
Corporal FARNHAM displayed great**

**gallantry and initiative. When a gun close by which was firing on a very strong enemy machine gun position on the flank was put out of action, Corporal FARNHAM, regardless of his personal safety, carried the ammunition through the enemy's barrage to his own gun position and expended both his own and the disabled gun crews' quota. By great skill he was able to fire alternate shots at his own and the disabled gun crews' targets, thereby saving casualties from flanking machine gun fire. He set a splendid example of gallantry and initiative.'**

**Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette' No.**

**1914 – 15 Star, British War Medal,  
Victory Medal**

**Born: 18 June 1888 at Cessnock, NSW**

**Died on: Friday 28 January 1921**

**Place of death: Wagga Wagga, NSW**

**Cause: Food poisoning**

Age: 32

Funeral date: Friday 28 January 1921

Funeral location: Wagga Wagga

Buried at: Methodist portion of the  
Cessnock cemetery

Memorial at: ?



Gordon Charles  
FARNHAM

**GORDON** is NOT mentioned on the Police  
Wall of Remembrance \* NOT JOB RELATED

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**DEATH OF MR. GORDON FARNHAM A CESSNOCK DISTINGUISHED SOLDIER.**

The relatives of Mr. **Gordon Farnham D.C.M., M.M.** were shocked to receive word this morning of his death at Wagga Wagga. The sad information came as a great shock as it was not even known by his relatives that he was ill. The deceased was a native of Cessnock, being born in the premises now occupied by Mr. Dennis Kenny, in Main Street. The deceased was 30 years of age and was an **Anzac**, being **one of the first Australians** to enlist. He enlisted from **Broken Hill**, where he was a member of the **police force**.

The late Mr Farnham secured the **Distinguished Conduct medal** at **Gallipoli** and the **Military medal** in **France**.

He returned on furlough in the early part of 1919 and during his stay at his home town the Armistice was signed.

His remains will be brought to Cessnock and will be interred in the Church of England cemetery on Sunday afternoon.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/99448638>

**OBITUARY.**

**MR. GORDON C. FARNHAM.**

The death of Mr. **Gordon C. Farnham**, licensee of the **Club House Hotel**, Wagga, caused great regret, as the deceased was well-known throughout the district. Mr. Farnham was present at the boxing contests in the Riverina Hall on Wednesday night, and after returning to his hotel ate a supper which included cucumber, and had an iced drink. Later not feeling too well he had a glass of brandy, but during the night he suffered considerably from internal pains. In the morning his condition was such that Dr. Martin was called in, and he diagnosed the case as one of gastritis and enteritis. The sufferer was removed to a private hospital, but although everything possible was done for him he passed away about 3 o'clock on Friday morning. Dr. Martin certified that death was due to food poisoning, and this was endorsed by the deputy coroner after a formal inquiry.

The deceased, who was an **'Anzac,'** rose to the rank of **sergeant-major** in the **1st Divisional Engineers**, and earned the coveted awards of the **D.C.M.** and the **M.M.** At the time of his death he was on the committee of the Returned Soldiers' League.

**Prior to enlisting** he was a member of the **police force**, attached to the Wagga station, and he **rejoined** the force on **April 15, 1919**, on his return from the front, and **resigned** on March 10, 1920, to take over the **Club House Hotel**.

He leaves a wife, five brothers, and two sisters.

The funeral left Traill-street for the Wagga railway station at 4.30pm on Friday, from where the remains were conveyed by rail to **Cessnock** for interment in the Methodist portion of the Cessnock cemetery. The chief mourners were the wife of the deceased, Mrs. W. Ball, and Messrs. D. Harris and N. J. Richards. A large number of members of the Returned Soldiers' League marched behind the hearse, including the president, Ald. Gissing, the pall bearers being Messrs. V. Charker, T. A. Plummer, J. S. Wild, L. H. Shaw, T. A. Smith, and A.

Stephenson. Sister Proctor, and members of the Red Cross League were also present, while **Senior-sergeant Gallaher, Sergeant O'Brien, Senior-constable Cooper, Constables Brownlee and Waugh,** and **Tracker McLean** represented the **Wagga police**. There were many beautiful floral tributes.

The funeral arrangements were entrusted to Messrs. McIntosh Bros.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/142355550>

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Service Number listed as 176 and 151

***“AN ADELAIDE D.C.M.***

*Lance-Corporal Farnham, who came to Adelaide from Broken Hill to enlist, has won the Distinguished Conduct Medal for “showing the greatest zeal and disregard for danger during the landing at Gabi Tepe.” Lance-Corporal Farnham is a native of Cessnock (N.S.W.), and is 27 years of age. Like all the country recruits from the Cessnock district, he had a varied experience in rural pursuits in his native State, and was also for a time in New Zealand, and for 18 months prior to enlisting had been in the New South Wales police force, being stationed at Broken Hill. At the historic landing on April 25 he was for 10 hours under fire, “during which time,” says the official report, “he attended the wounded continuously, and made a fine exhibition of coolness and devotion to duty.” Lance-Corporal Farnham was in the trenches from April to the end of August, and is now on police patrol duty guarding prisoners. His parents are very old residents of Cessnock.” – from the Adelaide Advertiser 06 Oct 1915 (trove.nla.gov.au)*

### **"D.C.M. FOR CESSNOCK.**

The distinguished conduct medal has been won by Lance-corporal Gordon Farnham, a former resident of Cessnock, for "showing the greatest zeal and disregard for danger during the landing at Gaba Tepe." The D.C.M. hero, who is a native of Cessnock, is 27 years of age, and previously was employed at the Aberdare Colliery and blacksmith. He is a fine example of Australian manhood, and has many friends in Cessnock who are naturally proud of him. His parents also live in Cessnock. After leaving his native town, Farnham journeyed to New Zealand, from whence he went to Broken Hill, where for eighteen months previous to his enlistment he was a member of the police force. The call of war was too strong, however, and he enlisted in Adelaide with the Third Field Ambulance Corps. He subsequently took part in the famous landing of the 25th April, and was for ten hours under fire, "during which time," says the official report, "he attended the wounded continuously, and made a fine exhibition of coolness and devotion to duty." – from the Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate 08 Oct 1915 (nla.gov.au)

### **"OBITUARY. MR. GORDON C. FARNHAM.**

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<https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people/137462>

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## **NSW Births, Deaths & Marriages**

Death: 4551/1921    Father: Thomas    Mother: Susan    Wagga  
Wagga District

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**E. F. T. CRAMPTON**

19/08/2015

**E. F. T. CRAMPTON**

**Queensland Police Force**

**Constable**

**Stationed at Yeulba ( Yuleba )**

**Suicide – firearm**

## **Died 4 September 1907**

### **Constable's Death.**

The Chief Inspector of Police at Brisbane has received a telegram intimating that on the 4th instant Constable E. F. T. Crampton who was stationed at Yeulba, entered his office and shot himself with his revolver. The district inspector has gone to Yeulba to investigate. Constable Crampton who was a married man with a wife and family had been transferred to Yeulba a few days ago from the Charleville district where he had been doing relieving duty.

**The Brisbane Courier ( Qld ) Saturday 7 September 1907 page  
4 of 16**

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/19407130?searchTerm=constable%20crampton&searchLimits=l-category=Article||||l-australian=y#pstart1557900>

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### **Magisterial Inquiry.**

As inquiry was held before Mr. Wm. Harris, P.M., at Yeulba on Friday into the death of Constable Crampton, who committed suicide by shooting himself with a revolver on Thursday morning last.

The evidence of George Howe, a contractor at Yeulba, was to the effect that he had been occupied about a week repairing the police buildings, and that deceased arrived there on 27th

August. Deceased appeared low spirited, and complained of having no sleep. In the middle of a conversation he would get up and walk away. On the 3rd, deceased picked up a cartridge, which he put in his mouth, exclaiming "Bang." On the 4th, a man in Howe's employ told Howe the constable was walking about with a revolver in his hand. Howe went to the constable and asked him what he wanted to be playing with the revolver for, and Crampton remarked, " It is very tempting being under my nose." Later he put the revolver in a pigeon hole. That was the last time he saw Crampton alive. The following morning Howe and Darr found him dead on the floor of his room.

Masy Crampton, widow of deceased, deposed that her husband had been very worried over business matters. He had left the police and gone into business at Oakey, but had lost money and rejoined the force. Later he was transferred to Charleville and Yeulba. In his letters to her he complained of the idea of having to take his family to Charlevill, also of having no sleep. He was a temperate man.

Henry Darr, H. McLoughlin, J.P., Constable Joyce, Dr. Pratt (Government medical officer), and several others gave evidence.

**Western Star & Roma Advertiser ( Toowoomba, Qld )**

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<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/97417885?searchTerm=constable%20crampton&searchLimits=l-category=Article||||l-australian=y#pstart10174906>

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Yeulba / **Yuleba** Police Station no longer exists but was

possibly in Stephenson St, Yuleba, Qld, 4427.

It was located in the Maranoa & Warrego Division, consisted of 2 cells, with the walls made from wood, the roof of iron and was built in 1881.

<http://boggoroad.blogspot.com.au/2014/06/know-your-colonial-gaol-history-15.html>

[divider]