

**St. Margaret of Antioch Churchyard,
East Wellow, Hampshire, England,
Grave**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



STAFF NURSE 1040

J. M. B. ANDREWS

AUSTRALIAN ARMY NURSING SERVICE

27TH NOVEMBER, 1964

By Love Serve One Another

Gal.

Jessie Mary Busby ANDREWS

Jessie Mary Busby Andrews was born on 13th January, 1893 in Goulburn, NSW to parents Henry Percy & Florence Ada Andrews (nee Piddington).

Jessie Mary Busby Andrews was a 24 year old Nurse from Sydney when she enlisted with the Australian Army Nursing Service on 27th August, 1917. Her service number was 1040 & her religion was Church of England. Jessie Andrews' next of kin was listed as her mother – Mrs F. A. Andrews, of 29 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, NSW.

Jessie Mary Busby Andrews' demobilisation form stated her permanent address was B.M.G. Buildings, 32 Elizabeth Street, Sydney. She had previously worked as a Staff Nurse at Public Health Department, Coast Hospital, Sydney.

Staff Nurse Jessie Mary Busby Andrews embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Ayrshire* (A33) on 15th September, 1917 & disembarked at Suez on 27th October, 1917.

Staff Nurse Jessie Andrews joined 27th General Hospital, Abbassia, Egypt for duty on 28th October, 1917.

Staff Nurse Jessie Andrews was admitted to B.R.C. Convalescent Home at Alexandria on 25th March, 1918 & discharged to duty on 31st March, 1918.

Staff Nurse Jessie Andrews was transferred to 31st General Hospital, Abbassia for duty on 22nd June, 1918.

Staff Nurse Jessie Andrews was admitted to 31st General Hospital, Abbassia on 31st August, 1918 & discharged from Hospital on 6th September, 1918.

Staff Nurse Jessie Andrews was admitted sick again to 31st General Hospital, Abbassia on 10th December, 1918. She was discharged on 15th December, 1918.

Staff Nurse Jessie Andrews was admitted sick again to 31st General Hospital, Abbassia on 17th December, 1918. She was discharged on 27th December, 1918 & transferred to 27th General Hospital on 28th December, 1918.

Staff Nurse Jessie Mary Busby Andrews resigned from Australian Imperial Force after World War 1 & her appointment in the A.I.F. was terminated on 8th March, 1919. She was discharged at Cairo, Egypt on that date due to her marriage.

Staff Nurse Jessie Mary Busby Andrews was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal.

Jessie Mary Busby Andrews married Gerald Gustav Masson on 8th March, 1919 at St. George's Cathedral, Jerusalem. (Gerald Gustav Masson was born 4th April, 1888 at Nairne, South Australia. He was a 27 year old Farmer when he enlisted with the 3rd Light Horse Brigade, 9th Light Horse Regiment, Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.) on 9th September, 1914 with a service number of 151. He was Mentioned in Despatches. Commissioned in the A.I.F. in Egypt on 9th March, 1918. Discharged in Egypt at own request from 13th January, 1919.)

Newspaper Notices:

WEDDINGS

A military wedding of special interest took place at St. George's Cathedral, Jerusalem, on March 8, when Jessie Mary Busby, A.A.N.S., late of the Coast Hospital, Sydney, only daughter of Mrs. F. A. Andrews, was married to Gerald Gustav, late of the 9th Light Horse Regiment, at Present with the Occupied Enemy Territory Administration, only son of Mrs. and Mr. E. S. Masson, Adelaide, South Australia. The service was fully choral. The bride, who looked charming in mess uniform, carried a bouquet of stars of Bethlehem, the gift of the American Red Cross, and was given away by Sister H. Taylor Williams, A.A.N.S., and attended by Sister L. J. Kelman, while Captain W. E. Evans, M.B.E., supported the bridegroom. The ceremony was performed by Captain Chaplain O. W.

Birch, M.C., S.C.F., assisted by the bishop's chaplain. A reception was held afterwards at the residence of the bishop's chaplain. Among the guests were the Chief Administrator of Occupied Enemy Territory, Major-General Sir A. W. Money, K.C.B., C.S.I., Brigadier-General R. Storrs, Mrs. and Major G. R. Tadman, Mrs. and Captain O. Benett, Miss Cullet, and Miss Woods, from the American Red Cross, Major H. Simmons, Major A. W. Bourke, Major R. R. Fowler, and the officers of Occupied Enemy Territory Administration, and the officers of the Military Governor's staff, Jerusalem. The happy couple left by motor for Jaffa. Their present address is Jerusalem.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 3 May, 1919)

MARRIAGES

MASSON-ANDREWS – March 8, at St George's Cathedral, Jerusalem, by Captain-Chaplain O.W. Birch, M.C., S.C.F., assisted by the Bishops, Chaplain-Captain Gerald Gustav Masson (late 9th Light Horse), only son of E.S. and Mrs Masson, Park-terrace, Eastwood, Adelaide, SA, and grandson of Prof. Gustav Masson, of Harrow, Eng., to Jessie Mary Busby Andrews, A.A.N.S., only daughter of the late H.P. and Nurse F.A. Andrews, B.M.A. buildings, Sydney, and granddaughter of late Archdeacon Piddington, Tamworth, NSW, great-granddaughter late George Busby, M.D., Bathurst, NSW.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 8 May, 1919)

Gerald Masson was appointed Inspector of Agriculture for the Palestine Government in 1920 & Inspector of Agriculture & Forests from 1924 to 1930. He was appointed Chief Agricultural Officer for the Palestine Government in 1930. He spent 23 years in Palestine.

Mrs J. M. B. Masson, aged 33, c/o Galbraith, Pembroke & Co. Ltd, London was a passenger on the *Burma* which departed from Liverpool, England on 12th November, 1926 bound for Rangoon. Also travelling with Mrs Masson were her 2 daughters – Miss J. J. Masson, aged 5 & Miss E. G. Masson, aged 2 & Miss J. Simpson, 34 year old Nurse. They all listed their country of intended future permanent residence as Palestine.

Mrs Jessie M. B. Masson, aged 41, of 25 Queensborough Terrace, Bayswater, Housewife, & her 1 year old daughter Catherine M. Masson were passengers aboard the *Bendigo* which departed from the Port of London on 28th September, 1934 bound for Australia. Mrs Masson listed her country of intended future permanent residence as Palestine.

The 1933 & 1934 Australian Electoral Rolls for North Sydney, subdivision of Crows Nest listed Jessie Mary Busby Masson, home duties, living at 9 Carlyle Street.

Jessie Masson, aged 43, of 25 Queensborough Terrace, London was a passenger on *Narkunda* which arrived in London on 20th March, 1936. Jessie was travelling from Port Said, Egypt with her 2 daughters – Geraldine, aged 11 & Margaret, aged 3 & also Annie MacLagon, aged 35, Nurse from Oakmede, Bettshill, Barnet, Herts. They all stated their country of last permanent residence was Palestine.

Jessie Masson returned to Australia in August 1941 & was residing at Mosman, NSW.

Jessie Masson (nee Andrews), of 102 Raglan Street, Mosman, NSW, applied in December, 1941 for Returned Sisters Badge. Jessie Masson stated in a Statutory Declaration that she had never received her discharged Returned Sisters Badge No. 267418. It was supposed to have been forwarded to her address in Jerusalem, Palestine where she resided until 29th July, 1941 but had never been in her possession. Base Records advised that

the Returned Soldiers Badge No. 267418 was posted to Mrs J. M. B. Masson, c/- The Governorate, Haifa, Palestine in January, 1922 & they had no record of the badge having been returned unclaimed.

From the newspapers – The Advertiser, Adelaide, Sth Australia 28 December, 1944:

"I have just heard from our old friend Gerald Masson, formerly Chief Agricultural Officer in Palestine for many years. He tells me he has bought a small property on the North Shore line out of Sydney, where he will potter about – at Clissold Road, Wahroonga. Gerald's eldest daughter was married in St. George's Cathedral, Jerusalem, on December 20, where by the way, he and his wife were married 25 ½ years ago.

The 1949 & 1954 Australian Electoral Rolls for the district of Bradfield, subdivision of Gordon listed Gerald Gustav Masson, Public Servant & Jessie Mary Busby Masson, home duties, living at 10 Francis Street, Lindfield.

Gerald Gustav Masson died on 30th September, 1963, aged 75.

Jessie Mary Busby Masson (nee Andrews) died on 27th November, 1964. Her death was registered in the December quarter, 1964 in the district of Southampton, Hampshire, England.

Newspaper notice:

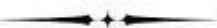
DEATHS

MASSON, Jessie Mary (Brownie) Busby – November 27 (suddenly), at Southampton, England, late A.A.N.S., widow of Gerald Gustave Masson, formerly of Lindfield and Melbourne, beloved mother of Jean (Mrs Lloyd-Thomas), Geraldine (Mrs Twomey) and Robin (Mrs Richards), sister of the late Geoffrey and Robert Andrews and of Pat Andrews. Burial at the parish church, Sherfield English, Hampshire, England.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 30 November, 1964)

(45 pages of Staff Nurse Jessie Mary Busby Andrews' Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives



Newspaper Notices

Out among the People

S.A. Man In Palestine

Those of us who knew here years ago Mr Gerald G. Masson, now Chief Agricultural Officer for the Government in Palestine, with headquarters at Jerusalem, are always keen to hear how he is faring during these hectic times in the Holy Land. Old Prince Alfred Collegian and Roseworthy College diploma holder (1911), "Gerry" Masson is doing well in Palestine, and is giving entertaining talks over the air on gardening. In a letter to his uncle, Mr Charlie Godfrey, of the Adelaide Stock Exchange, Mr Masson describes how another South Australian motored round a corner into an ambush Arabs were constructing. He charged into the barbed wire, and succeeded in getting through, although his petrol tank was riddled and the four Arabs raked his car with gun fire. The car sped down hill to safety. Had he arrived a few minutes later, the obstacle would have been firmly established!



Mr G. G. Masson

(*Chronicle*, Sth Australia – 6 April, 1939)

1919 A.I.F. Romance Celebrated in Palestine

By J. A. Hetherington, Special Representative of "The News" with the A.I.F.

JERUSALEM. March 10.

On March 8, 1919, Capt. Gerald Masson, of the 9th Light Horse, and Sister Jessie Andrews, an Australian war nurse, of Sydney, entertained friends at a party in the dining room of a Jerusalem hotel before their wedding next day.

The Massons on Friday entertained a number of Australian nurses on leave in Jerusalem at a party at their home.

They later visited the hotel, which is now an Australian Soldiers Club and invited the Australians there to have a drink in celebration of their twenty-first wedding anniversary.

Capt. Masson was a farmer at Tailem Bend before he enlisted in the great war. He is now Chief Agricultural Officer in the Palestine Department of Agriculture.

His wife came to Palestine as a war nurse in 1917, and the Massons have remained in Palestine ever since, with the exception of two visits to Australia.

Capt. Masson told me that it seems, like being home to hear Australian voices again in Jerusalem after 20 years.

"When I look at the present race of diggers I see no difference between them and the First A.I.F." he added.

(*The News*, Adelaide, Sth Australia - 11 March, 1940)

Sister Jessie Andrews, who went to Palestine in 1917 as a member of the A.A.N.S., was married at St. George's Cathedral, Jerusalem, on March 8, 1919, to Captain Gerald Masson, 9th A.L.H., who had been a farmer at Tailem Bend, S.A., before he enlisted in the 1st A.I.F. Mrs. Masson returned to Australia at the end of 1941 and her husband who, after the last war became chief agricultural officer in the Palestine Department of Agriculture, arrived at the end of 1943.

Their eldest daughter, who has just become engaged was born at Mount Carmel one of the first British children born in Palestine after the occupation. A special despatch was sent to the British Foreign Office to make sure that her birth with four others, was not recorded as Turkish.

(*The Sydney Morning Herald*, NSW - 10 June 1944)

ENGAGEMENTS ANNOUNCED

MASSON – GAME – Edith Geraldine, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Gerald G. Masson, of Jerusalem and Sydney, to Peter Aylward, third son of Mr and Mrs T.A. Game, of Adelaide.

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria - 8 January, 1947)

Out Among the People – By Vox

For 9th L.H. Reunion Was pleased to meet with Jim Cattle our old friend Gerald Masson, over from North Shore, Sydney, after an absence of four years, to attend the 9th Light Horse Regiment reunion at the RSL Club, and to see the Royal Show for the first time since he went abroad on service in 1914.

Gerry spent 23 years in Palestine as Inspector of Agriculture and Forests and Chief Agricultural Officer.

(*Chronicle*, Sth Australia – 13 September, 1951)

Photo of Jessie Mary Busby Masson (nee Andrews)'s Private Headstone in St. Margaret of Antioch Churchyard, East Wellow, Hampshire, England.



(Photo by Andrea Charlesworth)

St. Margaret of Antioch Churchyard, East Wellow, Hampshire, England

There are no Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones located in the churchyard, however a notable burial is located there – Florence Nightingale, who died in 1910, and well known as “The Lady with the Lamp” for her contributions resulting in creation of a highly regarded and respected nursing profession.



St. Margaret of Antioch Churchyard, East Wellow (Photo by Charlesdrakew)



Florence Nightingale’s Headstone in St. Margaret of Antioch Churchyard, East Wellow