

Yackandandah Shire Soldiers' Memorial

UNVEILING CEREMONY BY MR H. BEARDMORE M.L.A.,
MONDAY, 9th JUNE, 1924.



The above photo shows Tablets fixed to Pillars at main entrance to Gardens with Rotunda in background.

Despite the cold and threatening weather there was a very large and representative gathering of citizens to mark an epoch in the annals of the Yackandandah Shire, and to participate in the solemnity of the Unveiling of the Memorial to the Fallen Soldiers' and Honor Roll of of Returned Soldiers', and the formal Opening of the Memorial Gardens and Rotunda. The two former occupy positions at the main entrance to the gardens which is composed of four large concrete pillars. The two inner pillars supporting the entrance gate have fixed thereon the marble tablets on which are inscribed the names of Fallen Soldiers'. On the two outer pillars are the marble tablets containing the names of Returned

containing the names of Returned Soldiers who enlisted within the Shire and went overseas, or whose parents resided in the Shire at time of enlistment.

The Memorial which is solidly constructed of concrete pillars, plinths, posts and iron fence occupies a prominent position at the corner of High and Wellsford St., Yackandandah, which transforms the area it stands on as one of beauty and serving to perpetuate the memory of our heroes who paid the supreme sacrifice in defence of King and Empire, heroes who won lustre for Australia and who by their acts and deeds accomplished all that human hearts could compass. The memorial would keep before the people for generations to come the names of our gallant boys who fought and won.

The proceedings began with the singing of the "National Anthem" by the community. The Rev. R. S. McConachy then gave a prayer for King and Empire. The Hymn "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" was then sung by the audience.

Cr G. E. Beatty, Chairman, said there was no occasion for him to dwell upon the reason for their assemblage there that day. It was to honor and perpetuate the memory of our brave gallant heroes who had assisted to keep the old flag flying and to lift Australia from obscurity. The Yackandandah Shire boys who went to do their duty got into the thick of the fray, consequently more than a fair percentage paid the supreme sacrifice. To the parents, wives and relatives of the fallen the deepest sympathy

was expressed. But they have consolation and comfort in the fact that they died heroes and lay in heroes graves. The gathering there was to do honor to those who carved their names to fame and upheld the traditions of their forefathers.

Mr H. Beardmore, M.L.A., thanked the citizens for conferring upon him the honor of officiating. He felt grateful for the privilege to take part in so honorable and commendable a ceremony which comprised a three-fold ceremony all in conjunction. To honor the brave and to put a fitting object to perpetuate the memory of the fallen, and to honor the brave returned. He congratulated the residents on the extremely fine Memorial, Honor Roll and Gardens. He had attended many such ceremonies but had never seen a better or more fitting memorial. They had done the right thing to perpetuate the memory of the Fallen and Returned.

Every feature of the memorial had been well thought out and it was a fitting tribute to those who served and did their duty at their country's call which led them into places to do or die. They gave their all and upheld the traditions of their forefathers in their daring deeds. Our men untrained in warfare went overseas and proved that they were men of grit of whom we were proud and attended there with full hearts to do them honor. To the parents and relatives of those 48 brave heroes whose names are inscribed on the beautiful tablets we extend to them our sympathy and consolation. With all due solemnity he then unveiled the Fallen Soldiers'

then unveiled the Fallen Soldiers' Tablets.

The Rev. W. A. Alston then recited fervently a prayer in Commemoration of Fallen Soldier' followed by a general recital of the Lord's Prayer.

Mr Edwards, of Beechworth, then sounded the Last Post.

Mr H. W. Greenwood, of Dederang, in returning thanks for the Returned Soldiers' held his vast audience spell-bound with a fitting address, fluent and forcible, one that appealed to the hearts of young and old. He said it was his lot to be on board the Ballarat as an orderly when that ship was torpedoed. He watched the men who were faced with death and could relate many instances of heroism and

gallantry. We had done well to paint the names of the boys in letters of gold.

Mr Beardmore then unveiled the Honor Roll containing 164 inscribed names of Returned Soldiers. He said the honor roll was one to be proud of. The Shire of Yackandandah could take its place amongst the Shires of the State for its patriotism. Its citizens were mindful of their obligations to these men. Personally, he would, in the future, as in the past, do all that he could for the returned soldier whom he honored, and he felt that it was his duty to assist them. It was a fine tribute to see their names emblazoned in gold for all time.

Mr R. Cook, M.H.R., said that he felt grateful to be present on this important occasion and complimented the citizens on the fine

mentent the citizens on the fine tribute that they have given the fallen soldiers. He said that we all console with the parents and relatives of the fallen and rejoice with those that returned. In future it would be our duty to do all we can to assist them. By cooperation we can make matters easy for them.

Cr Beatty then called upon Mrs Ramsay to formally open the Gardens.

Mrs Ramsay then cut the ribbons adorning the gate and formally declared the Gardens open, followed by a spontaneous outburst of applause.

Mr J. Hocking J.P., Vice-President of the Memorial Committee, on behalf of the citizens handed over the Deeds of the ground free of debt to Cr. G. E. Beatty, President of the Shire, for the council and people. Mr Hocking, in his address, gave an outline of the cost of the Memorial and Gardens, and exhorted the children not to make the gardens a playground but to inspire a desire to see that it was well and faithfully kept. The object of the Gardens was to keep in mind the deeds of our boys in the great world war, one to be revered.

Cr. Beatty, in accepting the Deeds, eulogised the committee and citizens for their noble work in erecting such a fine memorial to our fallen soldiers', the honor roll to our returned diggers and the beautiful gardens, the whole comprising a comprehensive Memorial to be proud of. He knew the

Council would appreciate the handing over of the memorial to their care and assured the audience that the Council would see that the gardens was properly attended to. He moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr H. Beardmore for officiating at the Unveiling and Mr R. Cook M.H.R. for his attendance.

Rev. J. Townsend then pronounced the Benediction.

Apologies were received from Dr J. Harris and Mr A. M. Zwar, M's.L.C. for their absence owing to prior engagements.

Mr and Mrs William Blair, of Cudgewa, wired sympathy to relatives of fallen soldiers and congratulations on unveiling a fitting memorial to perpetuate the memory of soldiers of the shire.

An adjournment was then made to the Shire Hall (which had been most artistically decorated with tri-colored streamers giving the hall the appearance of a large field marquee), where all were received by the Ladies' Committee and friends and served with afternoon tea which was highly appreciated. Many compliments were received from visitors as to the completeness of the arrangements and the courtesy and attention bestowed upon visitors.

Thus the curtain rang down on one of the most memorable occasions in the history of the Shire of Yackandandah.

Cr Beatty entertained Members of Parliament, Councillors, Presidents of adjoining Shires in the new spacious dining room of the Star hotel adjoining the Memorial Gardens, where the toasts of King and visitors were proposed and

and visitors were proposed and honored by Messrs H. Beardmore M.L.A. and R. Cook M.H.R.

		FIDELIS USQUEAD MORTEM			
Alexander G.	Coulston T.			Keenan John	O'Connor J.
Alexander R.	Coulston W. B.			Keenan W.	Owen C. J. L.
Anderson J.	Croker R.			Lack E.	Pardon G.
Anderson John	Curran J.			Lack R.	Pardon G. A.
Anderson R.	Currau M. B.			Lambert J. R.	Pearson E. A.
Anderson W.	Curran R.			Lee D.	Pepper V. J.
Andrews J.	Cure W. L.	Arundel H.	Maxwell W.	Lefevre R.	Pleming J.
Andrews P.		Ashmead C.G.J.	Melbourne G.	Lightbody O. H.	Pleming S.
Arundel P.	Davey F. W.	Ashworth H.	Miller G.	Marum I. Sister	Priestley J. Sister
Ashford W. J.	Douovan J.		Miller W.	Marum E. Sister	Price R.
	Dunstan J.	Barton W. G.	Morrison C.	Marum F.	Quonoey C.
Babbington R.		Beatty A.		Marum W.	
Bakes R.	Eastwell T.	Bell J. F.	McDermott F. C	Mason F.	Ralph S.
Bartel R. E.		Bell W. M.	McLeod D. A.	Mason R.	Rea T.
Beatty K. J.	Ferguson G.		McLeod E.	Maxwell P.	Reid W. J.
Bell, G. W. J.			McMahon James	Maxwell T.	Rickard E.
Besley C.	Gaylard F.	Collins F.	McMahon John	Melbourne A.	Robinson J.
Besley E.	Gillies L.	Colwell J.	McMillan N.	Melbourne L.	Romar G.
Blair W.	Guy H. A.	Croucher H.	McWaters J.	Melbourne W. F.	
Blair R.	Gayett A. E.	Croucher N.	McWaters W.	Melbourne W. R.	Sealey A.
Blair W. D.				Miller E.	Sealey H.
Blundell A.	Hall L.	Dunstan S. S.		Miller R.	Shanahan J.
Blundell C.	Hall V.			Minogue P.	Shannon C. N.
Booth C. E.	Hamilton N. H.			Minogue M. Sister	Shields W.
Britton G.	Harris S.	Glaiser H.		Mitchell R.	Stephens P.
Britton S.	Harris H.	Grant A.		Mongan F.	Street W.
Buckland R. J.	Harris T.			Mongan J.	Sutherland D.
Bullock C.	Harvey T. J.	Huon C. D.	Paul L. W.	Morrison D.	Sutherland B.
Bullock J. T.	Hayes A. J.	Humphryis J. W.	Peacock W. A.	Morrison S. J.	
Bullock D. L.	Hobbs C. I.		Price J. J. F.	Moore P. N.	Taylor E.
Butson C. N.	Hocking W.	I'Anson R. G.	Price P.	Moore G. J.	Thomas J. H. A.
	Holland J. F.				Thomas V. R.
Cain W.	Howard S.	Keat A.	Rhodes E.	McCullough A. W.	
Carlyle E.	Huon H. P.	Keat P.	Rickard A.	McGrath P.	Waterson T.
Charles E.	Huon R. E.	Keenan T.	Ryan W.	McKibbon J. J.	Ward J. A.
Charles T. C.	Huon A. E. Sister	Kent A.		McKibbon J.	Ward J. R.
Clelaud J. M.	Hynes M.	Kellar E.	Stephens Fin	McMahon T.	Ward H.
Clugan J.	Hynes J.			McMillan R. J.	Webber H.
Clutterbuck E.		Marum G. P.	Wentworth C. B.	McNamara J.	Weldon R. S.
Clutterbuck H.	I'Anson J. L.	Maxwell A.		McWaters S.	Welshman J.
Clutterbuck W.					Wise Alf
Cole W. S.	Jarvis G.				Wise Arthur
Collins A. E.	Jefferies R. E.			Neville C.	Wise August
Collins J. F.				Nichol D. J.	
Collins S.	Kearney T.			Nicholson L.	
Colewell H.	Keenan James				

The above are the names appearing on the Memorial Tablets and Honor Roll. The names in black type denote Fallen Soldiers. The English translation of the quotation "Fidelis Usquead Mortem" is "Faithful Unto Death."