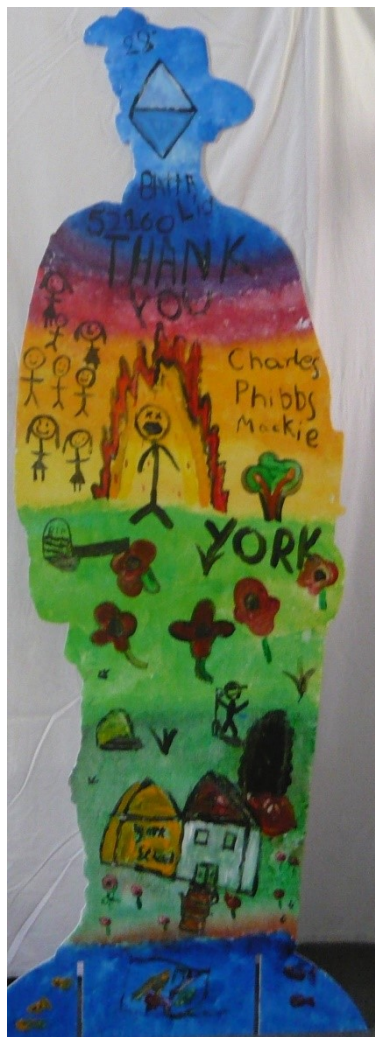


MACKIE

Charles Phibs

Service No: 52160



Summary

Name: Charles Phibs Mackie

Service Number: 52160

Date of Enlistment: 1/2/1918

Age at Enlistment: 21 years 1 month

Civil Occupation: Farm Hand

Medals, Honours, Awards: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Height: 5ft 4 ½ inches

Weight: 120 Lbs.

Chest Measurement: 32 inches

Complexion: Sallow

Eye Colour: Brown

Hair Colour: Brown

Father: John Robins Mackie

Mother: Ruth Jobson

Siblings: Frederick Snell (1898-1899), Grace Emma (1899-1994), John Alexander (1901-?), Oliver Goldsmith (1905-?), Edgar Robins (1907-?), Dorothy (1907-1999)

Married: No

Family Story

Charles was the grandson of John Coningham Mackie who arrived in the Swan River Colony on board the *James Pattison* on the 19th August 1834. John was the cousin of William Henry Mackie, Advocate General for the Colony between 1832 and 1834 and Commissioner of the Civil Court until his retirement in 1857.

John Coningham Mackie married a widow, Emma Harriet Norwood Meares (nee Snell) in 1862, and they had two sons, John Robins (father of Charles Phibs) and Charles Conyngham, who died in infancy. Their half-sister, Emma Elizabeth Seymore Meares, was born in 1860 at “Auburn,” near York. She married Harold Brockman in 1880 and was the mother of Frederick, Norman and Ralph Brockman.

John Coningham Mackie farmed “Auburn” and “Yangadine” and his son, John Robins, later farmed “Auburn.”

John Robins married Ruth Jobson, a school teacher, in 1896 at Tipperary, near York.

Life Story

Charles Phibs Mackie, born at York in 1897, was the first child of Ruth and John Robins Mackie.

He attended York State School as a child and was mentioned on the prize list in 1904, when he was in Class Two.

Charles enlisted on the 1st February 1918. He embarked at Albany on the 8th May and, after a short stay at Suez, disembarked at Southampton in England on the 16th July 1918.

On the 4th October, Charles proceeded overseas to France, where he was Taken on Strength with the 28th Battalion at Havre.

Charles was admitted to the 7th Australian Field Ambulance with bronchitis on the 1st February 1919. From there, he was transferred to several hospitals before being returned to England suffering “confusion and insanity.”

Finally, Charles was admitted to the Royal Victoria Hospital on the 21st February 1919. He remained there until he was repatriated to Australia in November, 1919.

Upon his return to Australia, Charles was immediately admitted to the Claremont Hospital for the Insane. He was formally discharged from the army in January 1920. Claremont Hospital for the Insane became known as the Claremont Mental Hospital in 1933.

Charles died in 1940 when his clothes caught fire from a cigarette that had been lit for him by an attendant. He died the next day from his injuries.

His story is a reminder of the personal cost of war.

Acknowledgements

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