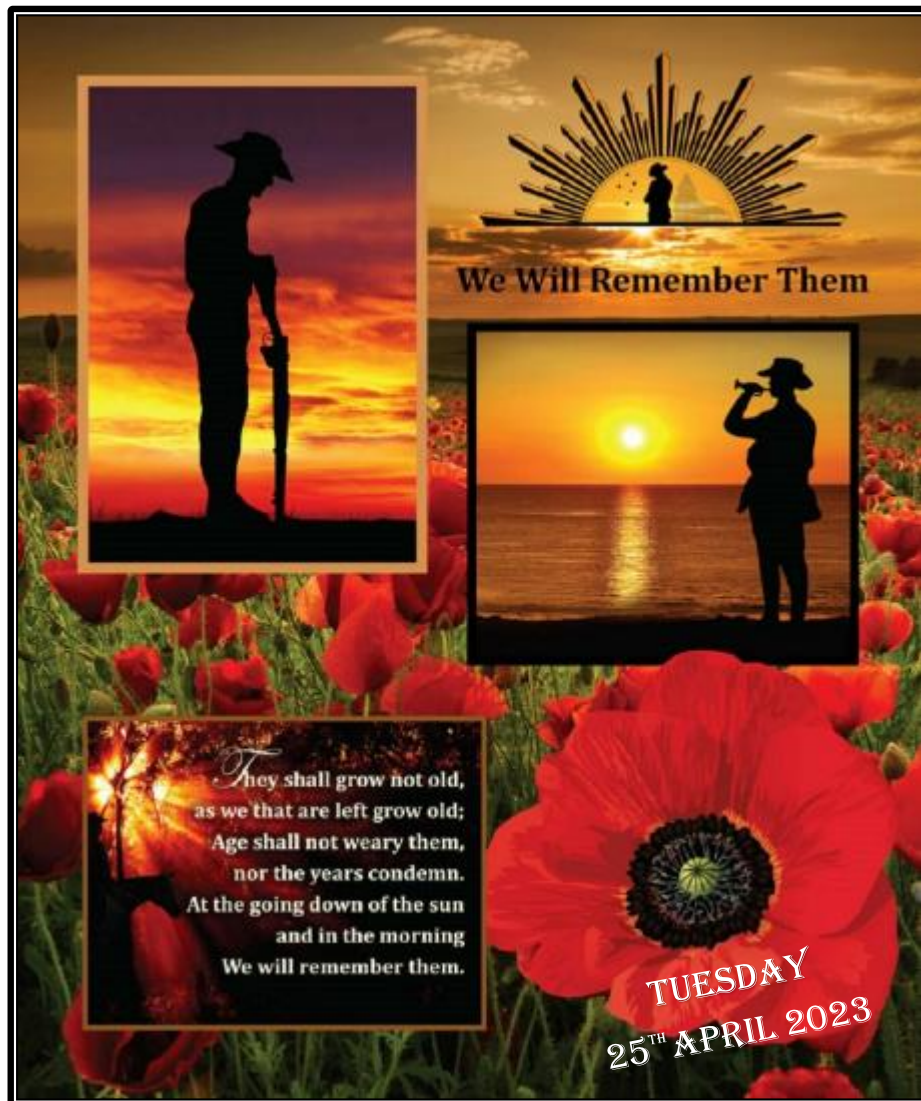


ILMO



MARCH – APRIL 2023

Newsletter

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc – Mersey Branch

**TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY INC – MERSEY BRANCH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

POSITIONS VACANT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2023-2024

**President
Vice president
Secretary
Treasurer**

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST IN

**Library Co-Ordinator
Library Assistant
Membership Co-Ordinator
Research Co-Ordinator
Journal Liaison Officer
Newsletter Editor
Publication Committee
Index
Stock Control
Equipment & Maintenance
Library Assistants**

**Dates of events & Meetings will be added
to future ILMO's**

2023

MARCH

20th Monday Committee Meeting @ 1.30pm

APRIL

1st Saturday Return of Nominations for AGM

17th Monday Committee Meeting @ 1.30pm

22nd Saturday Annual General Meeting @
1.00pm

2th Tuesday Anzac Day

MAY

8th Monday Committee Meeting @ 1.30pm

JUNE

12th Monday Committee Meeting @ 1.30pm

**Tasmanian Family History Society Inc
Mersey Branch**

Opening Hours

Wednesday and Friday

10am to 3pm

Other times by appointment

NEWS

From The Editors Desk



**Your Membership and
Entitlements**

**Are you aware that in becoming a
Member of the Tasmanian Family
History Society Inc and paying
your fees at a particular Branch,
you are not tied to that Branch.**

**As a Member of the TFHS Inc you
are entitled to visit any one of the
four Branches in Tasmania and
obtain your membership
privileges.**

**Note – All Memberships are due for
renewal by the 31st MARCH 2023**

*Please use the Membership Renewal Form that
comes with your February/March Edition of
Tasmanian Ancestry.*

**The number to call for all information in this
Newsletter**

Ph: Library 03 6426 2257 opening hours

Or

Secretary 03 6428 6328

Email: secretary@tfhsdev.com

Introducing a new annual award from the TFHS

The Tasmanian Ancestry

PATRON'S AWARD

celebrating the best article published in Tasmanian Ancestry in a single
calendar year

by

any past or current student in the

University of Tasmania *Diploma of Family History*.

To enter simply submit your article in the usual way by email to the editor at
editors@tasfhs.org including in the body of the email information allowing the society
to confirm your enrolment in the diploma course.

Attach your article as a Microsoft Word attachment to your email. length from 1000 to
2000 words.

More details are available in an article elsewhere in this issue.

*The Editor needs your stories or
other items for inclusion in*

ILMO

Articles for the Newsletter by
15th May for the June issue.

Please deliver to Mersey Branch
Family History Library
or

Email to Editor: pmmarlow@bigpond.com
or secretary@tfhsdev.com

Note: - Articles are welcome either hand written or
computer generated.

Mersey Branch Annual General Meeting will take place, at the
Family History Library, Old Police
Residence at back of Post Office
Reserve Latrobe on 22nd April 2023
at 1.00pm

We are urgently seeking New and
perhaps younger members with
new and innovative ideas for the
Committee.

Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday
of each month at 1.30pm and
generally last for less than 2 hours.

Renewing your Membership

When renewing by direct deposit
into TFHS Inc account please
ensure that your 8-digit CRN, or at
least your 4-digit membership
number is entered before any
other text. Your CRN is unique to
you and will ensure that your
deposit is identified correctly.
When renewing using debit/credit
card please ensure that your card
number and expiry date are
entered fully and clearly. If your
circumstances have changed,
e.g., Ordinary to Concession or
Joint to Single please notify
Membership Registrar promptly.
Your subscription and CRN will
change. If your contact details
have changed, please advise
promptly. Your CRN may
change. To save cost of postage
please advise if you have a
current email address to which
your membership card and
receipt can be sent. This address
will not be used for other
purposes.

(Ross Warren – Treasurer)

NOMINATION FORMS

Are available from the library front desk and will be sent to all financial members early
in March. Nominations are to be in the hands of the Secretary by the 1st April 2023.



ARMISTICE DAY

Armistice Day is commemorated every year on 11 November to mark the armistice signed between the Allies of World War I and Germany at Compiègne, France, at 5:45 am for the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front of World War I, which took effect at eleven in the morning—the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" of 1918. But, according to Thomas R. Gowenlock, an intelligence officer with the U.S. First Division, shelling from both sides continued for the rest of the day, ending only at nightfall. The armistice initially expired after a period of 36 days and had to be extended several times. A formal peace agreement was only reached when the Treaty of Versailles was signed the following year.

The date is a national holiday in France, and was declared a national holiday in many Allied nations. However, many Western countries and associated nations have since changed the name of the holiday from Armistice Day, with member states of the Commonwealth of Nations adopting Remembrance Day, and the United States government opting for Veterans Day. In some countries Armistice Day coincides with other public holidays.

On 11 November 2018, the centenary of the Armistice, commemorations were held globally. In France, more than 60 heads of state and government gathered at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris.



HARRY S. TRUMAN



*33rd President of the United States:
1945 - 1953*

Proclamation 2672— Armistice Day, 1945

November 05, 1945

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas the battle flags of World War I were sheathed by the armistice of November 11, 1918.

Whereas it is fitting at this time when we are honouring the heroes of a more recent world conflict that we express once more our gratitude for the sacrifices of those who fought in World War.

Whereas Senate Concurrent Resolution 18, Sixty-ninth Congress, passed June 4, 1926 (44 Stat. 1982), requests the President of the United States to issue a proclamation calling for the display of the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on November 11 and for the observance of the day with ceremonies "expressive of our gratitude for peace and our desire for the continuance of friendly
351), provides that "the 11th day of November in each year, a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace

and to be hereafter celebrated and known as Armistice Day, is hereby Now, *Therefore, I, Harry S. Truman*, President of the United States of America, do hereby call upon the people of the United States to observe November 11, 1945, as Armistice Day by recalling the valour and the sacrifices of those Americans who brought victory in 1918, and by dedicating themselves to the building of an enduring peace among the countries of the world; and I direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all Government buildings on that day.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this fifth day of November, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and forty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventieth.

Harry S. Truman



WW1 Graves France

Armistice Day

- Latrobe Tasmania



HENRY KILLALEA

Service No.538

Who is he? You may ask! Some may recognise the name from the Honour Roll in the Don Memorial Hall. But there is so much more to the man whose name appears with his brother Killalea R. (Rodger Joseph) who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Amongst all the brave, Henry's service was remarkable.

Henry Killalea was born 22 July 1896 in Exton Tasmania. The last of eight children born to Thomas & Catherine (nee Lyons) Killalea from Don.

Henry age 18yrs, a cable jointer (plumber) enlisted in the AIF at Pontville 12 Sept 1914, Attached to 3rd Light Horse.

In England in March 1917, he became a 1st class gunner with the Lewis machine gun and in September 1917 he became a 1st class gunner with the Hotchkiss machine gun.

On the 8th November 1917, Lance Corporal Killalea, H. was awarded the Military Medal (MM) for Devotion to Duty at Beersheba.

Sixteen days later he was injured at Beersheba, suffering a gunshot wound to the left hand.

Invalided out 28 Dec 1917, discharged 25 May 1918 returned to Australia per *Tofua*.

Well, such a brave young man we agree – but let's continue Henry's story.

Henry and Effie Alberta Beer married in 1934 in Victoria. There were no children from their union. They lived the rest of their lives in Flat 7 'Airdale Flats' 60 High Street, St Kilda.

When War World 2 broke out Henry Killalea VX17880 enlisted in Caulfield Victoria on 27th May 1940. Attached to 7th Division Signals Corp. Henry served in Greece where he was awarded in the field the Distinguished Conduct Medal DCM

Next page, details of his award in a letter sent to his wife Effie on 29th October 1941

LEST WE FORGET



Henry Killalea
The Weekly Courier
26th August 1915 page 24



Henry's details do not stop there – from his Army records and 51 pages file the previous details were sourced. A search of the 'Basic search' on the National Australian Archives site naa.gov.au finds another 417 pages.

It appears Henry's biggest battle was with the Repatriation Department.

Henry Killalea died in Heidelberg Hospital Victoria in 1961 age 64 yrs. He is buried in Cheltenham Cemetery Vic. Plot 005/24N

So now we know that Killalea H. listed on the Don Memorial Hall Honour Roll, 8th child of Thomas & Catherine Killalea, grandson of Mary Killalee, Bounty Immigrant from Ireland, became Henry Killalea DCM MM

7-10-41
28th October, 1941.

Mrs. E.A. Killalea,
7 Airdale Flats,
60 High St.,
ST. KILDA, S.2.

Dear Madam,

Ref: VX17380 - L/Sgt. KILLALEA, H. (M.M.).

It is with great pleasure the following advice received from overseas is conveyed to you.

The Commander-in-Chief, Middle East, has approved of the following immediate award.

DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL.

Citation:-

At Rail Siding near LEVADIA, Greece, on 20th April, 1941 three trains loaded with petrol, gun ammunition and anti-tank mines were set alight as the result of heavy bombing and machine gunning by enemy aircraft. Ammunition was exploding and it was considered by senior officers present too dangerous to attempt salvage.

L/Sgt. Killalea, M.M., with Driver McDonald (NZ Div. Sup. Col) on their own initiative managed to drive a locomotive without having any knowledge thereof and as a result saved 28 trucks of petrol and ammunition by shunting them down the line to a safe distance. They then again on their own initiative proceeded to load oil on supply vehicles and salvage 25 pounder ammunition, A/Tk mines, etc., which were stacked no more than 20 feet from blazing trucks where 25 and 60 pounder shells were exploding at frequent intervals.

But for the initiative and courage of L/Sgt. H. Killalea, M.M., and Dr. McDonald considerable valuable supplies of ammunition and petrol (of which at that time a serious shortage existed) would have been lost.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]
Lt.Col.
Officer in Charge Records.

1890 - 1954 / Tue 8 Nov 1921 / Page 4 / MEN AND WOMEN.

Warrant Officer H. Killalea, M.M., late of the 3rd Light Horse, who saw considerable service on Gallipoli and in Palestine, will shortly be stationed at Smithton to revive universal training and to organise a Light Horse squadron in that district. Mr. Killalea is well-known in sporting circles, having played football with some of the leading teams of Tasmania and New South Wales, and his abilities in this direction should prove an acquisition to the sporting element of the district.

Advocate newspaper

Henry's brother Rodger
Joseph Killaleah
Service No.530 KIA
24th April 1919 France

Weekly Courier 26th
August.1915

Page 24



Complete this form and take to Mersey Branch by
31st March 2023

TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC

Mersey Branch Annual General Meeting

To be held 1pm Saturday 22nd April 2023 at the Branch Library

117 Gilbert Street, Latrobe.

NOMINATIONS FOR BRANCH EXECUTIVE 2023/24

Positions Vacant

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Member – 7 to be elected

State Delegate – 2 to be elected

Alternate Delegate Nominations to be in the hands of the Secretary no later than 1st April.

I..... (Print Name)

Agree to my nomination as.....

And agree that my contact details be published by the Society.

I agree to always abide by the rules of the Society.

Signed.....

Proposer.....Signed.....

Secunder.....Signed.....

Proposer and Secunder must be financial members of the Society for the year 2023/24.

Please note that a separate form is required for each nomination.

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc

Mersey Branch Annual General Meeting

To be held at the Branch Library 1pm Saturday

117 Gilbert Street, Latrobe

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

I (print name)am interested in being appointed
to the position of: - (circle any position of interest. More than one may be circled).

Library Co-Ordinator

Assistant Library Co-Ordinator

Membership Officer

Research Co-Ordinator

Journal Liaison Officer

Newsletter Editor

Publicity & Promotions Co-Ordinator

Publications Committee

Publication Sales Co-Ordinator

Equipment Manager

Other Areas (please indicate area of interest)