

William Murray Wilson

<https://hmwilson.archives.org.au/people/william-murray-wilson.html>

April 8, 2026

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Biography

- 1 **William Murray Wilson** (4 June 1914 – 28
- 3 September 1953; known as **Murray**) was a pilot and timber merchant from Perth, Western Australia.
- 3 Murray was born in Claremont^[2] on 4 June 1914 to Jim¹ and Edith² Wilson. He grew up at the family's home at 98 Herbert Road, Shenton Park. It was a half acre block; the house was still there, although unrecognisable, in 2005.
- 4 He married Margaret³ on 2 July 1941.^[4]
- 4 Murray served in the RAAF during the Second World War. Service number 406376.^[3] His father died in June 1942, just after Murray turned 28.
- 6 Notes from small blue address book:^[24]
 - 6 • 1941-12-14: Photos sent of Dumbarton Road, Christchurch Priory, and me yachting at Arundell.
 - 6 • 1941-12-21: Photos sent of Bournemouth Gardens, party "ye Jap Party".
 - 7 • 1942-01-11: Photos sent of: Buckingham Palace, Mathew & self under arch, London Bridge from Tower.
 - 7 • Undated: Self close up, Ron and Max, in hut in Stornoway.
 - 8 • Undated: Close up max, Ron, and self and of "Queen Silloth".
- 8 Units and locations of service:^[19]
 - 8 • 1940-11-11: No. 5 Initial Training School (ITS), RAAF Base Pearce⁴, to 1941-01-08.
 - 8 • 1941-01-09: No. 9 Elementary Flying Training School (EFTS) Cunderdin⁵, to 1941-03-08.
 - 8 • 1941-03-09: No. 4 Service Flying Training School RAAF (SFTS) RAAF Geraldton to 1941-07-05.
 - 9 • 1941-07-06 to 1941-07-17: No. 5 ED Perth.
- 9 On 17 July 1943 he left Australia and travelled to

¹<https://hmwilson.archives.org.au/people/james-herbert-wilson.html>
²<https://hmwilson.archives.org.au/people/edith-olive-hall.html>
³<https://hmwilson.archives.org.au/people/helen-margaret-hall.html>
⁴Wikidata Q955792: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RAAF_Base_Pearce
⁵Wikidata Q7274977: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RAAF_Station_Cunderdin

the UK, arriving on 2 September. He was based at No. 3 Personnel Reception Centre (PRC) Bournemouth for the first month, until 28 September when he was moved to No. 3 School of General Reconnaissance (S of GR) Squires Gate. He was there until 29 November.

- 1941-12-24 to 1942-3-17: No. 1 (Coastal) Operational Training Unit RAF (OTU) Silloth.
- 1942-03-18 to 1942-05-11: No. 500 Squadron RAF Stornoway.
- 1942-05-12 to 1942-05-31: 1444 Ferry Training Flight (FTF) RAF Horsham St Faith.
- 1942-06-01 to 1942-06-06: UK to the Middle East.
- 1942-06-16 to 1943-02-28: No. 459 Squadron RAAF, Middle East^[21]
- From 1943-02-28 until after August:^[20] No. 75 Operational Training Unit RAF (75 OTU), RAF Gianacelis.

Murray returned to Australia at the end of 1944, and was stationed with 13 Squadron RAAF at Gove in the Northern Territory.^[22]

Aircraft flown: de Havilland Tiger Moth⁶; Avro Anson⁷; Lockheed Hudson⁸, Mk I, II, III, V; de Havilland Dragon Rapide⁹ aka Dominie; Martin Baltimore¹⁰; Bristol Blenheim, Mk IV, V (aka Bisley); and wdl¹¹.

His crew while he was with 459 Squadron was: Roy Woodhouse (navigator, born c.1910, also crewed with Murray at East Sale); Jack Mc-Masters (gunner from Melbourne who possibly had 10 children); Arthur Smiles;^[24] Bill McCarthy (from the Snowy Mountains); and Rasheed (from South Australia, possibly of Syrian descent).<ref name=roy>[[hmw:Roy Woodhouse's comments about Murray's logbook, c.1995]]</ref> At some point during the war he suffered a possible fractured ankle when he fell from the rafters in a mess hall. He was off duty for six weeks and so returned to Perth. There is a photo of him and Margaret at Safety Bay with his leg in plaster and using a walking stick.<ref name=roy />

For his service during the war, Murray was awarded^[1] four campaign stars (1939–45 Star, Atlantic Star, Africa Star & Clasp, and Pacific Star)

⁶Wikidata Q654062: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/De_Havilland_Tiger_Moth

⁷Wikidata Q791469: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avro_Anson

⁸Wikidata Q1328822: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lockheed_Hudson

⁹Wikidata Q1050763: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/De_Havilland_Dragon_Rapide

¹⁰Wikidata Q1493988: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_Baltimore

¹¹Wikidata Q330417: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bristol_Blenheim



Figure 1: Murray's business card.

and three medals (Defence Medal, War Medal 1939–45, and Australia Service Medal 1939–45).

In 1948 his uncle C.M. Wilson lent Margaret¹² one thousand pounds.^[8]

By the early '50s, Murray was a director in the timber firm C.M. Wilson Co Pty Ltd which was founded by his uncle Charles William McHarg Wilson and operated from premises on Troode Street and Stone Street in West Perth.^[5]

On the evening of Monday, September 28 1953.^{[6][7][9]} just prior to a shareholders' meeting at the company offices, Murray and another director (William Ewart Livingstone) were shot dead by a former director^[10] (and current shareholder) of the company, William Charles Fawcett. The weapon was a sawn-off .303 rifle,^{[11][5][12]} with which Fawcett shot each of his victims once through their chests; they were both dead within minutes.^[5] Murray worked at the office, and Fawcett had waited outside in his vehicle until he saw Livingstone arrive.^[14] The three men were alone in the office.^[15] Livingstone had brought his rifle with him that day with the intention of killing both men.^[16] Fawcett was seen by Livingstone's daughter^[17] leaving the office after the shooting and driving away. He went home to his wife at their home at 66 Victoria Avenue, Claremont (near Murray's home in Congdon Street, Swanbourne)^[17], told her what he had done, cleaned the gun, and waited for the police to arrive.^[16] He was arrested either one^[13] or four^[18] hours later. The next day he was charged with murder,^[18] but later a jury found against this. He said that his motive was financial: he believed that the directors were trying to cheat him out of his share in the company.^[16] He had attempted legal action, but didn't have a case.^[16]

The trial was held on the evening of Monday, 14 December, and the "elderly", "diminutive", "white-haired"^[15] Fawcett was found not guilty on the grounds of insanity. He was also in the timber trade.^[17]

Fawcett had expressed "interest in the Rifle Club

¹²<https://hmwilson.archives.org.au/people/helen-margaret-hall.html>

movement” in 1940.^[23]

Electoral rolls:

- 1939: 98 Herbert Road; Division: Perth; Sub-division: Subiaco; Elector number: 9083; Occupation: civil servant.<ref><https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10744-16407298/william-murray-wilson-in-australia-electoral-rolls></ref>
- 1943: 98 Herbert Road; Division: Perth; Sub-division: Subiaco; Elector number: 9433; Occupation: civil servant.<ref><https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10744-16675466/william-murray-wilson-in-australia-electoral-rolls></ref>
- 1949: Congdon Street; Division: Fremantle; Sub-division: Claremont; Elector number: 12729; Occupation: merchant.<ref><https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10744-16824180/william-murray-wilson-in-australia-electoral-rolls></ref>

References

- [1] Letter to WM Wilson from the Department of Air, 18 September 1953. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/freosam/14993078453> retrieved 24 October 2014.
- [2] Registry of Births, Deaths, and Marriages. Registration number 208 in the district of Claremont.
- [3] From NAA series #A9300: “WILSON WILLIAM MURRAY: Service Number - 406376 Date of birth - 04 Jun 1914: Place of birth - CLAREMONT WA Place of enlistment - PERTH WA: Next of Kin - WILSON HELEN Deceased.”
- [4] Family Notices (1941, July 5). The West Australian (Perth, WA), p. 1. Retrieved October 30, 2018, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article47151167> “WILSON–DONEGAN.—On July 2. 1941 (by special licence), at St. George’s Cathedral Perth, by the Rev. Dean Moore, William Murray (R.A.A.F.), second son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wilson, of Shenton Park, to Helen Margaret, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Hall, of West Perth and Carnarvon.”
- [5] COMPANY CHIEFS MURDERED IN W.A. The Mercury p. 2, 29 September 1953. Hobart, Tasmania. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article27174075> “A propelling pencil carried by one of the men was cut in two by a bullet before it entered his body.”
- [6] Index to general register of deaths Western Australia/Registrar General. [Perth, W.A.: Government Printer, 1967-198-.] Prepared in accordance with the requirements of section 17 of the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages Act, 1984-1956. 1841-1896, 1897-1905, 1906-1980 Microfiche Drawer no. 42; Call no. mc N 651 in the Newspapers/Microforms Reading room at the National Library of Australia.
- [7] Index to death notices in the West Australian/ Western Australian Genealogical Society. [Bayswater, W.A.]: The Society, [1989]. 1985-1989, 1990-1992, 1993-1994, 1997-1998. Microfiche Drawer no. 44; Call no. mc N 486 in the Newspapers/Microforms Reading room at the National Library of Australia.
- [8] Pers. comm. between Sam Wilson and WMW’s son Ron.
- [9] *Rifle Victim Left Estate Of £4,587* November 1953, The West Australian. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52943092>
- [10] Verdict Of Insanity At Murder Trial. Sydney Morning Herald, 15 December 1953, p. 8. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article18401354>
- [11] Found Guilty But Insane. Townsville Daily Bulletin, 16 December 1953, p. 1. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article63215264>
- [12] 2 TIMBER DIRECTORS KILLED IN WA OFFICE. *Barrier Miner*, Broken Hill, NSW. 29 September 1953, p. 2. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article50066887>
- [13] Directors Shot Dead in W.A. (1953, September 29). The Age (Melbourne, Vic.: 1854-1954), p. 3. Retrieved August 13, 2020, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article206461419>
- [14] Murder of Timber Directors. *Barrier Miner* Broken Hill, NSW. 30 September 1953, p. 3. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article50067079>
- [15] New Angle In W.A. Murders. The Advertiser, Adelaide, SA. 30 September 1953, p. 3. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article48928021>
- [16] Double Murder Charge Remand, *Sunday Times* (Perth), p25, 18 October 1953. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article59680487>
- [17] FAWCETT IS AGAIN REMANDED. *Mirror* (Perth, WA) 17 October 1953 p. 1. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75787673>
- [18] Double Murder Charge In W.A., *The Sydney Morning Herald*. 30 September 1953 p.~6 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article18379987> “He stood silently at attention during the proceedings, which lasted little more than 30 seconds. He was not represented by counsel.”
- [19] *W.M. Wilson’s RAAF log book* (Item 305, 1941)
- [20] *Airgraph 1943-08-15 Constance to Murray* (Item 338, 1943 August 15 Sunday)
- [21] National Archives of Australia. Item ID: 1158170. Unit history of number 459 Squadron - February 1942 to April 1945. Series number: A9186; Control symbol: 145.
- [22] National War Memorial. Photograph. Gove, NT. 1945-06-29. An informal group portrait of a RAAF crew discussing their next armed reconnaissance flight in a Lockheed Ventura bomber of No. 13 Squadron RAAF.
- [23] Letter from WC Fawcett re medals (Fawcett military record, page 19).
- [24] Small blue address book.

Related items (21)

Item 335: Wilson family airgraphs

TYPE: collection

DESCRIPTION: Collection of airgraphs to Murray Wilson, from his mother Edith and sisters Rae, Jean, and Adele, and some other people.

SUB-ITEMS: 336 (p.6), 337 (p.7), 334 (p.7), 338 (p.7), 339 (p.8), 340 (p.8), 341 (p.8), 342 (p.8), 343 (p.9), 346 (p.??), 347 (p.??), 348 (p.9).

Item 154: Murray and Margaret Wilson

TYPE: Photograph
DATE: c. 1940
DESCRIPTION: Murray and Margaret Wilson, some time around 1940.
The image improvement was done by Josh Wilson.

Item 20: Murray and Margaret Wilson at a ball with friends

TYPE: Photograph
DATE: c. 1940
DESCRIPTION: Margaret and Murray, Milton and Hazel, and Milton's parents, at a ball probably in Perth.

Item 310: W.M. Wilson's RAAF log book bundle

TYPE: collection
DATE: c. 1941
DESCRIPTION: Murray Wilson's RAAF log book and various items stored within its pages.
SUB-ITEMS: 305 (p.4), 309 (p.6), 311 (p.6).

Item 305: W.M. Wilson's RAAF log book

TYPE: ephemera
DATE: 1941
DESCRIPTION: Murray Wilson's log book 1941-1945.

Transcription

FORM A. 18.
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

—
FLYING LOG BOOK
—

Name: W.M. Wilson

— Page break —

INSTRUCTIONS
(See A.F.O. 10/J/1.)
—

1. This book is an official document and is the property of His Majesty's Government.
2. An accurate and detailed record is to be kept in the log of all flights undertaken in service aircraft by the individual to whom it relates.
3. The annual summary and assessment will be completed on Form A. 18A and inserted in the appropriate page of the log. This form will also

be used when a pilot is posted or attached to another unit for flying duties.

CERTIFICATES OF QUALIFICATION AS
FIRST PILOT

(A.F.O. 10/A/10.)

Name WILSON, W.M.

No. 406376

(1) Certified that the abovenamed as qualified as a first pilot (day) on Hudson landplanes w.e.f. 7.4.42
Unit No 500 SQDN Signature [? Harwood]

Date 10.5.42

Night Vision Test B/Mth. 6/9/41 Above Average

— Page break —

1941

- Jan 10: DH82 A17-156, Sgt Howard & self
- Jan 11: DH82 A17-156, Sgt Howard & self
- Jan 13: DH82 A17-156, Sgt Howard & self
- Jan 16: DH82 A17-157, Sgt Howard & self
- Jan 17: DH82 A17-156, Sgt Howard & self
- Jan 20: DH82 A17-204, Sgt Howard & self
- Jan 21: DH82 A17-204, Sgt Howard & self
- Jan 22: DH82 A17-156, Sgt Howard & self
- Jan 23: DH82 A17-156, Sgt Howard & self
- Jan 24: DH82 A17-156, Sgt Howard & self
- Jan 28: DH82 A17-156, Sgt Howard & self

— Page break —

1941

- Jan 29: DH82 A17-155, Sgt Howard, F/Lt Thorpe, & self. First solo.
- Jan 30: DH82 A17-155, Sgt Howard & self.
- Feb 3: A17-156, Sgt Howard & self.
- Feb 4: A17-156, Sgt Howard & self.
- Feb 5: A17-156, Sgt Howard & self.
- Feb 6: A17-156, Sgt Howard & self.
- Feb 7: A17-159 & A17-156, Sgt Howard & self, and solo.
- Feb 10: A17-158, Sgt Howard & self.
- Feb 10: A17-158 & [? A17-285], Sgt Howard & self.

Total: 24 hours 45 mins.

— Page break —

1941

- Feb 11: DH82 A17-208, solo.
- Feb 12: DH82 A17-208, Sgt Howard & self, and solo.
- Feb 13: DH82 A17-208, Sgt Howard & self.
- Feb 14: DH82 A17-208, solo.
- Feb 15: DH82 A17-208, solo.
- Feb 17: DH82 A17-207 & R5265 (same aircraft?), Sgt Howard & self, and solo.
- Feb 17: DH82 A17-207, Sgt Howard & self, and solo.
- Feb 18: DH82 A17-207, Sgt Howard & self, and solo.
- Feb 19: DH82 A17-150 & A17-202, Sgt Howard & self, and solo.

- Feb 20: DH82 A17-202, Sgt Howard & self, and solo.
- Feb 24: DH82 A17-203 & R5257, Sgt Howard Sgt White, cross country.

Grand total: 44 hours 40 mins.

— Page break —

1941

- Feb 25: DH82 R5257, self & Sgt Howard.
- Feb 26: DH82 A17-209 & A17-208, solo.
- Feb 27: DH82 A17-225, F/L Strickland & self.
- Feb 28: DH82 A17-205, Sgt Howard & self.
- March 3: DH82 R5257 & A17-205, solo and with P/O Giles.
- March 4: DH82 A17-206, A17-203, & A17-208, with P.O Giles and F/L Thompson.
- March 5: DH82 A17-202, solo.

Grant total: 59 hours 50 mins.

— Page break —

Avro Anson

Certified that I am fully conversant with the following:—

1. Action in event of fire.
2. Procedure for abandoning aircraft.
3. Fuel oil and ignition systems.
4. Operation of undercarriage and flaps.
5. Starting up of engines

Signature *W.M. Wilson*

Date 14/4/41

— Page break —

1941

- March 11: Avro Anson R3455, P/O Henry & self.
- March 12: Avro Anson R3448, P/O Henry & self.
- March 14: Avro Anson W1560, P/O Henry, F/L Boston & self.
- March 16: Avro Anson W3342, P/O Henry & self (and solo).
- March 17: Avro Anson R3342, P/O Henry & self (and solo).
- March 18: Avro Anson R3455, P/O Henry & self.
- March 19: Avro Anson A4-40, P/O Henry & self (and solo).
- March 21: Avro Anson R3474, P/O Henry & self.
- March 22: Avro Anson W1522, self (solo).
- March 25: Avro Anson R3342 & N4941, P/O Henry & self (and solo).
- March 26: Avro Anson R3474, self (solo).

Grand total: 74 hours 50 mins.

— Page break —

1941

- March 28: Avro Anson N4908, P/O Henry & self (and solo).
- March 30: Avro Anson W1717, P/O Henry &

self (and solo).

- March 31: Avro Anson R3556, P/O Henry & self (and solo).

March 1941, No 4 SFTS, 1/4/41.

- April 1: Avro Anson R3556, P/O Henry & self (and solo). Dual cross country.

Grand total: 82 hours 55 mins.

— Page break —

1941

- April 2: Avro Anson W1560, P/O Henry & self (and solo).
- April 3: Avro Anson W1560, solo.
- April 8: Avro Anson N4895, solo.
- April 9: Avro Anson N3524, F/O Little & self.
- April 10: Avro Anson N4996, solo cross country.
- April 13: Avro Anson A4-3, solo.
- April 14: Avro Anson R3555, F/O Little & self.
- April 17: Avro Anson W1521, F/O Little & self.
- April 18: Avro Anson R3342, F/O Manford & self.
- April 21: Avro Anson N4996, self solo, cross country.
- April 23: Avro Anson R3550, P/O Entwistle, F/O Manford.
- April 24: Avro Anson R3550 & A4-16, P/O Entwistle, and self (and solo).
- April 25: Avro Anson R3559, F/L Black.
- April 27: Avro Anson R3544 & A4-16, F/O Manford, and self solo.

Grand total: 102 hours, 35 mins.

— Page break —

1941

- April 28: Avro Anson R3516, F/L Boston & self. Wings test.
- April 30: Avro Anson R3548 & R3516, P/O Entwistle, and self solo.

— Page break —

RAAF Form A.18.A.

Summary of flying assesments for year commencing 1st January 1941.

Assesment of ability

1. as a pupil pilot: average
2. as a pilot/navigator or navigator: N.A.
3. in bombing: N.A.
4. in Air Gunnery: N.A.

Any points in the flying of airmanship which should be watched: at times inclined to be overconfident.

Date: 2-5-41

Officer Commanding I.T.S. No 4 SFTS.

— Page break —

1941

- May 7: Avro Anson R3516, F/L Savage & self.
- May 8: Avro Anson A4-38, solo.

- May 11: Avro Anson A4-38, F/L Black & self.
- May 12: Avro Anson N4916 & R3524, L.A.C. Morphett and self.
- May 13: Avro Anson A4-43 & A4-13, L.A.C. Morphett and self.
- May 15: Avro Anson N4616, solo.
- May 18: Avro Anson N4941, F/O Polley and self.
- May 20: Avro Anson A4-38 N4941, L.A.C. Milne, F/O Kessy, and self.
- May 21: Avro Anson W2058 & N4941, F/O Kessy and self, and solo.
- May 23: Avro Anson A4-3 & A4-43, self and LAC Crossing.

Grand total: 119 hours, 10 mins.

— Page break —

Item 309: Murray Wilson, 1941 air navigator's certificate

TYPE: certificate

DATE: 1941 December 22 Monday

DESCRIPTION: Certificate of Murray Wilson's completion of an Air Navigation course at the School of General Reconnaissance in December 1941.

Murray was at No. 3 School of General Reconnaissance Squires Gate from 29 September to 29 November 1941.

Transcription

Serial No. 33/35GR.

Royal Air Force.

Air Navigator's Certificate.

This is to Certify that Sergeant. W.M. Wilson has successfully qualified as an Air Navigator Second class.

Dated 22/12/41

A W Rogers

Group Captain

Officer Commanding School of General Reconnaissance.

x 8133 Wt. 18430-798 1,000 6/41 T.S. 700

Item 311: Secret orders to the Middle East, 1942

TYPE: ephemera

DATE: 1942 May 31 Sunday

DESCRIPTION: Orders for FH 302 of 459 Squadron to fly from England to the Middle East.

Transcription

SECRET

(To be destroyed in the event of a forced landing in enemy or neutral territory.)

Aircraft No FH. 302 Captain Sgt WILSON

Commitment 459 Squadron

Destination M.E.

Remarks —

Certified that the above mentioned pilot has been instructed to proceed with this aircraft to the destination indicated.

These orders are to be adhered to unless direct instructions to the contrary are received from Air Ministry, or some Competent Authority acting on behalf of the Air Ministry.

Date 31 MAY 1942

[? R R Colis] S/L

Officer Commanding,

1444 Ferry Training Flight,

R.A.F., Horsham St. Faith.

Item 336: Airgraph 1943-07-06 Edith to Murray

TYPE: ephemera

DATE: 1943 July 6 Tuesday

DESCRIPTION:

Transcription

AUS406376

P/O. W.M. WILSON

75 OPERATIONAL TRAINING UNIT.

R.A.F.

MIDDLE EAST.

Mrs. J. H. Wilson

Senders Address: 98 Herbert Rd

Shenton Park.

July 6th 1943.

My dear Murray.

Your cable recd 5th. delighted that you had such good mail. Hope you are well Am letting part of the house, to an air pilot & his wife, friends of Gwyneth Chambers. Glad you are able to know so soon, as I am sure you will be more satisfied that I have company. He will be away for a week, then at home for a few days. & is willing to do anything you me & is fond of gardening. Auntie Eva is staying with me for a week, then later will return to the country. Families are all well. Mr Jolly came to see me last week. His wife comes by train from Adelaide on July 15th. Take care of yourself. all my love darling. Yours ever Mother

EDITH OLIVE WILSON

Edith Olive Wilson.

EO Wilson.

Item 337: Airgraph 1943-07-22 Jean to Murray

TYPE: letter
DATE: 1943 July 22 Thursday
DESCRIPTION: Letter from Jean Agnew to her brother Murray.

Transcription

AUS 406376
PILOT OFFICER W.M. WILSON
75 OPERATIONAL TRAINING UNIT
R.A.F.
MIDDLE EAST.
PERTH
WA
MRS R.G. AGNEW
37 MYERS ST.
NEDLANDS
W.AUST.

July 22nd. 1943.

My dear Murray,

This is the first airgraph letter I have sent you, but there will be many more to follow.

I got your cable & was thrilled. You must have got a bunch of mail at that time.

I am very sad at the moment. Bob has been transferred to headquarters, Melbourne, and he has gone. I am thinking of taking a job. I know I am only one of thousands to lose my husband but that does not make it any easier for me.

Garrick is very well & is getting a big boy now. He is nearly as tall as I am & weighs about 8st. 7lbs.

I was at Adele's for lunch yesterday. They are all well. We are very glad about mother's new arrangement they are a nice couple.

Much love from us all

from Jean.

Jean Agew.

DOROTHY JEAN AGNEW

Item 334: Airgraph 1943-08-05 Adele to Murray

TYPE: letter
DATE: 1943 August 5 Thursday
DESCRIPTION: Letter from Adele Wilson to her brother Murray.

Transcription

AUS 406376
PILOT OFFICER W.M. WILSON.
75 OPERATIONAL TRAINING UNIT
R.A.F.
MIDDLE EAST

23 STANLEY ST.
NEDLANDS W.A.
5th AUGUST 1943

My Dear Murray,

My first Airgraph! Jim wrote you yesterday saying the Americans have taken over the {SRRC¹³ for their Red Cross and entertainments. They are spending about £2000 and should look pretty good, he has written in detail. We are all well. Adele has gone into a new class at school, and is very chilled with herself.

Mother, Margaret & Jean & perhaps Mrs Polley are coming here for lunch tomorrow. Mother seems to be very please with her tenants, and it is certainly a weight off our minds knowing she is not alone. My fowls are doing very well, getting an average of 9 or 10 eggs a day, not bad. Might give mother 3 fowls for her birthday, there's not much else to get. Love, Adele.

(MRS) ADELE LANG "A. Lang"

Item 338: Airgraph 1943-08-15 Constance to Murray

TYPE: letter
DATE: 1943 August 15 Sunday
DESCRIPTION:

Transcription

Aus 406376 P/O W.M. Wilson
75 OPERATIONAL TRAINING UNIT
R.A.F.

MIDDLE EAST FORCES.

Senders Address: 131 South Terrace
South Perth

West Aust.

Date: 15th August 1943

Dear Murray,

Margaret has asked me to write you this as she is looking after my children at the moment and there is no post office handy to our home. She has been very generous — Alan is just having his first holidays since we came south, and she and we have exchanged homes for the weekend. It is very pleasant for us, and just the sort of thing Marg would think of. Joan's engagement was in Saturday's paper. She was terribly lucky — was sent to Adelaide unexpectedly over a week end on escort duty and was able to see Geoff. You'd hardly know Judith these days — she has grown so, and is improved in all ways since her operation. Marg looks well and very pretty — has a new perm and a new grey and white dress which suits her very well. She always seems

¹³Wikidata Q56880091: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swan_River_Rowing_Club

busy, one way and another — she remarked that she must do all her “good deeds” now, as when you come home she is going to be completely unavailable to anybody else. Oh Murray, it is my dearest wish that that can be very soon. Hope you’re fit and well.

Very affectionately

C Berryman

(CONSTANCE BERRYMAN)

Item 339: Airgraph 1943-08-26 Edith to Murray

TYPE: letter

DATE: 1943 August 26 Thursday

DESCRIPTION:

Item 340: Airgraph 1943-08-30 Edith to Murray

TYPE: letter

DATE: 1943 August 30 Monday

DESCRIPTION:

Transcription

21AU43

017931

My dear Murray,

Your second Airgraph arrived yesterday, with letter dated May 19th/23rd, which I was delighted to receive. I rang Jean and gave her your message

Item 341: 6 September 1943, airgraph from Edith to Murray

TYPE: letter

DATE: 1943 September 6 Monday

DESCRIPTION:

Transcription

98 Herbert Rd

Shenton Park

Perth WA

Sept 6th 1943

My dear Murray,

We returned from the Bay last Friday, & on Saturday your cables came to Margaret, & to me. Thank you for so much dear, it is good to know that the letters had reached you so soon, & the a/g is a great idea. I had let the cottage for half of December and all of January already. Have to get the stove repaired but [?] is going to do it for me, [?] cost about £5 but will be as good as new, & I hope, set in much better than formerly. There is

great demand for houses there, and have requests constantly, even as early as August.

Pat rang me this afternoon, having arrived from Melb yesterday, & and is coming to lunch tomorrow, I shall be very glad to see her. Then a little later [? Rene] rang me. She was at Hollywood for a few days, & will also come here tomorrow. If only we had Rae too. It would be wonderful, Rene told me that a couple of [? Sixers] had [?], one on sick leave, & responded that Rae was perfectly well. She has not had any malaria, & looks splendid. I sent her a very nice fine lawn nightie, & some films for her birthday, the silk is no good there, it just perishes. Also in another parcel towels, writing pads & perfume, some of the [?] from Margaret. She says it is always hot there, but sometimes hotter.

Had good report of Gordon. He was hoping to be allowed up [?] a short time in a few days, but his operation being a major one would mean a good while in hospital & a month at the convalescent depot at [? Washington]. Maime & Charlie had both been to see him & have [?] & [?] to me. He has had every attention & they are very satisfied with his progress. Today Margaret had an airgraph from you. Take care of yourself — all my love
Ever your loving mother. EDITH OLIVE WILSON. E O Wilson.

Item 342: Airgraph 1943-09-09 Edith to Murray

TYPE: letter

DATE: 1943 September 9 Thursday

DESCRIPTION:

Transcription

AUS 406376

P/O. W.M. WILSON

c/o RAAF BASE POST OFFICE

MIDDLE EAST

98 Herbert Rd

Shenton Park

Sept 9th 1943

No. 5

My dear Murray

Yesterday the 3 girls came to dinner, & Helen & John Solly were both here also. But I missed all of my own absent loved ones very much. It was not at all the same, under these [?] conditions. The phone was ringing constantly with good wishes, a telegram from Aunt Ray, & one from Joan. Letters from Gordon, Eva, & Charlie, earlier in the week, and yesterday morning one from Rae, right on the day. The girls brought beautiful flowers, &

Joan sent a bouquet, daffodils & smoke bush. [?] Margaret, who insisted on making the sweets for dinner, trifle & a baked rhubarb with custard & meringue, very nice. She gave me a book, 'Behold new Holland', and Jean brought 2 very nice twels, & a block of choc, & a small [?] dish from Garrick. Adele is

Item 343: Airgraph 1943-09-15 Edith to Murray

TYPE: letter
DATE: 1943 September 15 Wednesday
DESCRIPTION:

Transcription

AUS 406376
P/O W.M.WILSON.
R.A.F. STATION.
GIANACLIS. MIDDLE.EAST.
SHENTON PARK
16SE43
98 Herbert Road
Shenton Park. W.A.
Sept 15th 1943.

My dear Murray,
Your cable recd today, & replied to at once, thank you so much for it. John posted "70 & 71" letter for me, but I do not know if you ahve recd them. I shall post them myself in future by boat mail & a/g. I had a quite pleasant birthday, but greatly missed my loved absent ones. I only hope by next year you will all be at home again. Today is Rae's birthday, I hope she has a good day & not too much work. On Friday we are going to Margaret's to lunch, Pat is here on leave, & will go also, & then will see Joan when she returns to Melb. Gordon is out of hospital, staying with Uncle Charlie, on leave, he lost 18 lbs in weight after this operation. Quite a heavy snow fall at Sherbrooke last Sunday. He enjoyed seeing it for the first time. I am posting a parcel to you next week, with a pr of long sox which I have knitted for you. I hope they fit & suit. You are sure to like the other things. Hope they reach you in time for Xmas, & not late. I do not have much news to tell you, writing & knitting take up a great deal of time, and I lead a very quiet life as you know. You had better tell me if you can read my a/gs, or if they are too cramped. Adele gave me 3 laying pullets, we have had eleven eggs in tive days, so they are good. So nice to have them fresh from the nests. Tae sent me some negatives to have printed, she does not like keeping the negs there, they are apt to spoil. Hope you are well, & taking every care of yourself. We all would be

glad if you could come to Christmas dinner with us, but I suppose we cannot rely on your accepting the invitation. Still one never knows what the future may bring, & there is no harm in hoping is there dear. We are all well. With heaps of love, your ever lovingly Mother.
E.O. Wilson. EDITH.OLIVE.WILSON.

Item 348: Airgraph 1943-10-06 Edith to Murray

TYPE: letter
DATE: 1943 October 6 Wednesday
DESCRIPTION:

Item 315: Letter of three days from Murray Wilson to Margaret, starting 1945-10-26

TYPE: letter
DATE: 1945 October
DESCRIPTION: A letter of three parts, written in October and November 1954 by Murray Wilson to his wife Margaret.

Transcription

406376 F/Lt W.M. Wilson
Group 679 RAAF Pacific
Friday 26th Oct 45.
My Own Beloved,
Tomorrow we leave Tokyo my sweet & I must say I'm very glad of it. We're only going as far as Kamaya, right in the south of Japan then the next day will go to Lasag, stopping at Okinawa on the way & then the following day we hope to get to Lahnan. Gosh it will be good to get back there & get some mail darling. That's the big thing about getting away from here — oh I do want a letter or two from my wife so badly beloved & in just a few days I'll have some. It's such a good thought. This trip has been good that it's let us see a bit of Japan & get some idea of how the surrender is going & also get an idea of how the people here [?] it all. This place we've been staying at has been great for getting different ?? from the ?? & then last night we spoke for a long time with a Jap who was very good on his English & we get this idea. All most interesting.
Yesterday I got a few back copies of the "Nippon Times" & I think I'll post them home from Laboun. There's lots of interesting

— Page break —

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reading in them & perhaps we can peruse them at leisure together later on. I'd rather post them than

carry them as I don't want to have too much to take with me on the trip home.

This afternoon we had quite a good trip to Yokohama — it's about fifteen or twenty miles south of Tokyo but really the two cities run into each other. The damage is truly amazing. All the way it's just one great ?? of burnt ?? land — one can't say burnt out buildings as there aren't any shells left — every thing is flat on the ground, just a litter of rusting iron. Here & there of course there are parts that escaped but they are very few. The outstanding thing I thought was the number of office safes there are just standing in the open. They're all that's left of hundreds of buildings & offices & factories — they're rusty & all broken open, but they still stand there as a reminder that once that place was a building. I didn't realise before that a city had so many safes before. The thing is that all of these buildings were just wood & iron. The tale that Tokya would burn well was very true.

— Page break —

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While at Yokohama we found an American officers

Item 233: 1945-11 Telegrams re Murray's return

TYPE:

DATE: 1945 November

DESCRIPTION: Six telegrams written to Margaret Wilson from her husband Murray on his return to Australia from Japan in 1945, and a couple from other people as well.

Item 316: 1945-11-06 Murray Wilson to Margaret

TYPE: letter

DATE: 1945 November 6 Tuesday

DESCRIPTION:

Item 207: Newspaper article re Fawcett, 1975

TYPE: Article

DATE: 1975 July 6 Sunday

DESCRIPTION:

Location: Shelf 13, Box 1, Bag 5

Transcription

Invalid old man in top security

By Baden Pratt

An 88-year-old man (below) is still in Fremantle Jail, the State's top maximum security prison, after already serving 22 years be-

hind bars. [[File:William Fawcett 1975 newspaper.png|250px|right|frameless]]

He earns \$2.70 a week and his wife is still living in Perth.

Found not guilty on the grounds of insanity on charges of shooting two men in 1953, he is believed to be the oldest prisoner in a maximum security prison in Australia.

Currently the man is hospitalised and moves around with the aid of a wheel chair.

A former bank manager, he was ordered to be detailed in strict custody at the time of his trial. But, he has spent almost six years at Geraldton prison, in the minimum security area.

He was been transferred back to Fremantle Jail at his own request because he could not climb a flight of stairs to get to his bed.

Fremantle Jail's recently appointed superintendent, Mr Jim Driscoll (51), a former private secretary to the current Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Mr Hutchinson, said this week that the prisoner was "a very sick old man."

"He should be in a nursing home," Mr Driscoll said.

"He spends his time in a rocking chair in his dressing gown. He was transferred to Geraldton on November 6, 1969, and came back to Fremantle on April 9 this year.

"He is on the minimum wage here of 45c a day because he is not working. He is allowed an extra \$2 a week from outside."

Many other prisoners in Fremantle Jail are upset that the 88-year-old man is still kept in the maximum security jail.

Syd Sutton, himself 82, and the State's longest serving prisoner, said in Fremantle Jail this week that the 88-year-old man should be let out.

"He's as harmless as a kitten — in fact, he's a bloody bonzer fellow," said Sutton.

"When I get out I'm going to Parliament to get something done about it."

Labor MLC, Mr Des Dans, said last night that he would telephone the Chief Secretary's Department "first thing Monday morning."

"It appears the man has paid his debt to society and I will be seeking to find out whether or not the man wants to come out of jail," he said.

"Maybe after being there so long he might not want to but I intend to take the matter up vigorously.

"If he wants to go to a nursing home it would appear to be a better proposition than where he is now.

"If he gets out and is fully discharged he would get the age pension and a bit of dignity restored to his last years of life."

The Long Stretch: Pages 16-17.

6/7/75

Sunday Independent