

1ST LEICHHARDT SCOUTS
145 BALMAIN ROAD
LEICHHARDT 2040
PO BOX 155
LEICHHARDT 2040

1ST LEICHHARDT SCOUT GROUP FOUNDED 1908

**RECORDS OF JAMES X COUTTS, SCOUT LEADER AND DISTRICT COMMISSIONER,
LEICHHARDT DISTRICT AND RECORDS OF 1ST LEICHHARDT SCOUTS,
FROM 1908 TO 1938**

(Transcription of records collated by Allan Songberg,
Regional Adviser, South Metropolitan Region)

PART 4

Application to Enlist in the Australian Imperial Force	
To the Recruiting Officer	
at TOWN HALL.	
<p>I, <u>James Marion Coutts</u>, hereby offer myself for Enlistment in the Australian Imperial Force for Active Service Abroad, and undertake to enlist in the manner prescribed, if I am accepted by the Military Authorities, within one month from date hereof.</p>	
<p>POSTAL ADDRESS <u>7 Cromwell st- Leichhardt</u></p>	
<p>Signature <u>J. Marion Coutts</u> Occupation <u>Photographer</u> Date <u>10 Jan 1916</u></p>	
<p>(For Identification purposes the above space should be filled in personally by the Applicant.)</p>	
<p>CONSENT OF PARENTS OR GUARDIANS (For Persons under 21 years of Age) I HEREBY CERTIFY that I approve of the above application, and consent to the enlistment of my <u>son</u> <u>ward</u> for Active Service Abroad.</p>	
<p>Statement regarding Death or Absence of either or both Parents.</p>	
<p>Father's Signature _____ Mother's Signature _____ Guardian's Signature _____</p>	
<p>PERSONAL PARTICULARS</p>	
<p>Age <u>28</u> yrs. <u>6</u> mos. Height <u>5</u> ft. <u>6</u> ins Chest Measurement (fully expanded) <u>30 1/2 - 33 1/2</u> inches</p>	
<p>Married. Widower. Single. Weight <u>116</u> inches</p>	
<p>PRELIMINARY MEDICAL EXAMINATION</p>	
<p>Decision of Medical Authority <u>Accepted</u> Service <u>Rejected</u> following reasons: <u>None</u></p>	
<p>Place _____ Date _____ Signature of Medical Authority _____</p>	
<p>Place _____ Date _____ Signature of M.O. at Central Recruiting Depot _____</p>	
<p>CERTIFICATE OF RECRUITING OFFICER</p>	
<p>I CERTIFY that I have this day provisionally <u>Accepted</u> this applicant for enlistment in the Australian Imperial Force.</p>	
<p>Place <u>7 Cromwell st- Leichhardt</u> Date <u>10 JAN 1916</u> Signature <u>J.C. Timothy Major</u> Recruiting Officer</p>	

Second in the Fairfax Competition, Summer Hill winning by $\frac{1}{2}$ a point.

The patrol was again led by PL. Seaburg.

A block of land 50ft. X 120 ft., was purchased in Balmain Rd., at a cost of £162/10/-, for the site of a permanent Headquarters.

Scoutmaster Frank Charles killed at the Front, the Troop went into mourning.

RIDGEWAY RESERVOIR

H O B A R T Tasmania

June 24 1919

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DEAR MR COUTTS,

I have had it in mind for several weeks you about a wish that Mrs. Charles and I have had to donate the sum of £5.0.0 to Leichhardt Troop of Boy Scouts in memory of our beloved Son FRANK, for a time a Scout Master of Leichhardt Troop. We feel it would have been his wish, and we no credit to ourselves for this donation, for the money was given to your late Comrade.

I am sure that FRANK'S fellow Scouts would be interested to hear further particulars of the manner of his death, it takes a long time to gather this information together but I am determined to know all that there is to know about his life and death as a Soldier.

FRANK was killed by machine gun fire, being struck in the head and dying instantly. He was in charge of a section upon Patrol Duty in front of the trenches at night, they were locating the German trenches, ready for next days battle.

FRANK was buried on the field where he fell.

I shall be glad to hear from you, and will then remit to whatever Fund Leichhardt Troop directs the sum I have mentioned.

With every good wish, to the Troop and also to yourself

I remain Dear Mr COUTTS,
Yours Sincerely

Ed. John Charles

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Yours Sincerely

Ed. John Charles

Ridgeway Reservoir
Hobart. July 31, 1917

Dear Mr Coutts,

Mrs Charles & myself have the greatest satisfaction in sending you £5.0.0 out of Frank's own funds, for the purpose of establishing some little memento of their dearest Boy, in accordance with my letter of June 24 last.

Your letter of July 8. speaks of a very good way to keep the dear boy's memory green. Do as you think best.

We should very much appreciate photos of the small & the larger banners to place along with Frank's papers which we are binding in a book.

Do you think you have photos of him, that we have not got?

Yours sincerely
Ed. John Charles

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Do you think you have photos of him, that we have not seen!

Yours sincerely

Ed. John Charles

France

31/8/17

Dear Jim,

Just a few lines in answer to your very welcome letter of June 18th and to thank you for the photo of the boys. You cannot imagine how I value these photos. I have all you have sent me.

I would be pleased to hear that Annandale was again in the forward march. The old Troop has indeed trials since I left it. I am sure my heartfelt - gratitude must go out to the untiring efforts of yourself and the good people forming the Parents Association not to mention my old friend Bill Carr. I doubt if I should have the cheek to call it my Troop now as I see only three familiar faces. Jim old Chap. Others may call it theirs but they can never say the same of the old Troop as I left it and neither will they kill the affection I have for the Troop as it was, as it is, and as it will be. I look upon those boys as everything which is good. I must ask you to give my sincerest greetings to Burnie Cockburn, Herbie Crews and Bill Graham for the manner in which they have stuck to the Troop. I only wish that I could take them by the hand and greet them myself. But someday I may be able to do this. Who Knows?

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Now a little matter about Ossie James. It seems that there has been several rumours in A'Dale about myself both good and bad. This is the latest and the most silly and ridiculous tale. I wonder what Ossie thinks of to tell such blunderous lies. I cannot for the life of me see what advantage he can gain. He can only make himself look silly in the eyes of others even if he does think it makes him look big here. People are not so easily beguiled by tales. His own sense ought to tell him to be more discreet with his tales. I will tell you a man who rescues 30 men under heavy fire the same number of Germans on his Patrol and is rewarded. I have never done this and am not likely to. for a man to run in among such a lot of huns would indeed be a perfect fool. he would also have to bear an immensely charmed life. If he had said 2 or three there may have been some truth in it. Even so I have not killed any of the enemy. I have rescued men long before he ever thought of enlisting and then not under heavy fire. Nothing which would have awarded me a medal. I do not like these tales said of me. So next time you see him you may just tell him from me not to be such a little fool and to play the game and tell

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the truth. He has not seen me since I left neither has he been in the trenches, according to a chap who came over in the same reinforcements as he did. He was invalided home with Enteric fever from Egypt. He is only young yet so there is perhaps an excuse for him. I am very ~~angry~~ indignant over what he has said.

I was sorry to hear of Darrel Washington's Death.

Snowy only told me when he saw your letter.

Now you want to say a word about the Troop

I received a letter from my Mother who attended the ceremony of the roll of Honor as A'dale Council Chambers she ~~said~~ there were no Scouts Present. I would like to know why that was. For I read the speeches in the morning papers of several well known People delivered at that Ceremony. Surely that was a chance to bring the Troop a little more before the eyes of the Public.

Myself I think it was a good chance missed. Of course the boys may have been somewhere else as the Master says

Then again I have not heard for ages from the boys. I would welcome a letter from one of the new lads. A real good Scouting letter. There is plenty to tell me.

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Now before I end, a word about myself. Snowy will have undoubtedly have told you by now that I have received promotion. I am now a Corporal in the same Unit. It has been a long time coming don't you think.

I am feeling fit and am in the pink of condition and still going strong. I often wonder how long I will last. I have had a good run this time. I have outclassed all S.M who have left Sydney. I think Francis was the only other one with long service and he has been in England a good turn now.

I am not the same as a lot of other old hands that have gone in a heap all of a sudden. I feel splendid. They know how I will take the winter which is fast approaching.

I hope you are all well and keep forging ahead. I think Hqrs are slow in not sending us circulars regularly to keep us in touch with things.

I will now end with best of Wishes to all the Officers and Scouts of N° 6 Div. The only Div is my opinion. Kindest Regards to all I know and many thanks for your efforts in my old Troop.

from
Your old Friend
John Doyle

Now before I end, a nice word about myself. Snowy(?) will undoubtedly have told you by now that I have received promotion. I am now a Corporal in the same Unit. It has been a long time coming don't you think. I am feeling fit and am in the pink of condition and still going strong. I often wonder how long I will last. I have had a good run this time. I have outclassed all S.M who have left Sydney. I think Francis was the only other one with long service and he has been in England a good turn now.

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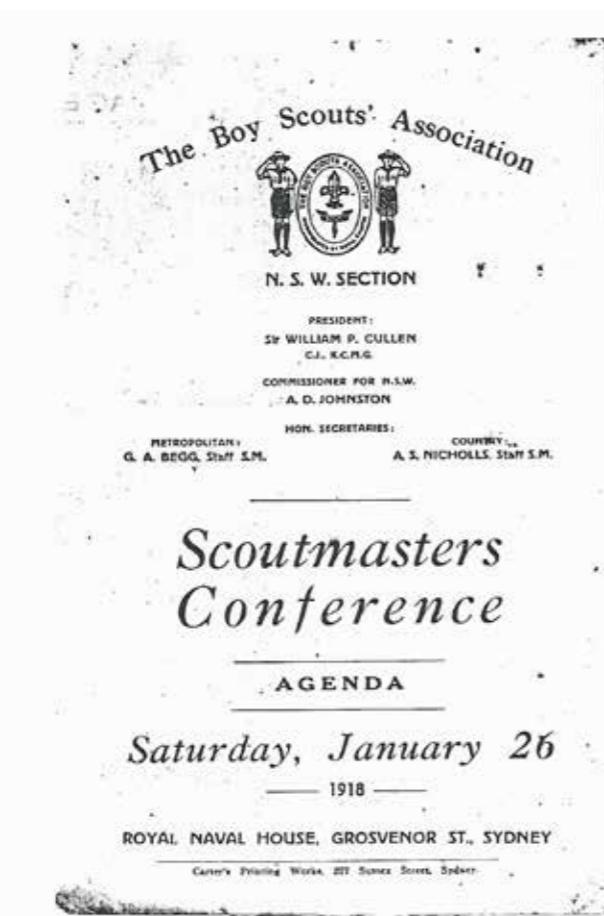
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From

Your old Friend

Ro--- Doyle



AGENDA	
1. The National Anthem.	
2. The Scout Prayer.	
3. The Commissioner's Address.	
4. Discussion—	"How to obtain suitable Scoutmasters."
5. Discussion—	"Conditions for the War Service Badges."
6. Report on	"The advisability of holding an Aquatic Carnival."
7. 1st Paper—	"Patrol Names and Calls."—R. McGOWAN, A.S.M.
8. 2nd Paper—	"Sex Hygiene for Boy Scouts." F. DANVERS POWER, S.M.
LUNCH ADJOURNMENT.	
9. Discussion—	"The formation of a Federal Council for Australia."
10. 3rd Paper—	"Senior Scouts and how to retain them." E. J. BIGNOLD, D.S.M.
11. 4th Paper—	"How to run a Camp."—A. S. NICHOLLS, Staff S.M.
12. 5th Paper—	"Scout Drill."—A. R. WILMOT, S.M.
13. 6th Paper—	"Life-Saving: The advantages of the Scoutmaster holding the Instructors' Certificate." A. J. WILLIAMS, S.M.
TEA ADJOURNMENT.	
14. Discussion—	"The Fairfax Banner Competition."
15. 7th Paper—	"The Patrol System."—F. W. EDDES, S.S.M.
16. 8th Paper—	"The Uniform of Scoutmasters, Scouts, and Wolf Cubs." C. F. GLANFIELD, D.S.M.
17. 9th Paper—	"The Standardisation of Rank and Proficiency Tests." F. DANVERS POWER, S.M.
18. 10th Paper—	"The Constitution of Parents' and Supporters' Committees." VAL. MARSHALL, D.S.M.
19. 11th Paper—	"The Constitution of the N.S.W. Section." The Commissioner.

Adams. F.	Foot. G.	McCullough. A.	Williams. Bede
Austin. H.	K Hampson. C.	McCullough. S.	Winskuffle. K
Andrews. J.	Harris. W.	Mumford. C.	Wells. L.
Attenborough. A.	Harris. J.	Moore. D.	Webster. R.
Atkins. G.	Harper. C.	Ormerod. J.	Warton. N.
Aston. A.S.	Henderson. C.W.	Phillips. W. C.M.	Robertson. J.
Britten. W.	Henderson. H.	Page. L.	
Bragg. B.	Hammond. S.	Patterson. W.	
Charles. F.	K Hodgson. C.	Rahn. C.	
Crawford. J.	K Henery. J.	Rowe. F.	
Crawford. K	Isackson. R.	Rushbrook. E.	
Campbell. D.	Johnstone. K.	Riches. G.	K
Campbell. W.	Knight. M.	Sandon. F.	
Crossley. J.	Koosache. J.	Smallwood. H.	
Crook. B.	Killpatrick. J.	Stead. G.	
Dahl. E.	Kenair. H.	K Stead. C.	
Deway. E.	Lee. G.	Storer. H.	K
Dunn. H.	K Littlejohn. W.	Stubb. F.	
Dunn. A.	K J. Machan.	Samuels. C.	
Dunn. A.E.	McMillan. A.	Tallan. H.	
Diamond. A.	McMillan. C.	Taylor. B.	K
K. Killed in Action			

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Charles. F. -	Hodgson. C.	Rahn. C.	
Crawford. J. K	Henery. J.	Rowe. F.	
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