

# ROLL OF HONOUR

## **Second World War, 1939 – 1945**

Captain Henry William COBB

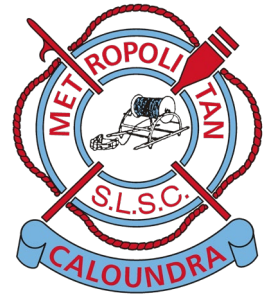
Pilot Officer Maxwell IRVINE-BROWN

Private William Joseph KENNELLY

## **Vietnam, 1962 – 1972**

Lance Corporal Barry John WHISTON

# ROLL OF HONOUR



**Name:** William Henry Albert COBB

**Rank:** Captain

**Service Number:** QX6313

**Unit:** 2/7 Cavalry Regiment

**Service:** Australian Army

**Born:** 2 April 1915; Kadanga, QLD

**Enlisted:** 11 July 1940; Caboolture, QLD

**Date of Death:** 19 December 1942 (aged 27 years)

**Place of Death:** Sanananda, Papua

**Cause of Death:** Killed in Action

**Buried / Commemorated:** Port Moresby (Bomana) War Cemetery (grave A7.C.12)  
Australian War Memorial (panel 12)  
Roll of Honour – Caboolture, QLD

**Next of Kin:** Son of William and Isabella Cobb  
Husband of Thelma Rose Cobb of Caboolture, QLD

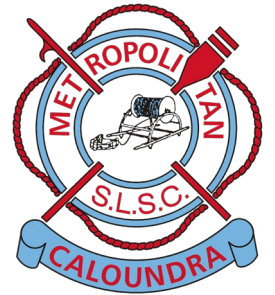
**In Civilian Life:** On enlistment, lived at Caboolture with his wife. He was employed as a saddler and cycle mechanic.

**Surf Life Saving:** He was awarded the Bronze Medallion (Number 13679) at Metropolitan-Caloundra in 1937.

**Military Service:** Nov 1935: Lieutenant, 2/14 Light Horse (CMF)  
Mar 1940: Temporary Captain  
Jun 1940: 2/14 called up for duty: appointed Lieutenant, 7 Division Cavalry Regiment  
Dec 1940 – Mar 1942: Overseas service (Middle East)  
Aug 1941: Captain  
Apr 1942 – Sep 1942: 1 Aust Armoured Training regiment  
Sep 1942: 2/7 Div Cavalry regiment, New Guinea. Detached to No. 7 Long Range Recce Patrol  
19 Dec 1942: Killed in Action: Sanananda, New Guinea

**Circumstances of Death:** Captain Cobb was commanding D Squadron 2/7 Cavalry Regiment under command of 30 Brigade. The Brigade was advancing toward Sanananda Point and was delayed by Japanese roadblocks. Cobb led a part of his squadron to re-join forward positions at “Huggins” but was pinned down by Japanese fire for over a day. Cobb evacuated his wounded and remained alone at the forward point. He was not seen alive again. In these actions 2/7 Cavalry Regiment lost 7 officers and 33 other ranks killed.

# ROLL OF HONOUR



Name: **Maxwell IRVINE-BROWN**

Rank: Pilot Officer

Service Number: 404736

Unit: 453 Squadron

Service: Royal Australian Air Force

Born: 15 December 1913; Brisbane, QLD

Enlisted: 8 November 1940; Rockhampton, QLD

Date of Death: 8 October 1941 (aged 27 years)

Place of Death: Singapore

Cause of Death: Accidental

Buried / Commemorated: Kranji War Cemetery, Kranji, Singapore (grave 37.B.9)  
Australian War Memorial (panel 105)  
Roll of Honour – Caboolture, QLD

Next of Kin: Husband of Evaline Ellen Irvine-Brown of Blackbutt, QLD  
(Mrs Irvine-Brown remarried September 1947 and lived in Iowa, USA)

In Civilian Life: On enlistment, lived at Rockhampton with his wife (married July 1940). He had been a garage proprietor and car and land salesman; and was a Collector and Secretary.

Surf Life Saving: He was awarded the Bronze Medallion (Number 12115) at Metropolitan-Caloundra in 1936. He was also known in the Club as “Max” Brown.

Military Service: Previous Service as Corporal in 5 Light Horse (8 months service 1938-39, No. 76570) in Wide Bay – Burnett.  
Nov 1940: Enlisted as Aircraftsman at No. 3b Mobile Recruiting Centre, Rockhampton  
Nov 1940: No. 2 Initial Training School, Bradfield Park  
Jan 1941: No. 4 Elementary Flying Training School, Mascot  
Mar 1941: No. 2 Service Flying Training School, Wagga  
Jun 1941: Promoted Pilot Officer  
Jul 1941: Embarked for overseas  
Aug 1941: 453 Squadron RAAF, Singapore

Circumstances of Death: Killed in an aircraft accident approximately 40 miles South-East of Singapore on 8 October 1941, when the Buffalo aircraft he was piloting crashed.

# ROLL OF HONOUR



**Name:** William Joseph **KENNELLY**

**Rank:** Private

**Service Number:** QX 12749

**Unit:** 2/15 Australian Infantry Battalion

**Service:** Australian Army

**Born:** 3 July 1915; Brisbane, QLD

**Enlisted:** 18 March 1941; Brisbane, QLD

**Date of Death:** 1 September 1942 (aged 27 years)

**Place of Death:** Egypt

**Cause of Death:** Killed in Action

**Buried / Commemorated:** El Alamein War Cemetery, Marsa Matruh, Egypt (A1.E.16)  
Australian War Memorial (38 in the Commemorative Area)  
Brisbane Cenotaph Roll of Honour

**Next of Kin:** Son of William Joseph and Isabella Kennelly, of Windsor, Brisbane, QLD

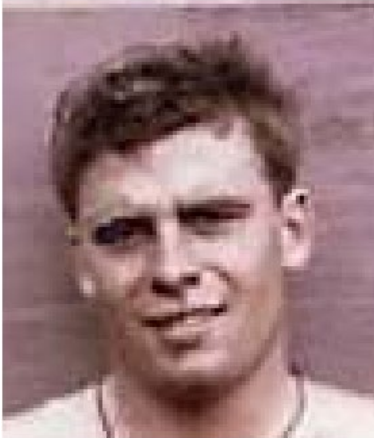
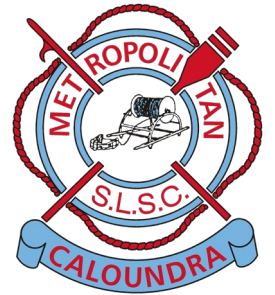
**In Civilian Life:** On enlistment, he lived with his parents at Lutwyche Road, Windsor. He was employed as a veneer grader.

**Surf Life Saving:** Kennelly was awarded the Bronze Medallion (Number 12887) at Metropolitan-Caloundra in 1936. He was known in the Club as “Bonny” in the 1937-38 season. He was awarded the Soden Cup as the Club’s “B” Grade Surf Champion. He was the Club Boat Captain in the 1940-41 season before enlisting.

**Military Service:** On enlistment in the AIF, Kennelly was noted as currently serving in the Australian Army Corps (No. Q45288)  
Mar 1941: Posted to 7 Training Battalion, Brisbane  
Apr 1941: Promoted to Lance Corporal  
Jun 1941: Promoted to Corporal, embarked for the Middle East  
Sep 1941: Taken on strength of 2/15 Battalion (20<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 9<sup>th</sup> Division) as a reinforcement, after the Battalion’s service at the Siege of Tobruk  
Jan 1942: 2/15 Battalion formed part of the occupation force in Syria / Lebanon  
Jul 1942: 2/15 Battalion deployed to the Western Desert  
1 Sep 1942: Reported Missing in Action, believed killed or wounded  
30 Nov 1942: Reported Killed in Action  
9 Dec 1942: Buried El Alamein

**Circumstances of Death:** On 1 September 1942, the 2/15 Battalion (supported by a squadron from 40 Royal Tank Regiment, a Light Anti-Aircraft Troop, an Anti-tank Battery, a Machine Gun Company and Field Engineers) participated in the 9th Division’s diversionary attack south of Tel-el-Eisa, codenamed Operation BULIMBA. This was planned as a response to German offensive actions further south during the lead-up to the final assault in late October and early November 1942 – The Battle of El Alamein. In heavy fighting near Point 23, a low rocky outcrop, the battalion came up against heavy resistance after penetrating a German minefield. The Battalion suffered heavy casualties – 2 Officers and 31 Other Ranks Killed in Action; 5 Officers and 108 Other Ranks Wounded in Action; 2 Officers and 31 Other Ranks Missing in Action. It is believed that Corporal Kennelly was among those initially posted as missing. On 25 October, the Battalion Chaplain “Jimmy” James went unarmed near enemy lines to recover 14 bodies from the BULIMBA action in a minefield. For this action Chaplain James was awarded the Military Cross. It is believed that Corporal Kennelly’s body was one of those recovered, as evidenced by the change in his status at 30 November.

# ROLL OF HONOUR



**Name:** Barry John WHISTON

**Rank:** Lance Corporal

**Service Number:** 1202024

**Unit:** 3 Cavalry Regiment

**Service:** Australian Army

**Born:** 7 December 1946; Brisbane, QLD

**Enlisted:** 1967; Brisbane, QLD

**Date of Death:** 18 February 1970 (aged 23 years)

**Place of Death:** Long Hai Hills, Phuoc Tuy Province, South Vietnam

**Cause of Death:** Killed in Action

**Buried / Commemorated:** Mount Thompson Crematorium, Holland Park, Brisbane  
Australian War Memorial (4 in the Commemorative Area)

**Next of Kin:** Son of George John Percival and Rae Alexandra Whiston, of Wavell Heights, Brisbane

**In Civilian Life:** Barry Whiston attended Kedron State School and completed his Junior Certificate at Wavell State High School. He completed an apprenticeship as a Carpenter in 1966, and lived with his parents until enlisting in the Army. He also played rugby league for North Suburbs in the Brisbane C Grade competition. We was engaged to be married in July 1970.

**Surf Life Saving:** He was awarded the Bronze Medallion (Number Q3801) at Metropolitan-Caloundra in 1964. He was an active member of the Club until joining the Army and was an enthusiastic boat rower. In the 1963-64 season he was the Club Boat Vice-Captain, and the Junior Club Champion and Best Junior Belt. He was the Club Boat Captain in the 1964-65 season.

**Military Service:** Barry voluntarily enlisted in the Australian Regular Army in 1967. It is believed he undertook his Recruit Training at 3 Training Battalion, Singleton. He was posted to Armoured Corps – declining an offer to become a Physical Training Instructor. He completed his Corps Training at Puckapunyal and was posted to 2 Cavalry Regiment at Holsworthy. He was promoted Lance Corporal. In mid-1969 he was posted to 3 Cavalry Regiment in South Vietnam.

**Circumstances of Death:** 8 Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment conducted Operation HAMMERSLEY in the Long Hai Hills of Phuoc Tuy Province from 10 February to 3 March 1970. On 18 February C Company 8 RAR, supported by 3 Troop, B Squadron, 3 Cavalry Regiment (in which Barry Whiston commanded an APC), had made contact with the enemy Viet Cong D445 Battalion. The Company in APCs advanced and contacted enemy in bunkers – Barry’s APC was hit by two RPGs. A heavy fire fight occurred and attempts to recover the damaged APC were prevented by heavy enemy small arms and RPG fire. The badly wounded APC crew and five C Company soldiers were trapped in the burning vehicle. Two men from an adjacent APC ran to the disabled vehicle and forced open the rear door allowing the five infantrymen to escape. In the meantime a tank attempted to tow the APC to safety and, as the two men returned to rescue the crew, the enemy threw a satchel charge into the vehicle, totally destroying it and killing the crew (Lance Corporal Barry Whiston and Trooper Hugh Carlyle).