
Stained Glass Window at Footscray St. John the Evangelist's Anglican Church



Footscray St Johns Anglican
Honour Roll narthex 2



Footscray St Johns Anglican
Agnes Dei Honour Roll
narthex WM attrib

Location

Paisley Street, Footscray, MARIBYRNONG CITY

Municipality

MARIBYRNONG CITY

Level of significance

-

Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

Heritage
Study/Consultant

Vic War Heritage Inventory - Stained Glass Memorial Windows Study, Bronwyn
Hughes, 2013;

Architect/Designer

Montgomery, William,

Hermes Number

196906

Property Number

Memorial Window References & Acknowledgements

AWM Roll of Honour; NAA: B2455, Emerson ESA; NAA: B2455, Emerson AE; NAA: B2455, Greengrass CM; NAA: B2455, Greengrass GW; *Advertiser*, 20 April 1918, p.2; Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Footscray, Victoria: centenary celebrations of the Anglican Church in Footscray District 1855-1955, St. John's Vestry, 1988.

With thanks to Marilyn Richards, Honorary Secretary and other members of the congregation at St. John's Anglican Church, Footscray.

Memorial Window Subject

Agnes Dei [Honour Roll]

Memorial Window Text

n/a

Memorial Window Inscription

n/a

Memorial Window Description & History

The 'St. John's Church Roll of Honour' was carved in timber and designed to frame a small trefoil window, *Agnes Dei*, in the west wall of the church. The Roll holds 136 names of men who served and singled out the 28 men who 'made the supreme sacrifice'. It is not known whether the stained glass was in place before the Honour Roll was erected, however its subject provided a fitting centrepiece as it recognised the Lamb of God as protector of those who fought for King and country.

Of the many named on the Honour Roll is Ernest Samuel Emerson, a 20 year-old carpenter who enlisted on 11 August 1915 with 6 years experience with the Footscray infantry. He joined 14 Battalion, but transferred to the Australian Cyclist Corps while in Egypt in April 1916. He served in several different Cyclist units and attended a number of signal schools before becoming an instructor. On a number of occasions during the war he suffered from throat and lung infections that required hospital treatment; he was admitted again, 'dangerously ill' with influenza on 13 November 1918. He died three days later and was buried at Vadencourt British Cemetery, Maissemy, a few miles north-west of St. Quentin in France. His brother, Albert Emerson, survived the conflict and is also honoured on the church memorial.

Another on the Roll was George Greengrass who enlisted on 22 October 1914, aged 23. His younger brother Charles Morris, a 21 year-old labourer had already enlisted in August. Both men landed in the Dardenelles where T/Sergeant George Greengrass of 14 Battalion, was killed in action on 8 August 1915. He is remembered at the Lone Pine Memorial, Gallipoli. Charles was wounded at Gallipoli but survived to join the battle in France and Belgium, and was killed in action on 4 October 1917. His burial was at Buttes New British Cemetery, Polygon Wood. Curiously his name is not among those remembered on the St. John's Honour Roll.

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

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