

## THE LAY FAMILY

**Stanley Lay** was the third born of the four sons of Charles Henry and Elizabeth (Field) Lay who enlisted during WW1. There was an older brother Charles Henry Lay (1876-1919) but no record of service. Charles Henry Lay is buried in Traralgon. There were 12 children in the family.

The other sons were

**Frederick John** (#234) 13/10/1877 – 14/02/1962 who is buried at Yarram

**Ernest Ralph** (#7028) 2/2/1889 – 23/5/1958 in Yarram

**Roy Jubilee** (#61185) 18/4/1897 – 6/8/1980 Died while living in Frankston

None of these brothers were buried in Traralgon, nor his parents.

Fred, Roy and Stan are listed on the Traralgon RSL Honour Roll.

### STANLEY LAY

Service number	3182
Enlisted	27 October 1916 as a Private aged 24
Embarked	16 December 1916 on the HMAT A7 <i>Medic</i>
Unit on enlistment	58 <sup>th</sup> Battalion, 8th Reinforcement
Returned to Australia	12 May 1918

Stanley was born in Ballan, as were many of his siblings. The family moved to Carrajung where they took up farming. The parents moved into Church Street Traralgon before Stan enlisted, but they finally moved back to farming in Carrajung.

Stanley Lay first enlisted on 1 August 1916 in Melbourne and was passed fit for active service. He had had a preliminary medical examination by Dr McLean on July 31 1916. However, this was not taken up for some reason. He tried again on 16 August and was declared medically unfit due to ear problems, but was passed as fit for home service which he began on 17/8/1916. He was eventually discharged from home service on 18/9/1916 and then re-enlisted in Warragul on 27/10/1916 and declared fit for active service.

He was farewelled by the people of Willung South on the 7 November and was presented with a pen and pencil by Mr Power. He left Melbourne on 16 December 1916 and disembarked in Plymouth on 18 February 1917. He proceeded to France to join the 58<sup>th</sup> Battalion, leaving Southampton on 12 September 1917 and joined the 58<sup>th</sup> on 2 October. He was wounded in action on 12 October 1917 and was back in the field by 18 November that year. He was taken to hospital on 23 February 1918 and was taken to hospital in England aboard the HS *Newhaven* suffering from appendicitis, arriving on 6 March 1918 at the 1<sup>st</sup> Birmingham War Hospital. He was transferred to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford on 5 April to recover. He was finally returned to Australia as medically unfit as showing loss of weight and debility. He disembarked in Melbourne from HT *Gaika*, and was discharged due to disability on 31 August 1918.

He was welcomed back on Friday 20 September 1918 at Carrajung by Mr A Somers and the local community at a social gathering of both Carrajung and Gormandale reception committees, and presented him with the usual gold medal and certificate. Mr R A Graham and Mrs Morgan supplied the music for the evening.

When he returned home he continued farming in various parts of Gippsland and married Marie Ellen Ivie (nee Brown) in 1920. They had 4 children.

After farming he moved into Traralgon from around 1954 and worked as a labourer. He died on 17/12/1970 while living at "Hilltop", Liddiard Road, Traralgon with his wife, who died on 10/6/1983.



Stanley Lay



Stanley and his brother Roy



HMAT A7 Medic



HT Gaika



The Victory Medal



The British War Medal



Gippsland Memorial Park  
Traralgon  
B-B013



