

A SOLDIER'S STORY



Service No.: SX24340
Name: Vernon Vane GILES
Nickname: Tim



Medals and Decorations:

Defence Medal

War Medal 1939 - 45

Australian Service Medal 1939 - 45

Rank: Private

Service: Army

Enlisted: CMF 17 Jan 1942

AIF 28 Aug 1942

Discharged: 1 Mar 1946

Tim was born at Tumby Bay on 29 Aug 1917 to George Henry Giles and Ethel Maude Giles (nee Brown) of Lipson. He was one of 10 children (6 boys and 4 girls), of which only 3 are still living.

He attended school at Lipson, leaving at the end of grade 7 to work on the local farms and to try his hand (back?) at wheat lumping. He continued in this line of work until he joined the Army.

Initially he joined the Citizens Military Forces (CMF) as an Infantry soldier and was given the service number of S26931. He was then transferred to the Australian Imperial Forces (AIF) 2/48th Battalion and his service number changed to SX24340. He remained with this Battalion for 1 day before he was reallocated to Artillery and transferred to 149th Australian Light Anti Aircraft Battery at Ingleburn (NSW). In Aug 1942 he was transferred to 108th Australian Light Anti Aircraft Regiment and posted to Darwin where he remained until May 1945. In that month he was transferred to 101st Australian Anti Aircraft Regiment (Composite), before returning to Hampstead Barracks (SA) and being transferred to 29th Work Company in Sep 1945. He remained with the Work Company until taking his discharge in Mar 1946.

On discharge from the Army in 1946, he returned to Lipson and resumed work as a farm hand. He remained in the family home and cared for his elderly mother until her death. He then moved to Tumby Bay and bought a home in Elfreda Drive, where he retired and remained until his death on 23 Mar 2003.

He is buried in the Tumby Bay cemetery.

Tim was an excellent sportsman, having played tennis, cricket and football for Lipson

and in later years, lawn bowls for Tumby Bay.

He was an active member of the Tumby Bay RSL.



Defence
Medal

War Medal
1939-45

Service Medal
1939-45



The 3 Giles Brothers