



Staff of the Adelie Land Station 1912 (Main Base)



Lt. Bellgrave E.S. Ninnis

Nickname(s):
Cherub and Ninn

Born: 1887,
London, England

Died: 1912,
Antarctica

Age: 23 * (age in 1912)

In charge of Greenland dogs

Son of an Arctic expeditioner, he inherited his father's urge to explore and applied to join Antarctic expeditions led by Shackleton and Scott. He joined Mawson's expedition as a dog handler. On December 14 1912 while on a sledging journey with Mawson and Mertz, he lost his life when he fell into a crevasse about five hundred kilometres east of Winter Quarters.



Dr. Xavier Mertz

Nickname(s):
X and Squarehead

Born: 1883,
Basel, Switzerland

Died: 1913,
Antarctica

Age: 28

In charge of Greenland dogs

Swiss Ski Champion, experienced mountaineer, Law and Science graduate. He was very popular and had a great sense of humour. His broken English was often a source of great amusement. On January 7 1913 during a sledging journey he lost his life about one hundred and sixty kilometres south-east of Winter Quarters.



Lt. Edward Frederick Robert Bage

Nickname(s):
Robert, Badget, Baldy Bob

Born: 1888,
Victoria, Australia

Died: 1915, Gallipoli, Turkey

Age: 23

Astronomer, Assistant Magnetician & Recorder of Tides

Robert was one of the most-liked and respected members at the main base. Leader of the Southern Sledging Party, he remained in the Antarctic for two years when the Aurora was forced to depart. "Untiring worker... of jovial spirit, ever ready to help anybody". Bage worked closely with the party's architect, helping to erect a latrine for the hut, the walls and roof of the main building and a hanger for the fuselage of the aircraft. Bage threw himself into his extended duties and obligingly tinkered with a variety of machinery thus earning himself the nickname 'Badget'.



Cecil Thomas Madigan

Nickname(s): Madi

Born: 1889,
Renmark, Australia

Died: 1947,
Adelaide, Australia

Age: 23

Meteorologist

Rhodes Scholar student, scientist, athlete, geologist and distinguished soldier. He led several sledging journeys. Madigan occupied the south west corner of the main hut along with Bickerton, Mertz and Ninnis which they named "Hyde Park Corner". The deaths of Ninnis and Mertz hit him and Bickerton hard. Madigan used aircraft for large-scale geological surveys in 1929, and pioneered the use of mobile radios and aerial photography.



Archibald Lang McLean

Nickname(s):
Dad and Mac

Born: 1885,
Sydney, Australia

Died: 1922,
Sydney, Australia

Age: 26

Chief Medical Officer, Bacteriologist

Respected doctor who monitored the men and carried out observations in bacteriology and physiology during the first year. In 1913 (the second year) he was biologist, ice-carrier and editor of the 'Adelie Blizzard', a magazine to keep the expeditioners entertained. He nursed Mawson back to health after the tragic sledging journey.

Activity:

- Complete the Mawson's Men Word Search at the end of this document.

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Staff of the Adelie Land Station 1912 (Main Base)



Alfred James Hodgeman

Nickname(s): Alfie, Uncle Alfie, Hodgey and Hodge

Born: 1885, Adelaide, Australia

Died: 1964, England

Age: 26

Cartographer & Sketch Artist

Hodgeman had worked as an architect and draftsman in Adelaide. He was called on by Mawson to oversee the design and construction of Mawson's Hut, as there was no assigned architect amongst the group. Over his two years in Antarctica he took part in several sledging journeys and acted as assistant meteorologist as well as cartographer and sketch artist.



Francis Howard Bickerton

Nickname(s): Frank, Bick and Spanish Don

Born: 1889, Oxford, England

Died: 1954, Ceredigion, Wales

Age: 22

In charge of air-tractor sledge

An electrical engineer and motor expert. Leader of the Western Sledging Party, he remained in the Antarctic for two years during which time he was in charge of the air-tractor sledge and was Engineer to the wireless station. For a time during the second year he was in complete charge of the wireless plant.



Eric Norman Webb

Nickname(s): Azi and Azimuth

Born: 1889, Lyttleton, New Zealand

Died: 1984, Caterham, England

Age: 22

Chief Magnetician

Webb was an Associate of Civil Engineering of Canterbury University College. For the five months leading up to the expedition, Webb carried out magnetic observations in association with the Carnegie Institute of Washington, U.S.A. Whilst in Antarctica, he acted as Chief Magnetician and accompanied the Southern Sledging Party.



James Francis Hurley

Nickname(s): Frank and Hoyle

Born: 1885, Glebe, Australia

Died: 1962, Collaroy Plateau, Australia

Age: 26

Official Photographer

After running away from home at the age of thirteen, James Hurley taught himself the technical aspects of photography. This led to employment at a postcard business where he quickly established a reputation for quality work. Hurley went to considerable lengths to secure a position on Mawson's expedition. He cornered Douglas Mawson in a private railway compartment and persuaded him to appoint him official photographer for his Antarctic expedition. Hurley took outstanding images, which he developed in primitive conditions in a dark room at Cape Denison measuring 1.2 sq m. He became the the AAE's comedian and prankster and he was respected and loved by everyone.



Percy E. Correll

Nickname(s): Little Willie Smith

Born: 1892, Adelaide, Australia

Died: 1974, Adelaide, Australia

Age: 19

Mechanic & Assistant Physicist

Correll was a Science student at the Adelaide University. Whilst in Antarctica he was a member of the Main Base Party and accompanying the Eastern Coastal Party on their sledging journey. He spent three summers and one winter in the Antarctic, acting as Colour Photographer during the final cruise of the 'Aurora'.

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Staff of the Adelie Land Station 1912 (Main Base)



Frank Leslie Stillwell

Nickname(s): -

Born: 1888,
Hawthorne, Australia

Died: 1963,
Richmond, Australia

Age: 23

Geologist

A shy retiring man, Frank Stillwell was a brilliant student who went on to become a distinguished and highly respected Geologist. He is reported to have left for Antarctica with a lung condition that had affected him all his early life but it had disappeared by the time he returned.



Walter Henry Hannam

Nickname(s):
Walter and Bouncing Billy

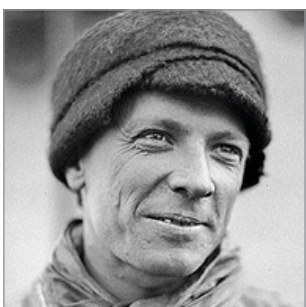
Born: 1885,
Burwood, Australia

Died: 1965,
Terrigal, Australia

Age: 26

Wireless Operator & Mechanic

Hannam joined the Expedition and oversaw the arrangements for a wireless telegraphic system. During his two summers and one winter in Antarctica he was successful in transmitting wireless messages for a short time through Macquarie Island to Australia. He was also assistant magnetician for a time.



John George Hunter

Nickname(s): Johnnie

Born: 1888,
Ultimo, Australia

Died: 1964,
Sydney, Australia

Age: 23

Biologist

Like several of his colleagues, John Hunter interrupted his university studies to join the expedition. He was appointed as a Biologist but returned home to complete his medical degree, and eventually became the 'father' of Australia's first private medical insurance fund and the founder of the Australian Medical Association (AMA). On his death in 1964 the federal president of the AMA stated: 'No single figure has been more widely known and respected in the medical circles during the last 30 years'.



Herbert Dyce Murphy

Nickname(s): Appy Erbert

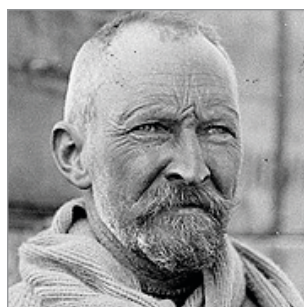
Born: 1888,
South Yarra, Australia

Died: 1963,
Morningside, Australia

Age: 32

In charge of Expedition stores

A one-time scholar of History of Oxford University. Murphy was planned to be the leader of the Third Antarctic Base, however, it was merged with the Main Base. He had charge over the stores and during the summer and was the leader of the Southern Supporting Party.



John Henry Collinson Close

Nickname(s):
J.C. and Terribus

Born: 1871,
Lavender Bay, Australia

Died: 1949,
Chatswood, Australia

Age: 40

Assistant Collector

One of only two married men on the team. John Close was credited with saving the lives of himself and two companions when they all lost consciousness from carbon monoxide poisoning in a shelter dug into the ice. During the South African War he saw active service in Rhodesia.



Charles Francis Laseron

Nickname(s):
Carl and Joe

Born: 1887,
Wisconsin, U.S.A.

Died: 1959,
Sydney, Australia

Age: 25

Taxidermist & Biological Collector

Laseron gained a Diploma in Geology at the Technical College, Sydney, NSW, and for some years was a collector at the Technological Museum. Whilst in the Antarctic, he acted as taxidermist and general collector, also taking part in sledging journeys. He gained his nickname 'Joe' from his love for music and a particular song: "Poor Old Joe".

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Staff of the Adelie Land Station 1912 (Main Base)



Sidney H. Jeffryes

Nickname(s): -

Born: 1884,
Toowoomba, Australia

Died: 1942,
Ararat, Australia

Age: 27

Radio Operator

Jeffryes may have been regarded as insane by his six colleagues during the second year at Cape Denison, but he was credited with managing to achieve regular two-way wireless communication with the relay station on Macquarie. During his descent into insanity, Jeffryes became prone to physical violence and began to suffer from hallucinations. He was committed to Ararat asylum when he returned to Adelaide, where he died 28 years later.



Dr. Leslie H. Whetter

Nickname(s): Error

Born: 1888,
Dunedin, New Zealand

Died: 1955,
Matakana, New Zealand

Age: 29

Surgeon

Graduated from Otago University, New Zealand and joined the expedition as acting surgeon. He accompanied the sledging party which explored the region westward of Winter Quarters. Not regarded as a great success as a surgeon, Whetter became a bit of a loner and disillusioned as he was not favoured by Mawson.

Staff of the Queen Mary Land Station - (Western Base)



Morton Henry Moyes

Nickname(s): Mort

Born: 1886, Australia

Died: 1981, Australia

Age: 25

Meteorologist

A graduate in Science from Adelaide University, Moyes joined the Western Base Party and took part in several sledging journeys. Like several of his AAE companions, Moyes was drawn not only to the Antarctic, but also to the service of his country. He made three voyages south, and became one of the most decorated members, with both a Silver and Bronze Polar Medals. He also received an OBE and several service medals.



Charles Turnbull Harrison

Nickname(s): -

Born: 1866,
Kingston, Australia

Died: 1914,
At sea

Age: 43

Artist & Biologist

Charles Harrison was the only Tasmanian member of the AAE, also the eldest and one of two who were married. Harrison had done many years of illustrative and artistic work as well as engaging in survey and botanical work prior to joining the expedition. Stationed at the Western Base, he acted as biologist and artist, accompanying F.Wild on his main eastern journey and several other sledging parties.

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Staff of the Queen Mary Land Station (Western Base)



Charles Archibald Hoadley

Nickname(s): Arch

Born: 1887,
Burwood, Australia

Died: 1947,
Footscray, Australia

Age: 24

Geologist

Hoadley was a graduate in Mining Engineering at Melbourne University. He joined F. Wild's Western Party (Queen Mary Land) taking part in several sledging journeys. Hoadley was the geologist of the party who explored westwards to Gaussberg.



Frank Wild

Nickname(s): Frank

Born: 1873,
Skelton, England

Died: 1939,
Klerksdorp, South Africa

Age: 38

Sledge-Master

Wild was the leader of the Western Base Party (Queen Mary Land). He joined the Merchant Service in 1889 and the Navy in 1900. Wild served on an extended sledge journey during the National Antarctic Expedition and was one of the Southern Party of Sir Ernest Shackleton's Expedition. During the Australasian Expedition, he opened up a new tract of country - Queen Mary Land.



George Harris Sarjeant Dovers

Nickname(s): -

Born: 1887,
Sydney, Australia

Died: 1971,
Wahroonga, Australia

Age: 21

Cartographer

Dovers was completing his term as licensed surveyor in the service of the Commonwealth Government when he joined the expedition. When in Antarctica, he was stationed with the Western Party (Queen Mary Land). Dovers acted as cartographer for the party which reached Gaussberg.



Sydney Evan Jones

Nickname(s):

Born: 1886, Adelaide,
Australia

Died: 1948, Sydney, Australia

Age: 24

Medical Officer

A graduate of Medicine at Sydney University, NSW, Jones became a member and medical officer of F. Wild's Western Base (Queen Mary Land). He took part in several sledging journeys and was leader of the party who explored westward to Gaussberg.



Alexander Lorimer Kennedy

Nickname(s): Ken

Born: 1889,
Woodside, Australia

Died: 1972,
Perth, Australia

Age: 22

Magnetician

One of the few to receive both Bronze and Silver Polar medals, Alexander Kennedy also served in both World Wars. Kennedy built an igloo to serve as a magnetic observatory, prior to this he had been carrying out his observations in the open. Kennedy was also a games organiser for the party to provide some light relief and became the hockey referee.



Andrew Dougal Watson

Nickname(s): -

Born: 1885,
New Lambton, Australia

Died: 1948,
Cremorne, Australia

Age: 24

Geologist

Graduated in Science at Sydney University, NSW and was the only school teacher amongst AAE. Watson was a member of the Western Base Party (Queen Mary Land) and was acting geologist. He took part in several sledging journeys, including F. Wild's main eastern trip. He returned to a long career as a headmaster and sportsman.

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Staff of the Macquarie Island Station



George F. Ainsworth

Nickname(s): -

Born: 1878,
Charlestown, Australia

Died: 1950,
Sydney, Australia

Age: 30

Leader & Meteorologist

Ainsworth's services were loaned to the expedition by the Commonwealth Meteorological Bureau, Melbourne. Whilst in Antarctica, for two years he acted as leader of the Macquarie Island Party, carrying out the duties of meteorologist. In the summer of 1913-14, he visited the Antarctic during the final cruise of the 'Aurora'.



Harold Hamilton

Nickname(s): Hammy

Born: 1885,
Napier, New Zealand

Died: 1937,
Rotorua, New Zealand

Age: 26

Biologist

A graduate of Otago University, Hamilton was employed by the New Zealand Geological Survey and acted as Entomological Collector at the Dominion Museum at Wellington. He was biologist for the Macquarie Island Party for two years and visited the Antarctic during the final cruise of the 'Aurora'.



Arthur John Sawyer

Nickname(s): -

Born: 1885,
Gisborne, New Zealand

Died: 1932,
Wellington, New Zealand

Age: 26

Wireless Operator

Having had considerable experience in wireless telegraphy, Sawyer joined the Expedition as an Operator from the Australasian Wireless Company. He was chief wireless operator on Macquarie Island until 1913, when he returned to New Zealand due to illness.



Leslie Russell Blake

Nickname(s): -

Born: 1890,
Hawthorn, Australia

Died: 1918,
Tincourt, France

Age: 21

Cartographer & Geologist

Leslie Blake lived for several years in Queensland prior to joining the Expedition. He had to obtain leave from the Geological Survey Department, Brisbane before accompanying the Macquarie Island Party. He also visited the Antarctic during the cruise of the 'Aurora'.



Charles A. Sandell

Nickname(s): -

Born: 1886,
Surrey, England

Died: 1980,
Esperance, Australia

Age: 25

Wireless Operator & Mechanic

Sandell studied Electrical Engineering for some years before coming to Australia in 1909 to enter the Commonwealth branch of telephony. Having some practical knowledge of wireless telegraphy, he joined the Expedition as the wireless operator and mechanic and was stationed at Macquarie for two years. After the departure of the main wireless operator, Sandell was in complete charge of the wireless station.

Want to know more?

- <http://www.booktopia.com.au/mawson-s-remarkable-men-david-jensen/prod9781760113339.html>
- http://www.coolantarctica.com/Antarctica%20fact%20file/History/antarctic_whos_who_aurora_mawson.php

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The Ship's Party (SV Aurora)



Captain John King Davis

Nickname(s): Gloomy

Born: 1884,
Surrey, United Kingdom

Died: 1967,
Melbourne, Australia

Age: 28

Master of the S.Y. Aurora & Second in Command of the Expedition, Chief Officer & Master Nimrod

Born in Ireland and educated in England. Davis served his apprenticeship on the Liverpool-owned sailing ship, 'Celtic Chief' and obtained his certificate as Second Mate and served on the 'Westland' and 'Port Jackson'. Davis then joined the Sir Ernest Shackleton's Expedition and through the AAE and captained the 'Aurora' during five cruises.



John H. Blair

Nickname(s): -

Born: 1889,
Glasgow, Scotland

Died: Unknown

Age: 24

First Officer

First officer on the Aurora's third Antarctic voyage which took Mawson home. Recipient of the Silver Polar Medal, he also had a distinguished career in both World Wars. At the beginning of the First World War he was given command of a converted tug boat, carrying out patrols. To make the tug look more like a warship, Blair mounted a dummy wooden gun on the foredeck and painted it grey. It was also rigged to produce a puff of smoke as though it was firing a warning shot.



Clarence Peterson de la Motte

Nickname(s): -

Born: 1892,
Woonona, Australia

Died: Unknown

Age: 19

Third Officer

Clarence de la Motte received both the Silver and Bronze Polar Medals, serving on all five AAE voyages and also as Chief Officer under Davis on the Ross Sea rescue mission. He trained in New Zealand and was an officer with the Union Steam Ship Company before joining the AAE. During the early part of the first world war he served with the Australian Transport Service before rejoining the Aurora.



Percy Gray

Nickname(s): -

Born: 1889,
Bowral, Australia

Died: 1944,
South Africa

Age: 22

Second Officer & Navigating Officer

After serving as Cadet Captain for eighteen months on the 'Worcester', an apprentice on the 'Archibald Russell' and in the New Zealand Shipping Company, Gray entered the Peninsula and Oriental Company reaching the rank of third officer. He joined the Australasian Antarctic Expedition as Second Officer of the 'Aurora' and served in this capacity throughout five cruises.



Frederick Jacob Gillies

Nickname(s): -

Born: 1874,
Cardiff, Wales

Died: 1941,
Australia

Age: 35

Chief Engineer

Gillies served his apprenticeship as an engineer on the steamers of John Shearman and Company and P. Baker and Company, Cardiff. Six years prior to joining the Expedition, he was in the Indian trade. Gillies served on all five cruises of the 'Aurora'.

Activity:

- Complete the Mawson's Men Word Search at the end of this document.

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Fact File 2

Mawson's Men

MAWSON'S HUTS FOUNDATION



Mawson's Men Word Search

J Y H O A D L E Y H U R L E Y
 O M L I M N I N N I S W I L D
 N A Y K C N B I C K E R T O N
 E D J C L O S E M A W S O N F
 S I E K E N N E D Y M E R T Z
 L G F D A T A I N S W O R T H
 A A F O N H A N N A M L M W S
 S N R V H A R R I S O N O A T
 E W Y E T I H U N T E R Y T I
 R E E R H O D G E M A N E S L
 O B S S A N D E L L S E S O L
 N B L A K E H A M I L T O N W
 W M U R P H Y C O R E L L S E
 F I W H E T T E R E B A G E L
 U B C K O S A W Y E R N M U L

Find and circle the following men...

AINSWORTH	BAGE	BICKERTON	BLAKE	CLOSE	CORELL	DOVERS
HANNAM	HAMILTON	HARRISON	HODGEMAN	HOADLEY	HUNTER	HURLEY
JEFFRYES	JONES	LASERON	KENNEDY	NINNIS	MADIGAN	MAWSON
MERTZ	MCLEAN	MOYES	MURPHY	SANDELL	SAWYER	STILLWELL
WATSON	WEBB	WILD	WHETTER			