

ON THE STREETS WHERE YOU LIVE



Garling Street

One hundred years ago, while the nation was reading of the continuing battles on the Western Front, the Lane Cove community was mourning the loss of another of its young men. Major Terence Ward Garling, aged 24, died of wounds sustained in the second Battle of Dernancourt, France on 5 April 1918. He was one of the youngest Australians promoted to Major on the battlefield.

Terence was the younger son of Marie and William Mylam Nicholas Garling (b. 1841). William was the son of Frederick Garling Jnr (1806-1873), a colonial customs officer who was better known for his marine art. Frederick Garling Snr (1775-1848) had arrived in the colony of New South Wales in 1815 to fill the position of Crown Solicitor. William spent much of his early life managing cattle stations in northern New South Wales. In 1868 he married Jessie Pitt and they had five children. Jessie died in Melbourne in 1887 and William remarried in 1891 to Mary Wise (known as Marie). William and Marie, now living in Sydney, had two sons, Raymond Wise Garling, (b. 1892) and Terence Ward Garling (b. 1894).

By 1902 William and Marie Garling had settled into a house named 'Glenoak' in Burns Bay Road, Longueville (as Lane Cove was known at the time). His sons, Raymond and Terence crossed the Lane Cove River daily to attend nearby Hunters Hill Public School. By 1907 the family had moved into a newly built house named 'Angledene' a short distance away. Raymond became a clerk with C.S.R. (Colonial Sugar Refining Company) and Terence, clerk with Trebeck, Son & Co. Stock & Station agents, Sydney. Both young men undertook military training with the citizens forces prior to the outbreak of World War One.

On 8 October 1914, Terence Ward Garling enlisted at the rank of 2nd Lieutenant and embarked on HMAT A8 *Argyllshire*. At Gallipoli in September 1915, he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant. On the French battlefields he was promoted to Captain in August 1916. Despite his injuries and time away for training, he regularly returned to his unit at the front. In April 1917 he was promoted to temporary Major and confirmed as a Major in May 1917. In September 1917 Terence was gassed and transferred to hospital in England. By the end of January 1918 he rejoined the 37th Battery in the field in France but on the 5 April 1918 he was badly wounded, suffering a thigh fracture from a shell during severe enemy fire at Millencourt, near Albert, during the battle of

Derancourt. Despite surgery at the field station, they were unable to stop the bleeding and he died a few hours later. He was buried nearby in the Warloy-Baillon Communal Cemetery Extension, France.

Lane Cove Council sent a letter of condolence to his parents on 22 April 1918 and the receipt of a Returned Thanks from them was noted in Council's May meeting minutes. The following year, William Garling wrote to Council suggesting that a street in the Sofala Estate Subdivision be named 'Terence Garling Street' in memory of his son. Council suggested that the name be submitted to the developers of the Parklands No. 2 Estate. In July 1919, William Garling again wrote to Council, indicating that while the developers were favourable to Garling Street, they should be allowed to add the prefix 'Terence' to the street name. When the Parklands No. 2 Estate subdivision offered building blocks for sale in September 1919 four new streets, Garling, Munro, Gentle and Hallam were named to honour and remember local lads who had lost their lives in war.

T. W. Garling is remembered on the World War One Honour Board located in the Lane Cove Council foyer. In 1920, 'W. Garling of Longueville' received Poppy seeds from *Villers-Bretonneux, France* via the Sydney Botanic Gardens. Terence's letters as well as other memorabilia were kept by his family in a special box. This collection was later donated to the NSW State Library.



Terence (left) and Pat (Raymond) Garling probably at Glenoak, Burns Bay Road, with their pet calf and toy sailing boat, circa 1903
(Courtesy D. Hurley/Lane Cove Library)

