

# JAMES THOMAS KETTYLE



Photo Included in 1940 Christmas card

- Leading Stoker -

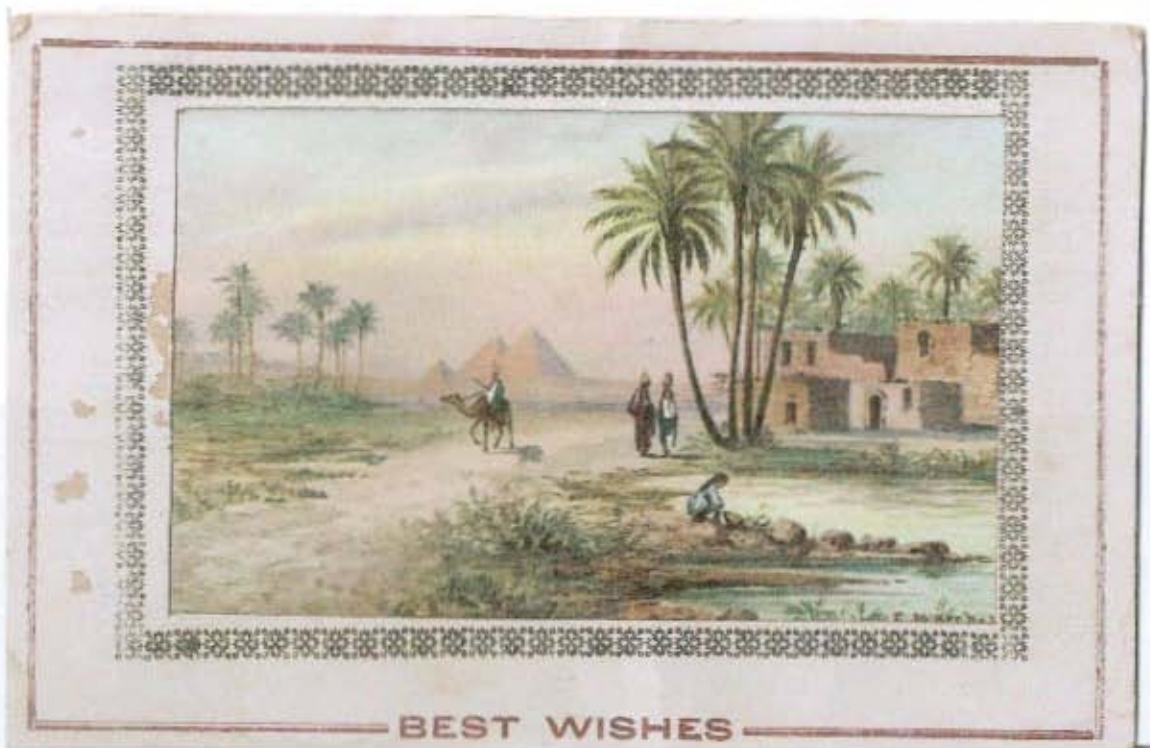
Born 6 February 1915 at Yapeen  
Victoria

Enlisted 12 December 1934

My Uncle Jimmy was my mums younger brother. He was the 10<sup>th</sup> born of 11 children to my Grandparents George and Mary Kettyle who lived in the Castlemaine (Vic) area, *before moving to 176 Albert Rd. South Yabb.*

Below is copy of the last Christmas card my mum received from her brother. It appears that HMAS Sydney was in Egypt.



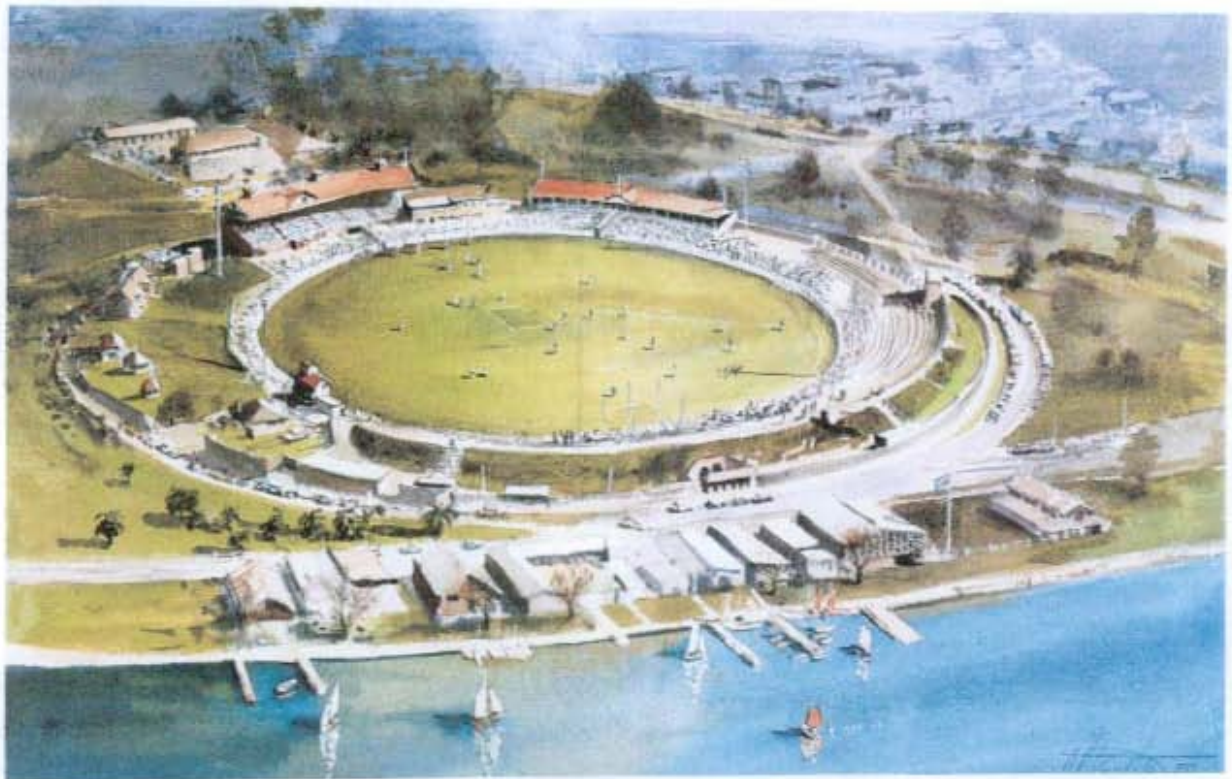


*This comes to you, my dear, to day,  
Loving Wishes to convey,  
And show that you are in my thoughts  
On this Bright Christmas Day*

*Brother Jim* 1888

The last time I remember seeing Uncle Jimmy was when my cousins and I went with our parents to Spencer Street Station to see him off, when he departed for Sydney.

Uncle Jimmy, like his parents and his brothers and sisters was an avid South Melbourne supporter and when they moved to Melbourne they lived in Albert Road opposite the Lakeside Oval. The boys were keen sailors spending many hours on Albert Park Lake.



SOUTH MELBOURNE  
circa 1960  
'Lakeside Oval'

recall the day in November 1941 when, having heard the news on the wireless that the Sydney was missing, my mum and I ran all the way from Middle Park to my Grandparents house in South Melbourne. We cried all the way to be with my grandma. *Of course back then no one had the phone or a car. - well we didn't. This had stayed in my memory. We didn't stop running.* My Grandparents and all my Uncles and Aunties passed away never knowing what really happened to Uncle Jimmy. There was always the hope that one day he would walk in the door.

**Maureen Chapple**  
**Patterson Lakes**  
**Victoria**

(nee Bates).

*My Uncle was not married, but was engaged to Jessie, who lived two doors around the corner in (Amobilans St. they grew up together.  
I am one of 25 nieces & nephews. 24 still living.  
The loss of the Sydney and the crew, especially my Uncle was a tragedy in our family - never to be forgotten.  
Years ago while watching the evening news The remains of a sailor was found of Kanarvon Reskerton. I immediately thought it looked like my Uncle. Very strong jaw line.  
I now wonder if there is DNA on the stamps on this envelope.*