

# Corporal Harry WEBB, DCM

No 509, Corporal Harry Webb was born 1889 at Kensington, Victoria, to Harry Levy Webb and Sarah Jane (Reynolds) Webb. He was the only son in a family of four children.

He was educated at St Mary's School, Geelong, Victoria.

When he enlisted on 20 Aug 1914 he was 23 years old, a groom/gardener and poultry farm hand and listed Miss M Webb, c/o F Spence, Centre Road, Brighton, Victoria (his sister Mary?) as next of kin. He was 5'5 tall, weighed 140 lbs, with a fresh complexion, blue eyes and brown hair.

Private Webb embarked with the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 'D' Coy from Melbourne, Victoria, on board Transport A20 *Hororata* on 19 Oct 1914.

Corporal Webb died of wounds between Anzac and Mudros on 9 Aug 1915 at Gallipoli, aged 24 years. He died at sea from wounds and is commemorated at the Lone Pine Memorial (Panel 28), Gallipoli, Turkey.

He is also commemorated on the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial (Panel 52); and on the Memorial Plaque to Bayside's Fallen, Green Point, Brighton Beach, Victoria.

NOTE: Corporal Harry Webb was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal. Published in the London Gazette on 29 Nov 1915, pp 11903, position 1 and secondly published in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette on 24 Feb 1916, pp 458, position 4.

*'For conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty at Lone Pine (Dardanelles). During a very heavy bomb attack on the captured position he was, together with one other, detailed to smother the unexploded enemy bombs with sandbags as they fell, or to throw them back into the enemy's trenches. He performed this hazardous duty with the greatest bravery until his companion was killed and he himself had his hand blown off. He never hesitated, although it was practically only a matter of time before one of the bombs would explode before he could deal with it. Corporal Webb saved the lives of others at the risk of his own'*

Source: Commonwealth Gazette; No 28. Date 24 Feb 1916.

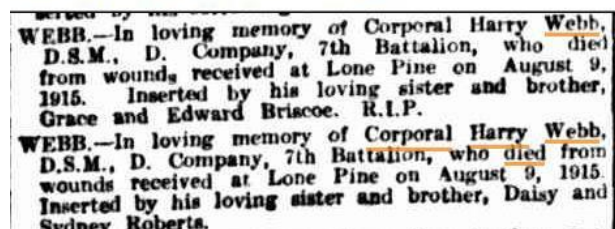
Three of his cousins also served:

No 563 Norman Oscar SPENCE, 3<sup>rd</sup> Machine Gun Battalion, KIA 5.4.1918 France

No 1450 Percy Oswald SPENCE, Gunner, 2nd Aust. Div. Trench Mortar Battalion, KIA 1.5.1918, France

No 7583 Godfrey Horace SPENCE, 25th Reinf. 8th Battalion AIF, returned to Australia.

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) [about](#) ◀ Wednesday 9 August 1916 ▶



**WEBB.**—In loving memory of Corporal Harry Webb, D.S.M., D. Company, 7th Battalion, who died from wounds received at Lone Pine on August 9, 1915. Inserted by his loving sister and brother, Grace and Edward Briscoe. R.I.P.

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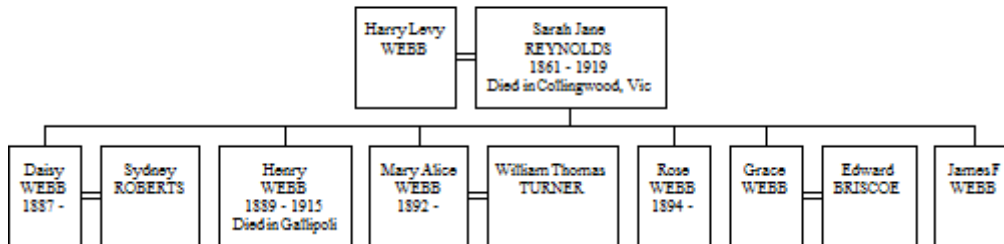


**INFORMATION WANTED.**  
 This is a photo. of Corporal Harry Webb, D. Company, 7th Battalion, who was awarded a distinguished service medal for service at Gallipoli. The medal was awarded for smothering the enemy's unexploded bombs with sandbags or throwing them back into the enemy trenches. He saved many lives at the risk of his own. Corporal Webb had his hand blown off, and his relatives have had no word of him for months past. If any returned soldier has information of his subsequent movements, the manager of "The Australian Worker" will be glad to have it. Corporal Webb has three brothers, all members of the A.W.U., at the front.

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***Descendants of Harry Levy WEBB***



Siblings and Spouses:

- William & Mary TURNER
- Sydney & Daisy ROBERTS
- Edward & Grace BRISCOE