

Memories of the Sinking of the H.M.A.S. Sydney

(By one who was there.)

My name at the time - Margaret Alice Sugden

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A few weeks after the Sydney went down, I met a young sailor at a bus stop on the Perth – Fremantle road. (Claremont)

I approached him and asked about his presence there. (The name Sydney was printed in large letters on his cap)

Understandably, he seemed a little upset, and told me he was one of six crewmembers who had been dropped off at Fremantle, because of needing hospital treatment. They were admitted to the 110th AGH. (Army General Hospital) just before the Sydney set sail for the last time.

I feel it may be possible to trace records of this event, at the 110th A.G.H. and perhaps even to trace these sailors.

At this stage I was still completing my nursing training at Royal Perth Hospital and later joined the Australian Army, working in Northam with the 118th A.G.H. Followed by the 110th A.G.H., serving overseas at Morotai – then Labuan, where I nursed the Australian P.O.W.s from Changi prison camp.

There has always been much conjecture regarding the sinking of the Sydney. This is just one small event which may help.



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