

SAPPER PERCY ELLIS TANDY
22289 - 1st Field Company Engineers

Born in 1890 in East Maitland, NSW Percy Ellis Tandy was educated and studied at the same Technical College as his brothers :

Sydney Morning Herald Thursday January 21, 1909:
WEST MAITLAND TECHNICAL COLLEGE
Technical Drawing: Second Grade – Percy E. Tandy

He achieved his degree as a Bachelor of Engineering at University of Sydney, Sydney, and became a draughtsman.

On August 20, 1915 the twenty-five year old applied to enlist at Warwick Farm, Sydney, NSW for active service abroad. Previous military experience was gained with the Sydney Uni Scouts. Personal information taken shows he was 175cms (5ft 8¾ins) tall, weighed 74.4kgs (166lbs) with a chest measurement of 97cms (38ins). Complexion was dark with brown eyes that tested to good vision. His religion was Church of England. Next-of-kin was marked as his sister Dorothy Graham, 385 Glebe Point Road, Sydney, NSW. He was sworn in the same day. His regimental number was 1915.

After completion of basic training he married Dorothy Jean Graham and their announcement appeared in the:

Northern Star (Lismore) Wednesday September 29, 1915:
MARRIAGE
TANDY-GRAHAM—On Saturday 25th instant, at St John's Church, Glebe, Percy Ellis Tandy, B.E., now of 9th Reinforcements, 1st Engineers, to Dorothy Jean, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Graham, Lismore.

On October 12, 1915 he was assigned to the 9th Reinforcements to the 1st Field Company at Engineer Depot, Moore Park. After 105 days he was discharged, possibly as medically unfit.

At Narrandera, NSW on June 18, 1917 he applied to re-enlist and passed the preliminary medical examination. Described as twenty-six years of age with the same particulars except for a 104cms (41ins) chest his application was accepted by the recruiting officer. At Victoria Barracks, Sydney on July 6, 1917 he was re-examined and declared fit for service.

Attestation Forms were completed adding he had served an apprenticeship with D. Sim & Sons, Morpeth for three years. Military experience was with the Citizens Forces and his previous service with the 9th Reinforcement to the 1st Field Company Engineers. Next-of-kin was his wife Dorothy Jean Tandy of 30 Rose Street, Annandale, Sydney and allotted two-fifths of his pay to support her. His details were the same except he was one kilogram heavier. Distinctive marks were moles on his left shoulder, a birthmark below on left shoulder blade, moles on left biceps and absence of terminal phalanx right thumb.

On July 6, 1917 he entered camp as a recruit and three days later was at the Show Ground Camp, Sydney for a day or two and promoted to Acting Corporal. A month later on August 21, 1917 was promoted again to Acting Sergeant. He was sent to the Engineer Officer Training School at Roseville and allotted to the Engineer Reinforcements on December 8, 1917 with the regimental number 22289.

The Second Draft Reinforcements embarked on March 21, 1918 on the transport HMAT A34 *Persic* and he was Acting Sergeant for the voyage. He was admitted to the ship's hospital with Influenza on May 18 and the Reinforcements disembarked in London on May 24, 1918 and he reverted to the rank of Sapper at No.3 Camp at Parkhouse.

At Brightlingsea camp he was appointed E.D.P. (Extra Duty Pay) Sergeant on May 25, 1918. Was recommended for a commission in the Engineers in lieu of his having applied for a commission in

Australia. He remained at the Overseas Training Depot until October 11, 1918 when he went on command to a Lewis Gun Course at the Australian School of Musketry in Tidworth and qualified 1st Class in examination and Range Practise on October 25, 1918.

After Peace was declared he proceeded overseas to France on November 28, 1918 via Southampton arriving at the Aust General Base Depot in Havre and marched out on December 17 to Calais to the Aust Veterinary Hospital and taken on strength the next day.

On January 13, 1919 was transferred to the 4th Aust Division Engineers and taken on strength on January 19. He marched out on March 23, 1919 from Villers Paterie and disembarked at Southampton and reported to Parkhouse to the Aust Service Corps Depot.

He was granted Non-military Employment on leave with pay and subsistence from April 16 until July 31, 1919 to attend Kings College University, Strand, London for course as Supervising Engineer.

Leave was cancelled on June 19, 1919 and he marched out to the Deputy Assistant Adjutant General and was re-transferred to the 4th Division Engineers H.Q. After furlough he returned to No.2 Group Camp from Headquarters in London on June 30, 1919.

He embarked on H.T. *Ulysses* on July 22, 1919 for the voyage home after demobilisation. Next-of-kin was advised by Base Records on August 1 of his impending return. The ship docked at Sydney (2nd M.D.) on September 5, 1919. Military Discharge was issued in Sydney (2nd M.D.) on September 28, 1919 termination of his period of enlistment.

Sapper Percy Ellis Tandy, 1st Field Company Engineers was issued for serving his country the British War Medal. He was ineligible for the Victory Medal as he did not serve in France prior to the Armistice.

In 1923 he was working at near Teralga when the following accident happened:

Sydney Morning Herald Friday February 9, 1923:

KILLED BY FALLING DERRICK

MOREE, Thursday.

One of the members of a boring party, T.P. Magee, was killed yesterday at the Kru [unreadable] Bore, about two and a half miles from Moomin Creek, near Teragla. While dismantling the plant the party had all of the guy ropes loosened, when a whirlwind occurred and carried away the derrick. Magee was struck on the head with terrible force. The deceased was an ex-serviceman belonging to the Imperial Army. The inquest opened this morning by Mr A.R.R Cetowski [unreadable] into the circumstances of the accident. Percy Ellis Tandy, assistant engineer for the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission, and William Edwards, labourer, residing at Narrabri, both said that the occurrence could not have been guarded against. Magee was a married man with a wife and three children residing at Lidcombe. The inquest was adjourned.

In 1930 their residence was 99 Macquarie Street, Roseville and he was an engineer and remained at this address until 1949.

It is believed that the following are two of Percy & Dorothys' sons:

TANDY, RICHARD CHARLES GRAHAM - Australian Army

Service Number N171072

Date of Birth 7 Oct 1922

Place of Birth ROSEVILLE, NSW

Date of Enlistment 30 Oct 1941

Locality on Enlistment ROSEVILLE, NSW

Place of Enlistment WILLOUGHBY, NSW

Next of Kin TANDY, PERCY

Date of Discharge 2 Apr 1942

Rank Sapper

Posting at Discharge 19 Field Company

TANDY, RICHARD CHARLES GRAHAM - Australian Army
Service Number NX94412
Date of Birth 7 Oct 1922
Place of Birth ROSEVILLE, NSW
Date of Enlistment 4 Apr 1942
Locality on Enlistment ROSEVILLE, NSW
Place of Enlistment PADDINGTON, NSW
Next of Kin TANDY, PERCY
Date of Discharge 30 Sep 1946
Rank Staff Sergeant
Posting at Discharge 2/110 AUSTRALIAN GENERAL TRANSPORT COMPANY

Two of Percys' brothers also served in WW1:

ARTHUR ELTON TANDY
Lieutenant – 1st Tunnelling Company

Arthur Elton Tandy was second eldest child of Henry William and Eliza Ann (nee Lawrence) Tandy and born at East Maitland on October 29, 1882. His siblings were Harry Ernest (1881-1888), Edith Mary (1885-1888), Charles Edgar (1886-1922), Florence E. (1888), Percy Ellis (1890), Mary E. (1892-1892), Frank Russell (1894), Elsie N. (1896-1896) and Henry W. (1899).

He was educated at the Fort Street Public School, West Maitland and gained the following results through the Sydney Technical College:

The Sydney Morning Herald Thursday January 24, 1901

TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND BRANCH SCHOOLS
EXAMINATION PASS LIST FOR 1901
PASSES IN CITY AND COUNTRY

The following are the results of the recent examinations at the Sydney Technical College and branch schools in the suburban and branch schools. The returns for botany, theoretical chemistry (second year), assaying, metallurgy and mining, engineering and life drawing are yet to be received, but will be published as early as practicable.

Mechanical Drawing - First Year - Honours: Arthur E. Tandy (West Maitland)
Steam Engine Advanced Elementary Honours – Arthur E. Tandy (Newcastle).

Article Abridged

The Sydney Morning Herald Saturday July 20, 1901

EXAMINATION FOR CADET DRAUGHTSMAN

The Public Service Board have received the report of the board regarding the examination of candidates for appointment as cadet draughtsman in the Public Service, held on July 1 and following days. Of 13 applicants 10 presented themselves for examination, six at Sydney and the rest at various country centres. Five have qualified for appointment, the following being the names of successful candidates: J.E. Clarke, High School, East Maitland; A.E. Tandy, H.R.V. Brewster, Fort-street Model Public School; H.G. Harris, E.H.A. Booth. Brewster's pass is subject to his passing a satisfactory examination in drawing in six months' time.

The Sydney Morning Herald Friday January 17, 1902

TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND BRANCH SCHOOLS
EXAMINATION PASS LIST FOR 1902
PASSES IN CITY AND COUNTRY

Mechanical Drawing - Second Year - Honours
Applied Mechanics Second Grade – Arthur E. Tandy (Newcastle)
Applied Mechanics Second Year – Honours Arthur E. Tandy (Newcastle)

Article Abridged

Experience suitable for military service was gained with the Civilian Rifle Club in West Maitland, NSW as the following results show:

The Sydney Morning Herald Wednesday September 10, 1902

MILITARY vs. RESERVISTS

WEST MAITLAND, Sunday

The second competition of the West Maitland Civilian Rifle Club was fired at the Walks Range on Wednesday and Saturday. The following are the scores: A. Tandy 21 21 21—70*. *Handicap Limit. *Article Abridged*

Sydney Morning Herald Tuesday September 30, 1902

ARMY SERVICE CORPS

WEST MAITLAND, Sunday

The third quarterly competition of the Maitland Civilian Rifle Club was fired on Wednesday and Saturday. The following are the scores: A. Tandy 7, 16, 30—53. *Handicap Limit 70. *Article Abridged*

The Sydney Morning Herald Saturday January 24, 1903

TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND BRANCH SCHOOLS
EXAMINATION PASS LIST FOR 1903
PASSES IN CITY AND COUNTRY

The following are the results of the recent examinations at the Sydney Technical College and branch schools in the suburban and branch schools.

Building Construction First Year Honours Grade: Arthur E. Tandy (West Maitland)

Article Abridged

In Sydney, NSW in 1913 he married Isabella Writer the daughter of John and Isabella (nee McClellan) Writer.

An Associate Diploma in Mine Surveying was achieved through the Ballarat School of Mines, Victoria with experience as a Mine Manager in the same State. In 1915 he became an Associate Member with the Institute of Mining Engineers. The same year he was a mining and railway surveyor for the Mount Elliott and Mount Oxide Mines Ltd near Cloncurry, Queensland.

After resigning his position he applied to enlist at the Recruiting Depot in Brisbane, Qld and on November 9, 1915 submitted an Application for a Commission in the Mining Engineers. Personal particulars given were his educational qualifications and postal address of Mining Engineers Corps, Enoggera, Brisbane. Next-of-kin was his wife Mrs Isabell Tandy, care of Mrs T. Murphy, "Oaklea", Hope Street, Bathurst, NSW.

Passing the medical examination his description on enlistment was 185cms (6ft ¾in) tall, weighing 72.7kgs (160lbs) with a chest expansion of 89-100cms (35-39½ins) and good vision. He was granted to be Provisional Lieutenant while training at the Miners' Depot (1st Military District), Enoggera camp.

On December 4, 1915 another Application was submitted for a Commission in the Mining Corps while he was at the Engineering School at the Sydney Cricket Ground.



AWM Image Id H15407: Studio portrait of Lieutenant (Lt) Arthur Elton Tandy, 1st Tunnelling Company from Bathurst, NSW. A 33 year old mining engineer prior to being appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Mining Corps on 9 November 1915, he embarked for overseas with No 1 Company from Sydney on 20 February 1916 aboard HMAT Ulysses. He was promoted to Lieutenant on 15 June 1915 while serving with the 1st Australian Tunnelling Company. Lt Tandy was killed in action at Poperinghe, Belgium and is buried in the Poperinghe New Military Cemetery.

After a month's training passed a second medical examination describing him as 185cms tall, weighing 74.5kgs (164lbs) with a broader chest measurement of 86-104cms (34-41ins). Eyesight retested to good vision. Next-of-kin was his wife care of Mrs Writer "Glen Rowan" Wareemba Road, Abbotsford. His Commission was gazetted in the Commonwealth Gazette No.158 of December 20, 1915.

On January 16, 1916 while at the Engineer Officers' Training School in Sydney he signed a Statutory Declaration stating that the information in the accompanying application was true.

The Lieutenant was recommended for duty with the No.1 Company of the Mining Corps and ranked as follows:

No. 1 Section: 2/Lieut. W. Avery
 2/Lieut A. Tandy
 2/Lieut O.H. Woodward

The Officers of the Mining Corps were photographed before their departure and Lt Tandy is in the second back row, fifth from the left.



At a civic parade in the Domain, Sydney on Saturday February 19, 1916, a large crowd of relations and friends of the departing Miners lined the four sides of the parade ground. Sixty police and 100 Garrison Military Police were on hand to keep the crowds within bounds. The scene was an inspiring one. On the extreme right flank, facing the saluting base, were companies of the Rifle Club School; next came a detachment of the 4th King's Shropshire Light Infantry, then the bands of the Light Horse, Liverpool Depot, and the Miners' on the left, rank upon rank, the Miners' Battalion.

The Corps boarded HMAT A38 *Ulysses* in Sydney, NSW on February 20 and sailed for the European theatre. Arriving in Melbourne, Victoria on February 22 the Miners camped at Broadmeadows for a stay of 7 days while further cargo was loaded.

Another parade was held at the Broadmeadows camp on March 1, the Miners' Corps being inspected by the Governor-General, as Commander-in-Chief of the Commonwealth military forces.

Leaving Melbourne on March 1, *Ulysses* arrived at Fremantle, Western Australia on March 7 where a further 53 members were taken on board.

On Wednesday March 8, 1916 the whole force, with their band and equipment, paraded at Fremantle prior to leaving Victoria Quay at 9.30 o'clock.

The ship hit a reef when leaving Fremantle harbour, stripping the plates for 40 feet and, although there was a gap in the outside plate, the inner bilge plates were not punctured. The men on board nicknamed her 'Useless'. The Miners were off-loaded and sent to the Blackboy Hill Camp where further training was conducted.

The Mining Corps comprised 1303 members at the time they embarked with a Headquarters of 40; No.1 Company – 390; No.2 Company – 380; No.3 Company – 392, and 101 members of the 1st Reinforcements.

Finally departing Fremantle on April 1, *Ulysses* voyaged via Suez, Port Said and Alexandria in Egypt. The Captain of the ship was reluctant to take *Ulysses* out of the Suez Canal because he felt the weight of the ship made it impossible to manoeuvre in the situation of a submarine attack. The troops were transhipped to HM Transport B.1 *Ansonia*, then on to Valetta, Malta before disembarking at Marseilles, France on May 5, 1916. As a unit they entrained at Marseilles on May 7 and detrained on May 11 at Hazebrouck.

A 'Mining Corps' did not fit in the British Expeditionary Force, and the Corps was disbanded and three Australian Tunnelling Companies were formed. The Technical Staff of the Corps Headquarters, plus some technically qualified men from the individual companies, was formed into the entirely new Australian Electrical and Mechanical Mining and Boring Company (AEMMBC), better known as the 'Alphabetical Company'.

Capt O.H. Woodward mentions Lieut Tandy in his book *My War Story of the Great War* during heavy shelling about May 27, 1916:

“On our return on 27th we had a peaceful journey until near the support lines when we ran into heavy shelling. Just before the shelling started I had stopped to collect a kitten in order to cope with the rats in my dugout. This delayed us for a few minutes, and, when about 100 yards from the dugout, the Hun artillery opened up. When approaching Amen Corner there was a terrific explosion and dashing to seek cover in the dugout I found it blown to pieces. My first thought was for Tandy the officer whom I was to relieve, but fortunately he was still up in the Front line. You will see that were it not for innumerable IFS I might not now be writing this story. However, I credit the kitten with preserving my life.”

On June 15, 1916 he was promoted to Lieutenant in the field in France.

He enjoyed Ordinary Leave from September 29 until rejoining his unit on October, 1916.

In the Proceedings of the Institute of Mining Engineers Journal of 31 March, 1917 No. 25 p vi – ix, the following was mentioned of its members:

“The Institute has reason to be proud of the response made by its Members to the call to join the colors. The list on Active Service now includes:

Tandy, A.E.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE
AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MINING ENGINEERS
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Tandy, A.E. c/o Mrs S.A. Writer, “Glen Rowan”, Warreemba-road, Abbotsford, NSW 1915”

Article Abridged

Lieutenant Tandy was killed in action on April 25, 1917 and the entry from the Unit Diary of the 1st Tunnelling Company states as follows:

“Poperinghe April 25th

Fairly heavy shelling: underground normal. 6 all ranks wounded, 11 killed.
Wounded: Lts Clayton, C.H., Lindsay, S.J.; Jones, W.S.; Jones. P.
Killed: Capt Avery.W.P.; Lts Tandy, A.E. & Evans, G.O.”

From this website [Western Front Units/1ATC/Easter Raid]:

ACCIDENTAL EXPLOSION

There are differing versions of how the explosion occurred but with combined accounts from two Officers, Captain Woodward and Temporary Captain McBride and supplemented with the official reports submitted to Headquarters, the circumstances of the disaster are revealed.

“At Hill 60 an untimely and accidental explosion had occurred when a mine charge was being set up in “D” gallery situated in the “sandy layer”. Little was known but Captain William Percival Avery and Lt Arthur Elton Tandy were preparing the charge and killed instantly. The possible explanation came from an Officer who escaped the explosion because he came back to the Headquarters Dugout to obtain a measuring tape, retold he remembered hearing “*We did not test the detonators for continuity*” as the 50 pound box of Guncotton, the primer for the charge was being arranged. It was concluded by those experienced in these situations that the disaster was caused by the circuit receiving the test current during checking of the detonators, still assembled in the primer, a “*supersensitive*” detonator had exploded during the test. Other probable errors were, they hadn’t put the detonator under a sandbag whilst running the current from the battery to the detonator’s filament or did not use enough current to reach the filament. Comments at the time described it as a *thousand-to-one chance*.

Commanding Officer Major J. Douglas Henry’s report states that “*during a heavy enemy bombardment a minenwerfer exploded in the Officers’ Mess*” and Lt Robert Adam Clinton, Proto Officer in charge of the rescue squad in his commentary also said “*enemy bombardment, a minenwerfer or heavy shell pierced the Officers’ Dugout Quarters, exploding therein*”. Whether it was human error or enemy gunfire that caused the explosion, the loss of life and destruction were the same.

The layout of the Dugout system was extremely defenceless to an unfortunate situation such as this with the corridors, quarters and common rooms underground, poisonous gasses permeated anywhere it could by the pressure of the discharge.

The Company’s Advanced Headquarters Dugout was shattered allowing sand to collapse into what remained of the area. The intense toxic force sped down the corridor to the “proto-room” overpowering those there with carbon monoxide and nitrous fumes.

Lt Clinton’s assessment of the blast’s destruction was localised to the O.C. Advance Mica’s Office, Mess Room and the flight of stairs which led to the Dugout System of Larchwood and Major Henry’s stated the Officer’s Mess, the kitchen and adjoining sleeping room were completely wrecked and the Batmen’s dugout damaged. Timbers were driven thirty to thirty-five feet into the Berlin section by the detonation.

Lieutenants John Edward Armstrong and Paul Jones, the Proto-men and Non-Commissioned Officers and Sappers from the vicinity went quickly into action to rescue those gassed or buried by the blast. An immediate attempt was made to prise an access for releasing those trapped but the poisonous vapours were too lethal to allow a quick penetration.

The “rescue” room was cleared first then the sand from the dugouts had to be removed and sieved and it was not until 28th April that all the bodies of those killed were retrieved and placed in blankets, with Capt Avery and Lt Tandy buried at Poperinghe New Military Cemetery and the others in the Railway Dugouts cemetery.”

His burial was reported by H.D. Oldfield, S.C.F. of 23rd Division Headquarters as taking place in the New Military Cemetery, just South East of Poperinghe. His grave is located at Section 1 Row E1 in grave No. 1.

On May 3, 1917 notification from the Medical Officer advised Headquarters that the Lieutenant had been killed in action. A Copy of his Service was made on May 7 for the War Pension Department and was struck off strength on May 11, 1917. The Field Service Report was dated May 16.

His wife was advised and this brief notice appeared in the newspaper soon after:

Sydney Morning Herald Wednesday May 9, 1917:

KILLED

Lieutenant Arthur Tandy of the Australian Tunnelling Corps, and late of Bathurst, was killed in France on Anzac Day.

Mrs Isabella Tandy was granted a pension of 70 shillings per fortnight from July 3, 1917. Her address was care of Theo. Murphy, Hope Street, Bathurst, NSW.

The Sydney Mail - Wed Jul 11, 1917 p24



Lieut. Arthur E. Tandy,

Who with several other Australian officers was killed by a shell on the Western front recently. He was attached to the tunnelling company that left Australia with Professor David, and, being an engineer and mine manager by profession, was able to do very effective work in France. Last year he was mentioned in despatches for, in his own words, "merely saving a few of our chaps at the expense of a headache." In reality he was gassed, and as a result had to go into hospital for a time. Lieut. Tandy was a fine athlete, and stood well over six feet in height. At Cloncurry, where he was mine manager, he was exceedingly popular, and the letters that have been received from his brother-officers at the front show that he was just as popular there. He was a native of West Maitland, N.S.W., and enlisted in Brisbane, Queensland.

The Kit Store in Fulham, London made an inventory of his personal effects for return on the transport *Euripides* to his wife as follows:

25/5/17 One Suitcase (sealed)

1 S.D. Tunic, 1 pair Riding Breeches, 1 "Sam Browne" belt and a sword frog. (Sword & Scabbard)



Photo of headstone by kind permission of
The War Graves Photographic Project
www.twgpp.org

His Will was forwarded to the 2nd Military District's Paymaster on August 3, 1917 in which he left the whole of his property and effects to his wife. On August 8 V. Fry wrote to Base Records asking for information.

When further particulars arrived a few months later the following Obituary was published:

Sydney Morning Herald Tuesday October 16, 1917:

KILLED

Lieutenant Arthur Elton Tandy has been killed in France. He was born in East Maitland and after winning a bursary entered the High School. Later he joined the staff of the Lands Department, and afterwards entered the School of Mines at Ballarat, where he passed the examinations with honours. Eventually he was appointed mine manager at Mount Oxide, from which place he enlisted and went to the front. He was mentioned in despatches. He married Isabel second daughter of the late John Writer of Rockley, Ballarat. One brother, Corporal Frank Tandy is in France, and was wounded and recommended for the Military Medal. Another brother Percy E. Tandy is in the Engineer Officers' School at Roseville.

30/5/17 One Package (sealed)
Sword and Scabbard.

25/5/17 One Black Tin Trunk (sealed)
Books, Photos, 1 Wallet, 1 Letter, 1 Ink Stand, 5 Stars, 1 Wrist Watch, 1 Mirror, 1 Certificate, 1 Scarf, 1 Whistle and Lanyard, 1 Cap, 1 Tie, 2 Razors, 2 pr Leggings, Binoculars in case, 1 pr Slacks, 1 pr Braces, 1 pr Riding Breeches, 1 Chamois Vest, 1 S.D. Tunic, 2 Drill Tunics, Military Brushes in Case.

These three items were signed for by his widow on October 20, 1917.

The following year in the Mining Engineers Journal 31 March, 1918 No. 29 p xv Lieutenant Tandy was recognised:

<p>MINUTES Proceedings Institute of Mining Engineers Journal ON ACTIVE SERVICE</p> <p>Tandy, A.E</p>

A Commission Form was sent on December 3, 1918.

There is no official record of his Mention in Despatches.

On March 7, 1919 a photograph of his grave was sent to his brother Corporal F.R. Tandy at 12th Battalion No. 4 camp at Sutton Veny and later that year on September 6, 1919 a photograph of his grave was forwarded to his next-of-kin.

The Circular and Booklet re Graves of the Fallen was dispatched and when no reply was received a chaser issued on October 21, 1921.

For his supreme sacrifice Lieutenant Arthur Elton Tandy was awarded the British War Medal (32157) and the Victory Medal (31914) for service for his country.

The War Medal was forwarded to the Commandant 2nd Military District for distribution to his widow on November 18, 1921 and posted to her on March 3, 1922. The Victory Medal was receipted on behalf of Mrs I. Tandy by Theodore Murphy on February 23, 1923.

In 1919 Mrs Isabella Tandy was residing at Mount Cuthbert in North Queensland.

The pamphlet 'Where the Australians Rest' was dispatched to Mrs I. Tandy on November 26, 1921 along with the Memorial Scroll (356773). The Memorial Plaque (356773) went to his widow on December 5, 1922 and the receipt slip was signed December 16, 1922 by Theodore Murphy for Mrs I. Tandy.

His name was engraved on the original (1919) 1st Australian Tunnelling Company Memorial at Hill 60, near Ypres, Belgium.

Mrs Tandy was residing at Selwyn, Western Queensland in 1925 and returned to Bathurst, NSW living at Masonic Hall. This remained her residence until changed in 1949 to 97 Keppel Street, Bathurst. In 1963 92 William Street, Bathurst was home. Isabella Tandy died in 1964.

In the 1960's former Capt W.J. McBride, 1st Tunnelling Company stated in an interview:

"Tandy was a kanaka – South Sea Islander. His eyes went bloodshot like a native's when he had rum."

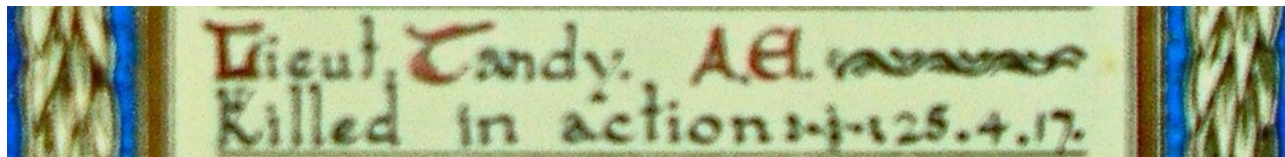
His name appears in the Roll of Honour in the 1925 Register of Tunnelling Company Officers.

The Sydney Morning Herald - Saturday 23 July 1921:

ENGINEERS' ROLL OF HONOUR

The Royal Engineer War Memorial Committee are arranging to deposit a roll of honour of all ranks of the Royal Engineers whose names were officially published as killed in action or died of wounds or disease in the war in the chapel of St. Paul's Cathedral, and the Engineer corps of the dominions, colonial, and Indian armies have been invited to deposit similar rolls of honour in St. Paul's, to be attached to that of the Royal Engineers. This invitation has been accepted in Australia. The roll will be inscribed on vellum and enclosed in a casket of Australian timbers to rest on a slab of Australian marble.

This extract from Tunnellers Roll of Honour included in profile with the kind permission of the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral, London
 Photos courtesy of Robin Sanderson, Paris



AWM Image Id: P00735.017
 Ypres, Belgium. Memorial to men of the 1st Tunnelling Company, AIF, who were involved in tunnelling and mining operations at Hill 60, near Ypres, in 1916-1917.
 (Donor: J.L. Holmes)

Rank	Name	Date
Capt.	Avery W.P.	25-4-17
Lieut.	Tandy A.E.	"
2/Lieut.	Evans G.D.	"
257 Sol.	Ruddick W.	11-16
45 Sgt.	Bennett A.	"
200 2/Cpl.	Mudie J.	"
3 2/Cpl.	O'Dea W.	17
2/Cpl.	Saxton J.	17
536 Sapper	Brown H.	25-10-17
5504 "	Robinson T.	"
2 "	Brook W.	"
554 "	Matheson D.	"
195 "	Montgomery S.	22-11-17
597 "	Thomson J.	15-17

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RELAWM05099.001

AWM Image Id: RELAWM05099.001
 Rectangular enamelled steel dedication plaque containing the details of 14 of the 29 Australians killed serving with the 1st Australian Tunnelling Company during 1916-1917. Sections of enamel are missing due to weathering prior to removal.
 In 1919 the veterans of the 1st Australian Tunnelling Company erected a memorial on Hill 60, honouring the 29 comrades who had died there in 1916-1917. The memorial and its stone enamelled plaques weathered badly, and in 1923 a new and more robust monument, which stands on the site today, was constructed. The three original plaques, bearing the dedication and the names of the company's dead, were returned to Australia.



Ypres, Belgium. c. 1923. This structure replaced an earlier one constructed in 1919 by the Company. This replacement is very plain and bears no symbol whereas the first memorial was surmounted by a cross.
 Postcard donated by Murray Ewen of W.A.

The Mercury - Hobart, Tasmania - Thursday 18 December 1924:

VANDALISM.
 WAR MONUMENT DAMAGED.

LONDON, December 16. (Australian Press Association.)
 The War Graves Commission has advised the authorities at Australia House that the inscription on the tablet of the Australian Tunnelling Company monument at Hill 60 in Flanders has been considerably damaged, many of the letters having been broken, and some entirely removed, evidently by a hammer and chisel. Inquiries into the outrage are now proceeding, and the matter has been referred to the Anglo-French Mixed Committee.

PRIVATE FRANK RUSSELL TANDY
5489 – 12th Battalion

Frank Russell Tandy was born on 25 April 1894 in East Maitland, NSW. His schooling seems to have followed the same pattern as his elder brother with some results appearing in:

Sydney Morning Herald Friday - January 18, 1907:

TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND BRANCH SCHOOLS
EXAMINATION PASS LIST FOR 1906
PASSES IN CITY AND COUNTRY

Manual Training Second Year: Frank R. Tandy.

On January 24, 1916 Frank Russell Tandy enlisted for active service abroad at the Recruiting Depot in Townsville, Queensland. With his medical examination passed Attestation Forms were completed which describe the labourer as 172cms (5ft 7½ins) tall, weighing 67.7kgs (149lbs) with a chest expansion of 84-95cms (34-37½ins). The twenty-one year old's complexion was fair with brown eyes and dark brown hair. Church of England was his religious faith. Next-of-kin was his brother Charles Edgar Tandy of Kerrong, via Lismore NSW. He signed and took the 'Oath of Allegiance' the same day.

Acknowledgement to the departing volunteers was published in:

The Townsville Daily Bulletin Tuesday January 25, 1916

NORTHERN VOLUNTEERS

Thirty-two volunteers left by the Bingera on Monday night for Enoggera. The names and districts of the men are as follows:

Townsville—John William Ahern, David Thomas Allison, Horatio Cecil Amos, Charles Henry Anderson, Ernest Reginald Atkinson, John Joseph Doig, Frederick Henry Gee, James William Cephas Green, Thomas Henry Jackson, George Augustus Massey, Wilfred Cecil Patterson, William Ernest Patterson, William Henry Peggall, Horace Marcus Pedosky, William Wallace Reed, Walter Robinson, Bertram Clarence Shortridge, Frank Russell Tandy, Edward Tudge, Peter John Whalen.

Ayr—Tom Dawson Shaw, Albert Stockdale.

Camooweal—George Goodaire Burt, Cecl Arthur Jehu, William Thomas McLear.

Cooktown—Edmund John Pendreigh.

Friezland—Thomas Matthews, Guerino Quadrio.

Winton—Charles Hamelieux, John William Laws.

Basic training commenced at Enoggera camp, Brisbane with the 11th Depot Battalion from January 28, 1916 until February 25 when he was transferred to the 17th Reinforcement to the 12th Battalion. His rank was Private with the regimental number 5489.

The Reinforcement embarked from Sydney, NSW on April 20, 1916 on board the transport S.S. *Hawkes Bay* with his rank as Acting Corporal for the voyage only and marched in to Perham Downs' Training Camp. His rank was to revert on June 21.

On August 8, 1916 the Reinforcements proceeded overseas to France and he was taken on strength with the 12th Battalion.

On December 23, 1916 he went sick to the Aust Field Ambulance then sent to Anzac Corps Rest Station with P.U.O. (Pyrexia (Fever) of Uncertain Origin). On December 29, 1916 he was transferred to Rouen entering the 11th General Hospital but was conveyed to England on the hospital ship *St Andrew* on January 11, 1917 and admitted to the 3rd London General Hospital at Wandsworth with Trench Fever.

Next-of-kin were advised that he had been admitted to hospital on February 6, 1917 by Base Records.

A transfer to the 3rd Auxiliary Hospital in Dartford followed on February 20 and eight days later released to furlough. On March 23, 1917 he was transferred to the 69th Battalion for training.

He was appointed to the rank of Transport Driver on June 1 while in Hurdcott camp and on September 19 marched out for return to the 12th Battalion.

Following an investigation his promotions were ruled as follows:

Extra Duty Pay	20/4/16	[voyage]
Lance Corporal	21/6/16	
T/Driver	1/6/17	
Private	19/9/17	

On October 1, 1917 he marched out to the No. 1 Group at Hurdcott and on November 7 marched out to the 1st Training Battalion.

He attended a Course of Instruction on Bombing at Lyndhurst, Sutton Veny from November 28 until December 12, 1917 and qualified as an Instructor, 1st Class.

Disciplinary action was taken on January 10, 1918 for the following:

Offence:	Sutton Veny A.W.L. from 8/1/18 till reported back at 10.30 a.m. 9/1/18
Award:	Discussed by Lt-Col R.B. Jacob.

On March 1, 1918 he was appointed to E.D.P. Corporal but owing to a reduction in establishment was reduced to the rank of Acting Corporal. On May 20 he marched out to the No. 2 Command Depot at Sutton Veny and reverted to a Private.

Private Tandy embarked for Australia on June 6, 1918 on board H.T. *Barambah* for discharge due to Mitral Stenosis Myocarditis. Next-of-kin received notification from Base Records on June 23 that he was returning home. The ship docked in Melbourne, Vic (3rd M.D.) on July 31, 1918 and returned to Sydney, NSW (2nd M.D.) soon after.

Military Discharge was issued in Sydney (2nd M.D.) on October 8, 1918 as medically unfit.

It was noted that his Will was held in London at A.I.F. Headquarters.

The British War Medal (40355) and the Victory Medal (39580) were issued to Private Frank Russell Tandy, 12th Battalion for serving his country.

In 1919 he was a labourer working at Millaa Millaa, North Queensland and in 1920 married Helena M. Bean in Byron Bay, NSW. Their residence was Anderson's Hill, Mullumbimby and recorded as farming until 1943.

He was President on the Brunswick Fruits Growers' Association for eleven years with duties as follows:

The Brisbane Courier Thursday July 28, 1928

BYRON BAY

Fruit Growers' Association—At the Annual Meeting of the Brunswick Fruit Growers' Association on Saturday, Mr F.R. Tandy was elected president, Messrs J. Bower and W.H. Martin (vice-presidents), F. Ward (hon. treasurer) and C.C. Brown (hon. Secretary). The advisory board will comprise Messrs Tandy, Bower and Steer. It was decided to urge the Government to establish two research stations on the North Coast to deal with tropical diseases.

The Brisbane Courier Saturday October 17, 1931

MULLIMBIMBY

Fruit Growers' Association—At the Annual Meeting of the Brunswick Fruit Growers' Association, Mr F.R. Tandy was elected president, Messrs J. Bower and R.J.H. Gaggin, vice-presidents, E. Lofts, secretary and F.I. Ward treasurer.

In World War 2 Frank served with Corps Headquarters of the Volunteer Defence Corps.

N298286 Lance Corporal Tandy, Frank Russell was living at Mullumbimby, NSW when he enlisted on 23 March 1942 at Byron Bay, NSW. He named as his Next-of-Kin his wife Helena. Frank was discharged from the 2ndA.I.F. on 13 Sep 1943.

It is believed that the following are two of Frank & Helenas' sons:

TANDY, ALAN ELTON - ARMY
Service Number N478012
Rank Private
Date of Birth 15 Dec 1925
Place of Birth MULLIMBIMBY, NSW
Date of Enlistment 26 Apr 1944
Locality on Enlistment NEWTOWN, NSW
Place of Enlistment NEWTOWN, NSW
Next of Kin TANDY, HELENA
Date of Discharge 30 Sep 1945
Posting at Discharge V D C P T D 10 BN

TANDY, CHARLES RUSSELL - Royal Australian Air Force
Service Number 414606
Rank Flight Lieutenant
Date of Birth 9 May 1921
Place of Birth MULLUMBIMBY, NSW
Date of Enlistment 12 Oct 1941
Locality on Enlistment Unknown
Place of Enlistment BRISBANE, QLD
Next of Kin TANDY, FRANK
Date of Discharge 10 Dec 1945
Posting at Discharge RAAF HOLDING UNIT

Listed in 1949 their address was Etonleigh in the same district and they were banana growers to 1963.

A Statement of Service was issued by Base Records on January 11, 1960 to the Repatriation Department in Sydney.

Frank Russell Tandy died in 1967 with his death registered at Dungog, NSW.

Another of Percys' brothers Henry William served in World War 2:

TANDY, HENRY WILLIAM - Australian Army
Service Number N298287
Rank Private
Date of Birth 23 May 1899
Place of Birth EAST MAITLAND, NSW
Date of Enlistment 23 Mar 1942
Locality on Enlistment MULLUMBIMBY, NSW
Place of Enlistment BYRON BAY, NSW
Next of Kin TANDY, BEATRICE Date of Discharge 8 Apr 1943
Posting at Discharge 1 BATTALION VOLUNTEER DEFENCE CORPS

Service Number N455293
Rank Private

Date of Birth 23 May 1899
Place of Birth BOLWARRA, NSW
Date of Enlistment 9 Apr 1943
Locality on Enlistment MULLUMBIMBY, NSW
Place of Enlistment PADDINGTON, NSW
Next of Kin TANDY, BEATRICE
Date of Discharge 16 Oct 1943
Posting at Discharge 22 AUSTRALIAN EMPLOYMENT COMPANY

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