

Gunner of Renown



Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company

Warrant Officer Class 2 George Patrick RAUCHLE, MSM

(1866-1963)

George Rauchle was born on 23 October 1866 at Emu Plains, NSW. On enlistment in the NSW Artillery on 30 January 1885 he stated that he was a labourer and apprentice saddler. He was 5 feet 9.5 inches tall, with grey eyes, brown hair, fresh complexion and Church of England.

Rauchle was a driver in the NSW Sudan Contingent in 1885 and was Battery Quartermaster Sergeant in 'A' Battery in the Boer War. He also served in WW1 with the 3rd Battalion (Tropical Force) Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force to New Guinea. They sailed on 28 November 1914 and George was invalided home on 6 December 1915 but recovered to serve on until 1931.

As a sergeant in the NSW Artillery, he married Agnes McPhee on 27 August 1890, at St. Matthias' Church, Paddington, NSW, and they had three children.

At the age of 91, Rauchle led the Anzac Day March at Orange, in 1958. He was the last known survivor of the Sudan Contingent and died in Orange in 1963, aged 96 years. He had served from 1885 to 1931.

Rauchle's son Frederick enlisted in the AIF on 8 August 1914 aged 16 years. He served on Gallipoli and in France with the 19th Infantry Battalion. He was a member of the King George VI Coronation Contingent in 1937. During this visit he was the first Colonial soldier ever to stand guard at Buckingham Palace. A photo of Rauchle and his son is held in the Army Museum, Victoria Barracks, Sydney.

Source: R. Grebert (Compiler), *NSW Sudan 1885: Some Biographical Details (Statistics)*, NSW Military History Society Inc., pp.104-105.