HAZLITT, Richard

Richard Hazlitt was born at Burwood, Sydney, NSW. He was then schooled at Haileybury at Brighton, Victoria and attended Hawkesbury Agriculture College from 1912, aged 17. At the time of his enrolment, his father, James, was the Business Manager for Her Majesty’s Theatre, Sydney. Richard undertook a Special course on the Dairy until June 1912. From August until December 1912 he undertook special courses on the Experimental Plots and the Orchard. He played in College cricket and rugby teams before leaving HAC in July 1913.

As a twenty year old farmer, Richard enlisted in Western Australia with the 11th Battalion at the beginning of September 1914. He embarked from Fremantle in November for Egypt and then embarked from Alexandria, Egypt, bound for Gallipoli in March 1915. He suffered a shrapnel wound to the left knee on 6 August, and was evacuated to Heliopolis and then Helwan. By October he had recovered and he rejoined his unit on Lemnos in November. He then returned to Egypt in January 1916 and transferred to the 51st Battalion and shortly after was promoted to Corporal. He arrived in Marseille in June and became Sergeant in August. At Boulogne on 4 September, he received serious gunshot wounds to his right leg and left forearm, and was taken to Cambridge, England. He died there on 21 September 1916, from complications following the amputation of his right leg just above the knee. He was aged 22. He was buried in the Cambridge Borough Cemetery on 25 September 1916.

Richard’s brother was Gervys Rignold Hazlitt (commonly known as Gerry), an Australian test cricketer from 1907-1912.