

STUDENT

CHARLTON, Andrew Murray

Deceased
11-1-75

DATE OF BIRTH	RELIGION	PARENT OR GUARDIAN	OCCUPATION	ADDRESS	DATE OF ENTRANCE
12/8/07	C of R	O. M. Charlton	Bank Officer	"Ravenscroft" 9, Stuart St., Manly	22 nd Jan. 23

COURSE OF TRAINING	No. OF ROOM
Sydney Grammar School. Q.C. 1919	
22.1.23 Entrance Exam - Fails.	80
29.1.23 Allowed to enter Agriculture I (on probation)	
28.1.23 31.7.23 Plots	
28.1.24 Shops - Carpenter to 8.3.24 Saddler to 3.4.24 Left 3.4.24 - to Olympic Games	
10.24. Okanith to Nov. 8 then Saddler to end of session. Left College 12.12.24	
RESULTS	

2 Jan 1925 at McKellar Station Gundah.

Mr. A.M. Charlton has been in residence at this College since January 1923. After completing one session (6 months) of the Diploma (3 years') course he resigned and underwent a course of training (5 months) on the Experiment Plots' Section of the Farm. There he gained a useful knowledge in the operation of the various farm implements and of general agriculture.

From January 1924 to this date, he has been engaged on the 'Shops' Section where he acquired knowledge of and practice in the use of the various tools used in the Carpentry, Blacksmithing and Saddlery Sections of the College.

During his period of residence at the College, he has entered into and taken a prominent part in the various sporting activities of the College.

I have pleasure in adding that his conduct has been at all times exemplary.

3.4.24

*Later Reference 15.12.24.
as above but up to date.*

Student Charlton A. M.

64099

Course.	Date.	Progress.	Conduct.	Remarks.
Agri. I	Jul 23	Uneat	V. Good	30 th in class of 30

1924. **CHARLTON FAREWELLED.**

"Boy" Charlton, who leaves with the Olympic Team on Wednesday, 30th instant, was farewelled by his fellow-students and the staff of the Hawkesbury Agricultural College on Tuesday, April 28.

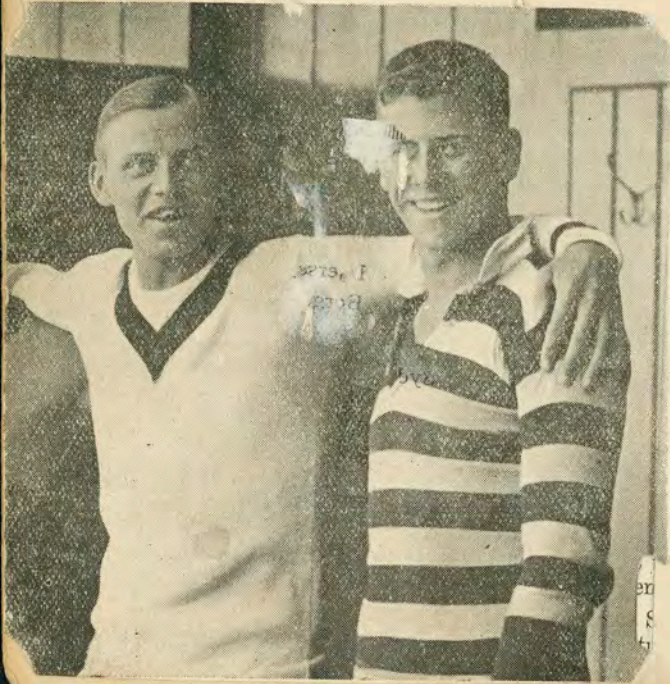
Apr 1, 1924.
The annual swimming carnival took place on March 17, and was well attended—the presence of A. M. ("Boy") Charlton, holder of the World's Record over 880 yards, proving a great attraction. They were rewarded by the wonderful performance put up in all events by this young swimmer, who appropriated all five championship events with ease.

"THE ESCAPED TORPEDO."

August 7 1924

A. M. CHARLTON IN PARIS.

Probably never before has an athlete brought to Australia, the honour and attention which have been attracted by A. M. (Boy) Charlton as a result of his exploits at the Olympic Games. Long before the competitions began he had attained, by reason of his modest, unassuming bearing, a singular popularity with the athletes and spectators of all the nations represented. But when the Games had concluded, and the startling ability of this lad of sixteen years had been realised, the names of Charlton and of Australia had been indelibly



A. M. Charlton
with his opponent

Block loaned by "Melb. Mail."

STUDENT		Charlton Andrew	
AGE	A. M. ("Boy") CHARLTON (1924)	ADDRESS	DATE OF
	came down to Sydney from his property, Kilrea, Boro, via Goulburn, to give away his daughter, Patricia, at her marriage to Richard Skipper, of Dunley Vale, Guyra, at St. Mark's, Darling Point, on March 20.		Charlton, August 18, at Meriac Private Hospital, Goulburn, to the wife of A. M. Charlton (1924) - a son.

"Boy" Charlton (1923) in Farming Success

(by Our Special Representative)

In one of the south-east's unseasonably drier pockets, much of a Boro south-east, grazier's sown pastures are holding up well in the light, early winter falls.

He is Mr A. M. Charlton, famous from an early age to pre-war generations as "Boy" Charlton, courageous young Olympic swimmer and national record-breaker.

The chief of Kilrea Pastoral Co., he works 8,000-acre Kilrea with the aid of his son, Murray, and staff.

The programme broadly is to raise Merino numbers progressively, both for wool-cutters and breeders, and the cattie count in times of normal rainfall, on light, decomposed granite soils.

A proportion of what native-grassed areas remain is clovered and grassed annually, while earlier coverings elsewhere on the property are followed up by establishment of perennial grasses, with phalaris considered the ultimate.

Workings and seedings are mechanical on this sandy arable soil, and superings aerial.

Still suffering the driest 18 months on record, the property has been 30 years under its present ownership.

Last year about half the usual 25in. fell, mostly in September-November, and in 1966 there has been less than 6in., largely in small falls.

Development

Pre-war development was chiefly a matter of cleaning up large expanses of rung country and attending to a rabbit problem.

Then, in the late 1930's, came sub-clover, followed in due course by balanced mixtures worked out through observation, and with the help of C.S.I.R.O. and other research agronomists.

Sub and white clover are sown with ryegrass and cocksfoot, the sub clover,

importantly, being multi-step inoculated on Wollogorang lines.

This form of inoculation is regarded as a major advance in sward establishment and subsequent fertility-building.

Soil is well-worked and a roller follows the seeder, which is used as early as March.

New pastures are favoured for up to five years.

It is held that the natural capacity of this granite is one half of a dry sheep to the acre; that the initial three-step-sub, white clover and rye treatment raises this to a couple of breeders within three years; and that the eventual phalaris-based paddocks will support double this number again.

(Heavy-cutting Poll Merinos of 65's plus are favoured, Pylara rams having been extensively used).

Andrew ("Boy") Charlton (1923-24), world's distance swimming champion, record holder for 1,500 metres from 1924 to 1928, and triple Australian Olympic representative, has announced his definite retirement from swimming. He has taken up sheep-raising on part of the well known Woolowolar property, four miles from Tarago, in the Goulburn district. He will be associated with Mr. Jack Hyles, son of Mr. J. R. E. Hyles, of Goulburn. Charlton has had previous experience on the land at Gunnedah, but during the last few years has been engaged in pharmacy work at Canberra.

Feb 26

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Feb 26



A. M. ("Boy") Charlton (1923-24), is in camp at Wallgrove with the 7th Brigade, Light Horse. He regards it as a great life, and is at least two stone heavier than he was in the days when he was breaking world swimming records. He does not intend making a comeback.

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**D.B.U.
Branch**

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BATHS NAMED AFTER "BOY" CHARLTON

Sydney's \$554,201 Domain Baths will be named after Andrew ("Boy") Charlton (1924), champion Australian swimmer who established a number of world freestyle records in the old Domain Baths in the 1920s.

Charlton, who won a gold medal in the 1,500-metre event at the Paris Olympics in 1924 at the age of 16, now lives on his sheep property at Goulburn.

The City Commissioners will pass a resolution to name the new baths after him at their public meeting next Monday.

— "Sydney Morning Herald", 5.12.67

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118
31

Andrew M. ("Boy") Charlton (1923-24), the former Manly swimmer, who represented Australia at the Paris, Amsterdam, and Los Angeles Olympic Games, has settled at Canberra, and hopes to be available to compete in the Australian swimming championships next year. *Final 134*

In a letter to the Editor of the "S.M. Herald," "Boy" Charlton states that he has accepted a position with Mr. J. L. Davies, chemist, of Kingston, Canberra, with whom he was associated in Manly a few years ago. "The opportunity presented in this city, with splendid baths, will induce me to join the Canberra Swimming Club, and endeavor to return to swimming form in the coming season," he adds. "I am still determined to hold my amateur status, and hope to be available to compete in the Australian championships next year." *Final 134*

Aug 134 A. M. ("Boy") Charlton (1923-24), having become a Canberra pharmacist, is now learning to play golf. He takes lessons from the Royal Canberra professional, Jim Petterson, who has a name as a tutor. Tennis, too, is attracting Charlton's attention. He is keeping fit during the winter to make a swimming comeback in the summer. Canberra baths at present are shut, and the icy Molonglo would not tempt a Polar bear.

A. M. ("Boy") Charlton (1923-24), left on ^{May} May 1, by the R.M.S. Naldera, to swim at the ¹²⁸

Olympic Games, as one of Australia's representatives. He will celebrate his 21st birthday on August 12 next. ^{MAY '28.}

*Oct 1928 Returned from London
Went to McKellar Station Gunnedah*

^{Sept}
^{'29} A. M. Charlton (1923-24), has been in the Royal North Shore Hospital suffering from rheumatic fever. The *Journal* sympathises with him, and wishes him a speedy recovery.

^{Jan}
^{'30} Andrew ("Boy") Charlton (1923-24), intends to seek selection in the team to represent Australia at the Olympic Games of Los Angeles in 1932. He has recovered from his recent illness, and returned to Gunnedah in the middle of January. Charlton will not compete in swimming events this summer, but will again take part next season, with a view to representing Australia for a third time.

OLD BOY BREAKS SWIMMING RECORD.

^{Jan}
^{'32} Andrew ("Boy") Charlton (1923-24) made a brilliant come-back at the Sydney Domain Baths on January 16. In the greatest half-mile swim of his career, he broke the Australian and State records, his time being 10 min. 22 sec., which was only 1-3/5 seconds outside the world's record. He won by 40 yards from Noel Ryan. On the following Saturday Charlton won the 440 yards State championship in the Australian and New South Wales record time of 4 min. 55 2/5 secs., beating his own record by 4 2/5 secs. Down the last lap it looked as though Ryan might have a chance of defeating Charlton, but, swimming very powerfully, the Olympic champion came away and won by about two feet.

ANDREW MURRAY "BOY" CHARLTON

1976

After a short illness Andrew "Boy" Charlton, one of Australia's greatest swimmers, died at his Avalon home on December 10, aged 69.

The giant Australian was hailed as "the greatest swimmer of all time" when he won the 1500 metres in a world record time at the 1924 Paris Olympics.

In 1922 when, still a pupil at Sydney Grammar School and aged 15, he broke the world 880 yards record with a swim of 11 min. 5.2 sec. to win the State title by 100 yards.

Charlton was born in Manly and went to school there before going to Sydney Grammar.

He defeated Bill Harris (Hawaii), Arné Borg (Sweden), and Frank Beaurepaire (Australia) in challenge races in Australia before going to Paris in 1924 for the first of his Olympic Games.

In the 1500 metres he set a world time of 20 min. 6.6 sec. Borg was second, with Beaurepaire third.

After the Paris Olympics he won the 200, 400

and 800 metres at the Tailteann (Irish) Games.

On his return to Australia, Charlton went to Hawkesbury Agricultural College and did little swimming during the next three years.

During holidays he would swim in junior surf races at carnivals and row in the Manly Club's junior boat crew.

"Boy" Charlton entered HAC on January 22, 1923. He was already a well known swimmer and found the academic aspects of the course at HAC not entirely to his liking. He eventually left the College in April, 1924, at the age of 16, to attend the Olympic Games in Paris where he became known as the Escaped Torpedo. He won a gold medal in the 1500 metres.

In 1934 he took up pharmacy with a friend in Canberra. Later he became a successful farmer as Chief of Kilrea Pastoral Co. on a farm of that name near Goulburn.

Charlton was also a member of the Manly Swimming Club from his childhood days.

In 1926-27 he trained for a few weeks to race the visiting Japanese champion, K. Takaishi.

Charlton won the 880 yards in 10 min. 32 sec., a world record, and the 440 yards in 4 min. 59 sec., an Australian record.

In 1928 a few weeks training again won him a trip to the Olympic Games at Amsterdam, where he swam second in the 1500 metres to Borg and second in the 400 metres to A. Zorilla, of Argentina.

Charlton was suffering from a heavy cold before both events.

In 1932 he decided to try out for his third Olympics and made an amazing come-back by winning the State 880 yards title by 40 yards from the late Noel Ryan in 10 min. 22 sec.—a new Australian record and only 1.6 sec. short of Buster Crabbe's world record.

Charlton went to the 1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games but was again ill.

The College and Old Boys extend deepest sympathy to his wife Jessie and children Patricia (Mrs R. Skipper) and Murray.

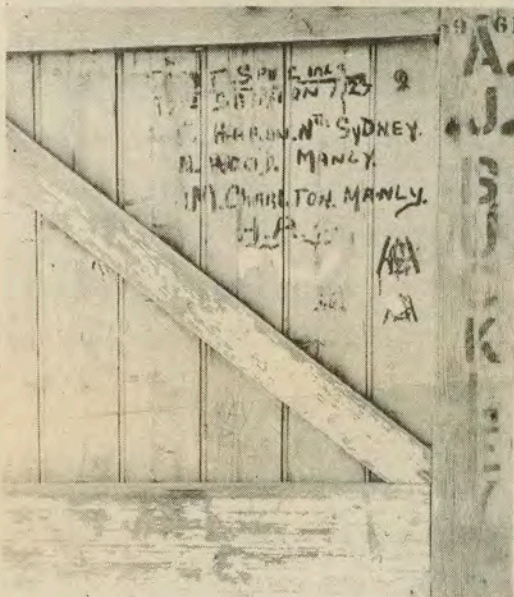
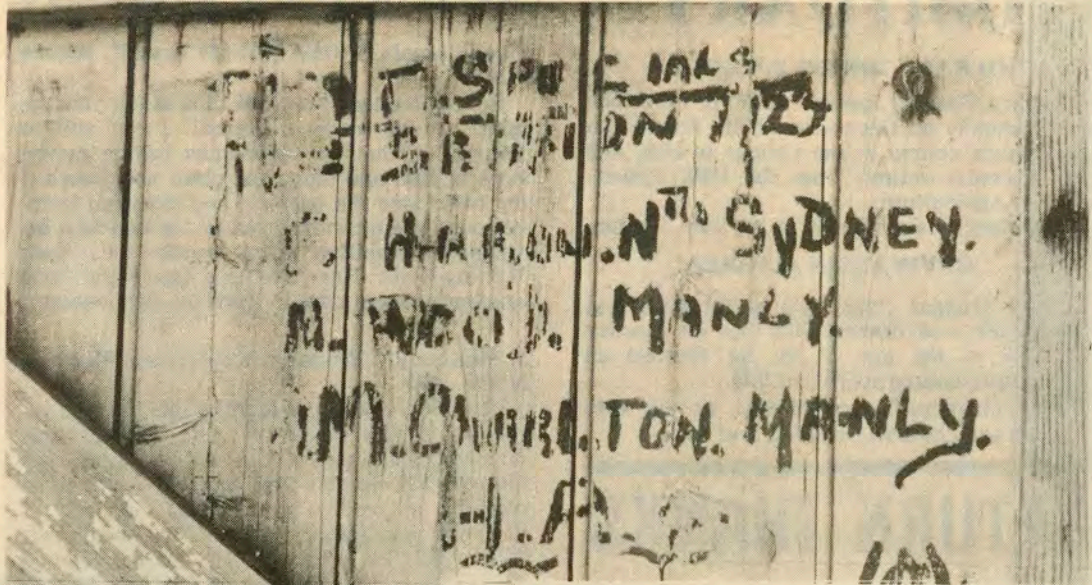
Andrew Murray Charlton

1976

Patricia, Murray and I thank the Old Boys Union of the Hawkesbury Agricultural College for their thoughts and sympathy in our sad loss of Andrew. We did appreciate hearing from you. Sincerely,

Jessie Charlton

CHARLTON'S NAME WILL LIVE ON



When Andrew Murray Charlton in 1923 added his name to the names "F. Hanon, Nth Sydney" and "N Ward, Manly" on the door of the Plots Shed (later Agronomy) at HAC he probably did not realise that his modest bid to fame would be greatly enhanced by others over the years.

These photos were taken just before demolition. College photographer Bob Wakeford, through retired staff member Rex Gunton, obtained the photos in trying to restore a small piece of history when "Boy" Charlton was at the College.

Charlton's name will live on.

The Domain Baths, rebuilt some years ago at a cost of more than half a million dollars, bear his name.

The doors in the photograph are now on a small garage at the back of a fruit shop in Richmond town.