

Charles Francis Lawson

Mr Charles Francis Lawson: DOB 04/11/1922; served CMF & AIF 1941-1946. Units A.A.S.C. 13th Australian Field Ambulance Unit, 13th Australian Field Brigade of the 4th Australian Division A.I.F.

Area: Wanneroo – Geraldton. Periods: 1941 to 05/05/1943.

Stationed at Campsite at Dandaragan serving Units on Coastal Patrol (after Japanese invasion of Malaysian area & Singapore) Wanneroo to Jurien Bay.

05/05/1943 Entrained Midland area by train to Queensland, Maroochydore, from there we were entrained to Stuart, near Townsville. Stationed there, transferred to Charters Towers/Selheim Unit disbanded. Transferred to Walgrove L.T.D November/December 1944. Sent as reinforcements 2/4th Australian General Hospital Unit stationed at Redbank, near Ipswich, Queensland, upgrading the hospital's equipment and personnel requirements. The 2/4th A.G. H. sailed from Hamilton Wharf, Brisbane, Feb 1945 to Moratua in the Pacific. There we were trans-shipped in Ships, L.S.Ts to Labuan Island on the west coast of Borneo, where the hospital was set up to cater for any wounded in the Borneo operations etc, plus after the Japanese had surrendered on 15/08/1945 processed the P.O.Ws from Singapore and areas adjacent to Malaysia etc. During 1945, months October/November, I came home on the Hospital Ship NZ Wangenalla with P.O.Ws to Brisbane and Sydney from Labuan Island. On arrival at Sydney, we entrained by rail to W.A. I arrived back in W.A. 23/12.1945, after a delayed trip en route caused by coal miners and railway engine drivers being on strike etc.