



**COLONEL F W G ANNAND DSO \*\*, VD**

**[1872 – 1958]**



**Colonel Annand was elected to Life Membership of the Club – records are silent, but possibly in the period 1919 to 1928**

**Colonel Annand was a Trustee of the Club 1928 - 1957**

Frederick William Gadsby Annand, was born on 7 May 1872 at Toowoomba, Queensland. He was the son of James Annand, a rural worker born in Elgin, Scotland, and his wife Harriet (née Gadsby).

He was educated at Toowoomba High School.

He worked for the Australian Mutual Provident Society and on Burenda station in the Warrego District before establishing an agency business at Toowoomba in 1895. With George A. Leichney,

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he founded an accounting firm in 1899. Licensed under the Local Auditors' Board, he became auditor for local authorities in the area.

Annand left the partnership in 1905 to manage the Brisbane Permanent Building and Banking Co. Ltd (now the Bank of Queensland). Despite reconstruction in 1898, the management was still defective. His tough, realistic, but judicious control progressively overcame legacies of the 1890s depression and drought, restored financial soundness, and led to profitable expansion.

Annand joined the Queensland Defence Force and became a Lieutenant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Queensland Mounted Infantry, in Toowoomba in 1897. After transferring to Brisbane, he joined the Royal Australian Engineers, and was promoted Captain to command the 5<sup>th</sup> Field Company. He joined the Club in 1905. He was promoted to Major on 6 February 1911, commanding the 3<sup>rd</sup> Field Company and later the 23<sup>rd</sup> Engineers (Signal Company).

He enlisted in the AIF on 12 November 1915 (aged 43) and embarked in Sydney for Egypt on HMAT *Suffolk* on 30 November 1915 as Major commanding the 7<sup>th</sup> Field Company, R.A.E., Australian Imperial Force. He was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel in March 1916, and he organized and commanded the 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Pioneer Battalion. He was Mentioned-in-Dispatches four times (1917, 1917, 1918 and 1919); wounded in November 1917 (treated in England and re-joined his unit in February 1918); received the Distinguished Service Order on 29 December 1917 for his service at Pozieres in July and August 1916; and was awarded a Bar to the DSO for gallantry at Montbrehain on 5 October 1918. He was awarded a second bar to his DSO in December 1919 in the post-war honours. He was recommended for CMG, but not awarded, in 1917.

After demobilisation from the AIF in 1919, his appointment as Lieutenant-Colonel was confirmed and he commanded the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion in the Citizen Military Force; and, after promotion to Colonel on 31 March 1926, the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade in Queensland, until 1930. He retired from the army on 19 May 1932.

In 1919 Annand had resumed management of the Brisbane Permanent Building and Banking Co. After two terms as an alderman of the Hamilton Town Council and one as mayor in 1924-25, he was appointed Town Clerk of Greater Brisbane in 1925. When the Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board was dissolved amid charges of mismanagement and patronage, Annand supervised its absorption by an already efficient city administration. He was accustomed to command, and frustration led him to resign as Town Clerk in 1931 when the Moore government established a municipal executive committee. Fortunately, he was able to resume his position at the Building and Banking Co., from which he resigned on 26 September 1936 to 'take more active part in public affairs'. He was immediately elected a director of the Bank and later acquired several other directorships, including Cribb & Foote Ltd.

Public-spirited and with strong religious convictions, Annand was President of the Young Men's Christian Association in Brisbane, a Life Member and Trustee of the United Service Club, President of the Brisbane Rotary Club, and was keen on bowls (Vice-President of the Queensland Bowling Association) and yachting. He was deacon of the City Congregational Church and became Deputy Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge. He was also a keen singer and regularly took part in the Brisbane Municipal Choir's performances of Handel's *Messiah*.

He died on 22 June 1958 at his Ascot home, survived by his wife Helen Alice (née Robinson), whom he had married on 1 June 1898, and by her had three sons and two daughters. His son Geoffrey Grant (1899 - 1958) founded the well-known Queensland motor business Annand and Thompson. A younger son Douglas Shenton (1903-1976) became a distinguished artist.

Annand's brother James Douglas (1875-1952), was also born at Toowoomba on 21 January 1875, had interests in various Toowoomba retail houses, a grazing property and a real-estate partnership. While in the retail trade he became president of the Toowoomba Traders' Association. He entered the city council in 1921 and served as mayor in 1924-30, 1933-49 and 1952. In 1925-47 he was chairman of the Local Authorities Association of Queensland. He represented Toowoomba in the Legislative Assembly in 1929-32 and East Toowoomba in 1934-35. He died on 7 August 1952 in Brisbane, survived by his wife Isabella Julia, née Walker, whom he had married on 17 March 1904, and by one son and two daughters.

Sources included:

- Various web pages
- *United Service Club, Queensland: The First Century, 1892-1992* by Flight Lieutenant Murray Adams and Lieutenant Colonel Peter Charlton
- Club Meeting Minutes, Annual Reports and sundry documents
- [Australian Dictionary of Biography](#), Volume 7, (MUP), 1979
- Who's Who
- Contribution from Colonel Annand's grandson Peter Annand, June 2021