



# Parliament Remembers

## The Armistice Centenary

11 November 1918 - 11 November 2018

### The Bernays family and the First World War

The Bernays family served the Queensland Parliament for over 70 years. This service began in May 1860 when Lewis Adolphus Bernays was appointed as first Clerk of the Legislative Assembly followed by his son, Charles Arrowsmith Bernays, a Hansard writer and later Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Lewis Bernays served as the first Clerk of the Queensland Parliament from 1860 until his death in office in 1908. He and his wife Mary Ann had 11 children all of whom are believed to have lived on the parliamentary precinct.

One son, Charles Arrowsmith (1862-1940) followed his father as an officer of the parliament. Beginning as a member of the Hansard staff he became Clerk Assistant and Sergeant-at-Arms of the Legislative Assembly in 1908 and, in 1920, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. After the Legislative Council was abolished in 1922, Charles was appointed Clerk of Parliament and held that office until his retirement on 31 December 1932. He was author of many commentaries on the Queensland Parliament and like his father before him, he lived with his family on the parliamentary precinct in a family cottage.

Charles and wife Lillian had three sons, two of whom served in the First World War. Roy Marr Bernays (3rd Battalion killed at Gallipoli on 27 April 1915) and Geoffrey Charles Arrowsmith Bernays (wounded at Vimy Ridge). Geoffrey was commissioned Lieutenant, mentioned in Salonika dispatches for gallant conduct, awarded an M.B.E. in 1919 and received the Grecian Order of the Redeemer.

Charles Bernays provided photographs of the Australian soldiers' camps at Mena in Egypt for publication in *The Queenslander* on the 6 February 1915.

Lest we forget...



Charles Arrowsmith Bernays (Image Queensland Parliament).

Roy Marr Bernays service records list his next of kin address as Parliament House Brisbane (Image NAA 3075564).



*The Queenslander* 6 February 1915 images contributed by C A Bernays. (Image SLQ Image 702692-19150206-0023 2501307).