**SANDS, Francis Charles**

Francis (Frank) Charles Sands was born in Steiglitz, Victoria in 1894. At 21 years of age, while living with his mother in East Brunswick, he enlisted in the A.I.F., embarking on HMAT ULYSSES in May 1915. In 1916, while a messenger in the 6th Infantry Battalion, he was recommended twice for the Military Medal for courage under fire. The Medal was awarded in September 1916 for conspicuous gallantry at Mouquet Quarry in the Battle of Mouquet Farm. Wounded in 1917, he returned to Australia in 1919.

Frank was elected to Kew Council as a representative of Prospect Ward in 1939, he was to remain on Council until his resignation in 1946. While Mayor of Kew, he is recorded as leading a parade of servicemen, including wounded veterans from the Rockingham Red Cross Convalescent Home, to the Kew War Memorial before a fraternal service at the Kew R.S.L. In August he led a mass service of Thanksgiving and Peace in the Alexandra Gardens. His roles outside Council included his presidency in 1938 of the Kew sub-branch of the R.S.L. and his membership of the City of Kew Lodge of which he was a Past Master. He died in Castlemaine in 1947, aged 51. His ashes were interred at the New Crematorium, Fawkner.

Frank’s medals are on display at the Kew RSL