HAMLYN-HARRIS, RONALD (1874-1953), entomologist, was born on 1 September 1874 at Eastbourne, Sussex, England, son of Hamlyn Huntingdon Harris, retired lieutenant of the 18th Hussars, and his wife Sarah Wheeler, née Smith. Educated in Germany and England, he trained in estate management and, while managing his father's Gloucestershire orchard, became an expert apiarist. Research in Naples, Italy, in 1901, won him a D.Sc. from the Eberhard Karl University, Tübingen, Germany, in 1902 for a thesis on 'The Statocysts of Cephalopoda'.

Hamlyn-Harris arrived in Sydney in May 1903 and next month became science and German master at Toowoomba Grammar School, Queensland. He revitalized science teaching, raised funds for a new laboratory, gave popular lectures at the technical college and in 1908 became foundation president of the Toowoomba Field Naturalists' Club.

In October 1910 he became director of the run-down Queensland Museum. Reorganizing its scientific work and the presentation of collections, he expanded its publications and arranged an extensive programme of public lectures. His exhibition of Sir William MacGregor's [q.v.5] New Guinea artefacts won the governor's praise. In 1911 Hamlyn-Harris gave the first lectures in biology at the University of Queensland and in 1912-18 published twenty anthropological papers. President of the Royal Society of Queensland in 1916, he accomplished much, but overwork and problems at the museum affected his health. In August 1917 he resigned to grow fruit at Stanthorpe. As foundation president in 1919-21 of the Stanthorpe Entomological Society he urged the need for an experimental field station. In 1922 he took charge of the Australian Hookworm Campaign's central laboratory in Brisbane, undertaking malaria/filaria and mosquito field-surveys. After the campaign was discontinued in 1924 he taught at The Southport School.

The first city council under the City of Brisbane Act, 1924, opened a department of health and created an entomological section in 1926 to control mosquitoes. Hamlyn-Harris's appointment as city entomologist with a staff of fourteen remains the only such appointment ever made in Australia. Organizing laboratories and field teams, he advised on engineering measures and carried out an intensive educational campaign and published twenty papers. His pioneering investigations of biological control are again relevant since residual insecticides have become unpopular. By 1934 when the council abolished his office dengue had not recurred since 1926 and filariasis had almost disappeared from Brisbane, largely
Hamlyn-Harris

due to his work. He concluded his scientific career as a full-time lecturer in zoology at the university in 1936-43.

Hamlyn-Harris died in Brisbane on 26 June 1953 and was cremated. He was survived by his wife Bertha Hamlyn, née Harris, whom he had married at Tumut, New South Wales, on 30 December 1908, and by three sons and three daughters.

Of medium height and fair complexion with a shiny bald pate from middle age, Hamlyn-Harris was kindly, courteous, hospitable and a versatile practical scientist. His infectious enthusiasm inspired many young people with a love for science. He especially enjoyed playing the role of Charles Dickens at gatherings of the Brisbane Dickens Fellowship, of which he was president.


E. N. Marks

HAMMOND, GEORGE MEYSEY (1892-1918), soldier, was born on 3 July 1892 at Handsworth, Staffordshire, England, son of George Richard Hammond, grocer, and his wife Emily, née Roberts. Educated privately and from 13 at the National School, Pershore, Worcestershire, he was briefly secretary to a vicar and then apprenticed himself to a grocer. The sea and the prospect of escape from a humdrum existence appealed strongly to him and when, to his mortification, he twice failed to pass the test for colour-blindness with a shipping line he decided to migrate to Australia.

Hammond arrived in Western Australia in February 1911 and, having refused all aid from his father, was employed as a labourer on a wheat farm near Moora and then as a boundary rider on the Upper Gascoyne and in the De Grey district. With two 'chums' he bought a 6000-acre (2430 ha) farm but this venture failed and in mid-1913 he signed on at Fremantle as a seaman on the schooner Penguin. After one voyage to the East Indies, full of hardship, danger and excitement (vividly described in a narrative written soon afterwards), he was put ashore at his request on the Western Australian coast near Dongara with no boots and little more than the nondescript clothes he was wearing. He worked briefly on a dairy farm, then sat for the qualifying examination for entry into the Commonwealth Public Service. He was working as a post-office assistant at Broome when war broke out in August 1914. On 25 February 1915 he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force and was posted to the had to be carried in a sling; a glove covered the skin discolouration which developed. A medical board recommended his return to Australia, but he pleaded so strongly that in May 1917 he was back with his battalion. He had been promoted lieutenant five months earlier and on resuming duty was appointed intelligence officer—doubtless with the intention of keeping him out of the fighting. He was prominent in action at Polygon Wood in September, capturing twenty Germans and winning the Military Cross, and in the attack in October on Broodseinde Ridge, where he and the signals officer were observed well ahead of the advancing infantry, exuberantly charging pillboxes.

Early in 1918 A.I.F. Headquarters decided to send an officer to Palestine to take control of the War Records Section from Captain (Sir) Henry Somer Gullett [q.v.] who had been appointed official war correspondent with the Light Horse. The choice fell on Hammond who joined the War Records Section in London in April with obvious reluctance. When, soon afterwards, letters began to arrive from his mates on the Somme, he begged to be allowed to return to his unit and rejoined it in mid-May as a company commander with the rank of captain. On 10 June the 28th attacked the German lines at Morlancourt. Hammond, knowing that the eager Australians were in danger of advancing too quickly and being caught in the supporting shell-fire, walked ahead of his men, checking the bounds of the barrage with watch in hand, all the time