

TURNER WILLIAM ROSS (ABIE SEAMAN)

My name is Edna Wale & my brother Rossie was one of eight children born to Jessie & Leslie Turner on the 7th Dec 1920. He & his elder brother were in the Naval Reserve before World War II broke out, & their choice of service was the Navy which he & they joined both serving on the Sydney until the order came through that B. Brothers could not serve together so my elder brother was transferred to another ship & survived the war. Rossie (as the family called him) served only on the Sydney. I was only 8 years old at the time the Sydney was sunk, but, can remember my Mother getting the telegram telling ^{that} her boy was lost at sea as the Sydney had been sunk. It was a very sad time for her as her eldest son was somewhere fighting the enemy & communication was difficult & my father & sister were serving in the army & she still had 5 youngest children to look after so the burden fell very heavily on her shoulders. She never gave up hope that one day he would return, but, never lived to hear the news of "finding the Sydney" as she died in 2001 at the age of 95. So it is for her I write this memorial. Being so much younger my recollection of my brother was he was a quiet serious boy who adored his mum, & was he bought her a beautiful Kinnor which she treasured. Girls didn't play a big part in his life at that time. He would have been 21 a month after the sinking of the Sydney.