

Timaru Herald. 14 August 1914 (Papers Past) [14/02/2016]

BUGLE-SERGEANT. KEAY.
SALVATION ARMY FAREWELL.

Last evening the local Salvation Army Corps met in the Fortress to say farewell to Bugle-Sergeant Keay, who leaves to-day with the contingent of volunteers, and who for a number of years has been a prominent member of the Army. Adjutant Dawkins presided, and there was a large attendance. Several musical items were rendered during the evening and greatly enjoyed.

Bandmaster W. G. Hawkey expressed the best wishes of the band to their late comrade. He eulogised the departing volunteer as an energetic and devoted member of the Army and wished him God Speed and a safe return.

Adjutant Dawkins, in presenting a pocket testament and a devotional book from the officers and soldiers of the corps, referred to Bugle-Sergeant Keay's work as secretary of the Corps and spoke in terms of the highest esteem of his attachment to duty and love of the Corps. He was a young man of strong and upright character, and he believed he would ever sustain those features and have a strong influence for good on his comrades in the ranks. He wished him good luck and God Speed wherever his lot was cast.

Sergeant-Major Keay spoke in a patriotic strain and said he felt proud his brother had volunteered. He considered it a young man's duty to respond to the call of King and country. It might be hard to say good-bye, but when the interests of our beloved Empire were at stake, and our liberty and freedom seemed imperilled sacrifices had to be made.

Bugle-Sergeant Keay suitably responded and thanked all for their kindness to him. He would ever prize and cherish the gifts they had given, no matter where his lot were cast or what his duty might be.

Supper was served and greatly enjoyed, and the meeting terminated with the singing of "God be with you till we meet again," the band accompanying.

Press. 6 July 1915 (Papers Past) [12/07/2025]

EXTRACTS FROM SOLDIERS' LETTERS.

Sergeant-Bugler D. S. L. Keay, who was reported wounded and discharged from hospital on June 6th by the Defence Department, has written to his father, Mr J. Keay, of Timaru, stating that he was invalided from the front to Alexandria, and his letter, dated May 23rd, mentions nothing about a wound. He adds: "I lost my company the morning we landed, and did not see anything of them again for four days, during which time I was with a body of Australians in the trenches. If hell is any worse than what we experienced during that time, then I have no desire to go there because it was most unnerving work. You will know now all about the Timaru boys who fell, and it was an awful sight to see some of the best of our company getting picked off. We got no sleep at all in the trenches, owing to the fierceness of the battle, but I am thankful to say that I pulled through safely. Only about 80 of our company escaped the casualty list. I was brought away from the Dardanelles in the transport *Dongola*, and was placed in the base hospital at Alexandria. Since leaving the hospital, I have been attached to Captain Greene, and stationed at Mustapha Barracks, and my duties consist of visiting all the hospitals and making a record of the sick and wounded, and this entails a great deal of work. I am likely, to be here for some time on this work."

Timaru Herald. 11 July 1917 (Papers Past) [16/07/2025]

Last night a large number of friends and well-wishers gathered in the Salvation Army Barracks to welcome home Sergeant D. S. L. Keay, who returned home on Monday. Sergeant Keay left New Zealand with the Main Body, saw service on Gallipoli, and in Egypt, and has been in England for some considerable time. The speakers were Mesdames Massey and Keay (mother of the soldier), bandmaster Hawkey, on behalf of the band, and Captain Ransom on behalf of the Corps. All expressed their gladness at the return of Sergeant Keay. Sergeant Keay suitably responded. Mr Williams and Mrs Ransom rendered vocal items, Misses Rose and Keay a duet, and the band played a selection. An appetising supper was partaken of, and the singing of the National Anthem brought a pleasant evening to a close.

Timaru Herald. 22 February 1927 (Papers Past) [19/05/2022]

VALEDICTORY.

PERSONAL.

MUNICIPAL STAFF.

The staff of the Timaru Borough Council met in the town clerk's office on Saturday at noon to bid farewell to two of their members — Mr D. S. L. Keay, the accountant, who is leaving for the North Island to take up a town clerkship, and Miss Lon Wyatt, typist to the Electrical Department, who is leaving for Dunedin to be married. The town clerk (Mr Machattie), as chairman, regretted very much losing the services of both employees. Miss Wyatt, besides being a good typiste, had given very valuable assistance to the clerical department, and he had found Mr Keay's assistance most helpful to himself. Mr Hollands, general manager of the Electrical Department, paid a compliment to Miss Wvatt. He wished her every happiness in her near venture. As regards Mr Keay, he was indeed sorry the Timaru Council were losing the services of such a bright young man. He congratulated him on his promotion, and felt sure Mr Keay would succeed in his new office. Mr Toneycliffe, on behalf of the outside staff, eulogised both departing guests, and assured them they would both go away with their good wishes. Mr Grieve, on behalf of the engineering staff, and Mr McKim, omnibus department, paid tribute to both departing guests. Mr Parker, engineer at the Power House, Messrs Newcombe, Mauger, and Davey also added their quota. Mr Machattie then asked Miss Wyatt to accept from the Timaru Borough Council staff, as a small token of its appreciation of her services, a beautiful dinner set and a cut glass vase, and handed to Mr Keay a beautiful silver-mounted oak tray. Mr Malcolm said Miss Wyatt had asked him to respond for her, as her feelings were so mixed with sorrow at leaving such good friends, and gladness for the words spoken by all. Mr Keay returned thanks for the good wishes and beautiful present, which Mrs Keay, his family and himself appreciated very much. He regretted again leaving Timaru, his birthplace, but hoped he would be down this way soon and meet them all again.

Manawatu Times. 30 July 1935 (Papers Past) [12/07/2025]

Woodville

R.S.A. Reunion.

A large crowd of ex-diggers assembled on Friday evening when the Woodville and District Returned Soldiers' Association held its annual reunion. The function, which was attended by representatives of the Palmerston and Dannevirke Returned Soldiers' Associations was the most enthusiastic held for a number of years. The president, Mr D. S. L. Keay, presided over the assembly and assisted by Mr. T. H. Williams, kept the proceedings going with a great swing. The loyal toast and the toast of Absent Comrades were honoured. The New Zealand

Returned Soldiers' Association's toast was next on the list being capably handled by Mr D. S. L. Keay and responded to by Mr Williams. Other toasts were the Hawke's Bay War Relief Association (J. Charles — J. Elder), the Medical and Nursing staffs (F. D. Mackie — Captain Melles), Woodville and District Returned Soldiers' Association (Mr Morton — D. Keay), visitors and entertainers (A. Ramsden — L. Anderson). Digger J. Charles called the roll, all present answering and the function closed shortly afterwards with the singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem.