## **CHORLEY, William Charles**

William Charles Chorley was born 30th August 1886, at Albyn-road, Strathfield, to William & Lily Chorley.1

Fast forward to 1912.

On 10th February 1912 he married Miss Mabel Osborne, only daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Lindsay Osborne of Beecroft, at the Presbyterian Church, Beecroft.2

Fast forward to 1939.

‘MR. William Chorley is a tailor. There is no other tailor in Australia quite like him.

Just at present he is fitting out the Governor of New South Wales as an air commodore; he has already fitted him out as a major-general, a rear-admiral, and a Boy Scout.

For more than 30 years Mr. Chorley has been making uniforms.’

‘His business in Hunter Street is called Kitchener's because Lord Kitchener once had a uniform made there.’

‘In appearance, Mr. Chorley is of medium stature, rounded, with a head which could, with advantage, have belonged to Mr. Pickwick.

Somewhat phlegmatic in the conduct of his business he is, like Mr. Pickwick, a man of quiet charm in private life, an enthusiast, an ironic humorist, an artist.’

‘MR. CHORLEY has one regret: there appears to be nobody to carry on the business after him. His son is not interested in tailoring; he wishes to be an engineer. And it is entirely against Mr. Chorley's outlook to force a young man into a business which he does not want to enter; for in Mr. Chorley's eyes there is no greater tragedy than a young man using tape, chalk, and scissors who has no interest in them.

But it worries him that today, in Australia, there is no young man with an enthusiasm for the art of cutting uniforms.

For Mr. Chorley is in possession of a profound truth: while there are men there will be uniforms; and someone must cut them.’3

William Charles Chorley died on 22nd August 1951, at his residence, 7 Cheltenham-road, Cheltenham, ‘beloved husband of Mabel Mary and dear dad of Betty and Bill and loving father-in-law of Noel and Jean aged 64 years.’4

In June 1952 Tenders were called in the Estate of William Charles Chorley (deceased) and in the matter of Kitchener & Co. Pty Ltd, Civil & Military Tailors & Mercers, etc., 9-11 Hunter Street, Sydney, to submit for Sale by Public Tender the Stock, Plant and Fittings of Kitchener & Co. Pty Ltd (listed stock on hand, Plant furniture & fittings, Stock in Bond, valued at £13,470).5

**Bibliography**

1 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Thursday 16 September 1886, page 1

2 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 17 February 1912, page 8; Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 24 February 1912, page 11

3 Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW: 1931 - 1954), Sunday 19 November 1939, page 6

4 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Friday 24 August 1951, page 22

5 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Saturday 28 June 1952, page 17