

The Northern Daily LEADER

Inside Yourguide

News - Local - General News

tamworth.yourguide.com.au

< News >

Local

General News

< Sport

< [Have your say](#)

< Weather

< Email us

< Local Info

< Entertainment

< How to subscribe

< How to advertise

< Contact Us

Buy / Sell< [View Classifieds](#)< [Place Classified ads](#)

< autoguide

< jobsguide

< localdirectory

< propertyguide

Local Links< Tamworth Regional
Council

< Other

< Home

< Search

< Help

< Privacy Policy

< Copyright

Plaque, pine a final tribute

Friday, 11 November 2005

KOOTINGAL residents gathered in Anzac Park yesterday to remember our nation's brave soldiers and unveil a commemorative plaque for a man close to their hearts.

Fred Hillier of Kootingal spoke of the plaque unveiled in memory of his grandfather, fallen soldier Arthur Hillier.

Guests listened as Mr Hillier gave an insight into his grandfather.

"The public rarely gets to know the human side of names listed on plaques so in sharing his story, I hope to reveal more than just a name," he said.

Mr Hillier said Arthur had enlisted following the turmoil of his wife's death during childbirth and that he was killed during a diversion organised by British troops.

Mr Hillier and his wife, Bev, travelled to Gallipoli in 1973 to search for the grave of his grandfather.

"We had to physically search for headstones in Anzac Cove and I nearly gave up, but Bev suggested we search the area at Lone Pine," he said.

And sure enough they found the gravesite, learning that Arthur had been killed in a diversion in August 1915.

Upon returning, Mr Hillier was able to obtain a seed from the Aleppo Pine at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra, which originated from the Lone Pine on Plateau 400 on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

"I propagated the seed from this tree and my two sons, Toby and Tim, planted it here in 1990," he said.

The tree now stands beside

the commemorative stone and

plaque in Kootingal's Anzac Park.

The plaque was officially unveiled by Lions' district governor Judy Hedges, followed by The Last Post and Advance Australia Fair.

Lions' regional chairman Neil Tubb, Lion Warwick Gadsden, Lion Tim Freemantle, members of the Kootingal and District Ex-Service Club and Kootingal Public School students were among those in



from papers you know

attendance.

Would you like to comment on this article?
[<< Click here to have your say](#)

[<< Email this article to a friend](#)

[<< MORE NEWS](#)

