

Members of The Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps

before and during the Battle for Hong Kong against the Japanese Imperial Army 1941.

Killed in action/died as POW

Arthur Sidney Bliss – Gnr. 1st Battery, No. 4246, husband of Phyllis Elaine Bliss (nee Gittins), Mabel's younger sister. K.I.A. Christmas day 1941, buried Stanley Military Cemetery, Hong Kong.

Ernest Francis Fincher – Bombardier, 5th (AA) Battery, No.4225, husband of Irene Eleanor Fincher (nee Gittins), Mabel's younger sister. K.I.A. (executed as a prisoner) 18 December 1941, buried with others Stanley Military Cemetery.

William Minto Gittins, born 1897 – Private, 4th Battery, husband of Jean Gittins (nee Ho Tung), elder brother of Mabel. POW Shamshuipo Military Camp, Hong Kong, transferred to Japan late 1944, died 6 March 1945, buried Yokohama Commonwealth War Cemetery.

Stephen William Hall – Private, Unallocated No.3 Co., K.I.A. 19 December 1941 (aged 19), buried Saiwan Military Cemetery, Hong Kong, Peter's 1st cousin.

Stanley Eric Roberts – Private, Unallocated No.3 Co., No.4420, elder son of Ruby Alexandra Roberts (nee Hall), elder sister of George A V Hall, died 16 August 1942, (aged 20), POW Shamshuipo Military Camp, Hong Kong, buried Stanley Military Camp, Peter's 1st cousin.

POW's Hong Kong

George Albert Victor Hall born 1897 – Sergeant, Field Engineers, No.2857, husband of Mabel Hall (nee Gittins), father of second son Peter Arthur Hall, POW Shamshuipo Military Camp, Hong Kong.

Medals: 1939-1945 War Medal, 1939-1945 Defence Medal, Hong Kong Efficiency Medal, 1939-1945 Star Medal & The Pacific Star Medal.

POW Questionnaire (see Schedule); Shamshuipo Record (see Schedule); Certificate of service (see Schedule).

Mabel Hall (nee Gittins) – Nurses Detachment, Nurse ND55, wife of George, mother of Michael, Peter & Sheila Hall. This was a 'cover' for Mabel's real work for the Secret Intelligence Service ('SIS'), overseas branch of MI6, as a code operative. Recruited by her younger brother Samuel Victor Gittins, HKVDC & Intelligence Corps.

Peter's mother died on 9 June 1985 in the British Military Hospital, Hong Kong, and only informed Peter about being a member of SIS, two days before she passed away.

Arthur Gillard born 1889 – Warrant Officer (II), No.3552, 2nd Battery, husband of Laura Gillard (nee Gittins), Mabel's 1st cousin. POW Shamshuipo Military Camp, Hong Kong. Royal Garrison Artillery, WW1

Edward Archibald Roberts born 1923 – Private, Unallocated No.3 Co., No.4551, **younger** son of Ruby Alexandra Roberts (nee Hall), elder sister of George A V Hall, POW Shamshuipo Military Camp, Hong Kong.