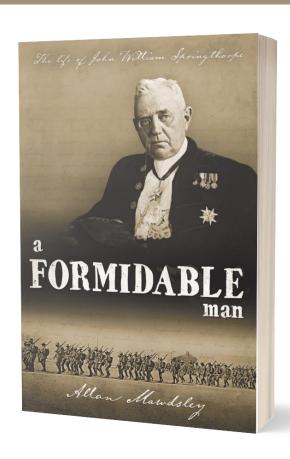
A Formidable Man

Written by Allan Mawdsley



ISBN	9781923101982
Publication Date	25 JUN 2024
Genre	Biography
Format	Paperback
Audience	General
Author Location	Melbourne, VIC

Price available on our website



A MAN OF MANY PERSUASIONS AND VAST ENERGY, A
FORMIDABLE MAN IS AN EXPANSIVE DETAILING INTO THE
CONTRIBUTIONS AND CONTROVERSIES OF A COMBATIVE
PERSONALITY...

John William Springthorpe was a prominent general physician, lecturer, and writer in late nineteenth century's marvellous Melbourne.

Springthorpe, affectionately known as Springy, took major advocacy roles in physiotherapy, dentistry, nursing, public health, child welfare, epilepsy, and mental health during his career.

His bitter criticism of the mistreatment of 'shell shock' victims during

World War I was followed by advocacy for those afflicted with what's now

known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

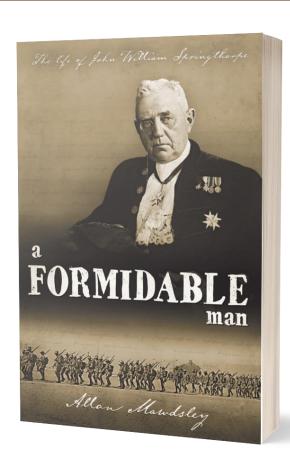
ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Allan Mawdsley OAM is a retired child psychiatrist. He was director of the Alfred Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service. He has been a member of St John Ambulance for more than 60 years and is curator of their museum in Victoria. He is a Knight of the Order of St John and is the immediate past president of St John Ambulance Historical Society of Australia.

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A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

WHAT DREW YOU TO THE SUBJECT MATTER OF A FORMIDABLE MAN?

My work as honorary curator of St John Ambulance Museum produces numerous topics warranting historical research, and a few are so compelling that they demand a book. John Springthorpe was a truly remarkable physician whose work covered a vast range of areas, more than any other doctor I have ever encountered, with extraordinary contributions, but at the same time generated huge controversy because of his personality.

WHAT KIND OF RESEARCH DID YOU DO?

For *A Formidable Man* I started with reading the ADB article, then started researching diverse aspects one at a time through the relevant sources like diaries, Trove newspaper articles, archival papers, etc. After two or three months, I presented a 20-minute paper to a historical society meeting then spent three more years in more detailed research.

