

**Lyness Royal Naval Cemetery,
Hoy, Orkney Islands, Scotland**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



R. E. BOND

STOKER 2613

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

25TH DECEMBER, 1916

Rowland Edward BOND

Rowland Edward Bond was born on 7th March, 1892 at Kensington, South Australia to parents Charles Rhoades Bond & Catherine (Kate) Faulds Bond (nee Hillson).

Rowland Edward Bond joined the Royal Australian Navy on 15th February, 1913 for a period of 7 years. He was issued a Service number of 2613.

Rowland Edward Bond joined *Cerberus* on 15th February, 1913 with the naval rating of Ordinary Seaman. He was transferred to *Warrego* on 8th March, 1913 then transferred to *Australia* from 6th May, 1914.

Ordinary Seaman Rowland Edward Bond was promoted to Stoker II from 19th June, 1914 while serving in *Australia*.

According to information recorded on his Service Record card – Stoker II Rowland Edward Bond “took part in operations in German New Guinea in Sept 1914.” He was awarded £12; 10; in Prize money & was paid a final share of Naval Prize fund of £14; 11; 8.

Stoker II Rowland Edward Bond was transferred to *Penguin* from 4th October, 1916. He was transferred back to *Australia* on 7th January, 1915.

Stoker II Rowland Edward Bond was promoted to Stoker from 19th June, 1915 while serving in *Australia*.

H.M.A.S. Australia

The Australian Navy's first flagship, the battle cruiser HMAS Australia (I) was the centrepiece of the 'Fleet Unit', whose acquisition signalled the RAN's arrival as a credible ocean going force....

The Commonwealth Government decided upon the name Australia, and it proved a popular choice, carefully avoiding any suggestion of favouritism towards any one Australian State. The ship's badge maintained the national theme by featuring the Federation Star overlaid by a naval crown, while the motto 'Endeavour' reflected the ideal of the Australian spirit and recalled Lieutenant James Cook's ship of 1768-71 whose acquisition signalled the RAN's arrival as a credible ocean going force....

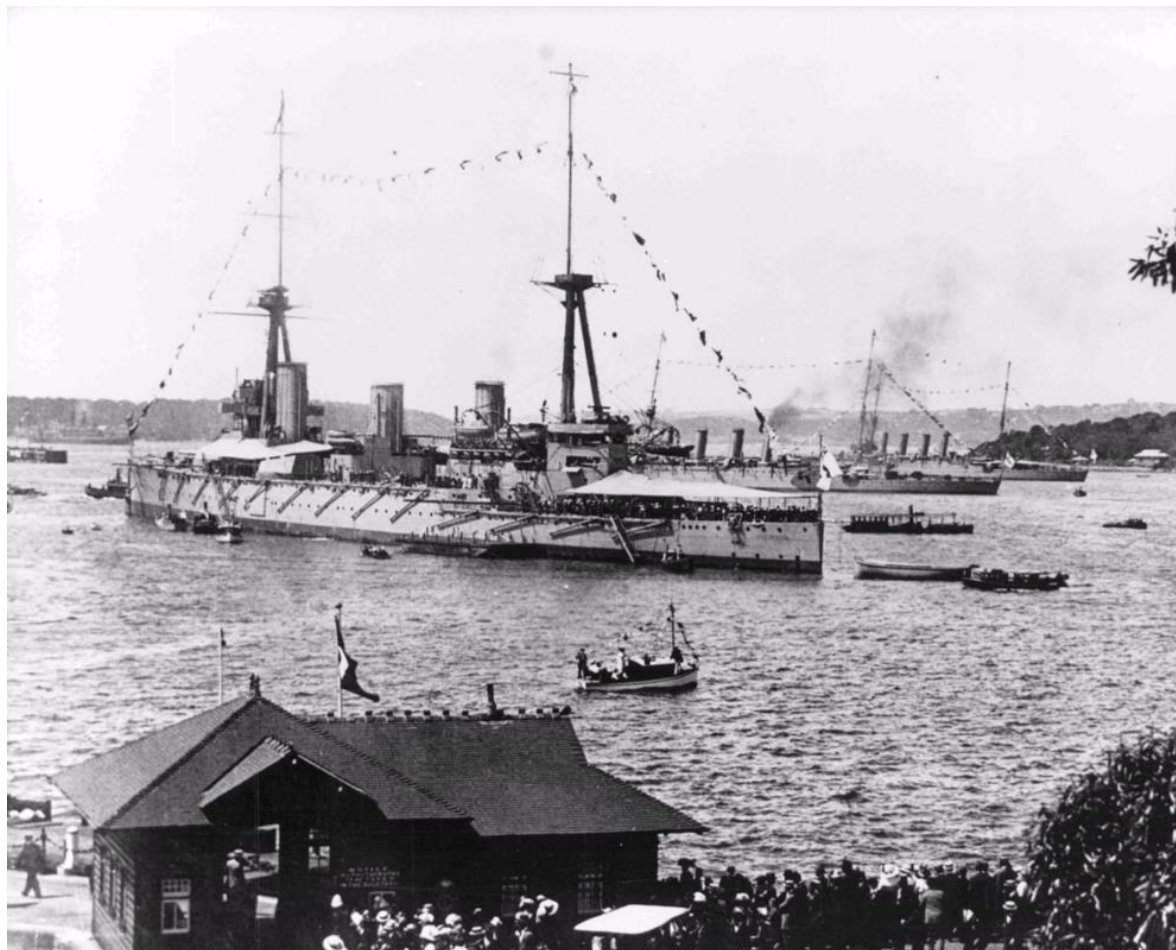
Following successful gun, torpedo and machinery trials she commissioned as an Australian unit at Portsmouth, England, on 21 June 1913 under the command of Captain Stephen H Radcliffe, RN. Two days later the ship hoisted the flag of Rear Admiral George Edwin Patey, MVO (later Vice Admiral Sir George Patey, KCMG, KCVO), who had been selected to command the Australian Fleet.

In company with the new light cruiser HMAS Sydney (I), Australia (I) sailed from Portsmouth on 21 July 1913, and their voyage home was seen as a further opportunity to stimulate public awareness and naval sentiment around the British Empire. The appearance of the Australian warships would, the Sydney Morning Herald remarked, provide a practical demonstration of the RAN as a “thoroughly competent, efficient, and considerable force”. Australia (I) called in at Capetown where Patey and his officers were directed to extend every possible courtesy.....

On the morning of 4 October 1913, Australia (I), leading the remaining ships of the Fleet Unit (the cruisers Melbourne (I), Sydney (I) and Encounter, and the destroyers Warrego (I), Parramatta (I) and Yarra (I)), entered Sydney for the first time. Port Jackson was no stranger to imperial and foreign warships, but the battle cruiser, both majestic and forbidding at the same time, was something different. She was the embodiment of the Commonwealth's own sea power, and unquestionably superior to every other European warship in the Pacific. Already described as a “living sentient thing”, Australia (I)'s entry at the head of the fleet evoked a nationalistic euphoria never before experienced. “The sight of the Fleet meant more to the Australian people than the visit of any foreign fleet. It was our expression of patriotism, ships of defence bought in love of country and empire...” wrote the Sydney Mail...

On the outbreak of World War I Australia (I) operated (with other ships of the Australian Fleet) as a counter to the German East Asian Cruiser Squadron under Admiral Graf von Spee. The battle cruiser's presence deterred von Spee from operating in local waters, and as Prime Minister WM 'Billy' Hughes later declared, “but for the Australia (I)...the great cities of Australia would have been reduced to ruins, oversea trade paralysed, coastal shipping sunk, and communications with the outside world cut off”. Australia (I) meanwhile kept busy, taking part in a series of operations to seize German Pacific colonies and destroy the enemy's radio network. During these operations Australia (I) captured the German ship Sumatra.

In late December 1914 Australia (I) received orders to sail to England via the Pacific and reached Devonport on 28 January 1915. En route she captured and sank von Spee's supply ship Eleonore Woermann (5000 tons) off South America. From Devonport Australia (I) proceeded to Rosyth in Scotland, where in February 1915 she became flagship of the 2nd Battle Cruiser Squadron, flying the flag of Rear Admiral Sir William Pakenham, KCB, MVO. The squadron as initially formed comprised Australia (I) and her two sister ships, HMS New Zealand and HMS Indefatigable. From then until 22 April 1916, Australia (I) was based at Rosyth accompanying the Battle Cruiser Fleet on a succession of sweeps, patrols, and convoy escort tasks across the length and breadth of the North Sea. The enemy was rarely if ever seen, and a shot at a suspected submarine on 30 December 1917 marked the only occasion when she fired her armament in anger.



HMAS *Australia* entering Sydney Harbour for the first time on 4 October 1913.

On 22 April 1916 Australia (I) collided with New Zealand in heavy fog and the damage kept her in dockyard hands until 9 June 1916. She thus missed the Battle of Jutland, her place as flagship of the 2nd Battle Cruiser Squadron being taken by New Zealand. On her return to service in June 1916, Australia (I) continued North Sea patrols as a unit of the British Grand Fleet until 12 November 1917, when another collision, this time with HMS *Repulse*, caused her to be docked for three weeks. Repairs completed, she resumed her generally uneventful routine of patrol and fleet exercises in the North Sea.....

(Extract of information from Royal Australian Navy)

The 1914, 1916 & 1917 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Melbourne Ports, subdivision of Williamstown, Victoria, recorded Rowland Edward Bond, Seaman, H.M.A.S. *Warrego*, Williamstown.

Stoker Rowland Edward Bond died on 25th December, 1916 having been transferred to Hospital Ship *Soudan* at Scapa Flow, Scotland from Nephritis & Uraemia (Source: Australian War Memorial – Roll of Honour).

Stoker Rowland Edward Bond was buried in Lyness Royal Naval Cemetery, Hoy, Orkney Islands, Scotland – Plot number B. 87 and now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. (According to Royal Australian Navy website - Stoker Rowland Edward Bond died from acute inflammation of the kidneys & is buried in area B just inside the main entrance and to the east of the path.)

From Service Record card: "Approval for War Badge from Female Relative received No. 349."



RAN Female Relative Badge, First World War.

The badge reads "Royal Australian Navy. To women of Australia. For duty done".

Two Female Relative Badges were issued during the First World War. One was issued to the nearest female relative of soldiers, airmen, nurses, and masseuses who left Australia for active service abroad; the other to the nearest female relative of members of the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) who had enlisted for general naval sea service for at least a period of the war, and who performed service outside Australian waters. A bar was suspended below the badge to indicate additional relatives involved in the war effort. The Female Relatives Badge was promulgated under Military Order 280 of 1917 and superseded by Military Order 1818 of 1918.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Stoker Rowland Edward Bond – service number 2613, of H.M.A.S. "Australia", Royal Australian Navy. He was the son of Charles R. & Catherine F. Bond, of 26 Park Rd., Kensington Park, Adelaide, South Australia.

Stoker R. E. Bond is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 1.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

R. E. Bond is remembered on Royal Australian Navy WW1 Memorial, located at HMAS *Cerberus* Protestant Chapel of St Mark, Nelson Road, Crib Point, Victoria.



HMAS *Cerberus* Protestant Chapel of St Mark, Crib Point, Victoria (Photos courtesy of Karen Standen)



Royal Australian Navy WW1 Memorial at HMAS Cerberus

(2 pages of Stoker Rowland Edward Bond's Naval Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour) & National Archives



Newspaper Notices

FOR KING AND COUNTRY

BOND – On active service, H.M.A.S. Australia, December 26, from natural causes, Rowland Edward, the dearly beloved and only surviving son of C.R. and C. F. Bond, Kensington Park, Adelaide, in his 24th year. (By cable).

(The Register, Adelaide, South Australia – 30 December, 1916) & (The Journal, Adelaide, South Australia – 30 December, 1916) & (The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 30 December, 1916) & (The Register, Adelaide, South Australia – 4 January, 1917)

DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

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(Chronicle, Adelaide, South Australia – 6 January, 1917)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Stoker R. E. Bond has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Lyness Royal Naval Cemetery, Hoy, Orkney Islands, Scotland

Lyness Royal Naval Cemetery is on the Island of Hoy, which is part of the Orkney Islands.

Lyness Royal Naval Cemetery is one of largest sites the Commission maintains in the UK.

The cemetery was begun in 1915 when Scapa Flow was the base of the Grand Fleet. Lyness remained as a Royal Naval base until July 1946 and the cemetery contains graves from both wars.

There are 445 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, 109 of which are unidentified. The majority of the graves are of officers, ratings, and members of the land forces lost from H.M.S. "Hampshire," "Vanguard," "Narborough" and "Opal."

The 200 burials of the Second World War in the cemetery include those of 26 men from H.M.S. "Royal Oak", which was sunk off Longhope in Scapa Flow by a German U-boat on 14 October 1939. 8 of these burials are unidentified.

The cemetery also contains the graves of 14 sailors of the German Navy (the High Seas Fleet was interned at Scapa Flow after the 1918 Armistice), 3 German airmen and 1 German sailor from the 1939-45 war and 1 Norwegian sailor of the 1939-45 war. The Commission also maintains 30 non-war burials in the site (mostly Merchant Navy seaman).

The features of the cemetery were designed by Ralph Hobday. The Cross of Sacrifice was formally unveiled by Surgeon Rear Admiral Sir William Watson Cheyne (Bart., KCMG, CB, Lord Lieutenant of Orkney, and Shetland) on 29th September 1925.

(Information from CWGC)



(Photo from Find a Grave – Peter Drysdale)



Lyness Royal Naval Cemetery 1954 (CWGC)



Lyness Royal Naval Cemetery (Photos from CWGC)



Lyness Royal Naval Cemetery



(Photo courtesy of Iain Anderson)



Lyness Royal Naval Cemetery (Photos by Bill Boaden – 2019)



Photo of Stoker R. E. Bond's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Lyness Royal Naval Cemetery, Hoy, Orkney Islands, Scotland.

(Note: the year of death engraved on the CWGC headstone is incorrect – it should be 1916. CWGC were advised at the time of researching)



(Photo from Find a Grave – ADB48)