

**Hollybrook Memorial,
Southampton, Hampshire, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2159 SERGEANT

A. G. BURT

AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEADQUARTERS

4TH SEPTEMBER, 1919 Age 26

Albert Gordon BURT

Albert Gordon Burt was born at Lichfield, Staffordshire, England on 17th August, 1893 to parents Albert and Henrietta Mary Burt (nee Ward).

The 1901 England Census recorded Albert C. Burt as a 7 year old, living with his family at 9 Bird Street, Lichfield, Staffordshire, England. His parents were listed as Albert Burt (Boot Healer, aged 37, born Hardington, Somerset) & Henrietta M. Burt (aged 34, born Lichfield Staffs). Albert was one of three children listed on this Census – Elizabeth M. Burt (aged 14, born Hardington, Somerset), then Albert & Frank E. Burt (aged 5, born Lichfield, Staffs).

The 1911 England Census recorded Albert Gordon Burt as a 17 year old Assistant Master at The Grammar School, Kimbolton, Huntingdon, Huntingdonshire & Cambridgeshire, England.

According to information provided by his mother for the Roll of Honour – Albert Burt came to Australia when he was 18 years old. An "*Albert G. Burt*", Student, aged 19, was a passenger on *Orama* which departed from the port of London, England on 5th July, 1912 bound for Australia.

Albert Gordon Burt was a 22 year old, single, State School Teacher when he enlisted in Melbourne, Victoria on 7th August, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2159 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Harriett Mary Burt, care of Miss N. Ward, 21 Market Street, Lichfield, Staffordshire, England. Albert Burt stated on his Attestation Papers that he had belonged to Walwa Rifle Club for 2 years.

Private Albert Gordon Burt was posted to 22nd Depot Battalion on 4th September, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to 4th Depot Battalion on 11th October, 1915 & promoted to Corporal on 16th October, 1915. Corporal Burt was transferred to 13/3 Reinforcements at Seymour on 3rd December, 1915 then transferred to 15th Reinforcements of 4th Light Horse Regiment at Seymour, Victoria on 28th January, 1916. He was posted as Acting Sergeant on 24th February, 1916.

Private Albert Gordon Burt embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Katuna* (A13) on 9th March, 1916 with the 4th Light Horse Regiment, 15th Reinforcements.

Private Albert Gordon Burt was taken on strength of Light Horse Training Regiment at Tel-el-Kebir from 16th April, 1916.

Private Albert Gordon Burt proceeded to Duty in Egypt from Hospital on 19th April, 1916.

Private Albert Gordon Burt was transferred to 4th Division Cyclists on 27th April, 1916 & was taken on strength at Serapeum the same day.

Private Albert Gordon Burt was promoted Corporal with 4th Division Cyclists on 27th April, 1916.

Australian Cycling Corps

The Australian Cycling Corps was formed in Egypt in 1916 as part of the Australian Imperial Force (AIF), and fought on the Western Front in France and Belgium during World War I. They were used mainly as despatch riders, while also conducting reconnaissance and patrolling.

The cyclist battalions were organised like the infantry, and were mainly used as despatch riders. Later, during the periods of semi-open warfare in 1917 and 1918 they operated in a manner similar to cavalry, conducting reconnaissance and patrolling. However, the nature of trench warfare and the mud and rubble that was often encountered on the battlefield meant that they were mostly unsuited to this role. Other tasks performed included laying communications cabling, traffic control, unloading stores from railway wagons, harvesting crops, and burial of the dead. The soldiers were equipped with a variety of bicycle models made by the Birmingham Small Arms Company, ranging from the Mark I to the Mark IV, and were issued the standard Short Magazine Lee Enfield (SMLE) rifle, which was either attached to the bicycle's down tube, or slung across their back. Lewis guns were also used.

(Wikipedia)

Corporal Albert Gordon Burt was admitted to 13th Field Ambulance on 6th May, 1916 with diarrhoea. He was transferred to 4th Field Ambulance on 7th May, 1916 & discharged to duty on 9th May, 1916.

Corporal Albert Gordon Burt embarked from Alexandria on 2nd June, 1916 on Troopship *Kinfauns Castle* to Join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 8th June, 1916.

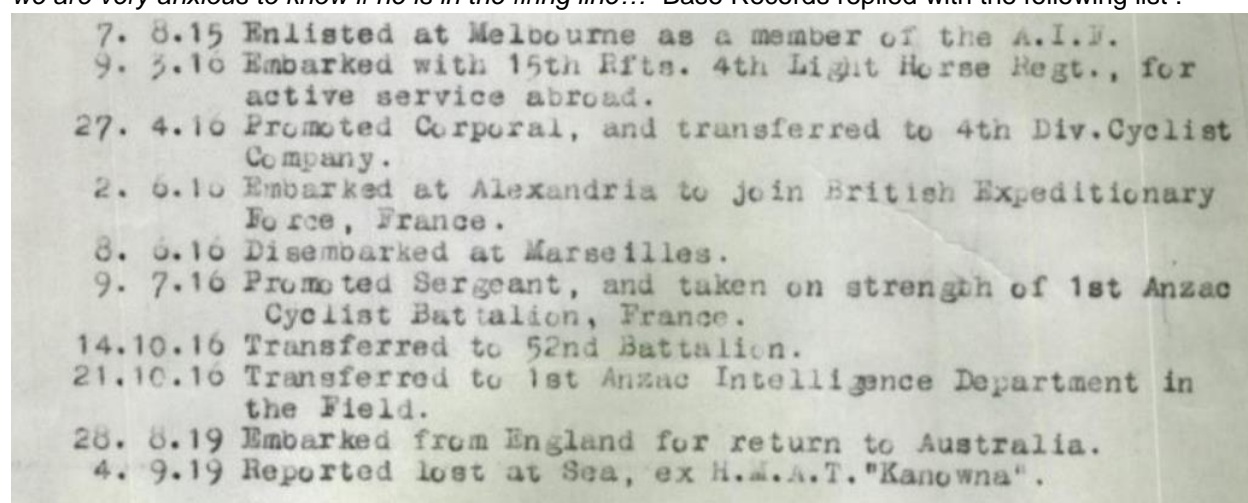
Corporal Albert Gordon Burt was promoted to Sergeant on 9th July, 1916 while posted in France with 4th Cyclists.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was transferred to 1st Anzac Cycle Battalion on 9th July, 1916 from 4th Division Cyclist Company. He was taken on strength of 1st Anzac Cyclist Battalion on 9th July, 1916 in France.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was transferred to 13th Brigade – 52nd Battalion on 14th October, 1916.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was transferred from 52nd Battalion to 1st Anzac Intelligence Dept on 21st October, 1916.

M. L. Agg, of "Kalara" 31 Victoria St., Coburg, Victoria, wrote to Base Records in February, 1917 asking for any information about No. 2159 Sergeant A. Gordon Burt, 1st Anzac Cycle Battalion, 1st Anzac Army Corps, France "As we are very anxious to know if he is in the firing line..." Base Records replied with the following list :



7. 8.15 Enlisted at Melbourne as a member of the A.I.F.
9. 3.10 Embarked with 15th Rfts. 4th Light Horse Regt., for active service abroad.
27. 4.10 Promoted Corporal, and transferred to 4th Div. Cyclist Company.
2. 6.10 Embarked at Alexandria to join British Expeditionary Force, France.
8. 6.10 Disembarked at Marseilles.
9. 7.10 Promoted Sergeant, and taken on strength of 1st Anzac Cyclist Battalion, France.
14.10.16 Transferred to 52nd Battalion.
21.10.16 Transferred to 1st Anzac Intelligence Department in the Field.
28. 8.19 Embarked from England for return to Australia.
4. 9.19 Reported lost at Sea, ex H.M.A.T. "Kanowna".

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was attached to 1st Anzac Headquarters as Intelligence Police on 20th February, 1917 in France.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was detached for duty with 1st Anzac Headquarters on 13th April, 1917.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was accidentally injured. He had contusions & lacerated wounds to head & a sprained ankle. An Inquiry was held on 19th August, 1917 with the date of the injury being 19th August, 1917 & occurring between Hazebrouck & Morbecque. The nature of his duty was "finding a motor cycle under orders of C.O. – Riding a motor cycle conveying important message from 1st Anzac Headquarters to 1st Anzac Cyclist Battalion." The Inquiry found that Sergeant Burt was not to blame.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was admitted to Hospital on 20th August, 1917. He was admitted to New Zealand Stationary Hospital at Hazebrouck on 20th August, 1917 with abrasions to Head, elbow, & sprained ankle. Sergeant Burt was transferred to 7th Canadian Stationary Hospital in France on 20th August, 1917. He was discharged to duty from 7th Canadian Stationary Hospital on 18th September, 1917.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt rejoined his Unit from hospital on 19th September, 1917.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was sent sick to Hospital on 6th November, 1917. He was admitted to 3rd Australian Field Ambulance on 6th November, 1917 with an injury to a finger on his right hand. Sergeant Burt was transferred to 17th Casualty Clearing Station on 6th November, 1917 then transferred to Ambulance Train 34 the same day. He was admitted to 22nd General Hospital in France on 7th November, 1917 then transferred to Hospital Ship *Peiter de Connick* on 10th November, 1917 with an injury to right hand for transfer to England.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was admitted to 1st Eastern General Hospital, Cambridge, England on 10th November, 1917 with an injury to his finger (slight). He was discharged to furlo from 21st December, 1917 & was then to report to No. 4 Command Depot at Hurdcott, Wiltshire, England on 4th January, 1918.

A "Registration, Alteration, or Change of Next-of-Kin and Address" form was completed on 1st December, 1917 for 2159 A. G. Burt of "1st Anzac Corps Intell Police". The next-of-Kin was previously registered as his Mother (no name or address recorded). The next-of-kin was now changed to Mother – Mrs Henrietta M. Burt c/o Miss W. Ward, 21 Market St, Lichfield, Staffordshire.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt proceeded overseas to France via Southampton on 17th January, 1918 from Overseas Training Brigade at Longbridge Deverill, Wiltshire, England. He was marched in to A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) at Rouelles, France on 18th January, 1918 from England. Sergeant Burt was marched out to his Unit on 25th January, 1918 & rejoined Intelligence Unit in France on 25th January, 1918.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was sent sick to Hospital on 26th August, 1918. He was admitted to 2nd Australian Field Ambulance on 26th August, 1918 with Dysentery then transferred to 12th Casualty Clearing Station. Sergeant Burt was admitted to 12th Casualty Clearing Station on 27th August, 1918 cause – N.Y.D. (not yet determined). He was transferred to Ambulance Train 5 on 1st September, 1918 & admitted to 25th Stationary Hospital at Rouen, France on 2nd September, 1918 with Dysentery. Sergeant Burt was transferred to 2nd Convalescent Depot on 11th September, 1918.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was transferred from 2nd Convalescent Depot & admitted to 6th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 16th September, 1918 with a sprained ankle due to an accident. He was discharged from 52nd Stationary Hospital to Base Depot on 28th September, 1918.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt "from Cyclist B Dep in France" on 2nd October, 1918.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was on leave to UK from 22nd October, 1918. He rejoined his Unit from leave on 10th November, 1918.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was admitted to 2nd Australian Field Ambulance on 23rd January, 1919 with Debility. He was transferred & admitted to 55th Casualty Clearing Station on 31st January, 1919 then transferred to Ambulance Train 19 on 2nd February, 1919. Sergeant Burt was admitted to 2nd Australian General Hospital in France on 4th February, 1919. He was transferred to England on Hospital Ship *Jan Breydel* on 13th February, 1919 with Neurasthenia and Debility.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was admitted to St. Dunstan's Hospital at Fulham England on 13th February, 1919. He was transferred & admitted to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital at Dartford, England on 12th March, 1919 with Neurasthenia from Fulham Hospital.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was discharged from 3rd Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford & granted furlo from 12th April, 1919. He was then to report to 2nd Training Battalion at Codford on 26th April, 1919.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt had his leave extended from 26th April, 1919 to 3rd May, 1919.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was A.W.L. (Absent without Leave) from 3rd May, 1919.

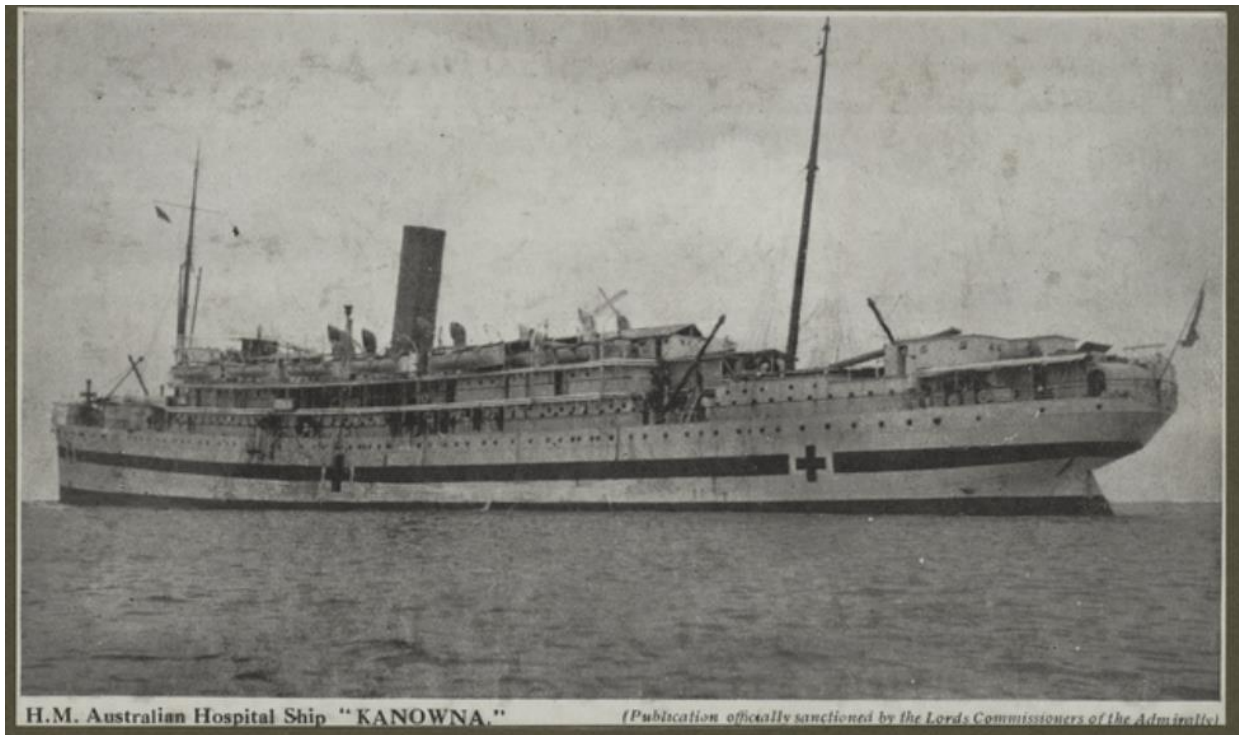
Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was granted Leave from 3rd June, 1919 to 2nd October, 1919 without pay. Reason – Family. 21 Market Street, Lichfield, Staffordshire, England.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was recorded as "Strength. T.D.S of A.I.F. Headquarters, London – Now Military Exempt in UK" from 3rd June, 1919.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was admitted to 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Dartford, England on 9th July, 1919 with Influenza while on Leave. He was transferred to Australian Corps Headquarters on ___ of extra leave from 10th July, 1919.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was to be returned to Australia from London, England on Troopship *Kanowna* on 28th August, 1919.

According to information supplied by his mother for the Roll of Honour – Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt “was badly injured in an accident while serving in France from which he never fully recovered his mental power.”



H.M. Australian Hospital Ship "KANOWNA." (Publication officially sanctioned by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty)

H04222

Troopship *Kanowna*

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was lost overboard from H.M.A.T. *Kanowna* while at Sea on 4th September, 1919. He was found missing by a Court of Inquiry held on 5th September, 1919 & struck off strength as from 4th September, 1919.

A Court Of Enquiry was held on 5th September, 1919 at Sea on H.M.A.T. *Kanowna* for the purpose of determining

1. Cause of the disappearance of No 2159 Sgt. Albert Gordon BURT, A.C.H.Q. during the night of 3/4th September 1919
2. If any person or persons are to blame for this disappearance.

The Court having assembled proceeds to take the evidence:-

1st Witness. Sister Donaldson ^{7/4} M.B., ^{A.A.N.S.} being duly sworn states :-

I was Night Sister in charge of "G" Ward on the night of 3/4th September in which Sgt. Burt A.G., was a patient. About 1.30 a.m. the Orderly reported to me that Sgt. Burt was missing. I had previously seen him in bed at 1 a.m. Before midnight Sgt. Burt was very restless and had frequently got out of his bed and complained of being hungry. After being given some food he went back to bed and seemed perfectly quiet and normal. His previous conduct and manner did not lead me to believe that he required special watching, or at any time contemplated doing anything unusual.

.....*Donaldson*.....Sister.

2nd Witness.

^{7.14 F.A.M.B.}
No 5267 Sgt. Elliott H.A. being duly sworn states :-

I am WardMaster for the Ship and my tour of duty starts at 8 p.m. and finishes at 7 a.m. Between 1.15 & 1.30 a.m. on the morning of the 4th September I discovered that Sgt. Burt was missing from his cot. I had previously seen him at midnight, when I gave him some supper; he was then in his cot.

During the night in question I had seen Sgt. Burt on deck after 10 p.m. and had ordered him below as it was after "Lights Out". From my own observations I had no reason to believe that Sgt. Burt contemplated suicide or anything of the sort.

Immediately I missed Sgt. Burt I reported the fact to the Sister in Charge, Sister Donaldson, and a search was made over the ship.

.....*H.A. Elliott*.....Sgt.

3rd Witness.

^{7.2 d.c.s.}
No 7505a Pte. Haynes H. being duly sworn states :-

I am Night Nursing Warden in "G" Ward. On the night of 3/4 th September at about 1.15 a.m. I missed Sgt. Burt from his cot and reported the matter to Sgt. Elliott. Previously, at about 1.5 a.m. I had seen Sgt. Burt lying down in his cot. He was quiet.

Whilst attending to a patient I had seen Sgt. Burt leave his cot at 10.30 p.m. and again at 12.45 a.m., and on each occasion I followed him up and brought him down.

.....*H. Haynes*.....Pte.

4th Witness.

No 2862a Pte. Tallon S.G. being duly ~~sworn~~ sworn states :-

I am a patient in the General Hospital on the Main Deck. About 12.45 a.m. on the night of 3/4th September I helped Pte. Haynes to bring down Sgt. Burt from the deck, and saw him get into his cot.

.....*S.G. Tallon*.....Pte.

Witness.

^{7.2. A.M.C.}
Captain Wilton A.C., being duly sworn states :-

I am M.O. in Charge of "G" Ward. Sgt. Burt, who was a patient in "G" Ward was suffering from debility following Influenza, in which the most marked feature was mental dullness. I was of opinion that he was very susceptible to suggestion and his treatment was based on these lines. I had no reason to suspect suicidal tendencies.

.....*A.C. Wilton*.....Capt.

6th Witness.

Major Fraser ^{7.8. A.M.C.} A.C., being duly sworn states :-

I am Senior Medical Officer on H.M.A.T. Kanowna. I examined Sgt. Burt on the afternoon of the 3rd September and diagnosed his condition as encephalitis following influenza, the chief features being mental and physical slowness. At my examination he did not make any statement suggesting that he intended to take his life. He complained that he was unable to walk, but he walked out of my office slowly and clumsily. In my opinion it is quite possible that he made his way to the deck and tripped over some obstacle and so fell overboard.

A. B. Fraser
.....Major.

7th Witness.

Captain Landon ^{7.8. A.M.C.} G.F.S. being duly sworn states :-

I am M.O. in charge of Wards "H" and "E". Sgt. Burt was a patient under me for over two months at No 3 A.A.H., Dartford. He was suffering from Debility after Influenza: he was very slow mentally and obsessed with the idea that he was becoming progressively weaker. Under treatment he improved to some extent and never gave any authentic reason to suggest suicidal tendencies.

With regard to para 30 of A.F. B.179 the "constant attendance of another person", I took to mean he required company to prevent morbid introspection as far as possible.

A. Landon
.....Capt.

Finding.

The Court having duly considered the evidence find that :-

1. An exhaustive search has been made without any trace being found, and we are of opinion that he has fallen overboard, whether accidentally or intentionally it is impossible to determine. In virtue of his complaint it is possible that in walking along the deck he stumbled and so fell overboard.
2. There is no blame attachable to anyone the staff were alert and at their post.

J. L. Major Major, }
W. B. Major, }
W. Jack Capt, }
 Members

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt is commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England – Panel 105 (Addenda) as he has no grave. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Newspaper item – Lichfield Mercury, Staffordshire, England – 19 September, 1919:

LICHFIELD SOLDIER'S DEATH AT SEA

Sergeant A. Gordon Burt, of the Australian Intelligence Corps, who has died at sea, was the eldest son of the late Mr A. Burt and Mrs Burt, of Lichfield. He was educated at Aston Grammar School and King Edward's Grammar School, Stratford-on-Avon (Shakespeare's old school). Being a keen athlete, he soon won his first eleven and fifteen colours and did good work for his school. After gaining his Senior Oxford certificate, he went as junior master to Kimbolton College. While there he was led to consider mission work abroad, and in July, 1911, he sailed for Wangarratta, Victoria, to study at St. Columbo's Hall.

Soon after war commenced he joined up in Australia, and after a short training sailed for Egypt. In 1916 he was moved to France and saw much active service. In January last his health gave way through strain and the after effects of a bad accident while carrying important dispatches. As progress to recovery was slow a sea voyage was advised, and he sailed on August 28th. The sad news of his death by cable came as a great shock as it was hoped the voyage would prove a complete cure.

Mrs Burt's younger son (Frank) fell in action while leading his men in October last.

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt requested in his Will, dated 24th July, 1917, that all his real & personal estate be bequeathed to Henrietta Mary Burt (mother) of 21 Market St, Lichfield, Staffs, England & “*in the event of her death to Enid Mary Burt (Sister) address above mentioned.*”

The Australian Mutual Provident Society, Melbourne, Victoria wrote to Base Records on 15th January, 1919 in regards to Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt requesting “*I shall be glad if you will kindly let me have a certificate of the movements of Mr A. G. Burt on active service showing*

- 1. the date of his embarkation from Australia;*
- 2. whether he went direct to England or to one of the theatres of war and is so which;*
- 3. if he has been in England, the dates between which he was there.*

For purposes of identification I may say that Mr Burt was born at Lichfield England on 17th August 1893. Thank you in anticipation of an early reply, as I desire to communicate with the Society's London Office in regard to the matter, if possible by next mail.”

The Australian Mutual Provident Society, Melbourne, Victoria wrote to Base Records on 29th January, 1920 in regards to Policy No. 862,715. Sgt A. G. Burt (deceased) requesting the Defence Department's official Certificate of Death. The Death Certificate was sent to The Manager, A.M.P. Society by Base Records on 3rd February, 1920.

The Australian Mutual Provident Society, Melbourne, Victoria wrote to Base Records on 7th February, 1920 in regards to Policy No. 862,715. Sgt A. G. Burt (decd) stating “*I am in receipt of your letter of the 3rd inst. with Certificate of Death as advised, for which I thank you. I note that deceased was lost at sea and presume that a Court of Inquiry was held concerning the occurrence. If such were the case I shall be pleased if you could forward me copies of the depositions of the witnesses and of the finding of the Court.*” Base Records replied on 13th February, 1920 & sent copies of proceedings of a Court of Enquiry in connection with the death of the late No. 2159 Sergeant A. G. Burt, Australian Corps Headquarters.

The Office of the Curator of Estates of Deceased Persons, Melbourne, Victoria wrote to Base Records on 3rd July, 1920 in regards to “*No. 2159 A. G. Burt, A.G.H.Q. deceased*” stating “*I am administering the estate of the abovenamed deceased soldier and the Australian Mutual Provident Society has requested me to furnish some evidence as to where the death took place. I understand that the deceased disappeared at Sea and I shall be glad if you can give me some information as to where the vessel was when he disappeared (distance from port). Do your records contain anything respecting the circumstances under which the deceased disappeared?*”

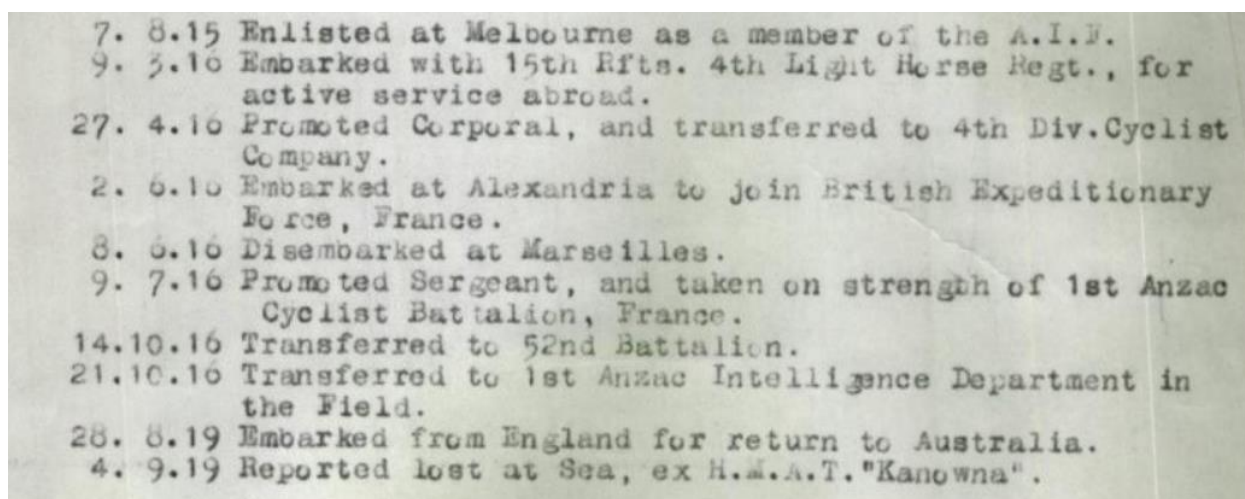
Base Records replied on 7th July, 1920 stating "... the only clue contained on the records is that the boat was seven days out from England when the fatality occurred, as he embarked per H.T. "Kanowna" on 28.8.19."

The Office of the Curator of Estates of Deceased Persons, Melbourne, Victoria wrote to Base Records on 5th December, 1921 requesting the "Certificate of death of the late Albert Gordon Burt. I require the Certificate for the mother to enable her to obtain payment of a sum of money standing to the credit of her late son in the Bank at Lichfield, England."

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Sergeant Burt's mother – Mrs Burt, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque issued in England in December, 1922).

Mrs H. M. Burt, 21 Market Street, Lichfield, Staffs, England, mother of the late Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt, wrote to Base Records on 3rd July, 1923 requesting "full particulars of his war service from the time he joined up; this information is needed for a book in connection with his old school & I should be gratefully obliged with same as quickly as possible."

Base Records replied to Mrs Burt on 16th August, 1923 with the following list relating to the service of her son, the late No. 2159 Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt.



7. 8.15 Enlisted at Melbourne as a member of the A.I.F.
9. 3.16 Embarked with 15th Rfts. 4th Light Horse Regt., for active service abroad.
27. 4.16 Promoted Corporal, and transferred to 4th Div. Cyclist Company.
2. 6.16 Embarked at Alexandria to join British Expeditionary Force, France.
8. 6.16 Disembarked at Marseilles.
9. 7.16 Promoted Sergeant, and taken on strength of 1st Anzac Cyclist Battalion, France.
14.10.16 Transferred to 52nd Battalion.
21.10.16 Transferred to 1st Anzac Intelligence Department in the Field.
28. 8.19 Embarked from England for return to Australia.
4. 9.19 Reported lost at Sea, ex H.M.A.T. "Kanowna".

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt – service number 2159, aged 26, of Australian Headquarters Corps. He was the son of Albert and Henrietta Mary Burt, of 21 Market St., Lichfield, England.

Sergeant A. G. Burt is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 2.

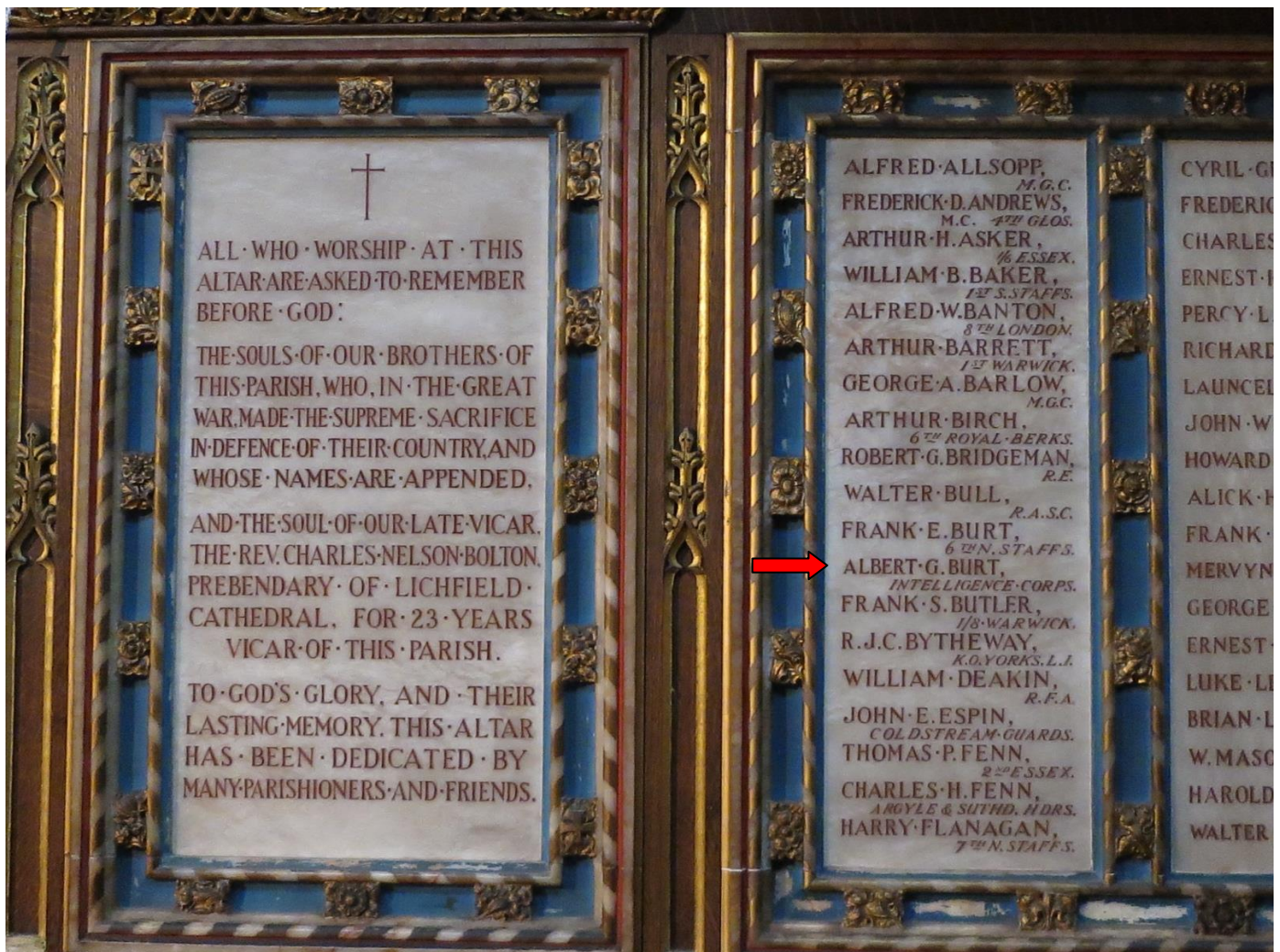


Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Albert G. Burt is remembered on Roll of Honour at St. Mary's in the Market Square, Lichfield, Staffordshire, England.



Roll of Honour at St. Mary's Lichfield (Photos from War Memorials Online UK)



A. G. Burt is remembered on the Lichfield War Memorial, located in Garden of Remembrance, Bird Street, Lichfield, Staffordshire, England.



Garden of Remembrance



Lichfield War Memorial (Photos from War Memorials Online UK)



Lichfield War Memorial (Photos from War Memorials Online UK)

(83 pages of Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt's 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, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P05248.012

Sergeant Albert Gordon Burt



Newspaper Notices

MILITARY AQUATIC CARNIVAL

SEYMOUR – There was a large attendance at the military aquatic carnival arranged by officers and men at the camp and held on the Goulburn River on Saturday. Many of the events created great amusement, notably boxing on a raft in midstream and the Seymour Derby.....The following are the winners:-.....Fancy Diving: Simpson, 1; Bongeri, 2. Seymour Derby; Private Dixon on Miser, 1. Captain Webster on Pranter, 2; Sergeant A. G. Burt on Posinatuus, 3.....

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 22 February, 1916)

WAR TAKES TOLL

CASUALTY LIST 463 ISSUED

ILL

Sgt A. G. Bury, England

(*The Herald*, Melbourne, Victoria – 16 April, 1919)

VICTORIAN CASUALTIES

The names of the following Victoria soldiers who have died on service were included in a casualty list issued yesterday by the Defence department:-

Sgt. A. G. BURT, England, (drowned, 4/8/19)

(*The Argus* Melbourne, Victoria – 25 September, 1919)

MISSIONARY'S DEATH

News has been received at Lichfield of the death at sea of Sergeant A. Gordon Burt, of the Australian Intelligence Corps, eldest son of the late Mr A. Burt and Mrs Burt, of Lichfield.

Sergeant Burt, who was educated at Aston Grammar School and King Edward's Grammar School, Stratford-on-Avon, was a keen athlete, and did good work for his school. When war broke out he was doing mission work in Victoria.

(*Birmingham Daily Gazette*, Birmingham, Warwickshire, England – 26 September, 1919)

LICHFIELD

DIED AT SEA – News has been received of the death at sea of Sergt. A. Gordon Burt., of the Australian Intelligence Corps, eldest son of the late Mr A. Burt and Mrs Burt, of Lichfield. Sergt. Burt, on leaving school, became junior master at Kimbolton College, and while he was there consented to undertake mission work abroad, and in 1911 sailed for Wangaratta, Victoria, to study at St. Columbo's Hall. When war broke out, he joined the Australian Forces, and saw much fighting in France. The deceased's younger brother fell in action while leading his men in October, 1918.

(*Staffordshire Advertiser*, Staffordshire, England – 4 October, 1919)

ESTATES OF DECEASED PERSONS

The Curator of the Estates of Deceased Persons has obtained rules to administer the estates of the following deceased persons under Act No. 3614:.....Albert Gordon Burt, A.I.F., formerly Wangaratta. 4th September, 1919, £329 6/6.....

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 19 June, 1920)

COUNTRY NEWS

WANGARATTA – The annual reunion of past and present students of St. Columbia's College was held on Tuesday. Bishop Armstrong dedicated a tablet to the memory of Albert Gordon Burt, a form student of the college, who was accidentally drowned while returning to Australia after the cessation of hostilities. After breakfast the annual business meeting of the Old Students' Union was held.

(The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 17 August, 1921)

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.

Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England

The Hollybrook Memorial is situated in Southampton (Hollybrook) Cemetery behind the plot of First World War graves near the main entrance.

The Hollybrook Memorial commemorates by name almost 1,900 servicemen and women of the Commonwealth land and air forces* whose graves are not known, many of whom were lost in transports or other vessels torpedoed or mined in home waters (*Officers and men of the Commonwealth's navies who have no grave but the sea are commemorated on memorials elsewhere). The memorial also bears the names of those who were lost or buried at sea, or who died at home but whose bodies could not be recovered for burial. Almost one third of the names on the memorial are those of officers and men of the South African Native Labour Corps, who died when the troop transport Mendi sank in the Channel following a collision on 21 February 1917. Other vessels sunk with significant loss of life were: HS Anglia, a hospital ship sunk by mine off Dover on 17 November 1915. SS Citta Di Palermo, an Italian transport carrying Commonwealth troops, sunk by mine off Brindisi on 8 January 1916. In rescuing survivors, two Royal Naval Otranto drifters were themselves mined and blown up. HMTs Donegal and Warilda, ambulance transports torpedoed and sunk between Le Havre and Southampton on 17 April 1917 and 3 August 1918. HS Glenart Castle, a hospital ship torpedoed and sunk off Lundy on 26 February 1918. SS Galway Castle, torpedoed and sunk in the Atlantic on 12 September 1918. RMS Leinster, the Irish mail boat, torpedoed and sunk in the Irish Sea on 10 October 1918. Among those commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial is Field Marshall Lord Kitchener, Secretary of State for War, who died when the battle cruiser HMS Hampshire was mined and sunk off Scapa Flow on 5 June 1916.

The memorial was designed by T. Newham and unveiled by Sir William Robertson on 10 December 1930.

There are approximately 162 Australian World War 1 Service Personnel commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England. *(Information & photos from CWGC)*



Cross of Sacrifice



Name Panels behind Cross of Sacrifice



CWGC Graves in Hollybrook Cemetery with Cross of Sacrifice & Hollybrook Memorial

(Photo from CWGC)

Photo of Serjeant A. G. Burt's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England.



(Photo by charlie – Find a Grave)