

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



Lest We Forget

World War 1



21472 PRIVATE

W. L. DOBSON

AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

23RD AUGUST, 1918

Walter Leeds DOBSON

Walter Leeds Dobson was born in Adelaide, South Australia on 29th October, 1880 to parents David & Susannah Dobson (nee Dunn).

Walter Leeds Dobson attended Flinders Street Public School, Adelaide, South Australia.

Walter Leeds Dobson was a 38 year old, single, Civil Servant from Norwood, South Australia when he enlisted on 9th August, 1917 at Adelaide, South Australia with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his father – Mr D. Dobson, 63A Queens Street, Norwood, South Australia (previous address was listed as 22 Wells St, Stepney, South Australia).

Private Walter Leeds Dobson was posted to "B" Company at Mitcham from 4th September, 1917 for recruit training. He was admitted to Mitcham Clearing Hospital on 4th September, 1917 with Post ___ & was discharged to duty on 6th September, 1917. Private Dobson was hospitalised at Mitcham Clearing Hospital from 12th September, 1917 to 15th September, 1917 with Vaccinia. He was admitted to Mitcham Clearing Hospital on 20th September, 1917 with Influenza & was discharged to duty on 22nd September, 1917. Private Dobson was transferred to "C" Company on 26th September, 1917 then on 10th October, 1917 he was transferred to A.A.M.C. (Australian Army Medical Corps.) He was transferred on 4th February, 1918 to October Reinforcements then back to A.A.M.C. Base on 25th February, 1918. Private Dobson was transferred to No. 5 Sea Transport on 26th July, 1918.

Private Walter Leeds Dobson, Service number 21472, entrained on 26th July, 1918 for 2nd Military District for embarkation. He embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on SS *Gaika* on 30th July, 1918 with the No. 5 Section, Sea Transport Staff.

Private Walter Leeds Dobson was admitted to Ship's Hospital while at Sea on 13th August, 1918 – NYD (not yet determined).

Private Walter Leeds Dobson died at 3.30 am on 23rd August, 1918 at Sea on board SS *Gaika* from Facial Carbuncle.

The Senior Medical Officer, H.M.A.T. *Gaika* wrote the following Death Certificate on 23rd August, 1918: *"I certify that No 21472 Pte Dobson, Walter Leeds (of No. 5 Sea Transport) died at 3.50 am on the 23rd day of August 1918, at sea, on board H.M.A. Transport "Gaika". The cause of death was Facial Carbuncle."*

Private Walter Leeds Dobson was buried at Sea at 9.30 am on 23rd August, 1918 from SS *Gaika*. He is commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England as he has no grave. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

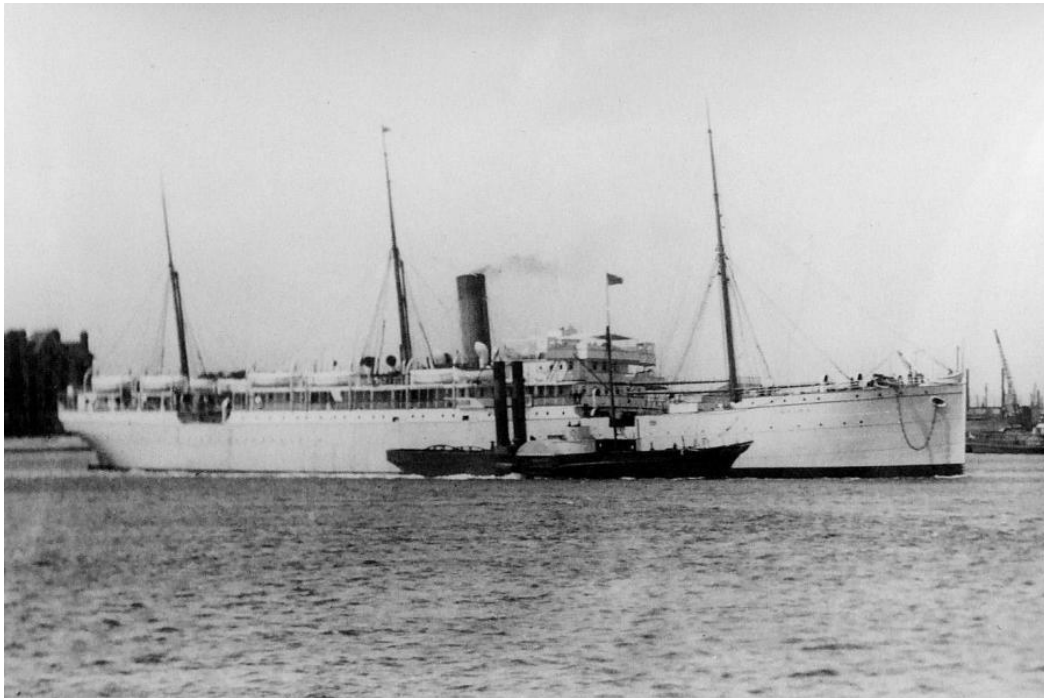
The Officer Commanding, Troopship *Gaika*, wrote to The Secretary for Defence, Melbourne, Victoria on 30th August, 1918: *"I beg to report that on 13th August 1918 No 21472 Pte Dobson W.L. of No 5 Sea Transport Section (S) was admitted to Ship's Hospital suffering from Facial Carbuncle. On 17th his condition became serious, and at 3.50 am on 23rd inst. he died."*

He was buried at sea at 9.30 am the same day. Capt. Chaplain Deasey officiated at the funeral Rites. A firing party was provided by the 4th G.S.R. (S). A Cablegram announcing his death was despatched to you from DURBAN on 29th inst.

The effects of the late Pte Dobson will be handed in due course to the Commandant, A.I.F. Headquarters, London, together with a copy of this report."

The Officer Commanding, Troopship *Gaika*, wrote to The Secretary for Defence, Melbourne, Victoria in October, 1918: *"In accordance with A.I.F. Standing Orders 41 I herewith submit a report on the voyage of H.M.T. "GAIKA" from Sydney to xxx*

CASUALTIES. No. 21472 Pte Dobson of No. 5 Sea Transport Section died from Facial Carbuncle, and was buried at Sea. His effects were handed to A.I.F. Representative at CAPE TOWN."



Gaika

Private Walter Leeds Dobson requested in his Will, dated 18th January, 1918 that in the event of his death the whole of his property and effects to be given to his father David Dobson of Queen Street, Norwood, South Australia.

Private Walter Leeds Dobson was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Dobson's father – Mr D. Dobson, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent September, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Walter Leeds Dobson – service number 21472, of Australian Army Medical Corps. No family details are listed.

Private W. L. Dobson is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 182.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

W. L. Dobson is remembered on the Norwood War Memorial, Osmond Terrace & The Parade, Norwood, South Australia.



Norwood War Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia)



W. L. Dobson is remembered on the Adelaide Commissioner of Public Works Roll of Honour, located in Torrens Building, Victoria Square, Adelaide, South Australia.



Adelaide Commissioner of Public Works Roll of Honour (Photos from VWMA – Faithe Jones)



W. L. Dobson is remembered on the National Soldiers Memorial in Adelaide. The Adelaide National War Memorial commemorates those from South Australia that served in the First World War. The names of those that died are listed inside the Memorial, which is located on the corner of North Terrace & Kintore Avenue, Adelaide.



National War Memorial – Adelaide (Photos by Bilby)

(47 pages of Private Walter Leeds Dobson'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



Newspaper Notices

ANSWERED THE CALL

ENLISTMENTS

At the Town Hall Recruiting Depot on Wednesday 11 volunteers for active service were accepted....

On Thursday 10 were accepted, 3 unfit, and 3 deferred.

The following men enlisted on Thursday:-Messrs W. J. White, clerk;.....W. L. Dobson, Civil servant.

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia – 10 August, 1917)

433rd CASUALTY LIST

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Died Other Causes

2172 Pte W. L. DOBSON, Norwood, 30/8/18, illness

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 19 October, 1918)

CASUALTY LIST, No. 449

Died Other Causes

Pte W. L. Dobson, Norwood

(Port Pirie Recorder, South Australia – 2 December, 1918)

CONCERNING PEOPLE

The following probates and letters of administration are notified in The Weekly Trade Gazette:- Probates -
Letters of Administration -Walter L. Dobson, Stepney, £650;.....

(The Register, Adelaide, South Australia – 24 February, 1919)

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.

Private W. L. Dobson does not have a Headstone.

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



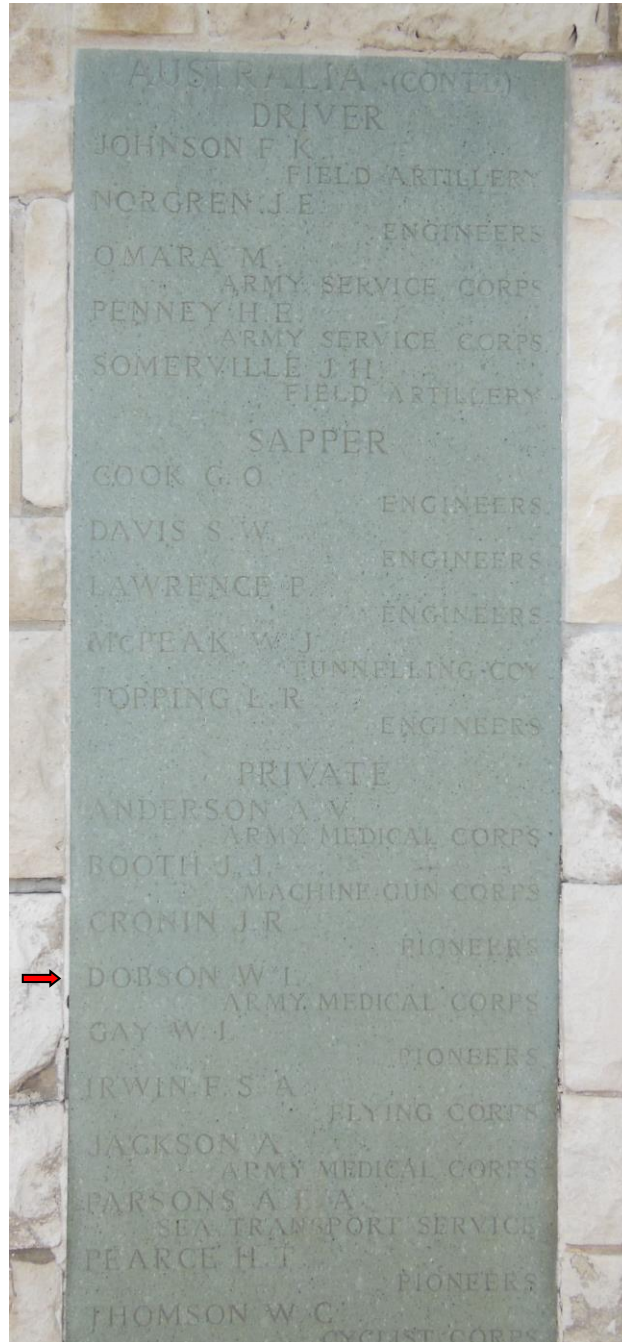
Name Panels behind Cross of Sacrifice (Photo from CWGC)



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

(Photo from CWGC)

Photo of Private W. L. Dobson's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England.



(Photo by julia&keld – Find a Grave)

