

**Willesden Jewish Cemetery,
Willesden, Brent, London
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



SECOND LIEUTENANT

Z. E. FREADMAN

AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS

9TH SEPTEMBER, 1917 Age 22

Zavel Ephraim FREADMAN

Ephraim Freadman was born in Carlton, Melbourne, Victoria on 21st January, 1895 to parents Jacob and Miriam (Rachel) Freadman (nee Greenbaum).

Zavel Ephraim Freadman attended Melbourne Continuation School. The School started in 1905 as the Melbourne Continuation School, the first State Secondary School in Victoria & was renamed as Melbourne High School in 1912.

Zavel Ephraim Freadman had been apprenticed for 4 years with Inskip & Kemp, Architects, Melbourne, Victoria.

Rachel Freadman, mother of Zavel Ephraim Freadman, died on 23rd July, 1910 in Melbourne, Victoria.

Zavel Ephraim Freadman was a 22 year old, single, Architectural Draughtsman from 13 Cromwell Road, Hawksburn, Victoria when he enlisted on 23rd December, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Hebrew & his next of kin was listed as his father – Mr Jacob Freadman of “Tamavana,” 13 Cromwell Road, Hawksburn, Victoria.

Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman applied for a Commission in the Australian Flying Corps in December, 1916. His application form stated the following qualifications – *“Passed Junior Public exam of Melbourne University. Served articles as an Architect; 2nd Lieutenant in Senior Cadets, at present Lieutenant in the 49th Infantry. Was 5 mths in Reinforcements Broadmeadows; appointed 2nd Lieutenant in Citizen Forces on 13th April, 1914 (in 60th Inf.)”*

Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman again applied for a Commission in the Australian Flying Corps in January, 1917. He added the following to his application – *“Passed Officer’s Training School, passed Map Reading School, Lieutenant in 49th Inf.”*

Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Omrah (A5)* on 17th January, 1917 with the Australian Flying Corps, No. 4 Squadron “A” Flight & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 27th March, 1917.

Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman was marched in to A.F.C. Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire, England from Australia on 27th March, 1917.

Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman was transferred to No. 71 Squadron A.F.C. at Castle Bromwich, Birmingham, England on 2nd April, 1917.

Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman was on command at 47 Reserve Squadron, Waddington near Lincoln on 13th April, 1917 for instruction.

Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman was on command at Course of Instruction with 45 Training Squadron at Waddington (entered on Casualty Form – Active Service on 8th July, 1917).

Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman of 4 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps was attached to 60 Training Squadron.

Australian Flying Corp

4 Squadron, the last Australian Flying Corp (AFC) Squadron to be formed during the First World War, was established at Point Cook, Victoria, in late October 1916. Fully mobilised by 10 January 1917, the unit embarked for England on 17 January, arriving at Plymouth on 27 March, and was sent for training to Castle Bromwich, near Birmingham. After familiarisation with a variety of aircraft, the squadron was equipped with Sopwith Camel fighters. In the United Kingdom the squadron was designated 71 (Australian) Squadron, Royal Flying Corps (RFC), and would retain this designation until it reverted to its original title on 19 January 1918.

(Extract of No. 4 Squadron, A.F.C. information from the Australian War Memorial)

Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman was piloting (solo) a Royal Aircraft Factory B.E. 2e – serial number B4450 from No. 60 Training Squadron at R.A.F. Scampton, Lincolnshire, England. The plane flat spun which developed into a nose dive. Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman had flown for 14 hours, with solo flying for 2 hours & 5 minutes.

Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman was killed on 9th September, 1917 the result of an Aeroplane accident. (Note - Place of death according to Field Service form states Aerodrome West Common, Lincoln, England however from the Court of Enquiry - witness Captain George Levis stated that "*Lieut. Z. E. Fredman Royal Flying Corps was admitted to his Hospital at 11.45 a.m. on the 9th September, 1917, suffering from fractured skull, the result of flying accident and died at 1 p.m. He was seen by me immediately on arrival here.*")

A Court of Enquiry was held at Scampton on 10th September, 1917 for the purpose of enquiring into the cause of the accident resulting in the death of Lieut. Z. E. Freadman, A.D.C., on 9th September, 1917.

1st.Witness. Lieut. R.E.Cuff. states:-

Lieut. S.E.Freadman was attached to "B" Flight, No. 60 T.S. of which I am in charge. The deceased had had 4½ hours dual instruction on B.E.2E. in my flight. I decided that he was quite fit for his first solo flight at 11.25 a.m. on the 9th. inst. I instructed deceased to do Aerodrome circuits and if he felt confident several landings. The weather conditions were excellent. The machine and engine were in perfect flying condition. The machine was a new one, having only done 48 hours flying since delivery. The deceased officer when taking off, left the ground at stalling point and held the machine in this position until he had reached 200 feet. He then did seven or eight flat circles to the right, the machine being obviously out of control. He gradually lost height and nose dived from about 100 feet.

(Sgd) R.E.Cuff. Lieut.

2nd.Witness. Cadet R.Sly. A.F.C. states:-

I had flown No. B4450. for 30 minutes and did three landings directly before the deceased officer took the machine up. The aeroplane and engine were both in perfect flying condition. This was my solo flight in this type of machine.

(Sgd) 3137. Cadet R. Sly.

3rd. Witness. Cadet G.Rutledge A.F.C. states:-

Lieut. Freadman took the machine off the ground very quickly and appeared to climb very steeply. When between 200 feet and 300 feet the machine appeared to get out of control and commenced to flat spin to the right. It then got its nose down and dived to the ground. I had flown B.E. 2E. No. B4450 earlier in the day and found it in perfect flying condition.

(Sgd) 511. Cadet. G.Rutledge.

4th.Witness. No. 79531. 2/A.M. Maggs, S.F. states:- I was rigger on B.E.2E. No. 4450. I went all over the machine and controls on the morning of 9th. finding all in perfect condition. Lieut. Cuff teste& the machine and reported it in order.

(Sgd) 79531. 2/A.M. S.F.Maggs.

5th.Witness. No. 50857. 2/A.M. Lake C.W. states:-

I was fitter in charge of engine No. W.D. 16034 on B.E. 2E. No.B 4450. I looked over the engine in the morning of Sept. 9th. and checked the clearances. Everything was in order and when Lieut. Cuff ran the engine up it was going 1475. revs on the ground. Both Lieut. Cuff and Cadet Sly reported the engine to be running quite satisfactorily in the air.

(Sgd) 50857. 2/A.M. C.W.Lake,

6th.Witness. This is to certify that Lieut. Z.E.Freadman Royal Flying Corps was admitted to this Hospital at 11.45 a.m. on the 9th. Sept. 1917, suffering from fractured skull. the result of flying accident, and died at 1 p.m. He was seen by me immediately on arrival here.

(Sgd) George Lewis. Capt.

Opinion – *“The Court having considered the evidence is of opinion that accident to B.E. 2E. No. B4450 which led to the death of Lieut. Z. E. Freadman was caused by the Pilot getting into a flat spin which developed into a nose dive which he failed to rectify, and that the machine was in perfect flying condition when taken up by Lieut. Freadman on this Flight. The Court examined the wreckage at the scene of the accident. No information as to the cause of the accident could be obtained from such examination.”*

A death for Zavel E. Freadman, aged 22, was registered in the September quarter, 1917 in the district of Lincoln, Lincolnshire, England.

Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman was buried at 4.30 pm on 12th September, 1917 in Willesden Jewish Cemetery, Willesden, Brent, London, England – Plot number KK. 4 and has a Private Headstone. His death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. From the burial report of Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman - *Coffin was good. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military Funeral, Firing Party being supplied by the London Command, the bearers by Administrative Headquarters, Australian Imperial Force, London and the Gun Carriage by Kensington Barracks. A service was conducted at the graveside by Chaplain Rabbi Lipson, British Army Chaplain. The “Last Post” was sounded by a bugler of the A.I.F. Headquarters London and 8 buglers of the English Regiment. Wreaths were sent by the following:- Officers of No. 37 Training School, R.F.C.; Officers of No. 81 Training School, R.F.C.; Officers of No. 60 Training School, R.F.C.*

The A.I.F. will erect a temporary memorial, in the form of “The Sign of King David” over the grave. The deceased officer was the first to be buried in the Australian Military Burial Ground specially set apart by the United Synagogue at Willesden Jewish Cemetery.

Names of relatives & friends present at the funeral – Cadet T. Aarons, Officers Cadet School (Nephew); Pte S. E. Greenbaum, 8th Bn, A.I.F. (Cousin); Lt J. K. Curwen-Walker, A.F.C.; 2 Lt. N. Fitzgerald-Eager, N.Z. R.F.C.; 2 Lt. J. A. Officer, Canadian R.F.C.

Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Second Lieutenant Freadman's father – Mr J. Freadman, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque sent December, 1922). Base Records wrote to Henry Freadman Esq., 66 Mathoura Road, Toorak, Victoria in November, 1930 advising that they were forwarding *“a printed order form referring to the publication of Willesden Jewish Cemetery Register containing the particulars of your brother....”* Base Records also advised that they had despatched under separate cover the Memorial Plaque & Scroll issued by His Majesty's Government on account of the services of 2nd Lieutenant Z. E. Freadman. *“These mementoes were previously forwarded to the deceased's Father, Mr Jacob Freadman, and returned unclaimed....”*

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman, aged 22, of 4th Sqdn., Australian Flying Corps. He was the son of Jacob and Rachel Freadman. Native of Australia.

Lieutenant Zavel Freadman is remembered in the Melbourne High School Honour Roll book which is on display in the foyer of the school. The Memorial Hall is behind & is a Memorial to the Old Boys and Staff who served in WWI (the school moved in 1927 to a new site).

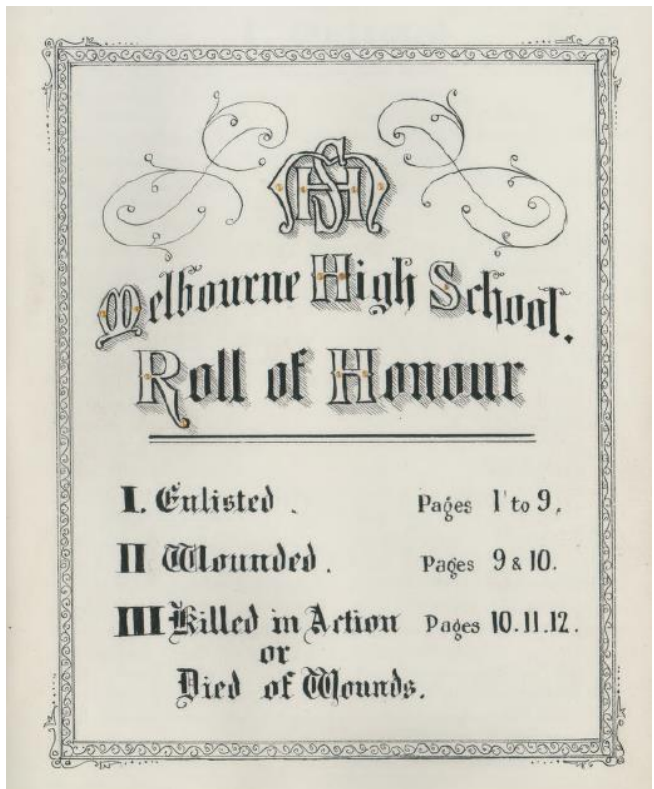
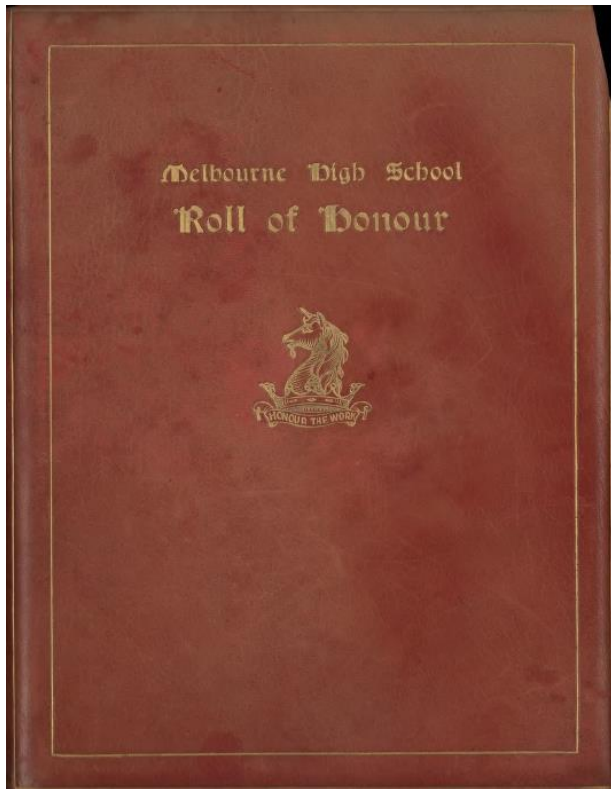
There are 9 former Students of Melbourne High School who served in World War 1 & who are buried in the UK.



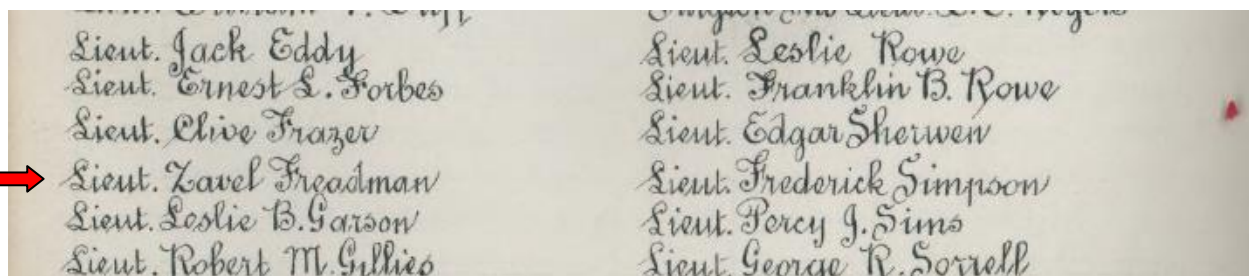
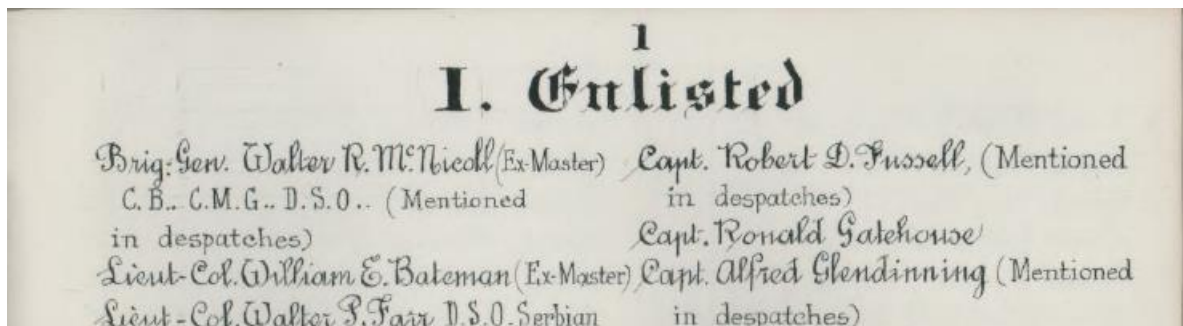
Melbourne High School Honour Roll Book



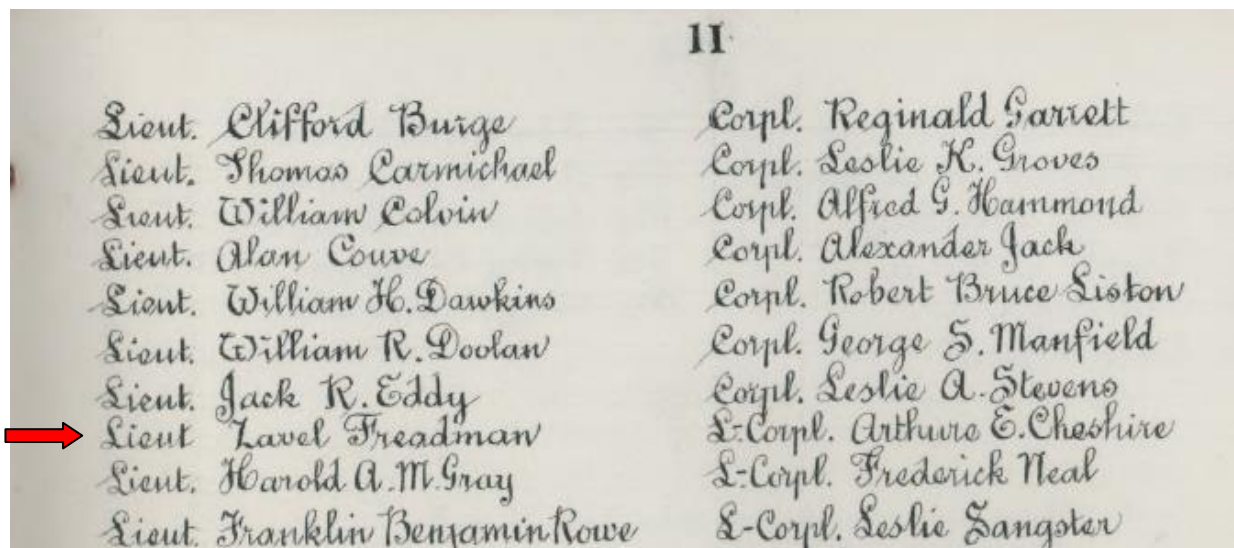
Melbourne High School Memorial Hall



Lieutenant Zavel Freadman is named on the Melbourne High School Honour Roll Book – under those who I. Enlisted (page 2) & under those III. Killed in Action or Died of Wounds (page 11).



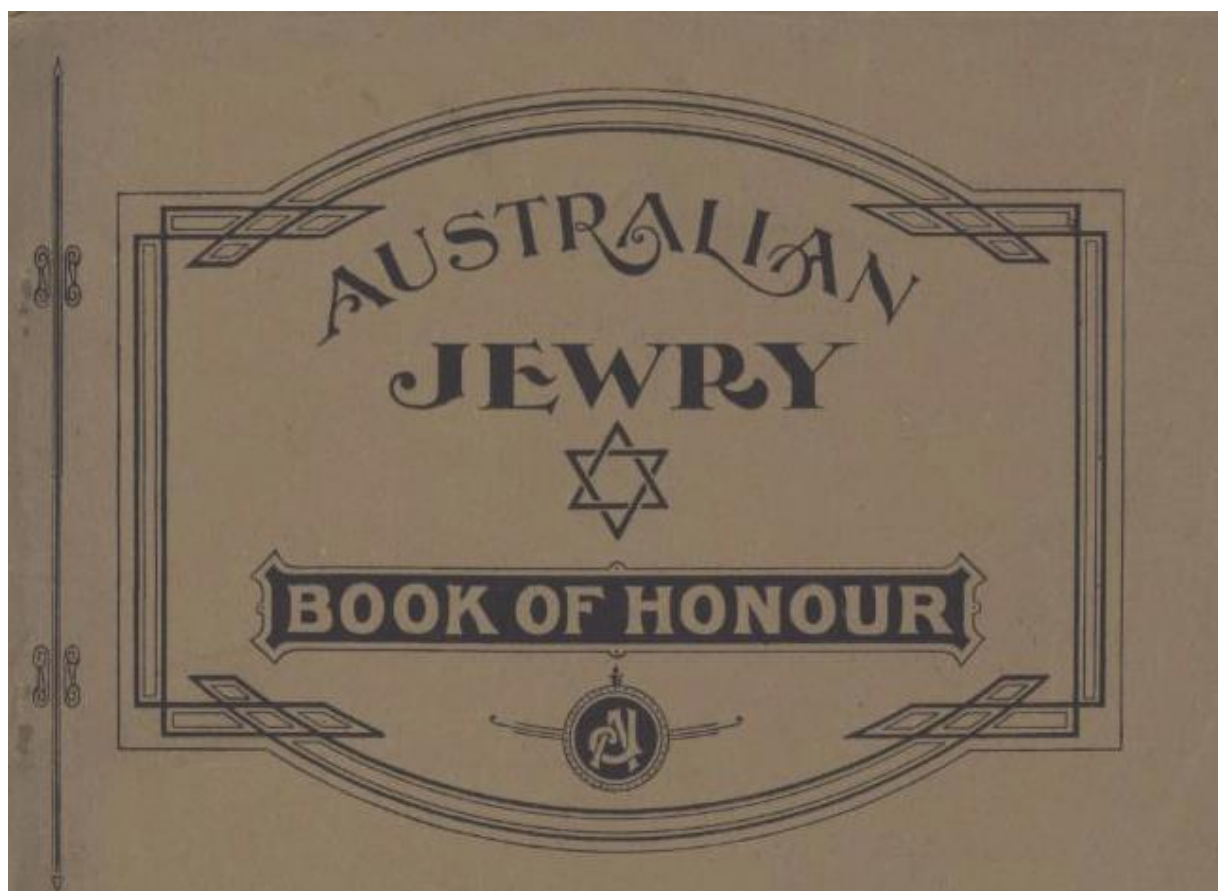
Melbourne High School Honour Roll Book



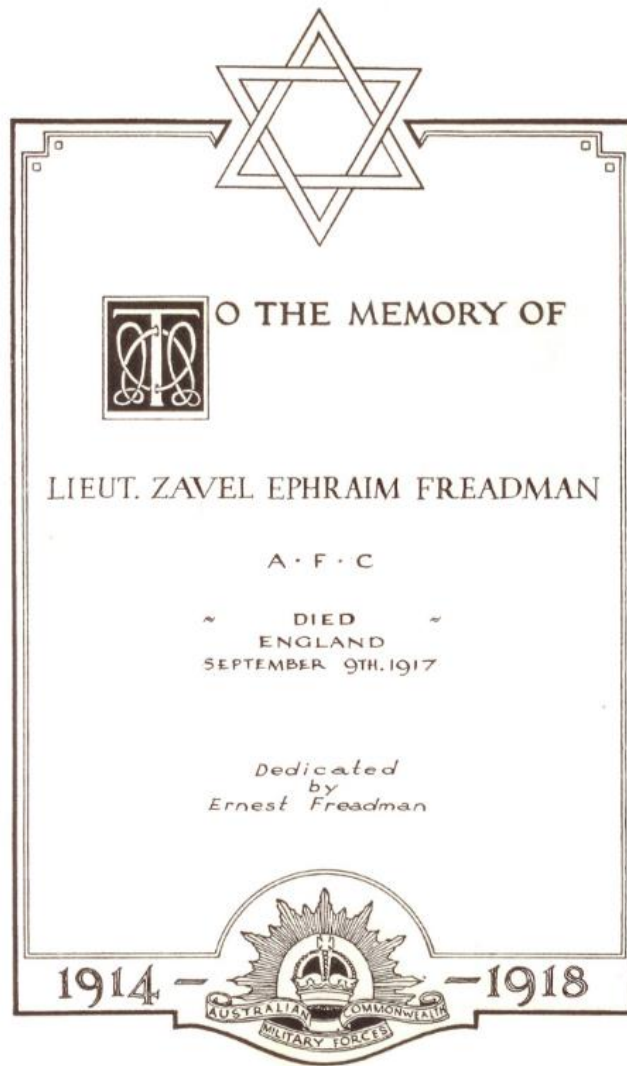
Melbourne High School Honour Roll Book

(Melbourne High School information & photos courtesy of Luke Savage, Honorary School Archivist, Melbourne High School)

2nd Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman is remembered in the Australian Jewry Book of Honour – The Great War, 1914-1918 compiled by Harold Boas.



Australian Jewry Book of Honour – The Great War, 1914-1918



Australian Jewry Book of Honour – The Great War, 1914-1918

E. Freadman is remembered on the Melbourne Hebrew Congregation Honour Board.



Second Lieutenant Z. E. Freadman is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 187.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(51 pages of Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman'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



Second Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman

Newspaper Notices

VICTORIAN ITEMS

Master Zavel Freadman, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs Jacob Freadman, of "Cloumel" Story-street, Parkville, won a "Continuation School Scholarship " and also succeeded in carrying off the "Dauks Scholarship" at the Working Men's College. Master Freadman was the winner of the Gold Medal for Dux of the Faraday-street, Carlton, State School 1909, and also gained the silver medal for rifle shooting in connection with the Cadets for 1909.

(The Hebrew Standard of Australia, Sydney, NSW – 18 February, 1910)

VICTORIAN ITEMS

Private Zavel Freadman, son of Mr Jacob Freadman, of Cromwell road, Hawksburn, who is attached to the Flying Corps of the A.I.F., left with his company last week for the seat of war.

(The Hebrew Standard of Australia, Sydney, NSW – 26 February, 1917)

CENTRAL FLYING SCHOOL

The following officers have been favourably reported upon by the chief instructor as having satisfactorily attended the 6th course of aviation at the Central Flying School:-LieutenantsZ. E. Freadman, 49th Infantry;.....

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 21 February, 1917)

DIED ON SERVICE

FREADMAN (by Cable) – On the 9th September, at Lincoln, England, Flight Lieutenant Zavel Ephraim Freadman (result of aeroplane accident), beloved youngest son of Jacob Freadman, beloved brother Mrs G. Aarons, Mrs J. W. Rosenwax, Samuel, Mrs T. Edmonds, Henry, Louis, Eva, Rose, Ada, Percy Ernest (corporal, A.M.C., on active service), aged 22 years. Minyan, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 13 Cromwell road, Hawksburn, 8 p.m. Special service Bourke Street Synagogue, Saturday, 15th.

May his soul rest in peace.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 11 September, 1917) & (*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 12 September, 1917)

VICTORIAN NEWS

Second Lieut. Zavel E. Freadman, youngest son of Mr Jacob Freadman, of 13 Cromwell-road, Hawksburn, who is attached to the Aviation Corps of the A.I.F., has been killed at Lincoln, on the 9th Sept., as the result of an aeroplane accident.

(*The Hebrew Standard of Australia*, Sydney, NSW – 21 September, 1917)

THE 339th CASUALTY LIST

DIED RESULT OF ACCIDENT

2nd Lieut. Z. E. Freadman, Hawksburn

(*The Mildura Cultivator*, Victoria – 26 September, 1917)

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

Reported by the War Office

Died

2nd Lieut. Z. E. Freadman, Aus. F.C.

(*Flight Global* – 27 September, 1917)

THE ARMY AND NAVY GAZETTE

REGIMENTAL CASUALTY LIST

THE ARMY

ROYAL FLYING CORPS

Died – 2nd Lieuts. F. C. Shapira, Aust.; Z. E. Freadman, Aust.

(*Army and Navy Gazette*, London, England – 27 October, 1917)

THE LATE LIEUT. FREADMAN, A.F.C.

The tombstone of the late Lieut. Zavel E. Freadman, A.F.C., who was killed on active service on 9th September, 1917, was consecrated at the Willesden Cemetery on 14th February, 1919, by Rev. J. Danglow, M.A., Jewish Chaplain, Australian Imperial Forces. Chaplain Danglow spoke of the sterling Qualities of the fallen officer, whom he had known well when in Melbourne, and of his cheerful and heroic self-sacrifice in the cause of justice and liberty. Corporal Freadman, brother of the deceased officer, belonging to the staff of: the 3rd Australian Casualty Clearing Station, Euskerchen, Germany, was present at the service.

(Jewish Herald, Victoria – 16 May, 1919)

THE GREAT WAR 1914 – 1919

Z. E. FREADMAN

FLIGHT-LIEUT.

Whilst an Articled pupil he responded to the call.

He passed out of sight in England as the result of an aeroplane accident on September 9th, 1917.

“What mysteries do lie beyond thy dust,

Could man outlook that mark!”

(The Royal Victorian Institute of Architects – July, 1921)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

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.

2nd Lieutenant Z. E. Freadman has a Private Headstone

Willesden Jewish Cemetery, Willesden, Brent, London, England

Willesden Jewish Cemetery contains burials of both wars. Of the 33 First World War graves, six form a small plot by the assembly hall and 22 of the 78 Second World War burials form a separate plot. The rest of the graves are scattered throughout the cemetery. In place of the more usual Cross of Sacrifice, a specially designed memorial to men and women of the Jewish faith who lost their lives in both wars stands opposite the Second World War plot. The memorial is in the form of an obelisk and was the first Jewish national war memorial to be erected in the United Kingdom. *(Information from CWGC)*



Willesden Jewish Cemetery & below 3 Australian Headstones from left *(Photos by julia&keld)*



Photo of 2nd Lieutenant Z. E. Freadman's Private Headstone in Willesden Jewish Cemetery, Willesden, Brent, London, England



(Photo courtesy of julia&keld)



(Photo courtesy of Geoffrey Gillon)

*In Loving Memory of
2ND LIEUT. ZAVEL E. FREADMAN A.F.C.
Late Of Melbourne, Australia
Killed On Active Service
September 9th 1917 – 5677
Aged 22 Years
God rest his soul*