

**St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard,  
Harefield, Middlesex, England**

**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**2152 WORKER**

**T. H. MANNS**

**AUST. MUNITION WORKER**

**9TH OCTOBER, 1918**

## Thomas Henley MANNS

Thomas Henley Manns was born on 10th October, 1883 at Methyrtydoyle, Glamorganshire, Wales (according to details listed on his Attestation Papers).

Thomas Henley Manns married Frederica Mary Bolton (nee Wilkinson) in 1904 in Victoria, Australia. A son was born in 1908 in Perth, Western Australia – Leigh Wilkinson.

Thomas Henley Manns was a 31 year old, married, Mill Hand when he enlisted at Helena Vale, Western Australia on 14th October, 1914 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 696 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Freda Mary Manns, Sevenoaks, Wonnerup, near Busselton, Western Australia. Thomas Manns stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served with Volunteer Force NSW.

Private Thomas Henley Manns embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Ceramic (A40)* on 22nd December, 1914 with the 16th Infantry Battalion “D” Company.

Private Thomas Henley Manns proceeded to join M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) at Gallipoli Peninsula from 12th April, 1915.

Private Thomas Henley Manns was transferred to H.M.T. *Galeka* on 12th April, 1915 with “Strain”.

Private Thomas Henley Manns was wounded at Dardanelles. (A Medical Report completed on Private Thomas Henley Manns in October, 1915 stated that he had been injured at Gallipoli on 29th April, 1915 when his chest & abdomen had been bruised by a Trench falling in.) (In a letter from Staff Officer for Invalids, 5<sup>th</sup> Military District, dated 6<sup>th</sup> February, 1917– it was stated that Private Manns had been wounded in the leg)

Private Thomas Henley Manns was recorded with “Strain” on 2nd May, 1915. He was transferred to *Goorhka* on 3rd May, 1915 for England.

### 16th Battalion

The 16th Battalion AIF was raised from 16 September 1914, six weeks after the outbreak of the First World War. Three-quarters of the battalion were recruited in Western Australia, and the rest in South Australia. With the 13th, 14th and 15th Battalions it formed the 4th Brigade commanded by Colonel John Monash.

The South Australian and Western Australian recruits were united when the battalion trained together in Victoria. They embarked for overseas on Boxing Day. After a brief stop in Albany, Western Australia, the battalion proceeded to Egypt arriving in early February 1915. Australia already had an AIF division there, the 1st. When the 4th Brigade arrived in Egypt it became part of the New Zealand and Australian Division. The 4th Brigade landed at ANZAC late in the afternoon of 25 April 1915.

A week after the landing the 16th was thrown into the attack on Bloody Angle suffering many casualties. From May to August the battalion was heavily involved in establishing and defending the front line of the ANZAC beachhead, and in August the 4th Brigade attacked Hill 971. The hill was taken at great cost, although Turkish reinforcements forced the Australians to withdraw. The battalion served at ANZAC until the evacuation in December.

*(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)*

Private Thomas Henley Manns was admitted to Southern General Hospital, Birmingham, England on 12th May, 1915 with Strain. The Hospital Card recorded that Private Manns had been admitted to Hospital on 16th May, 1915 with an internal injury & was transferred to Harefield on 8th June, 1915.

Private Thomas Henley Manns was admitted to 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield, Middlesex, England on 8th June, 1915 with an Internal Injury. He was discharged from this Hospital on 30th June, 1915.

Mrs Freda M. Manns wrote to Base Records on 1st July, 1915 enquiring for some news on her husband Private T. H. Manns, No. 696. B Company, 16th Battalion. She had received a wire on 18th May that he was wounded & had

written several times to him but had never had a reply. Base Records replied stating that Private T. H. Manns was in Hospital at Harefield, England.

Private Thomas Henley Manns was admitted to Military Convalescent Hospital, Woodcote Park, Epsom, England on 25th August, 1915 with (Shrapnel) Contusion of Abdomen. He was discharged from this Hospital on 7th October, 1915.

Private Thomas Henley Manns was admitted to Tooting Military Hospital, England on 7th October, 1915 with Pulmonary Tubercle. The Hospital Admissions form recorded "*was admitted suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..... & discharged as permanently unfit.*" He was discharged on 30th October, 1915.

A Medical Report was completed on Private Thomas Henley Manns, 696, of 16th A.I.F. "B" Company, on 24th October, 1915 while in Tooting Military Hospital. His disability was listed as Pulmonary Tuberculosis which was the result of exposure while on active service. There was some family history of T.B. At Gallipoli on April 29th his chest & abdomen had been bruised by a Trench falling in & he had been sent to hospital in England where he developed a cough which had since become worse. His condition on admission was very poor but he improved while in hospital. Private Manns stated he suffered from night sweats. It was recommended on 26th October, 1915 that Private Thomas Henley Manns be discharged as permanently unfit. The Administrative Medical Officer approved this prognosis on 27th October, 1915.

Private Thomas Henley Manns embarked from Portland, England on *Star of England* on 12th December, 1915 for his return to Australia – Authority of Surgeon General, A.I.E.

Private Thomas Henley Manns was admitted to No. 8 Australian General Hospital, Fremantle, Western Australia from 23rd January, 1916 with Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

A Medical Report was completed on Private T. H. Mann, 696, 16th Battalion, on 24th March, 1916 at No. 8 Australian General Hospital, Fremantle, Western Australia. The Report recorded that Private Manns had been returned to Australia on 23rd January, 1916 & was suffering from Phthisis which had originated at Gallipoli in August, 1915 & was due to Exposure & strain. He had been invalided to Harefield Hospital with an abdominal injury in August, 1915. "*Injury now better; developed cough, night sweats, &c.*" His present condition was listed as "*Physical signs of Tubercular disease of right apex developed since enlistment. Now quiescent now. General condition good.*" The Medical Board recommended on 11th April, 1916 that Private Manns be "*discharged as permanently unfit with a full pension for 12 months then re-assessment.*" This was approved by Director-General Medical Services on 14th April, 1916.

Private Thomas Henley Manns was discharged from No. 8 Australian General Hospital, Fremantle, Western Australia on 13th July, 1916.

A War Pension was granted to ex- Private Thomas Henley Manns, of Seven Oaks, Busselton, Western Australian in the sum of 60/- per fortnight from 14th July, 1916.

A War Pension was granted to Fredrica Mary Manns, of Busselton, wife of ex-Private Thomas Henley Manns, in the sum of 22/6 fortnightly from 30th March, 1917. A Pension was also granted to Leigh Wilkinson, adopted son of ex-Private Thomas Henley Manns in the sum of 15/- fortnightly from 30th March, 1917 (Trustee - Fredrica Mary Manns).

A War Pension was granted to ex- Private Thomas Henley Manns, c/o Arsenal Branch, Australia House, Strand in the sum of 45/- per fortnight commencing 24th May, 1915. This was to be reviewed on 13th September, 1917.

The 1917 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Fremantle, subdivision of Claremont, Western Australia recorded Henley Thomas Manns, Labourer, from Wood Street, Osborne.

A War Pension was granted to ex- Private Thomas Henley Manns, of 105 Brookhill Rd, Woolwich in the sum of 45/- per fortnight from 13th September, 1917. This was to be reviewed on 14th March, 1918.

Private Thomas Henley Manns was discharged from 5th Military District, Australian Imperial Force on 13th July, 1916.

Thomas Henley Manns, aged 31, of Wood Street, c/o Mr Groundwater, Osborne, Western Australia, applied for enrolment as a Volunteer for Manufacture of Munitions in Great Britain on 5th February, 1917. He was stated he was a discharged Soldier, single with no dependents. Thomas Manns stated he had worked for 3 years with Wellington Mills, Western Australia as a Blacksmith's Assistant and General Labourer. & he requested work as an Assistant Boiler Maker & was prepared to embark from 5th February, 1917. He had 2 personal references as to his character – Constable W. Bass, Royal Street, Kensington, Perth & Mr H. Groundwater, c/o Mrs Jones, Wood Street, Osborne.

A letter was written by District Headquarters, Perth on 6th February, 1917 stating that "*Mr T. H. Mann had enlisted on 15-9-14 in the 16th Battalion. He was invalided home in February 1916 suffering from Bullet wound in leg, and abdominal pains which are now cured. I can confidently recommend him to any one requiring his services, having known him as a straight forward and honest soldier for some time.*"

Thomas Henley Manns was approved as an Australian Munitions Worker & given a Muniton Worker number of 2152.

Thomas Henley Manns embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on 22nd May, 1917 on *Benalla* & arrived at Plymouth, England on 19th July, 1917 (some forms have date on arrival as 21st July, 1917).

Thomas Henley Manns reported to Officer-in-Charge, Australian Munitions Workers, Plymouth, England on 21st July, 1917. He began work at the Royal Gun Factory, Woolwich as a Munitions Worker.

A marriage was registered in the September quarter, 1917 between Henley T. Manns & Louisa M. Beard in the district of Amptill, Bedfordshire, England. They married on 30th July, 1917.

A Doctor's Certificate was provided for Mr Manns for 2nd October, 1917 as he was suffering from Gastritis.

Thomas Henley Manns sent in a Transfer Form to Officer-in-Charge, Australian Munitions Workers on 15th October, 1917 stating that the Doctor had certified that his present employment was injurious to his health & it was recommended to have light work and an open air life due to him having been injured at the Dardanelles in 1915 & had been discharged in July 1916 with lung trouble and an abdominal injury.

On 30th October, 1917 a letter was written to Officer-in-Charge, Australian Munitions Workers, by Mr Park, Ministry of Labour stating he had succeeded in finding an opening for Mr Manns at Luton at 45/4 a week but Mr Manns did not consider that rate of pay high enough to support himself & his wife.

Thomas Henley Manns wrote to Officer-in-Charge, Australian Munitions Workers on 31st December, 1917 complaining of his work at Woolwich. He stated that as he had served 2 years in the Army he expected better treatment & requested that he be returned to Australia if they could not give him something more suitable.

Thomas Henley Manns was advised on 3rd January, 1918 that he could not be repatriated back to Australia unless he was certified as medically unfit by the A.I.F. He was also advised that if he wished to do light work he could not expect to get as high a rate of pay as men who could do heavy work.

The Officer in charge of the Australian Munitions Workers requested that a Medical Examination be made in regards to Thomas Henley Manns. The Medical Officer reported on 28th February, 1918 that Thomas Henley Manns was "*suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis with which he was discharged from the Army. His general condition is fair. I recommend that any \_\_\_ nature of his disease he be returned to Australia*"

The Service Record file for Muniton Worker Thomas Henley Manns recorded the following information:

*7.3.18 - Repatriation approved*

*7.3.18 - Ordered to report 8.3.18 re embarkation.*

*11.3.18 – Called: Does not wish arrangements to me made for his passage until he can arrange for his wife's return. Went to Hdqrs on his own account and called here afterwards.*

*23.4.18 – Examined by A.I.F., M.O. Report: Pulmonary T.B. Unfit for one week at least.*

*12.6.18 – Called: States that Woolwich E. E. will find him a job on timber work at Bedford. Given letter to E. E. stating that this Office has no objection to his working until he embarks.*

A son was born on 24th May, 1918 – Henley Anzac Hadwell Manns - in the district of Uxbridge, Middlesex, England to Thomas Henley Manns & Louisa Mary Manns (nee Beard).

Thomas Henley Manns was advised on 7th September, 1918 that he was allowed to remain in England until a passage could be obtained for his wife. He was allowed to do this as long as there were no vacant berths and so far the number of men to be repatriated had exceeded the accommodation on Ships available for Australian Munition Workers.

Repatriation papers were sent to Thomas Henley Manns on 14th September, 1918. A letter was sent to Officer-in-Charge, Australian Munitions Workers on 18th September, 1918 by Thomas Henley Manns in reference to the return to Australia of his wife and child & that he was prepared to pay the £30 which the Official Secretary had told him was necessary.

The Officer-in-Charge, Australian Munitions Workers sent a letter to Thomas Henley Manns on 18th September, 1918 stating the reason he had been sent repatriation papers "*was because he had informed Captain Bundock about 3 weeks ago that his wife and child were returning immediately to Australia and it was concluded he would be anxious to follow them.*"

Australian Munitions Worker Thomas Henley Manns died between 3.45 am – 4 am on 9th October, 1918 at Uxbridge Cottage Hospital, Hillingdon East, Middlesex, England. An Inquest was held on 11th October, 1918 the cause of death was listed as "*Shock and internal injury from an accidental fall caused by a ladder breaking owing to its being struck by a tree branch.*"

A death for Thomas H. Manns, aged 35, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Uxbridge, Middlesex, England.

Australian Munitions Worker Thomas Henley Manns was buried on 14th October, 1918 in St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England – Plot number Aust. 73 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Service Record file for Munition Worker Thomas Henley Manns contains a copy of a Will, undated & unsigned which reads in part; "*This is the Last Will and Testament of me Henley Thomas Manns, of Wood St., Osborne via Perth, Western Australia.....I give and bequeath unto my wife Louisa Mary Manns all interests held by me in property situated in Wood Street and Servituis Street Osborne via Perth, Western Australia. Also all jewellery bequeathed to me by (late) Mr Hadwell Groundwater at present in the care of Mrs Annie Jones now residing on the property herein mentioned on condition that she emigrate to Western Australia and reside on the property with Mrs Annie Jones during the lifetime of the said Mrs Annie Jones. .... in the event of death of the said Louise May Manns all interest must pass to my son or daughter and I herewith forbid any sale or mortgage of properties mentioned till the heir or heiress attain the age of (23) twenty three years...."*

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Munition Worker Thomas Henley Manns contains a request from the Red Cross to obtain all possible details of his death & burial. A reply was received from Officer in Charge, Australian Munitions Workers, Kensington, England which reads:

*Dear Sir – Re A.M.W. No. 2152, T. H. Manns – Deceased.*

*I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 21st, asking for particulars of the death and burial of the above named man.*

*The details of the accident are that Manns was engaged as a tree-feller by the firm Messrs Higgs & Hills, Ltd., Uxbridge, Middlesex. Between 2.15 and 2.30 pm on October 8th, he was on a ladder up an oak tree about forty feet from the ground sawing off one of the branches. When some six inches through the branch the bough broke in an extraordinary manner. Instead of breaking off and falling to the ground it cracked along the bough for about six feet and must have pivoted on the end and swung inwards, catching a stump of a bough that had already been lopped and breaking the ladder underneath the man some eight feet from the top. Manns was precipitated to the ground,*

*falling on his chest but clear of any obstruction. He was picked up by First Aid men and placed in their room and from there taken to the hospital for attention but unfortunately he died at 3.45 am on October 9th. The arrangements for the funeral were carried out by the deceased's wife who was living with her husband at Park Lane, Harefield. Manns was buried in the A.I.F. Military Cemetery, Harefield with Military Honours.*

*Mrs Manns has compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, to the extent of £300, and also has possession of the deceased's effects. The compensation was paid to the Registrar of the County Court of Middlesex, Holden at Uxbridge, by the deceased's employers, Messrs Higgs & Hill, and Mrs Manns was notified to claim the above named amount from the Registrar of the County Court. She considered that her late husband has property and jewellery bequeathed to him by the late Mr Hadwell Groundwater, of Perth. The property is situated in Wood and Servitus Streets, Osborne, Perth, Western Australia and the jewellery is in the care of Mrs Annie Jones, who is at present living on the property referred to.*

*All these facts have been forwarded to the Department of Defence, Melbourne, on October 17th last with a request that enquiry be made if Mrs Manns had the property referred to and if his widow is entitled to it. If she is, it is her intention to proceed to Perth to occupy the property in conjunction with Mrs Annie Jones, as directed by an unsigned will that the deceased left in the care of his wife. The last address that we have for Mrs Manns is:- c/o Mrs Deard, Park Lane, Harefield, Middlesex."*

Mrs Manns, widow of the late Thomas Henley Manns, embarked from England on 2nd April, 1919 on *Benalla* for Australia.

Ex-Private Thomas Henley Manns was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & Victory Medal. According to a Memo dated 1st April, 1921 from 5th Military District, Perth to Base Records, Melbourne – the 1914/15 Star & British War Medal had been issued to Mrs F. M. Manns (widow), Post Office, Busselton, Western Australia.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Worker T. H. Manns – service number 2152, an Australian Munition Worker. No family details are listed.

Annie Jones, 20 Claremont Avenue, Claremont, wrote to Military Headquarters Perth, Western Australia on 29th August, 1930 asking if they would endorse the enclosed letter to the Memorial Committee regarding the death of Henley Manns.

Base Records wrote to The Secretary, State War Memorial Committee, Perth, Western Australia in September, 1930 after receiving the letter from Annie Jones, "*to confirm the particulars shown hereunder as relating to enlisted members of the Australian Imperial Force, viz:-*

- 1. No. 1560 Private Aubrey Charles HARDWICKE, 3rd Battalion, Reported Killed in Action, Gallipoli, 26th May, 1915.*
- 2. No. 696 Private Thomas Henley MANNNS, 16th Battalion, Discharged 13th July, 1916. Subsequently reported to have died in England, 9.10.1918, whilst serving as Munition Worker."*

Thomas Henley Manns is remembered on the Anzac Heroes – Great War 1914 -1918 for Bunbury-Wellington District, Western Australia website.



T. H. Manns is remembered on the Busselton War Memorial, located at Queen & Albert Streets, Busselton, Western Australia.



**Busselton War Memorial** (Photos from AWM – Places of Pride)



Australian Munitions Worker Thomas Henley Manns is remembered on the Commemorative Roll Book, located in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The Commemorative Roll records the names of those Australians who died during or as a result of wars in which Australians served, but who were not serving in the Australian Armed Forces and therefore not eligible for inclusion on the Roll of Honour.



**Commemorative Roll** (Photo from AWM)



**Commemorative Area of the Australian War Memorial** (Capital Photographer)



At the time of researching, Thomas Henley Manns was not remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

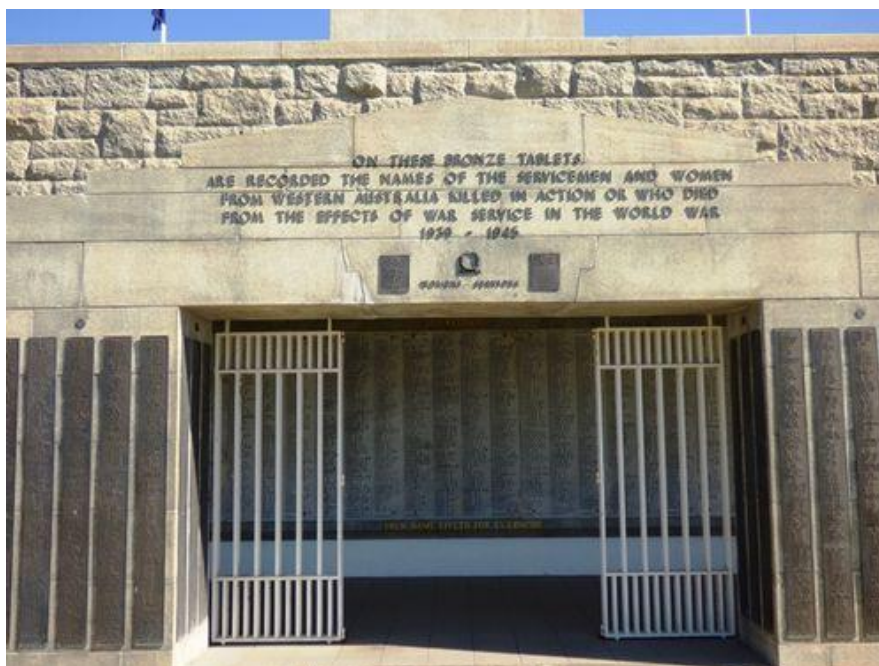
The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.

Thomas Henley Manns' name will be included in a list to be submitted to the Trustees of the State War Memorial, Western Australia for inclusion.



**Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park (above)  
& (below) The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names**

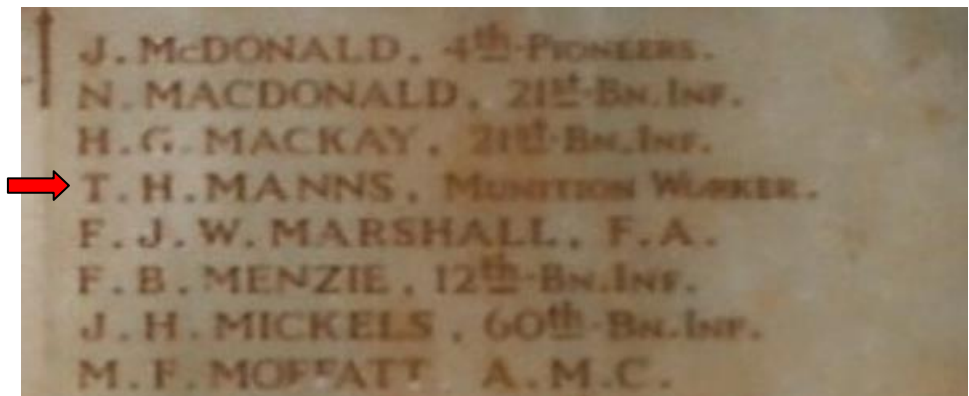
*(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)*



T. H. Manns is remembered in the Australian Soldiers' Memorial in St. Mary the Virgin Church, Church Hill, Harefield, Middlesex, England.



Australian Soldiers' Memorial, Harefield (Photo from War Memorials Online – B. Wood)

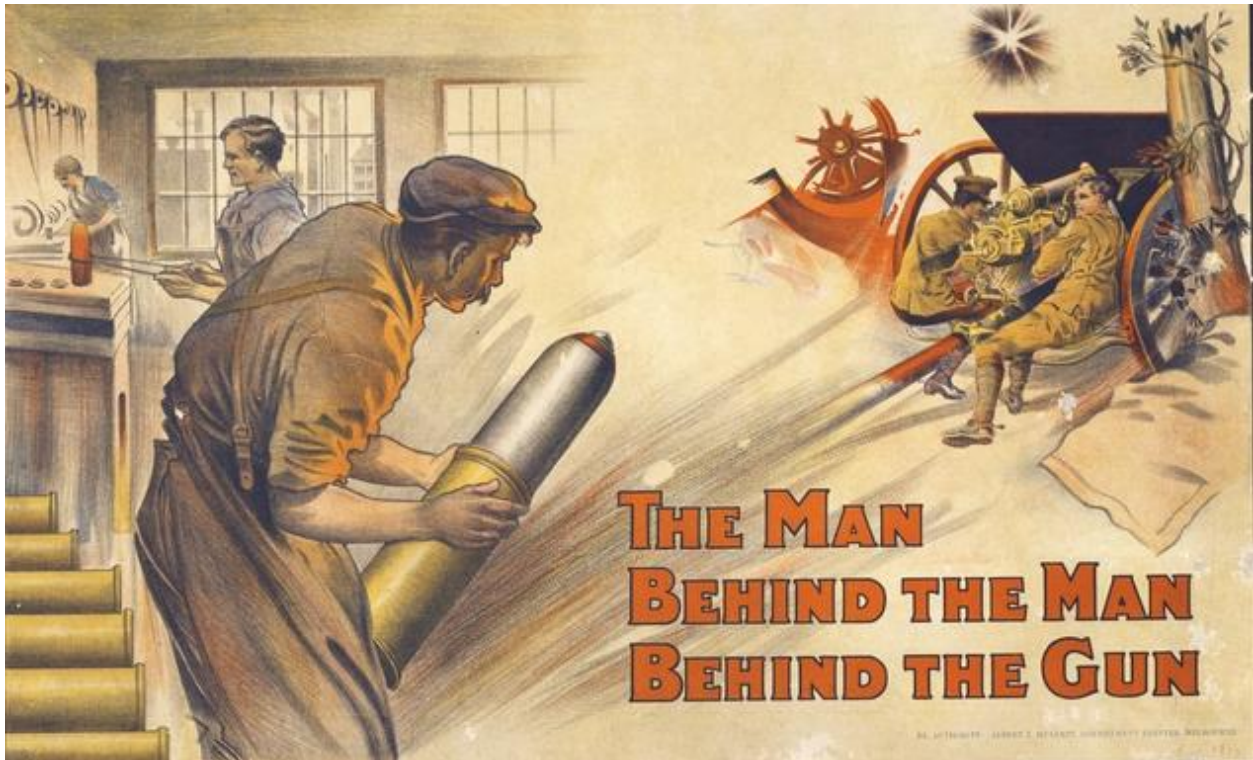


## Australian Munitions Workers

Men enlisted under a joint Australian Commonwealth - Imperial Government scheme for providing skilled Australian workers to British war industries during the First World War. Under this scheme the volunteers would receive free passage to Great Britain, an allowance for travel time, a special allowance for the duration of service, and eventual repatriation to Australia. Married men also received a separation allowance, but were required to allot a portion of all their earnings to dependants. The men were expected to work in whatever industries they were directed to by the British Board of Trade, and under the prevailing conditions and wages for the duration of hostilities.

Government newspaper adverts appeared in August, 1916, and the first party of 76 workers departed Australia in September. Groups continued to be recruited and sent at intervals, with the eventual number of workers under the scheme totalling just over 5,000. Almost 1,000 of these had already been working in Britain under private agreements with large firms such as Vickers, and were brought under the conditions of the scheme. An additional 200 former AIF soldiers were also recruited in Britain. Initially only skilled workers were sought, however at the request of the British Government later groups included large numbers of navvies for general labouring.

These men were not members of the Australian Imperial Forces and did not serve in combat units, but were recruited to meet the shortfall in skilled labour that threatened many of Britain's key wartime industries including munitions. *(Source: Australian War Memorial)*



(76 pages of Thomas Henley Manns' Australian Imperial Force Service Record are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website. Also 18 pages of Munition Worker Thomas Henley Manns' Munition 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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives*



## **Newspaper Notices**

*The newspapers at the time were encouraged not to report munition explosions or deaths through TNT poisoning as it would affect the morale of the civilian population and so reports in newspapers are virtually non-existent. When the war ended the Australians returned home and life moved on.*

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### **MUNITION WORKERS**

#### **AUSTRALIANS IN GREAT BRITAIN**

Melbourne, Thursday.

The Minister for Defence (Senator Pearce) announces that during the period from the inception of the schemes for the despatch of munition workers and navvies to Great Britain up to June 30 last, 2662 munition workers had been disembarked in England for employment on munition and war work. There had also been enrolled under the munition workers' scheme 124 men who had been discharged from the A.I.F. in England for that purpose, and two discharged A.I.F. men had enrolled under the navvies' agreement, making the total number of men engaged in work in Great Britain under both these schemes 4,998. Of this number 384 men had returned to Australia – the majority on account of ill-health. There had been 23 deaths. The agreement of 38 men had been cancelled for disciplinary and other reasons. Six of the men had enlisted in the A.I.F., in England, five men had enlisted in the Royal Navy, and nine men had enlisted in the British Army, leaving the total number of men still in England under the Commonwealth agreement as 4,533. In addition these men were registered on the index held in Australia House 674 Australian munition workers who proceeded to Great Britain under private contract prior to the inauguration of the Commonwealth scheme. Of the men still in England on June 30, 1918, 87 were waiting return up to that date, 152 men had proceeded to France to engage in special work, and 107 of them had returned again to England. Australian munition workers were employed at 409 different firms or centres, and navvies at 192, and the value of the output produced by the labour of these men was estimated at £6,000,000.

Provision for the payment of munition workers and navvies who proceeded to Great Britain on war work under the agreement with the Commonwealth Government is made in an amendment to the war financial regulations issued today. Munition workers and navvies are to be provided with a free passage from Australia to Great Britain and back. In the case of munition workers a dependants' allowance of 25s a week, with allowances for children, will be made for the first eight weeks after embarkation. Subsequently the allowance will be 20s. Separation allowances equal to that paid in the case of a private in the A.I.F. will be paid to dependants.

*(Examiner, Launceston, Tasmania – 30 August, 1918)*

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### **THE DARDANELLES**

#### **THE CASUALTIES**

Private T. H. Manns, who was a member of the First Australian Reinforcements, is reported wounded, word to that effect having been received by Mrs Manns at Wonnerup on Wednesday last.

*(The South-Western News, Busselton, Western Australia – 21 May, 1915)*

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## **THE ROLL OF HONOR**

### **TWENTIETH CASUALTY LIST**

SICK AND WOUNDED

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

16th Battalion

Pte T. H. Manns

*(Sunday Times, Perth, Western Australia – 23 May, 1915)*

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## **THE ROLL OF HONOR**

### **FORTY-SEVENTH CASUALTY LIST**

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

IN HOSPITAL

*(Previously Reported Wounded)*

HAREFIELD

A. G. Lewis and T. H. Manns, 16th Battalion

*(Western Mail, Perth, Western Australia – 9 July, 1915)*

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## **RETURNING HEROES**

### **ANOTHER BATCH**

#### **DUE JANUARY 16**

Nominal Roll of men returning to Australia by transport, which left England on December 12, 1915, due at Fremantle about the 16th January, 1916.

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696 – Private T. H. Mann, 16th Battalion

*(The Daily News, Perth, Western Australia – 5 January, 1916)*

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## **PERSONAL**

Pte T. H. Manns, of Wonnerup, who left this State with the first Expeditionary Force, returned to Busselton this week. Pte Manns was twice wounded at Gallipoli, and is at present on furlough.

*(The South-Western News, Busselton, Western Australia – 28 January, 1916)*

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## **WELD INSTITUTE, BUSSELTON**

Friday, FEBRUARY 11th

at 8 pm

### **Social & Dance**

Arranged by the Soldiers' Reception

Committee to Welcome

PTE T. H. MANNS

AND

PTE THOS. HEDLEY,

Who have Returned Wounded from the Dardanelles.

TICKETS – ONE SHILLING.

B. Evans, Hon. Sec.

*(The South-Western News, Busselton, Western Australia – 4 February, 1916)*

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### Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) honours the 1,700,000 men and women of the forces of the Commonwealth who died in the two world wars and ensures that their memory is never forgotten. The applicable periods of consideration are 4 August 1914 to 31 August 1921 for the First World War and 3 September 1939 to 31 December 1947 for the Second World War.

The Commission's principles:

- Each of the dead should be commemorated by name on the headstone or memorial
- Headstones and memorials should be permanent
- Headstones should be uniform
- There should be no distinction made on account of military or civil rank, race or creed

During both WW1 (& WW2) a number of Commonwealth civilian organisations were accepted by the military as qualifying for war grave status.

Members of the Recognised Civilian Organisations had to meet two additional criteria not required by military casualties.

1. Their death had to be caused by war actions or the increased threat caused by war and
2. They had to be on duty at the time of their death - being posted overseas counted as 'being on duty'.

The Australian government deemed that their War and Munitions Workers (men and women) qualified for war grave treatment as they were recruited as a body and were posted overseas for the war effort. Some of their CWGC entries show a 'service number' indicating that they were an organised body.

## St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England

St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield contains 126 Commonwealth War Graves.

During the two world wars, the United Kingdom became an island fortress used for training troops and launching land, sea and air operations around the globe. There are more than 170,000 Commonwealth war graves in the United Kingdom, many being those of servicemen and women killed on active service, or who later succumbed to wounds. Others died in training accidents, or because of sickness or disease. The graves, many of them privately owned and marked by private memorials, will be found in more than 12,000 cemeteries and churchyards.

Harefield (St. Mary) Churchyard contains war graves from both world wars. There are 120 First World War graves, mostly those of Australians who died in No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield Park. Uniquely, their graves are marked by scroll shaped headstones, chosen by the staff and patients at the hospital. In the centre of the Australian plot stands a memorial obelisk which was erected by Sir Francis Newdegate, late Governor of Tasmania and of Western Australia, and Mr. C.A.M. Billyard-Leake, of Harefield Park. The churchyard also contains six graves of the Second World War.

*(Information & photos from CWGC)*







Photo of Australian Munition Worker T. H. Manns' Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)*



**St Mary the Virgin Church, Harefield** (Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)



**St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield** (Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)



St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield (Photos courtesy of Peter Bennett)



