

**Netley Military Cemetery,
Hampshire, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



3142 GUNNER

H. T. MATHESON

AUST. FIELD ARTILLERY

17TH APRIL, 1918 Age 35

Though Death Divides

Fond Memory Clings

Henry Thomas MATHESON

Henry Thomas Matheson was born at Walhalla, Victoria in 1883 to parents John and Annie Matheson (nee Wheeler).

Henry Thomas Matheson attended Walhalla State School, Victoria.

John Matheson, father of Henry Thomas Matheson, died on 30th July, 1894 at Walhalla, Victoria.

The 1906 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Fremantle, subdivision of Claremont, Western Australia, listed Henry Thomas Matheson, Butcher, of Perth Road. His mother Annie Matheson was also listed at Perth Road.

The 1910 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Fremantle, subdivision of Claremont, Western Australia, listed Henry Thomas Matheson, Master Butcher, of Mason Street, Buckland Hill. His mother Annie Matheson was also listed at Mason Street, Buckland Hill.

The 1915 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Perth, subdivision of East Perth, Western Australia, listed Henry Thomas Matheson, Butcher, of 229 Pier Street. His mother Annie Matheson was also listed at 229 Pier Street.

Henry Thomas Matheson was a 30 year old, single, Butcher from 229 Pier Street, Perth, Western Australia when he enlisted on 12th July, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 3142 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs A. Matheson, Solomon Street, Cottesloe Beach, Western Australia. Henry Matheson stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously been rejected from serving in His Majesty's Services due to his Teeth.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson was posted to 15th Depot Company on 12th July, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to 10th Reinforcements of 16th Battalion on 16th July, 1915.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Themistocles* (A32) on 13th October, 1915 with the 16th Infantry Battalion, 10th Reinforcements & disembarked at Egypt.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson was taken on strength of 16th Battalion at Ismalia on 8th January, 1916.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson was transferred from 16th Battalion to 48th Battalion on 3rd March, 1916 & was taken on strength of 48th Battalion at Tel-el-Kebir on 3rd March, 1916.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson was transferred from 48th Battalion to 5th Australian Field Butchery on 17th March, 1916.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson was sent sick to Hospital at Ferry Post on 25th April, 1916. He was discharged from Hospital on 29th April, 1916 & rejoined his Unit on 1st May, 1916.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson embarked from Alexandria on 20th June, 1916 on Troop Ship *Caledonia* to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 29th June, 1916.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson was written up on 3rd August, 1916 at Rouen, France for being drunk in town & being on town without a pass on 1st August, 1916. This was later admonished.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson was written up while posted at Rouen – while on active service absent from 21.45 on 28th September, 1916 to 06.00 on 29th September, 1916. This was admonished & Pte Matheson was required to forfeit 1 days' pay.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson was on leave to United Kingdom from Boulogne, France from 17th July, 1917.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson was written up for an offence at Edinburgh on 25th July, 1917 – 1. Drunkenness and 2. Violently resisting arrest by kicking & struggling. He was awarded 15 days detention by Lt. Col. G. H. Knox at Edinburgh on 1st August, 1917.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire from Edinburgh on 30th July, 1917. He was medically classified as B1 A4 (fit for overseas training camp when passed

dentally fit) on 4th August, 1917. Pte Matheson was medically classified as A3 (fit for overseas training camp) on 15th August, 1917 & was dentally fit on 21st August, 1917.

A Court of Enquiry was held at Boulogne, France on 19th August, 1917 declaring that 3142 Pte H. T. Matheson had illegally absented himself without leave from 5th Australian Field Bakery, A.A.S.C. on 28th July, 1917 and that he was still absent.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson was marched out to Overseas Training Brigade from No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs on 21st August, 1917.

Private Henry Thomas Matheson was marched out to A.A.S.C. (Australian Army Service Corps) Training Depot at Parkhouse, Wiltshire on 31st August, 1917 from Overseas Training Brigade

Private Henry Thomas Matheson was marched in to A.A.S.C. (Australian Army Service Corps) Training Depot at Parkhouse, Wiltshire on 18th September, 1917.

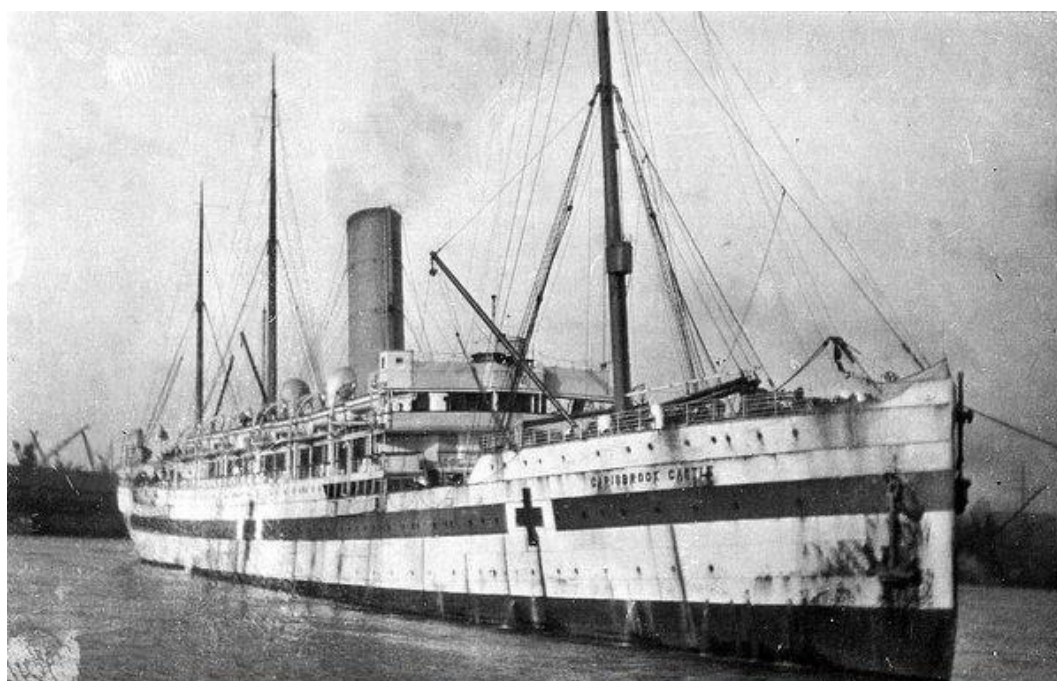
Private Henry Thomas Matheson was transferred to Artillery Details at Heytesbury, Wiltshire on 16th November, 1917 with the rank of Gunner.

Gunner Henry Thomas Matheson proceeded overseas to France via Southampton from Heytesbury on 18th December, 1917. He was marched in to A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) at Rouelles, France on 19th December, 1917. Gunner Matheson was marched out from A.G.B.D. to 2nd D.A. Col (Divisional Ammunition Column) on 21st December, 1917 & taken on strength of 2nd D.A.C. on 24th December, 1917.

Gunner Henry Thomas Matheson was transferred to 5th Field Artillery Brigade on 6th January, 1918 & taken on strength of 15th Battery the same day.

Gunner Henry Thomas Matheson was wounded in action on 12th April, 1918. (From details in the War Diary of 5th Field Artillery Brigade – they were situated at Somme from 11th April, 1918.) He was admitted to 5th Australian Field Ambulance with gunshot wounds to thighs & scrotum then transferred the same day to 20th Casualty Clearing Station. Gunner Matheson was transferred & admitted to 6th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 14th April, 1918. He was transferred to England on 15th April, 1918 on Hospital Ship *Carisbrooke Castle*.

Gunner Henry Thomas Matheson died at 6.30 am on 17th April, 1918 at Sea on board Hospital Ship *Carisbrooke Castle* during the voyage upriver to Southampton, England from wounds received in action – Gunshot wounds to both thighs, scrotum & bladder. His body was transferred to Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley, Hampshire, England.



Hospital Ship *Carisbrooke Castle*

A death for Henry T. Matheson, aged 33, was registered in the June quarter, 1918 in the district of South Stoneham, Hampshire, England.

Gunner Henry Thomas Matheson was buried at 3.30 pm on 20th April, 1918 in Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England – Plot number N. 404 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Gunner Henry Thomas Matheson - *Coffin was good polished Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military Funeral. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack Flag. Gun carriage was supplied by the A.S.C. and Pallbearers by the R.A.M.C. Staff of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley. The grave will be turfed immediately and an oak cross erected by the A.I.F. London. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Henry Thomas Matheson requested in his Will, dated 14th July, 1917, that all his real and personal estate be bequeathed to “Mother” Annie Matheson of Solomon Street, Cottesloe Beach, Western Australia.

Gunner Henry Thomas Matheson was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Gunner Matheson’s widowed mother – Mrs A. Matheson, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent September, 1921 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

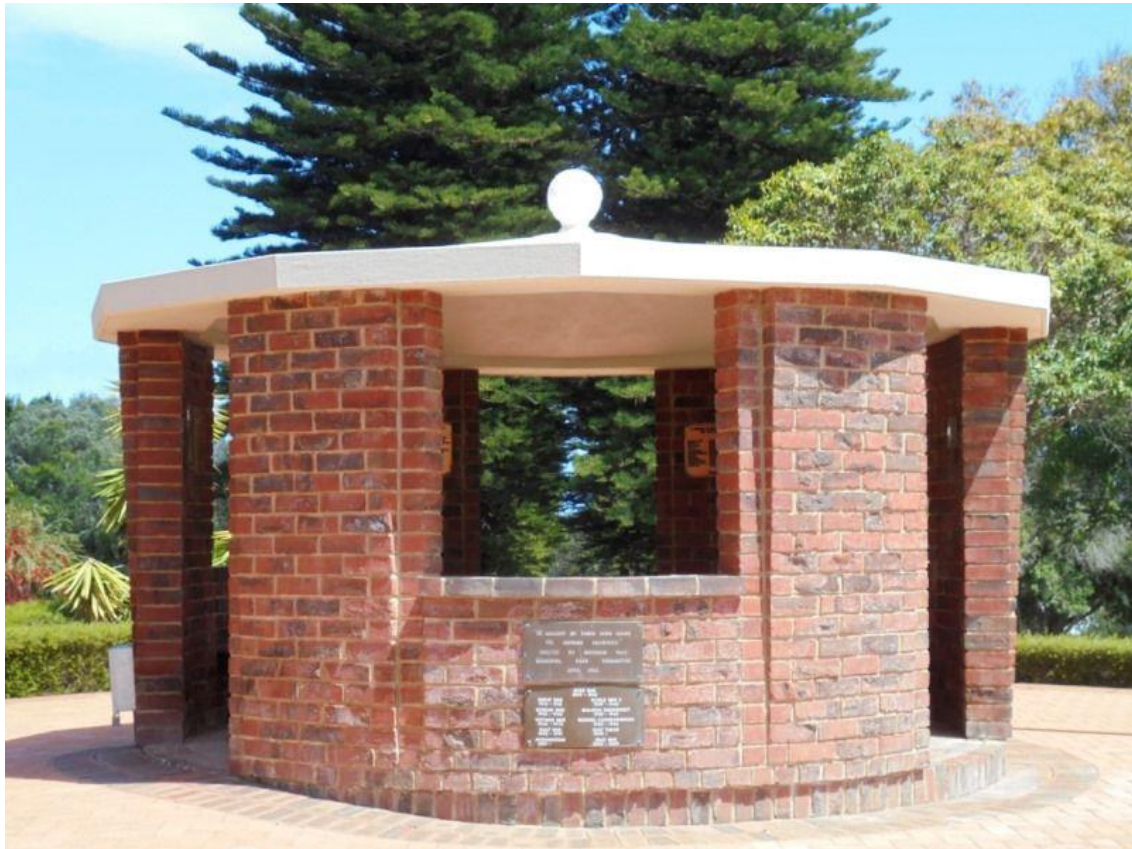
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Gunner Henry Thomas Matheson – service number 3142, aged 35, of 5th Bde., Australian Field Artillery. He was the son of John and Annie Matheson, of Solomon St., Cottesloe Beach, Western Australia.

Gunner H. T. Matheson is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 14.

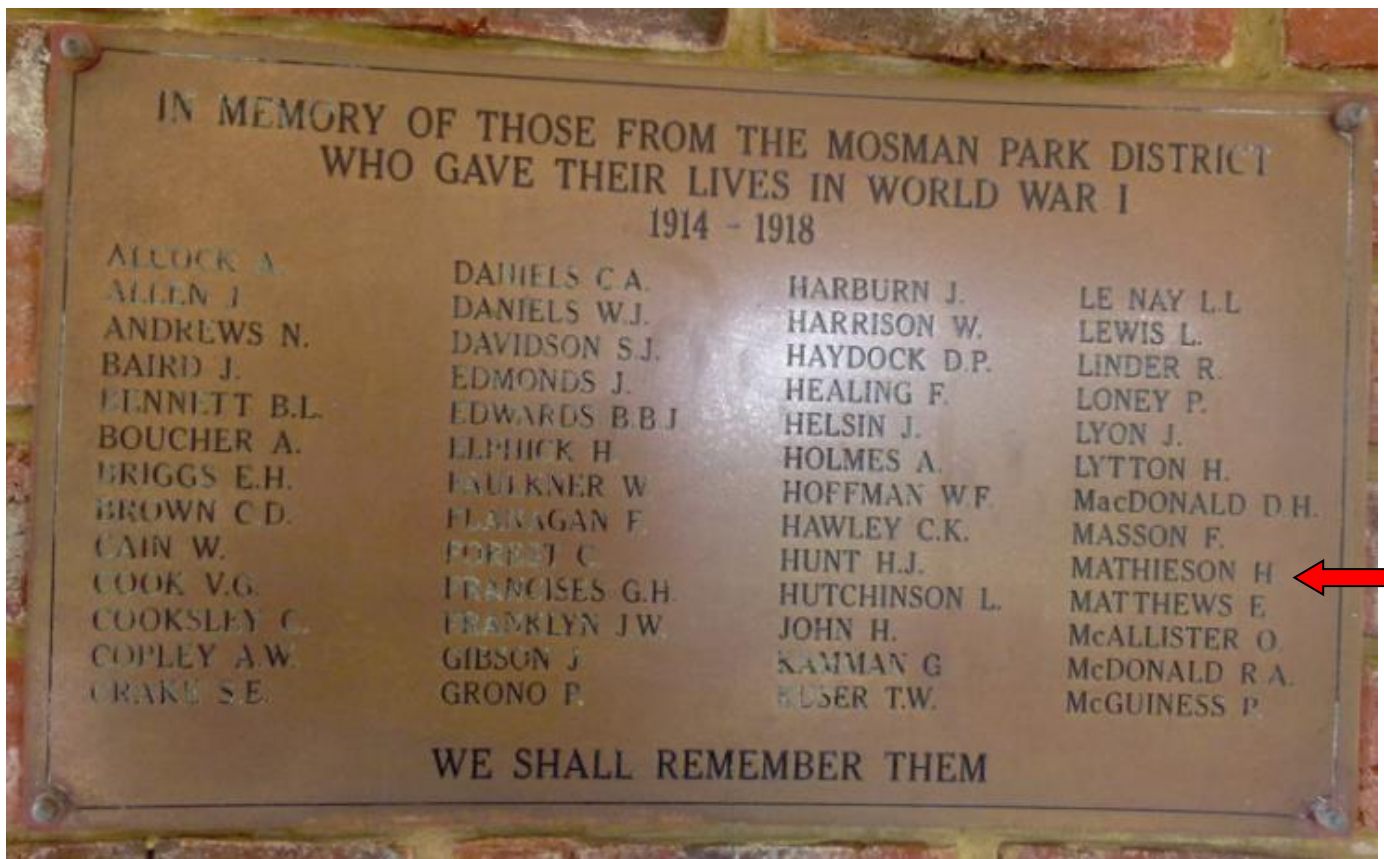


Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

H. Matheson is remembered on the Mosman Park Memorial Rotunda, located Mosman Park Memorial Park, Palmerston Street, Mosman Park, Western Australia.



Mosman Park Memorial Rotunda



The Western Australia State War Memorial 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.

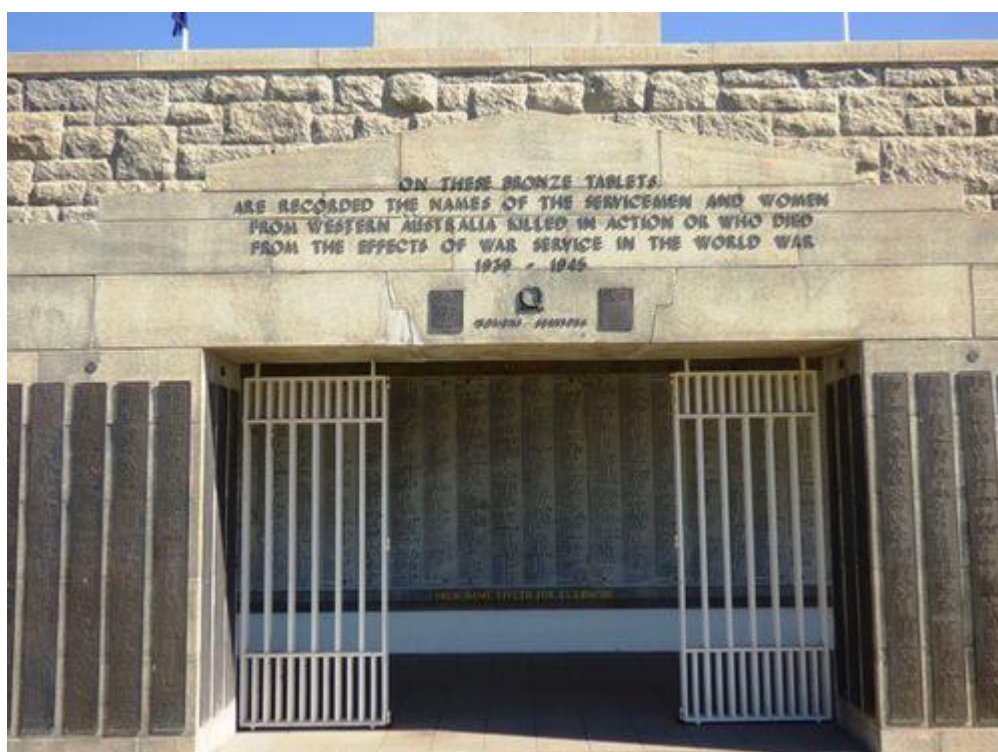
The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a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



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)





Artillery Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)

(58 pages of Gunner Henry Thomas Matheson'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





Henry Thomas Matheson



Henry Thomas Matheson



Newspaper Notices

KILLED IN ACTION

MATHESON – Died of wounds, April 17, 1918, after nearly three years' service, Gunner Henry Thomas Matheson, 15th Battery 5th Brigade (late 16th Battalion), dearly beloved youngest son of Mrs Annie Matheson, Solomon Street, Cottesloe Beach, and brother of Sapper Archie Matheson (Prisoner of War, Germany), Mrs Albert Edwards, Mrs Fred Storey, and the late Mrs A. J. Salmon, Narrogin.

He died for freedom's sake

(Narrogin Observer and Williams District Representative, Western Australia – 27 April, 1918) &

(Wickepin Argus, Western Australia – 27 April, 1918)

KILLED IN ACTION

MATHESON – Died of wounds on April 17, 1918 at the Royal Victoria Hospital, England, Gunner Henry Thomas Matheson, beloved son of Annie Matheson and the late John Matheson, of Walhalla and brother of Mrs Albert Edwards, Cottesloe Beach; Mrs F. Storey, Narrogin and Archie (Prisoner of war in Germany). Sadly missed and deeply mourned.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 29 April, 1918)

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(Western Mail, Perth, Western Australia – 3 May, 1918)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ROLL OF HONOUR

397th and 398th CASUALTY LISTS

DIED OF WOUNDS

Matheson, Henry Thos. (Cottesloe Beach)

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 10 May, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

MATHESON – In fond and loving memory of our dear son and brother, Harry, who died of wounds, April 17, 1918.

God be with you till we meet again.

Inserted by his loving mother, sisters and brother.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 17 April, 1919)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

Gunner H. T. Matheson does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Though Death Divides Fond Memory Clings

Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England

Netley Military Cemetery is a permanent military cemetery, the property of the Ministry of Defence. The cemetery was at the back of the Royal Victoria Military Hospital and was used during both wars for burials from the hospital. The cemetery contains 637 First World War burials but only 35 from the Second World War. In addition to the Commonwealth graves, there are a number of war graves of other nationalities including 69 German graves dating from the First World War.

(Information & photos from CWGC)



Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire





Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire (Photo above - Andrea Charlesworth; below - darealjolo)



Photo of Gunner H. T. Matheson's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England.





Original Cross markers – Netley Military Cemetery