

**Tidworth Military Cemetery,
Tidworth, Wiltshire
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



29665 SERGEANT

A. C. MEREDITH

AUST. FIELD ARTILLERY

3RD JANUARY, 1917 Age 29

Our Dear Son And Brother

Arthur Charles MEREDITH

Arthur Charles Meredith was born at Richmond, Melbourne, Victoria in 1887 to parents Charles Thomas & Annie Meredith (nee Lowe).

Arthur Charles Meredith attended school at Jindivick, Victoria.

The 1909, 1912, 1913, 1915 & 1916 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Flinders, subdivision of Drouin, Victoria listed Arthur Charles Meredith, Farmer, of Drouin West. His parents – Charles Thomas, Farmer & Annie Meredith, Home Duties, were also listed at Drouin West.

Arthur Charles Meredith was aged 28 years & 11 months, single & a Farmer from Brandy Creek, Gippsland, Victoria when he enlisted at Warragul, Victoria on 30th March, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 29665 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr C. T. Meredith, Brandy Creek, Gippsland, Victoria. Arthur Meredith stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served for 4 years & 2 months with 13th Australian Light Horse & was still a member.

Arthur Charles Meredith was posted to 19th Depot Battalion at Geelong, Victoria on 27th April, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to Field Artillery Brigade Reinforcements at Maribyrnong on 22nd May, 1916 with the rank of Gunner.

Gunner Arthur Charles Meredith was transferred to 119th Howitzer Battery on 31st August, 1916 as Sergeant.

Sergeant Arthur Charles Meredith embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Aeneas (A60)* on 3rd October, 1916 with the 119th Howitzer Batter, Australian Field Artillery & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 19th November, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Sergeant Arthur Charles Meredith was admitted to Military Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire, England on 31st December, 1916 with Cerebro Spinal Fever.

Sergeant Arthur Charles Meredith died on 3rd January, 1917 at Lucknow Isolation Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire, England from Cerebro Spinal Fever.

A death for Arthur Meredith, aged 28, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Pewsey, Wiltshire, England.

Sergeant Arthur Charles Meredith was buried on 6th January, 1917 in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Plot number C. 244 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Sergeant Arthur Charles Meredith contains a request from the Red Cross on behalf of his friends in Melbourne for details of his illness, death and burial. The Officer in Charge, Military Hospital, Tidworth wrote: "*He was admitted here from Larkhill Camp on the 31.12.16 in an unconscious condition and died still unconscious – on the 3.1.17. He was buried in Tidworth Military Cemetery on 6.1.17 in Plot C Grave No. 243.*"

Sergeant Arthur Charles Meredith 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 Sergeant Meredith's father - Mr C. T. Meredith, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent November, 1921 & Plaque sent July, 1922 then redirected May, 1923).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Sergeant Arthur Charles Meredith – service number 29665, aged 29, of 119th Howitzer Bty., Australian Field Artillery. He was the son of Charles T. and Annie Meredith, of 24 Kent St., Kew, Victoria.

According to the Australian War Memorial's Roll of Honour - Sergeant Arthur Charles Meredith was associated with Drouin, Victoria.

C. Meredith is remembered on the Drouin War Memorial, located in Memorial Park, Princes Way, Drouin, Victoria.



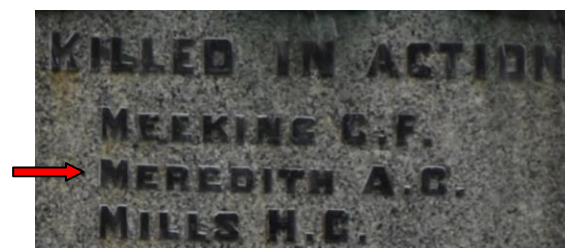
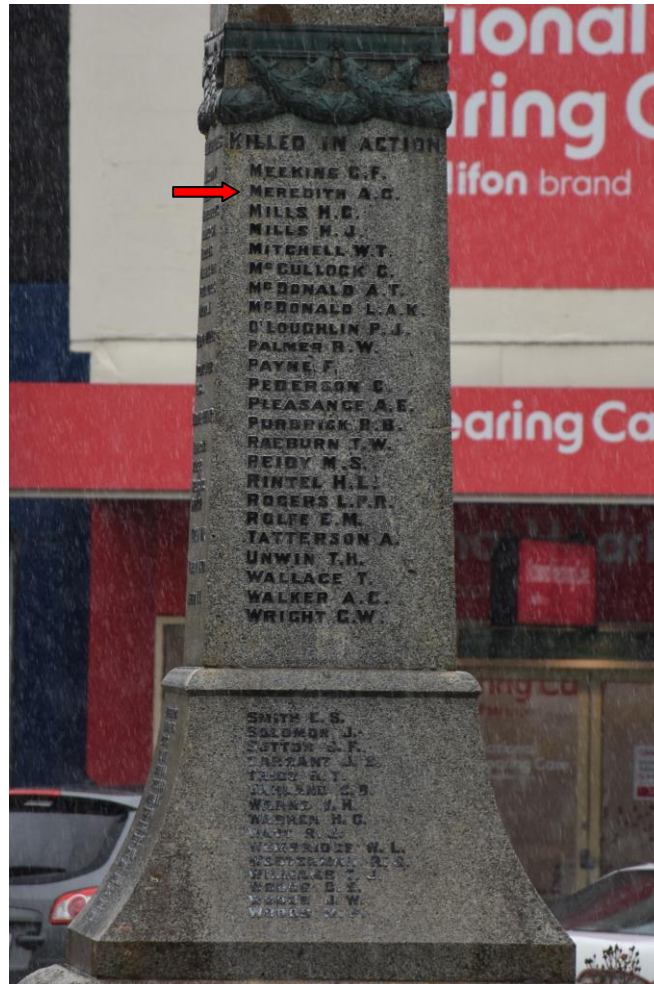
Drouin War Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia)



Arthur Charles Meredith enlisted at Warragul, Victoria. A. C. Meredith is remembered on the Warragul War Memorial located in Smith Street, Warragul, Victoria.



Warragul War Memorial (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Henry Moulds)



Sergeant A. C. Meredith is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 15.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(35 pages of Sergeant Arthur Charles Meredith'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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



Newspaper Notices

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES

264th CASUALTY LIST

VICTORIA

DIED FROM OTHER CAUSES

Sgt. A. C. MEREDITH, Buln Buln, 3/1/17, Cause not stated.

(Bendigo Advertiser, Victoria – 16 January, 1917)

OUR MEN

Gippsland casualties reported during the week are as follows:- 264th list – Died (cause not stated), Sgt. A. C. Meredith, Buln Buln.

(South Gippsland Shire Echo, Victoria – 19 January, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

MEREDITH – In loving memory of our dear nephew and cousin, Sgt. A. Meredith, who died in England, January 3, 1917. (Inserted by A. Bice.)

(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 3 January, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

MEREDITH – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Sergeant A. C. Meredith, who died at Tidwirth, England, on the 3rd January, 1917.

Sadly missed.

-Inserted by his father, mother and sisters.

MEREDITH – A loving tribute to the memory of Sergeant A. C. (Arthur) Meredith, the dearly loved nephew of Mr and Mrs Fred Meredith, of Kew, and comrade and cousin of Sergeant F. D. (Dudley) Meredith (on active service). Remembrance.

(The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 4 January, 1919)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

MEREDITH – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Sergeant A. C. Meredith, died at Tidworth, England, 3rd January, 1917.

Sadly missed.

-Inserted by his father, mother and sisters.

(The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 3 January, 1920)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

MEREDITH – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Sergeant A. C. Meredith, son of Charles T. Meredith and Annie Meredith, died at Tidwirth, England, 3rd January, 1917.

Ever remembered.

-Inserted by his father, mother and sisters.

(The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 4 January, 1921)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

MEREDITH – In loving memory of Sergeant A. C. Meredith, only son of C. J. and A. Meredith, loved brother of Elsie, Lillie, Alice, Edith, Vera and Myrtle. Ever remembered.

(The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 7 January, 1922)

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)

Sergeant A. C. Meredith does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Our Dear Son And Brother



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00327

The AIF Tidworth cemetery under snow. – March 1919.

Identified graves marked by a cross and headstone in the foreground

Front row: 50727 Private Rowland James Dickson, Australian Machine Gun Corps, died 14 October 1918.

Second row, left to right: 18282 Driver John Thalma Jackson, Details Australian Engineers, died 30 October 1917; 17445 Pte Roland Travers Woodville, Australian Army Medical Corps, died 13 September 1917; 31712 Gunner John Alexander McDonald, 15th Field Artillery Brigade, Australian Field Artillery, died 30 July 1917, aged 37, at Tidworth Military Hospital; 3062 Pte Even Thomas Kennedy, 3rd Australian Pioneers, died 7 August 1917.

Note Gunner McDonald has a large headstone which reads in part 'erected by his sorrowing comrades of the Australian Field Artillery. His duty done.'

Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England

Tidworth Military Cemetery, which contains burials of both wars, was directly connected with training grounds on, or near, Salisbury Plain.

During the First World War, the cemetery was used for burials from Tidworth and Fargo Military Hospitals and the 417 graves, many of them of Australian or New Zealand servicemen, are scattered throughout the cemetery.

There are 106 Second World War graves in the cemetery, two substantial groups of which can be found in sections F and D. The rest are scattered.

The cemetery also contains 40 war graves of other nationalities, many of them Polish. *(Information from CWGC)*



Tidworth Military Cemetery (Photo by *julia&keld* – Find a Grave)



Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire

Photo of Sergeant A. C. Meredith's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Selena Hardie)



Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire (Photo by Chris Talbot 2009)

