

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



Lest We Forget

World War 1



6908 PRIVATE

H. A. NIELSEN

26TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

30TH JUNE, 1917

Harry Alexander NIELSEN

Harry Alexander Nielsen was born on 31st March, 1884 in Brisbane, Queensland to parents Anders Nielsen & Hanne Ligne (as listed on Qld Births Deaths & Marriages – should be Signe) Nielsen (nee Jensen).

Harry Alexander Nielsen married Ethel Adelaide Scott on 29th June, 1907. Births were registered in Queensland for the following children of Harry Alexander & Ethel Adelaide Nielsen – Walter Ernest Nielsen (born 8th October, 1908); Thelma May Nielsen (born 27th February, 1910); Leonard Alexander Nielsen (born 13th October, 1912) & Lorna Ethel Nielsen (born 11th August, 1916).

The 1913 Australian Elector Roll for the division of Brisbane, subdivision of Toowong, recorded Harry Alexander Nielsen, Printer & his wife Ethel Adelaide Nielsen, Housewife, of Royal Street, Paddington, Queensland.

The 1917 Australian Elector Roll for the division of Brisbane, subdivision of Fortitude Valley, recorded Harry Alexander Nielsen, Printer & his wife Ethel Adelaide Nielsen, Housewife, of 103 Heal Street, New Farm, Queensland.

Harry Alexander Nielsen was a 33 year old, married, Printer from New Farm, Queensland when he enlisted on 23rd April, 1917 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Ethel Adelaide Nielsen, Heal Street, New Far, Queensland.

Private Harry Alexander Nielsen was posted to No. 1 Depot Company on 25th May, 1917 for recruit training. He was admitted to Clearing Hospital on 5th June, 1917 with Influenza & was discharged back to Camp on 9th June, 1917. Private Nielsen was transferred to 20th Reinforcements of 26th Battalion on 11th June, 1917.

Private Harry Alexander Nielsen, Service number 6908, embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Hororata* (A20) on 14th June, 1917 with the 26th Infantry Battalion, 20th Reinforcements.

(Note: The Hospital Admissions form incorrectly recorded that Private Nielsen was admitted to Ship's Hospital on 14th July, 1917 with Influenza & discharged on 17th July, 1917. He was re-admitted to Ship's Hospital on 23rd July, 1917 & discharged on 28th July, 1917 with Melancholic _____. It may have been a case that the wrong month was entered & should possibly be June not July or the wrong soldier's Hospital Admissions form was used)

26th Battalion

The 26th Battalion was raised at Enoggera, Queensland, in April 1915 from recruits enlisted in Queensland and Tasmania, and formed part of the 7th Brigade.....

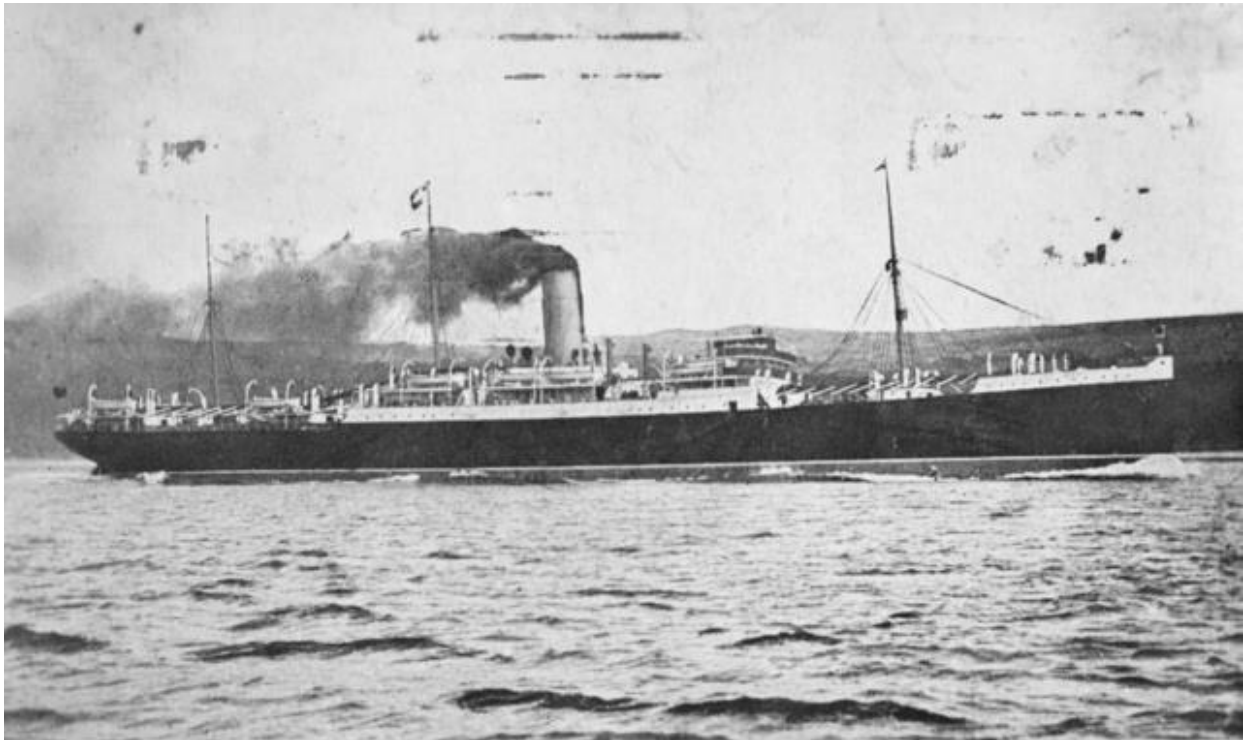
(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Harry Alexander Nielsen died at 2 pm on 30th June, 1917 at Sea on board HMAT *Hororata* (A20) from Heart Failure.

Private Harry Alexander Nielsen was one of four soldiers to die on board Transport A 20 on her voyage from Australia to England.

Private Harry Alexander Nielsen was buried at Sea from HMAT *Hororata* (A20) at 5.15 pm on 30th June, 1917. 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.

Private Harry Alexander Nielsen requested in his Will dated 11th June, 1917 that in the event of his death the whole of his property & effects to be given to his wife – Ethel Adelaide Nielsen, 103 Heal Street, New Farm, Brisbane, Queensland.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

H02015

HMAT *Hororata* (A20)

Private Harry Alexander Nielsen 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 Nielsen's widow – Mrs Ethel A. Nielsen, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent August, 1921 & Plaque sent (not recorded in File).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Harry Alexander Nielsen – service number 6908, of 26th Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private H. A. Nielsen is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 108.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(35 pages of Private Harry Alexander Nielsen'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

Roll of Honour

328th Casualty List

QUEENSLAND

DIED OF ILLNESS

Harry Alexander Nielsen, New Farm, 30/6/17.

(The Telegraph, Brisbane, Queensland – 2 August, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOR

NIELSEN – In Memory of the late Private H. A. Nielsen, who died at sea, 30th June, 1917.

(Daily Standard, Brisbane, Queensland – 25 August, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOR

NIELSEN – In loving Memory of Private Harry Alexander Nielsen, 20th Ref., 26th Batt., A.I.F., who died at sea, 30th June, 1917, third son of the late Mrs Hanne Nielsen, of Paddington, Brisbane.

Asleep in the deep.

(Inserted by his sorrowing Sisters, V. Meley and N. Williams).

(Daily Standard, Brisbane, Queensland – 29 June, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOR

NIELSEN – In loving Memory of my dear Husband (Private Harry Alexander Nielsen), who died at sea 30th June, 1917.

Had I been there at the hour of his death,
To catch the last words from his parting breath.

Only those who have lost are able to tell,
The pain at the heart at not saying farewell.

(Inserted by his loving wife and loving Family).

(Daily Standard, Brisbane, Queensland – 30 June, 1919)

Harry Alexander Nielsen is remembered on a Plaque with his wife – Ethel Adelaide Nielsen, located in Lutwyche Cemetery, Kedron, Brisbane, Queensland.



(Photo from Find a Grave – Andrew Batts)

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.

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



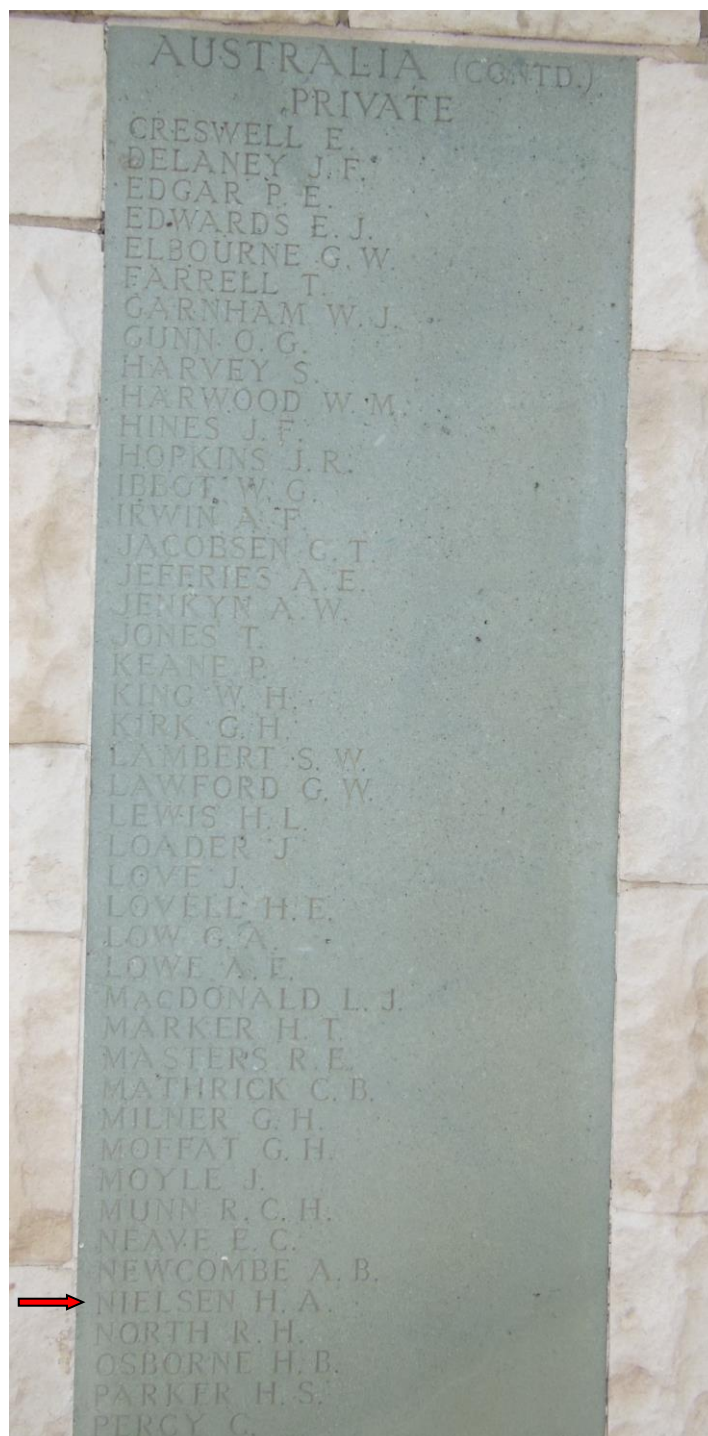
Name Panels behind Cross of Sacrifice (Photo from CWGC)



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

(Photo from CWGC)

Photo of Private H. A. Nielsen's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England.



(Photo by julia&keld – Find a Grave)

