

**Church of Ireland Churchyard,
Boho, Fermanagh, Northern Ireland**

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1304 SERJEANT

T. R. REID

AUST. FIELD ARTILLERY

3RD OCTOBER, 1918 Age 38

Until the Day Break

And The Shadows Flee Away

Thomas Robert REID

Thomas Robert Reid was born at Boho, Enniskillen, Ireland in 1881.

Thomas Robert Reid attended Boho National School, Enniskillen, Ireland.

Thomas Robert Reid served in the South African War & joined the South African Mounted Police. He was given a free discharge at his own request.

Thomas Robert Reid was apprenticed as a Grocer for 6 years to Mr T. Plunkett, High Street, Enniskillen, Ireland.

According to information provided for the Roll of Honour - Thomas Robert Reid came to Australia when he was 24 years old.

Thomas Robert Reid married Alice Lillian Robertson in Victoria in 1910. Births were registered in Victoria for Eva Florence Reid in 1910 & William Charlton Reid in 1912.

Thomas Robert Reid was a 33 year old, married, Driver from (care of Mrs Mills) McGregor Road, Koo-wee-rup, Victoria when he enlisted at Broadmeadows, Victoria on 27th August, 1914 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1304 & his religion was Baptist. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Alice Lillian Reid, (care of Mrs Mills) McGregor Road, Koo-wee-rup, Victoria.

Corporal Thomas Robert Reid was posted to 2nd Field Artillery Brigade Ammunition Column on 27th August, 1914 for recruit training. He was confirmed Corporal on 12th October, 1914.

Corporal Thomas Robert Reid embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Shropshire (A9)* on 20th October, 1914 with the 2nd Field Artillery – Brigade Ammunition Column.

A birth was registered in Queensland in 1915 for Cynthia Jessie Reid, daughter of Thomas Robert & Alice Lillian Reid; born on 8th January, 1915.

Corporal Thomas Robert Reid joined the M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) on 8th April, 1915.

Corporal Thomas Robert Reid was promoted to Sergeant on 20th January, 1916 at Tel-el-Kebir.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) from Alexandria on 22nd March, 1916 & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 28th March, 1916.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was transferred to 1st D. A.C. (Divisional Ammunition Column) on 15th May, 1916 & was taken on strength of D.A.C. & posted to No. 2 Section in France on the same day.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was admitted to No. 18 General Hospital, France on 2nd June, 1916 – cause N.Y.D. (not yet determined). He embarked for England on 9th June, 1916 from Calais, France on Hospital Ship *Newhaven* with Malaria.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was admitted to General & Red Cross Hospital at Chelmsford, England on 9th June, 1916 with Malaria. He was transferred & admitted to 1st Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield, England on 24th June, 1916. Sergeant Reid was transferred to Lady Northcote's Hospital, Eastwell for convalescence on 21st July, 1916 then transferred to Eastwell Park Convalescent Home at Ashford Kent on 27th July, 1916. He was discharged on 8th August, 1916.

Base Records advised Mrs A. L. Reid, c/o Mrs Mills, McGregor Road, Koo-Wee-Rup, Victoria, wife of Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid, on 20th June, 1916 that he had been admitted to General & Red Cross Hospital, Chelmsford, England on 9th June, 1916 suffering from Malaria.

Mrs A. L. Reid, wife of Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid, wrote to Base Records on 27th June, 1916 advising that her address was "Bracken" Wellington Point, Queensland & the letter of 20th June had been sent to c/o Mrs Mills. Koo-Wee-Rup & she did not receive it until 26th June.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid reported at No. 1 Command Depot, Perham Downs, Wiltshire from furlough on 18th September, 1916. He was medically classified as "A" (fit for active service). Sergeant Reid was marched out to Wareham on 27th October, 1916.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was medically classified at No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham on 11th January, 1917 as B1 A3 (fit for overseas training camp in two to three weeks) & again assessed on 20th April, 1917 as B1 A4 (fit for overseas training camp when passed dentally fit).

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was marched out from No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham on 31st May, 1917 & marched in to R.B.A.A. (Reserve Brigade Australian Artillery) at Larkhill, Wiltshire the same day. He was marched out to R.B.A.A. Details at Boyton, Wiltshire on 13th June, 1917.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid proceeded overseas via Southampton on 23rd November, 1917 from R.B.A.A. at Heytesbury, Wiltshire.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was marched in to A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) at Rouelles, France on 24th November, 1917 & marched out to 1st Divisional Artillery on 28th November, 1917. He rejoined his Unit in the Field on 28th November, 1917.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was detached for duty at 2nd Army Artillery School from 3rd February, 1918 & rejoined his Unit from Detachment on 7th March, 1918.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was transferred to 2nd Field Artillery Brigade on 10th May, 1918. He was taken on strength of 2nd Field Artillery Brigade from 1st Australian D.A.C. the same day.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was sent sick to Hospital in France on 4th August, 1918. He was admitted to 2nd Australian Field Ambulance on 4th August, 1918 then transferred to 18th Casualty Clearing Station the same day with Influenza. Sergeant Reid was transferred to Ambulance Train No. 32 on 21st August, 1918 & admitted to 22nd General Hospital at Camiers, France the same day. He embarked for England on Hospital Ship *Princess Elizabeth* on 25th August, 1918.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was admitted to Essex County Hospital, Colchester, England on 26th August, 1918 with Diabetes (slight). He was transferred to 1st Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield on 5th September, 1918.

A Medical Report was completed on 11th September, 1918 on Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid while at 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital Harefield. His former trade or occupation was listed as Horse Trainer. Sergeant Reid's disability was listed as Diabetes Mellitus which had originated in France in July, 1918. He "*felt perfectly well until July 30th when suddenly noticed that his legs were heavy "like lead". Rapidly became weaker & on August 20th at CCS condition of Diabetes discovered. He lost weight rapidly after this, losing 2 1/1 stone in a month. Under treatment at Colchester & Harefield, condition has improved & patient now feels much improved.*" The finding by the Consultant at No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield was permanently unfit for all services. The Medical Board also found that Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was permanently unfit for General & Home Service.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid died at 11.30 am on 3rd October, 1918 at 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield Park, Harefield, Middlesex, England from Diabetes Mellitus.

A death for Thomas R. Reid, aged 37, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Uxbridge, Middlesex, England.

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was buried at 2.30 pm on 9th October, 1918 in Church of Ireland Churchyard, Boho, County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, – south-east part (Private Ground) and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid - *Coffin was good polished Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler and Pallbearers being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the "Union Jack" and surmounted by many beautiful flowers sent from the deceased's relatives and friends. A great number were present at the graveside, and the burial service was conducted by the Rev: J. W. Dunlop, Rector of Bohoe. The grave will be turfed, and an oak cross erected by the A.I.F. London. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Names of Relatives and Friends present at the funeral – Mother, Brother & Sisters, Brother-in-law, Uncle & Cousin, also friends.

Alice Reid, widow of the late Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid, wrote to Base Records on 3rd March, 1919 asking at what address her late husband *“had left his Will or if any was found among his personal property or in his pay book. At present I am a resident of Queensland & cannot get any information here. My husband died on October 3rd, 1917 & I think it about time I heard from the Military Authorities also for all particulars of his death & where buried.”*

Base Records replied on 14th March, 1919 stating that no advice of a Will had been received at their Office & no personal effects had yet been returned. Base Records continued in their letter stating that communications *“had just come to hand in regard to the death and burial of your husband.”* A full report on the illness, death & burial of the late Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was sent to Alice Reid, “Bracken” Wellington Point, Queensland on 14th March, 1919.

Alice Reid, widow of the late Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid, wrote again to Base Records on 28th March, 1919 acknowledging & thanking Base Records for the report of her husband’s death she had received *“but cannot understand why if he was ill from the 4/8/18 to the time of his death 3/10/18 I was not informed of his death. Another thing I have letters dated 12/8.18 written in the field saying he was quite well & expecting to leave for home on furlough, so that does not correspond with your report. Trusting you will be able to get more particulars....”*

Base Records replied on 4th April, 1919 stating that a report was furnished to Mrs Reid on *“14th idem, is as shown on the records held here. The letter you received dated 12.8.18 was evidently written at the Casualty Clearing Station and would bear the postmark “In the Field”, and it would appear that your husband did not mention his illness, not wishing to cause you anxiety. As no cabled report was received his disability evidently did not present any serious symptoms.”*

Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Sergeant Reid’s widow – Mrs A. L. Reid, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent June, 1921 & Plaque sent to November, 1922).

A receipt for the Memorial Scroll was signed for by *“O. C. Robertson for Mrs A. L. Reid Deceased”* on 7th July, 1921 & marked *“over”*. On the reverse of the receipt was written *“I wish to state Mrs A. L. Reid who is my sister died in Melbourne on June 12, 21 so I took the liberty of signing this receipt on behalf of the children. O. C. Robertson, late A.I.F., Spring Creek, Stanthorpe, Q.land.”*

Base Records contacted Mr O. C. Robertson, Spring Creek, Stanthorpe, Queensland on 26th July, 1921 with reference to the endorsement on the receipt slip for the Memorial Scroll to the effect that the widow of the late Sergeant T. R. Reid was deceased. Base Records asked for the name & address of the guardian of the soldier’s children & also to advise whether the late soldier had any sons (stating the eldest) & if not the name of the eldest daughter was required [due to the “Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918” which stated that the War Medals & Mementoes of a deceased soldier were to be handed in the following order of relationship – Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister etc.] Mr O. C. Robertson, late A.I.F., replied to Base Records stating that the guardian of the children of the late Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid was his widow’s mother – Mrs J. Robertson, “Glenroy”, Preston Road, Wynnum South Brisbane. The children were Eva Florence Reid (aged 11 years), William Charlton Reid (aged 9 years) & Cynthia Jessie Reid (aged 7 years).

A receipt for the Victory Medal was signed for by *“Mrs J. Robertson per W. C. Reid.”* on 5th August, 1922.

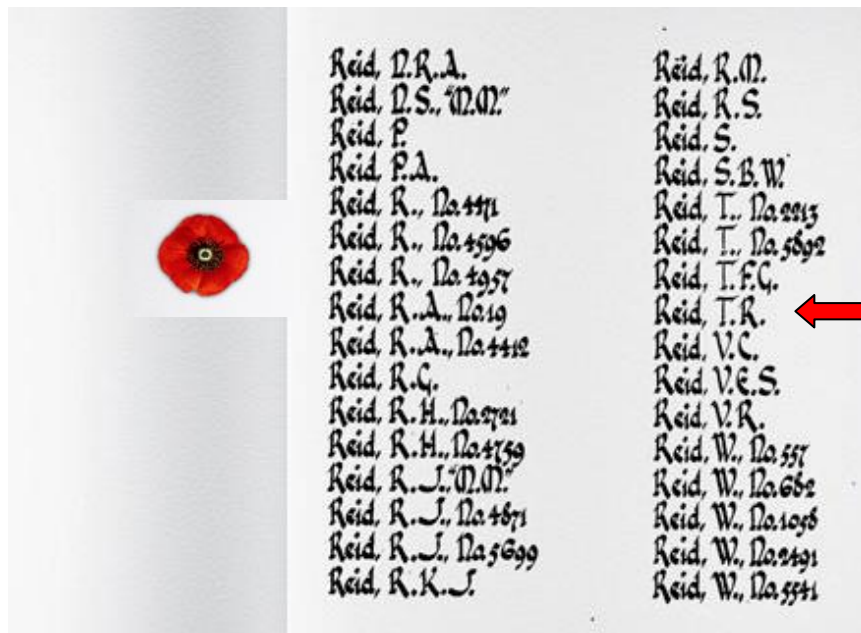
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid – service number 1304, aged 38, 2nd Field Artillery Bde., Australian Field Artillery. He was the husband of L. Reid, Bracken, Wellington Point, Queensland.

Sergeant T. R. Reid is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 12.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

T. R. Reid is remembered in the Book of Remembrance at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne, Victoria.



Sergeant T. R. Reid is remembered on the Enniskillen War Memorial located at Belmore Street, Enniskillen, Northern Ireland.



Enniskillen War Memorial (Photo below by Dean Molyneux)



Newspaper Notices

VICTORIAN CASUALTIES

ILL

Sergeant T. R. Reid, Koo-wee-rup

(Dandenong Advertiser and Cranbourne, Berwick and Oakleigh Advocate, Victoria – 13 July, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOUR

REID – On October 3, 1918, died of illness, at First Auxiliary Hospital, Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid, 2nd Field Artillery Brigade, A.I.F., beloved husband and father of Alice Reid, Eva, Will, and Cynthia, Wellington Point, Queensland. (Melbourne “Argus” please copy.

(The Daily Mail, Brisbane, Queensland – 2 November, 1918)

THE 442nd CASUALTY LIST

VICTORIAN NAMES

DIED OF OTHER CAUSES

Sergeant T. R. Reid, Wellington Point, Queensland

(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – 23 November, 1918)

DEATHS

REID – Alice Lillian Reid (nee Robertson), died Melbourne, June 12, relict late Thomas Robert Reid, Corporal, A.I.F.

(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 22 June, 1921)

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)

Serjeant T. R. Reid does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Until The Day Break And The Shadows Flee Away

Church of Ireland Churchyard, Boho, County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland

The Church of Ireland Churchyard, Boho contains just one Commonwealth War Grave.



Church of Ireland, Boho *(Photo by Kenneth Allen)*

Photo of Serjeant T. R. Reid's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in the Church of Ireland Churchyard, Boho, County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland.



(Headstone photos by Annie-Lou – Find a Grave)







Sergeant Thomas Robert Reid's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in the Church of Ireland Churchyard, Boho, County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland is located next to a Reid Family Headstone – William Reid & his wife Elizabeth & their son Frederick Ormsby & his wife Henrietta.

