

**Tidworth Military Cemetery,
Tidworth, Wiltshire, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



529 PRIVATE

L. H. THREADER

31ST BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

19TH JANUARY, 1917 Age 22

Leonard Harold THREADER

Leonard Harold Threader was born at New Cross, Kent, England on 31st March, 1895 to parents George Samuel & Lydia Eliza Threader (nee Grace). Leonard Harold Threader was baptised on 5th October, 1899 at Christ Church, Greenwich, London along with his brothers – Frederick Winter Threader (born 1 May, 1899) & Wilfred George Threader (born 26th September, 1890). The family lived at 7 Marlborough Street & George Samuel Threader was recorded as an Inspector with Tram Company.

The 1901 England Census recorded Leonard Threader as a 5 year old, living with his family at 7 Marlborough Street, Greenwich East, London, England. His parents were listed as George Threader (Tram Ticket Inspector, aged 38, born London, Battersea) & Lydia Threader (Costume Maker (own business), aged 35, born London, Greenwich). Leonard was one of three sons listed on this Census – Wilfred (aged 10, born London, Greenwich), then Leonard & Frederick (aged 1, born London, Greenwich). Also listed was Louisa Threader (widowed mother of George Threader, aged 70).

Leonard Harold Threader was educated at “Board School, London” (from information provided for the Roll of Honour).

The 1911 England Census recorded Leonard Threader as a 16 year old, living with his family in an 8 roomed dwelling at 1 Wisteria Road, Lewisham, England. His parents were listed as George Samuel Threader (L.C.C. Tram Inspector, aged 49) & Lydia Threader (aged 43). George & Lydia had been married for 22 years & had 4 children – 2 having died. Also listed was Leonard’s older brother – Wilfred Geo Threader (Motor Engineer, aged 20).

A “Leon Threader” aged 18, was a passenger on the *Rangatira* which departed from the port of London on 6th February, 1913 bound for New Zealand. “Leon” & the other 39 passengers on his sheet had listed their country of intended future permanent residence as “N.S. Wales.” The *Rangatira* docked at Sydney, New South Wales on 20th March, 1913.

Leonard Harold Threader was a 20 year old, single, Labourer (his other training (as listed on information for the Roll of Honour) was Motor Engineering) from 28 Radford Road, Lewisham, London, England when he enlisted on 22nd July, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Baptist & his next of kin was listed as his father – Mr John Samuel Threader (name as per Embarkation Roll, however his father was listed as Mr G. S. Threader on the Attestation Papers), 28 Radford Road, Lewisham, London, England.

Private Leonard Harold Threader was posted to Unallotted Infantry on 22nd July, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to “B” Company, 31st Battalion from 1st August, 1915.

Private Leonard Harold Threader, Service number 529, embarked from Melbourne, Victoria (as per Embarkation Roll, however the War Gratuity Schedule in Private Threader’s Service Record file recorded that he embarked from Brisbane, Queensland on H.M.A.T *Wandilla* on 9th November, 1915) on H.M.A.T *Wandilla* (A62) on 9th November, 1915 with the 8th Infantry Brigade, 31st Infantry Battalion, “B” Company & disembarked at Suez on 7th December, 1915.

Private Leonard Harold Threader reported sick at Duntroon Plateau on 16th April, 1916. He was admitted to 14th Field Ambulance at Ferry Post on 16th April, 1916 – cause N.Y.D. (not yet determined). Private Threader rejoined his Battalion at Ferry Post on 23rd April, 1916.

Private Leonard Harold Threader was A.W.L. (Absent without Leave) from 07.00 hrs on 24th April, 1916 while at Ferry Post. He forfeited 1 days’ pay & was awarded 72 hours Field Punishment No. 2 on 28th April, 1916.

Private Leonard Harold Threader reported sick on 25th May, 1916 at Ferry Post & was admitted to 8th Field Ambulance with Chronic Bronchitis. He was discharged to his Unit the same day & rejoined his Battalion at Moascar on 27th May, 1916.

Private Leonard Harold Threader was posted to Base Details at Moascar – 8th Training Battalion on 29th May, 1916 as he was surplus to establishment.

Private Leonard Harold Threader embarked from Alexandria on 6th June 1916 on H.M.T. *Franconia* & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 16th June, 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.

Private Leonard Harold Threader was examined fit for Active Service on 21st August, 1916 at Camp 2, Lark Hill, Salisbury Plain, Wiltshire, England.

Private Leonard Harold Threader was reported for being Absent without Leave whilst on active service from midnight on 27th August, 1916 until 12 noon on 29th August, 1916. He was deprived of 6 days' pay & was awarded 7 days confined to Camp with a total forfeiture of 8 days' pay.

Private Leonard Harold Threader was marched in to 5th Divisional Base Depot at Etaples, France on 17th September, 1916 from France. He proceeded from 5th Divisional Base Depot on 28th September, 1916 & rejoined his Battalion in the Field on 30th September, 1916.

Private Leonard Harold Threader reported sick on 31st October, 1916. He was admitted to 2nd Australian Field Ambulance on 31st October, 1916 then transferred to 36th Casualty Clearing Station. Private Threader was transferred to 16th Ambulance Train on 2nd November, 1916 with Trench Feet & admitted to 1st Canadian General Hospital at Etaples, France. He was transferred to Calais & embarked for England on 5th November, 1916 on Hospital Ship *Dieppe*.

31st Battalion

The 31st Battalion was raised as part of the 8th Brigade at Enoggera, on the outskirts of Brisbane, in August 1915. Some of the battalion's companies, however, were also raised at Broadmeadows Camp in Victoria. In early October, these two elements were united at Broadmeadows, and the battalion sailed from Melbourne the following month.

The 8th Brigade joined the newly raised 5th Australian Division in Egypt, and proceeded to France, destined for the Western Front, in June 1916. The 31st Battalion fought its first major battle at Fromelles on 19 July 1916, having only entered the front-line trenches 3 days previously. The attack was a disastrous introduction to battle for the 31st - it suffered 572 casualties, over half of its strength. Although it still spent periods in the front line, the 31st played no major offensive role for the rest of the year.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Leonard Harold Threader was admitted to 3rd Southern General Hospital at Oxford, England on 8th November, 1916 with Trench Feet - slight. He was discharged & transferred to 1st Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield on 13th December, 1916. Private Threader was discharged to Furlough on 15th December, 1916 & was then to report to Perham Downs.

Private Leonard Harold Threader was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire, England on 3rd January, 1917 from Furlough. He was medically classified as B1A.

Private Leonard Harold Threader was admitted to Military Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire, England on 17th January, 1917 with Broncho Pneumonia. The Hospital Admissions form recorded "A very severe and rapid case." Private Threader was reported to be seriously ill then on 18th January, 1917 he was reported to be dangerously ill.

Private Leonard Harold Threader died on 19th January, 1917 at Military Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire, England from Broncho Pneumonia.

A death for Leonard H. Threader, aged 22, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Andover, Hampshire, England.

Private Leonard Harold Threader was buried on 23rd January, 1917 in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Plot number C. 256 and now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Public Curator, Brisbane, Queensland wrote to Base Records on 22nd August, 1917 requesting the Certificate of Death of No. 529 Private Leonard Threader, 31st Battalion.

Base Records replied to The Public Curator, Brisbane, Queensland on 30th August, 1917, enclosing a certificate of report of death of the late No. 529 Private L. H. Threader, 31st Battalion.

Private Leonard Harold Threader was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Threader's father - Mr G. S. Threader, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque issued in England in July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Leonard Harold Threader – service number 529, aged 22, of 31st Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of George Samuel & Lydia Threader, of 59 Tyrwhitt Rd., Lewisham, London, England.

Private L. H. Threader is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 119.

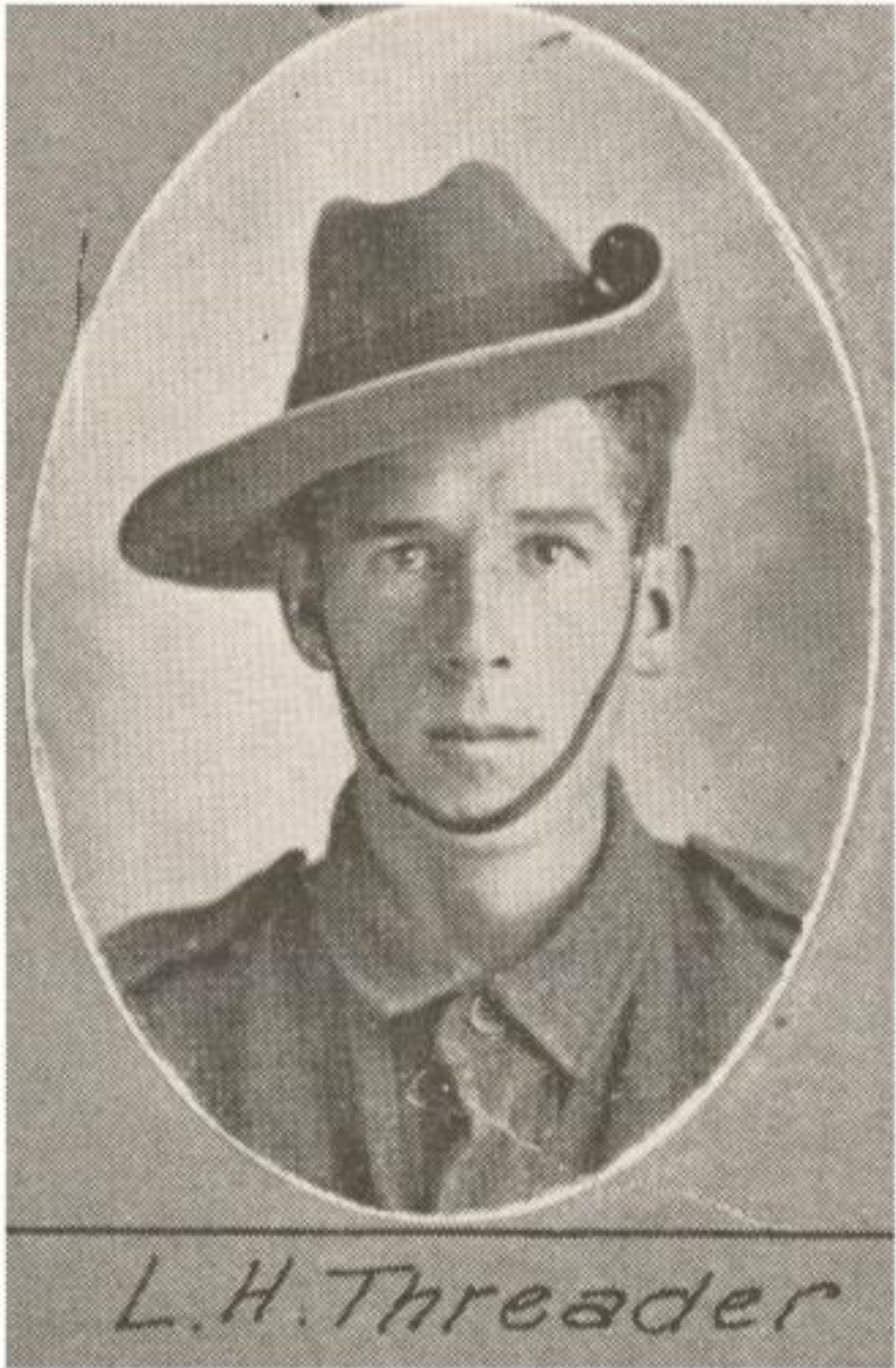


Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(65 pages of Private Leonard Harold Threader'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

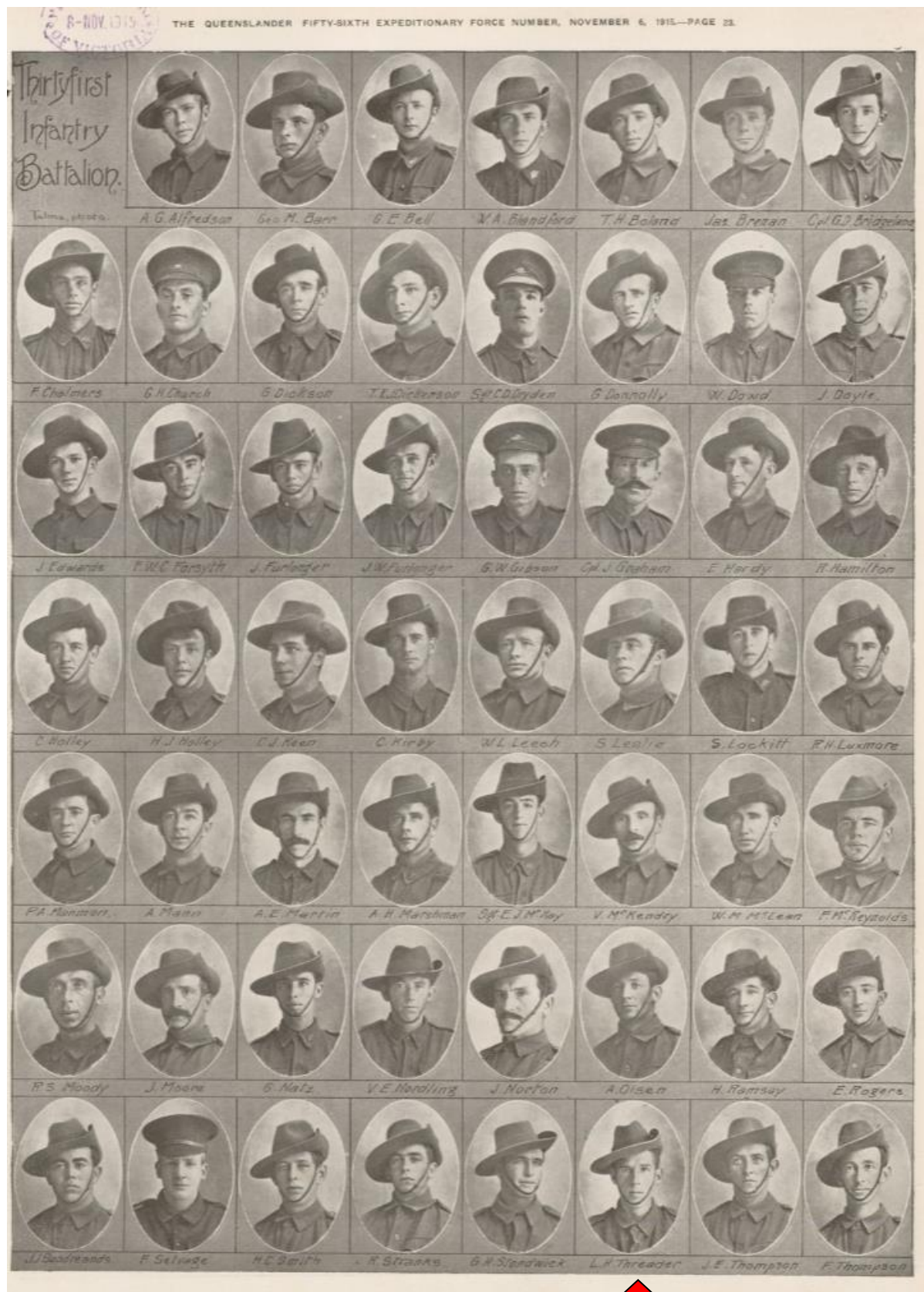




(*The Queenslander* – 6 November, 1915)



Newspaper Notices



(The Queenslander – 6 November, 1915)



Roll of Honour

The 270th Australian casualty list was released by the censor at 9 o'clock last evening....

QUEENSLAND

DIED OF ILLNESS

Pte L. H. Threader, England, 19/1/17. p.r.i.

(The Telegraph, Brisbane, Queensland – 3 February, 1917)

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)

Private L. H. Threader does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

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)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00327

The AIF Tidworth cemetery under snow. – March 1919.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00481

Tidworth Military Cemetery – 12 June, 1919



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



Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire (Photo courtesy of *John Prestidge*)



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



(Photo courtesy of Portsmouth Remembers – Kevin)

Photo of Private L. H. Threader's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Selena Hardie)

