

**Christ Church Military Cemetery,  
Portsdown, Hampshire  
War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**2743 PRIVATE**

**W. C. TRESEDER**

**49TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**9TH MAY, 1918 Age 33**

## William Charles TRESEDER

William Charles Treseder was born at Rockhampton, Queensland on 29th December, 1885 to parents Martin and Margaret Hill Treseder (nee Fauckner/Faulkner). His birth was registered in 1886 in Queensland.

Martin Treseder, father of William Charles Treseder, died on 1st June, 1900.

William Charles Treseder attended Rockhampton Central School, Queensland.

William Charles Treseder married Isabella Pattison in 1911 in Queensland.

Births were registered with parents William Charles & Isabella Treseder in 1912 for Thelma May Treseder; 1913 for William Charles Treseder; 1914 for Eric Martin Treseder & 1917 for Isabella Jane Treseder. A death was registered in 1918 for Eric Martin Treseder. He died on 12th June, 1918.

The 1912 & 1913 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Capricornia, subdivision of Mount Morgan listed William Charles Treseder, Engine Driver, living at Campbell Street. Also listed at Campbell Street – Arthur George Treseder, Labourer; Isabella Treseder, Home Duties & Margaret Hill Treseder, Home Duties.

The 1915 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Capricornia, subdivision of Mount Morgan listed William Charles Treseder, Engine Driver, living at Campbell Street with his wife Isabella, Home Duties.

The 1916 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Capricornia, subdivision of Rockhampton listed William Charles Treseder, Labourer, living at 103 North Street with his wife Isabella, Home Duties.

William Charles Treseder was a 30 year old, married, Engine Driver from Rockhampton, Queensland when he enlisted on 13th July, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2743 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Isabella Treseder of Denison Street, Rockhampton, Queensland. William Treseder stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served 6 months with the Mt. Morgan Rifle Club.

Private William Charles Treseder was posted to 11th Depot Battalion on 15th July, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 6th Reinforcements of 49th Infantry Battalion on 9th August, 1916.

Private William Charles Treseder embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Ceramic (A40)* on 7th October, 1916 with the 6th Reinforcements of 49th Infantry Battalion & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 21st 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.

Private William Charles Treseder was admitted to Sutton Veny Hospital, Wiltshire on 6th December, 1916 from 13th Training Battalion at Codford, Wiltshire.

Private William Charles Treseder was marched in to 13th Training Battalion, Codford from Camp Isolation Hospital on 19th December, 1916.

Private William Charles Treseder proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone on 8th February, 1917 on SS *Princess Victoria*. He was marched in to 4th A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 9th February, 1917. Private Treseder proceeded to join his Unit from 4th A.D.B.D. on 11th February, 1917 & was taken on strength of 49th Battalion in the Field on 13th February, 1917 from 6th Reinforcements.

Private William Charles Treseder was sent sick to Hospital. He was admitted to 13th Field Ambulance with sore feet on 24th March, 1917 then transferred to 1st D.R.S. (Divisional Rest Station). Private Treseder was transferred to Ambulance Train No. 4 on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 1917. He rejoined his Unit in the Field on 13th April, 1917 from Hospital.

Private William Charles Treseder was sent to Hospital sick. He was admitted to 13th Field Ambulance on 6th August, 1917 with Eczema then transferred to 2nd Australian Casualty Clearing Station. Private Treseder was transferred to

26th General Hospital at Etaples, France on 8th August, 1917 then transferred to 25th General Hospital at Boulogne, on 12th August, 1917 with Impetigo. Private Treseder was reported as still being a patient on 14th November, 1917. He was discharged on 10th January, 1918.

Private William Charles Treseder was marched in to A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) at Havre, France on 14th January, 1918. He was sent sick to Hospital on 15th January, 1918 & admitted to 39th General Hospital at Havre – cause not yet determined. He was discharged to Base Depot on 25th January, 1918.

Private William Charles Treseder was marched in to 4th A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) at Havre, France on 25th January, 1918. He was marched out to join his Unit on 3rd February, 1918 & rejoined his Unit in the Field on 9th February, 1918.

Private William Charles Treseder was with his Unit on 24th February, 1918.

Private William Charles Treseder was wounded – Gassed on 25th April, 1918. He was admitted to 25th Field Ambulance on 26th April, 1918 after being Gassed (mustard Shell) then transferred to 5th Casualty Clearing Station. He was transferred to Ambulance Train 25 on 27th April, 1918. Private Treseder was admitted to 6th General Hospital on 28th April, 1918. Private Treseder was invalided to England on 29th April, 1918.

Private William Charles Treseder was admitted to Alexandra Hospital, Cosham, Hampshire, England on 1st May, 1918 having been gassed & burned (severe). The Hospital Admissions form states “*Extensive burns abdomen, buttock\_\_\_\_\_His burns were in an unhealthy condition.....*”

#### **49th Battalion**

Early in 1917, the battalion participated in the advance that followed the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line, supporting the 13th Brigade's attack at Noreuil on 2 April. Later in the year, the focus of the AIF's operations moved to the Ypres sector in Belgium. There the battalion fought in the battle of Messines on 9 June and the battle of Polygon Wood on 26 September. Another winter of trench routine followed.

With the collapse of Russia in October 1917, a major German offensive on the Western Front was expected in early 1918. This occurred in France in late March and the 4th Division moved to defend positions around the Dernancourt on the River Ancre. The 49th Battalion assisted in the repulse of a large German attack on 5 April, launching a critical counter-attack late in the afternoon. The German threat remained until late April, when Australian troops of the 13th and 15th Brigades carried out a successful counter-attack and dislodged the enemy from Villers-Bretonneux. The 49th was held in reserve during the assault.

*(Extract of Battalion information from The Australian War Memorial)*

Private William Charles Treseder died at 7.50 am on 9th May, 1918 at Alexandra Hospital, Cosham, Hampshire, England from wounds (Gas poisoning & burns) received in action.

A death for William C. Tresider, aged 32, was registered in the June quarter, 1918 in the district of Fareham, Hampshire, England.

Private William Charles Treseder was buried at 2 pm on 13th May, 1918 in Christ Church Military Cemetery, Portsdown, Hampshire, England – Plot number B. 12A and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private Treseder - *Coffin was Ash polished with brass fittings. 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 some beautiful wreaths from the patients and Nurses. About 30 Australians, patients in hospital, attended the funeral. The “Last Post” was sounded at the graveside. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Isabella Treseder, Kent Lane, Rockhampton wrote to the Department of Defence in July, 1921 asking for his kitbag & any other property belonging to her late husband to be sent to her. Base Records replied to Mrs Treseder in August, 1921 stating the a deceased soldier's kit bag was the property of the Government & is not returned but personal items belonging to a deceased soldier were returned to the next-of-kin. Mrs Treseder was informed that a package containing the personal effects of her late husband were forwarded on the *Barunga* which was unfortunately lost at sea with all cargo, the result of enemy action. The parcel had included the following items: 1 match box cover, 1 money belt, 1 Housewife, Paper cuttings, Letters, Cards, 1 Bullet souvenir, 1 Pocket knife, Badges, 1 Aluminium ring.

Private William Charles Treseder requested in his Will, dated 12th July, 1917 that all his personal estate be bequeathed to his wife Mrs Isabella Treseder, Denison Street, Rockhampton, Queensland.

Private William Charles Treseder was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Treseder's widow – Mrs Isabella Treseder, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent September, 1921 & Plaque sent October, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private William Charles Treseder – service number 2743, aged 33, of 49th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Martin and Margaret Hill Treseder. Native of Rockhampton, Queensland.

The Rockhampton War Memorial, located in Botanic Gardens, 100 Spencer Street, Rockhampton, Queensland, does not contain any individual names.



**Rockhampton War Memorial**

Private W. C. Treseder is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 149.



*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

(54 pages of Private William Charles Treseder'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*



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **LOCAL AND GENERAL NEWS**

The Mayor, Alderman C. O. Gough, is in receipt of the following telegrams from the military authorities:- .....

"William Charles Treseder, 2743, died on the 9th instant; inquiries have been made as to the cause of death, but the authorities do not know." ... Private Treseder was the husband of Mrs Isabella Treseder, of William-street, Rockhampton.

(*The Capricornian*, Rockhampton, Queensland – 18 May, 1918)

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### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

TRESEDER – Private W. C. Treseder, second son of the late Mr Martin Treseder and Mrs M. H. Treseder, Rockhampton, who died in France from causes not stated on May 9th, aged 32 years; also the beloved husband of Isabella Treseder, Kent-lane, Rockhampton.

Oh teach me from my heart to say

"Thy will be done."

(Inserted by his sorrowing wife and family).

(*Morning Bulletin*, Rockhampton, Queensland – 18 May, 1918) & (*The Capricornian*, Rockhampton, Queensland – 25 May, 1918)

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### **IN MEMORIAM**

TRESEDER – In loving memory of my dear Husband who died on 9th May, 1918; also my dear Son Eric, who died on 12th June, 1918.

At Rest

(Inserted by his loving wife and family).

(*Morning Bulletin*, Rockhampton, Queensland – 9 May, 1919)

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### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

TRESEDER – In loving memory of Private William Charles Treseder who died from gas poisoning May 9th, 1918, at Alexandra Hospital, Cosham, Hampshire.

Thy Will be Done.

(Inserted by his loving Mother, M. H. Treseder)

(*The Capricornian*, Rockhampton, Queensland – 17 May, 1919)

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## IN MEMORIAM

TRESEDER – In loving remembrance of William Charles, who died on 9th May, 1918; also little Eric, who died on 12th June, 1918.

(Inserted by his loving wife and family).

*(Morning Bulletin, Rockhampton, Queensland – 8 May, 1920) & (The Capricornian, Rockhampton, Queensland – 15 May, 1920)*

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Margaret Hill Treseder, mother of William Charles Treseder, died on 10th January, 1920

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### 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 W. C. Treseder does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

## Christ Church Military Cemetery, Portsdown, Hampshire, England

Christ Church Military Cemetery, Portsdown contains 167 Commonwealth War Graves - 133 from World War 1, including 2 from Belgian Army & 34 relating to World War 2. There are 6 Australian World War 1 War Graves.



Christ Church Military Cemetery, Portsdown (Photo above from CWGC & below from Peter Bennett)





Photo of Private W. C. Treseder's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Christ Church Military Cemetery, Portsdown, Hampshire, England.



*(Photo by FrankGrant – Find a Grave)*