

**Hollybrook Cemetery,  
Southampton, Hampshire, England**

**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**240 SERJT. MAJOR**

**L. T. TYRELL**

**AUST. ARMY MEDICAL CORPS**

**3RD DECEMBER, 1918 Age 28**

*Dearly Loved Son Of  
Mr & Mrs P. C. Tyrrell  
Of Melbourne R.I.P.*

## Leo Thomas TYRRELL

Leo Thomas Tyrrell was born at West Melbourne, Victoria in 1890 to parents Patrick Charles and Annie Elizabeth Tyrell (nee Gavin).

Leo Thomas Tyrrell attended Christian Brothers' College, East Melbourne, Victoria.

The 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1917 & 1919 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Kooyong, subdivision of Hawthorn, Victoria, recorded Leo Thomas Tyrrell, Clerk, of 3 Majore St, Hawthorn with his family.

Leo Thomas Tyrrell was a 25 year old, single, Clerk (Shipping & Indent) from Hawthorn, Victoria when he enlisted on 24th February, 1915 in Melbourne, Victoria with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Roman Catholic & his next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs A. Tyrrell, 3 Majore Street, Hawthorn, Victoria. His medical examination was completed on 13th January, 1915.

Leo Thomas Tyrrell was posted to Light Horse Depot on 24th February, 1915 & transferred to A.A.M.C. (Australian Army Medical Corps) Clearing Hospital at Broadmeadows, Victoria on 11th May, 1915. He was transferred to Hospital Ship Details from 17th July, 1915 & was promoted to Sergeant.

Sergeant Leo Thomas Tyrrell, Service number 240, embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Orsova* (A67) on 17th July, 1915 with the Hospital Transport Corps (as listed on Embarkation Roll on Australian War Memorial website, however the Casualty Form – Active Service recorded that he "*joined the Unit No. 2 A.H.S. " (Australian Hospital Ship) *Kanowna* on 17th July, 1915 )*

Sergeant Leo Thomas Tyrrell was appointed as Staff Sergeant from 25th September, 1915.

Staff Sergeant Leo Thomas Tyrrell, Service number 240, embarked from Brisbane, Queensland on 22nd November, 1915 on No. 2 Hospital Ship *Kanowna* on duty (as listed on Embarkation Roll on Australian War Memorial website).

Staff Sergeant Leo Thomas Tyrrell was appointed as Acting Warrant Officer on 1st March, 1918 while posted with No. 2 Hospital Ship *Kanowna*.

Acting Warrant Officer Leo Thomas Tyrrell sailed from Sydney, New South Wales on 5th June, 1918 & arrived at Suez on 17th July, 1918.

Acting Warrant Officer Leo Thomas Tyrrell was admitted to *Kanowna* Ships Hospital on 10th November, 1918 with "*Influenza & cut Head ? Broncho pneumonia.*"

Acting Warrant Officer Leo Thomas Tyrrell was admitted to University War Hospital, Southampton, England on 24th November, 1918 with a cut head & Pneumonia.

Sergeant Major Leo Thomas Tyrrell died at 5.15 pm on 3rd December, 1918 at University War Hospital, Southampton, Hampshire, England from Broncho pneumonia (Rank & cause of death as per "*Report of Death of a Soldier*" (Army Form B. 2090), however the Casualty Form – Active Service recorded he died from Pneumonia).

Lieutenant Colonel Lauder, R.A.M.C., of The University War Hospital, wrote to The Officer in charge of Records, Westminster, London, England on 14th December, 1918 regarding the Report of Death of No 240 S.M. Tyrrell L.T. Australian A.M.C.: "*Admitted University War Hospital, Southampton on 24-11-18 in very serious condition, restless delirium. Bronchitis and Broncho Pneumonia. There was also a small septic abrasion of scalp at back of head producing no symptoms. History of illness commencing 10-11-18. The Broncho-Pneumonia spread and involved the whole of the right chest. Patient gradually sank and died 3-12-18. Death attributable to Service during present War.*"

A death for L. T. Tyrrell, aged 27, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Southampton, Hampshire, England.



**The University War Hospital**

Sergeant Major Leo Thomas Tyrrell was buried on 6th December, 1918 in Hollybrook Cemetery, Southampton, Hampshire, England – Plot number B. 01. 9. and now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

From the burial report of Sergeant Major Leo Thomas Tyrrell - *The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military funeral, Pallbearers being supplied by the Royal Defence Corps. The coffin – of polished elm - was draped with the Union Jack, and surmounted by several beautiful wreaths sent from:- Nursing and Medical Staff, Unit & Crew of No 2 Hospital Ship “Kanowna”, & Staff of No 1 Hospital Ship “Karoola”. Captain McKinley, Army Medical Corps, No. 2 H.S. “Kanowna”, Lieutenant Bennett and Mr Gordon were present at the ceremony which was conducted by the Rev: Father Byrne, of St Edwards, Southampton. 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.*

Loughrey & Douglas, Barristers & Solicitors, Melbourne, Victoria, wrote to Base Records on 24th October, 1919 regarding No. 240 Sergeant Major L. T. Tyrrell: *“We are acting for the father of this deceased soldier, and are applying for Letters of Administration and should be glad if you would let us have 3 Certificates of death.”*

Base Records replied to Messrs Loughrey & Douglas, Barristers & Solicitors, on 28th October, 1919 enclosing *“certificate of report of death of the late No. 240 Acting Warrant Officer L. T. Tyrrell, N. 2 Australian Hospital Ship Kanowna.”*

Warrant Officer Leo Thomas Tyrrell was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Warrant Officer Tyrrell’s father - Mr P. Tyrrell, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent September, 1921 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

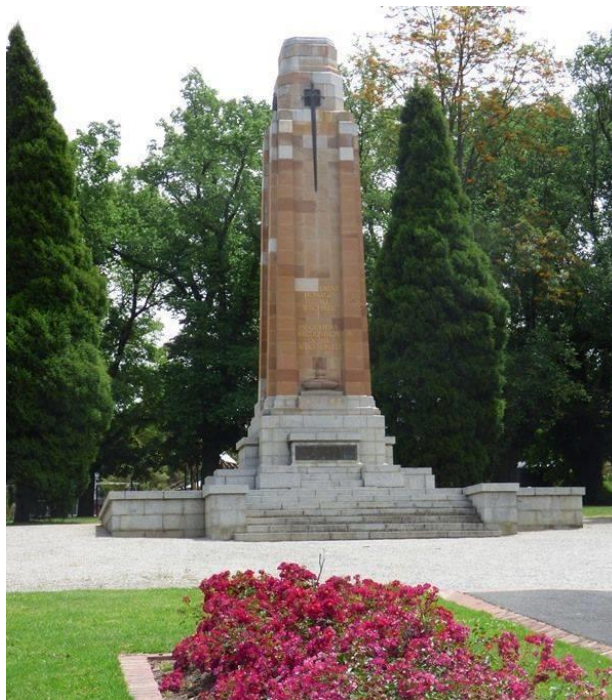
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Sergeant Major Leo Thomas Tyrrell – service number 240, aged 28, of Australian Army Medical Corps. He was the son of Patrick Charles and Annie Tyrrell, of 3 Mayore St., Hawthorn, Victoria.

Sergeant Major L. T. Tyrrell is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 184.



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

The Hawthorn Cenotaph, located in St. James Park, Burwood Road, Hawthorn, Victoria does not list individual names.



**Hawthorn Cenotaph** (Photo from Monument Australia)

L. Tyrrell is remembered on the Bundoora Parade College Honour Roll (First World War).

(58 pages of Sergeant Major Leo Thomas Tyrrell'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**

### **SOUTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT**

#### **LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN THE TOWN AND ITS SUBURBS**

The many Southampton friends of Warrant-Officer Tyrrell ("Leo"), of the Australian hospital ship Kanowna, which has been to this port on several occasions, will regret to learn of his death, which took place at the Southampton University Hospital. The funeral took place at the Southampton Cemetery on Friday, and was largely attended by his comrades on the ship; also by members of the staff of the Australian hospital ship Karoola.

*(The Hampshire Independent, Southampton, Hampshire, England – 4 December, 1918)*

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### **DEATHS**

#### **On Active Service**

TYRRELL – On the 3rd December, at the University War Hospital, Southampton, England, of pneumonia, Sergeant-Major Leo Thomas Tyrrell, second beloved son of Patrick Charles and A. E. Tyrrell, of 3 Major-street, Hawthorn, and loved brother of James, Molly, Rita, Bert and Noreen

Requiescat in pace.

*(The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 14 December, 1918) & (The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 14 December, 1918)*

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### **IN MEMORIAM**

#### **On Active Service**

TYRRELL – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Leo. Thomas Tyrrell (late sergeant-major) A.I.F.), who died at the University War Hospital, Southampton, England, on 3rd December, 1918.

May his soul rest in peace.

-(Inserted by his parents, brothers, and sisters)

*(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 3 December, 1919) & (The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 3 December, 1919) &*

*(The Advocate, Melbourne, Victoria – 6 December, 1919)*

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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)*

Sergeant Major L. T. Tyrrell has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone with the following inscription:

*Dearly Loved Son Of Mr & Mrs P. C. Tyrrell*

*Of Melbourne R.I.P.*

### **Hollybrook Cemetery, Southampton, Hampshire, England**

Southampton was No 1 Port during the First World War and military hospitals were established in the University buildings, in the Highfield Institution and at Shirley Warren. During the Second World War, 4.5 million tons of military equipment passed through Southampton docks and parts of the prefabricated harbours used at Arromanches during the Normandy invasion were made there. For a while, Southampton was also base to the 14th Major Port Transportation Corps of the United States Army.

Southampton (Hollybrook) Cemetery contains burials of both wars and a memorial to the missing.

The cemetery has a First World War plot near the main entrance containing most of the 125 graves from this period. Behind this plot is the Hollybrook Memorial which 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. It 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.

Most of the 186 Second World War burials are in a separate war graves plot. 3 of these burials are unidentified seaman of the Merchant Navy.

In addition to the Commonwealth war graves, the cemetery contains 67 war graves of other nationalities, many of them German, of which 2 are unidentified.

*(Cemetery information from CWGC)*



**Chapel at Hollybrook Cemetery** (Photo by Michael Day)



**Hollybrook Cemetery** (Photo by Basher Eyre)



*(Photo courtesy of Allan Noble)*



**Hollybrook Cemetery with Hollybrook Memorial at front** *(Photo by Michael Day)*



Photo of Serjt. Major L. T. Tyrrell's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Hollybrook Cemetery, Southampton, Hampshire, England.



(Photo from Find a Grave – Jackie C - 2018)





*(Photo from Find a Grave – Retired QA - 2014)*

