

**Queensferry Cemetery,
Edinburgh, Scotland,
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



STOKER 3988

THEODORE GORDON JENNINGS WARD

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA"

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

12TH MAY, 1915 Age 19

Erected By His Shipmates

As A Token Of Their Respect

Theodore Gordon Jennings WARD

Theodore Gordon Jennings Ward was born on 30th May, 1895 at Fairfield, NSW to parents Samuel J. & Mary E. Ward.

Theodore Gordon Jennings Ward enlisted with the Royal Australian Navy on 4th August, 1914 for a period of 5 years. He was given a service number of 3988 & his next-of-kin was listed as his father – S. J. Ward of Waratah, Newcastle, NSW. He was 5ft 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ in tall with brown hair, brown eyes & a fresh complexion. He had no distinguishing marks, wounds or scars.

Theodore Gordon Jennings Ward joined H.M.A.S. *Cerberus* on 4th August, 1914 as Stoker 2nd Class.

[H.M.A.S. *Cerberus* – previously H.M.V.S. *Cerberus* was renamed H.M.A.S. *Cerberus* when the navy became the Royal Australian Navy in 1911. By World War I, the weapons and boilers on H.M.A.S. *Cerberus* were inoperable & was confined to Port Phillip Bay in Victoria, Australia. The ship was retasked as a guardship and munitions store, while carrying the personnel of the Royal Australian Naval College on her paybooks.]

Stoker 2nd Class Theodore Gordon Jennings Ward was transferred to H.M.A.S. *Australia* on 20th September, 1914.

H.M.A.S. *Australia*

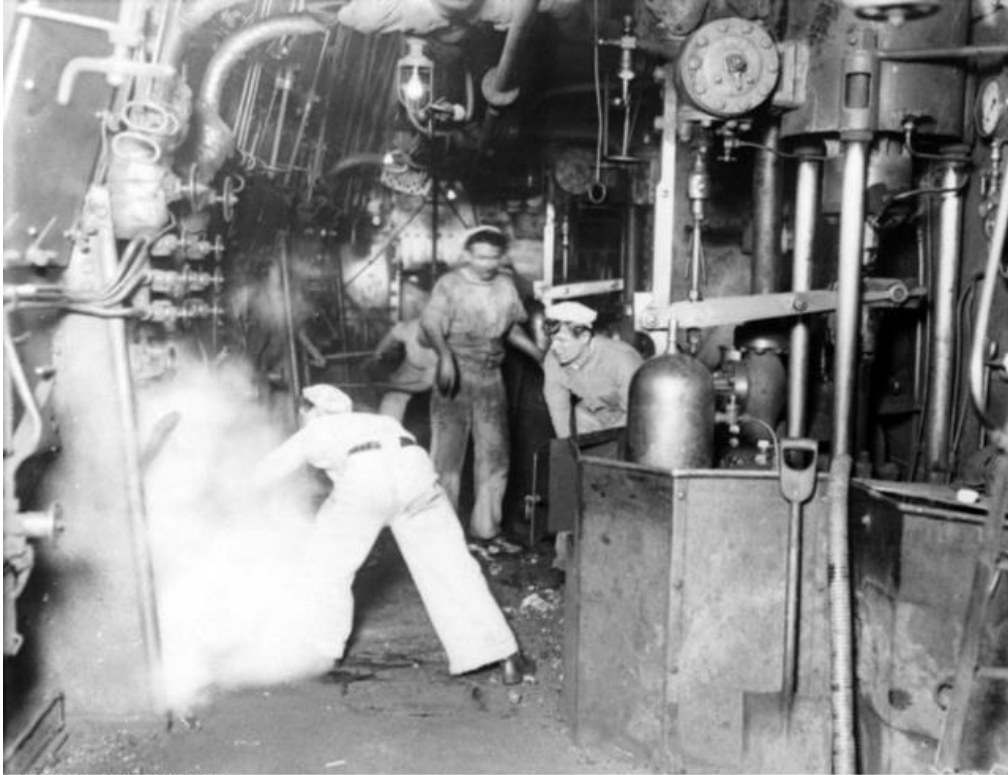
H.M.A.S. *Australia* was launched in 1911, and commissioned as flagship of the Royal Australian Navy (R.A.N.) in 1913. On completion she sailed for Australia and, on 4 October 1913, led the cruisers and destroyers of the fleet unit into Sydney Harbour to public acclaim.

With the outbreak of the First World War, *Australia* became the flagship of the force that captured the German colonies in the southern Pacific. She led a force which captured Rabaul on 13th September, 1914 before proceeding to Samoa.

In late December, 1914 *Australia* received orders to sail to England via the Pacific and reached Devonport on 28th January, 1915. En route she captured and sank von Spee's supply ship *Eleonore Woermann* off South America. From Devonport *Australia* proceeded to Rosyth in Scotland, where in February, 1915 she became flagship of the 2nd Battle Cruiser Squadron. The squadron, as initially formed, comprised *Australia* and her two sister ships, HMS *New Zealand* and HMS *Indefatigable*.



H.M.A.S. *Australia* 1914



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

EN0506

Unidentified stokers at work in the boiler room on board HMAS *Australia*. (Photo period 1914-1918)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

EN0535

An unidentified stoker scrapes out the ash from the bottom grate in the boiler furnace on HMAS *Australia*.
(Photo c 1918)

Stoker 2nd Class Theodore Gordon Jennings Ward died on 12th May, 1915 at Rosyth, Fife, Scotland from Pneumonia. (Source: Australian War Memorial – Roll of Honour.)

Stoker 2nd Class Theodore Gordon Jennings Ward was buried in Queensferry Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland – Plot number 1347. He has a private headstone, erected by his shipmates but his death is still recognised by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Stoker 2nd Class Theodore Gordon Jennings Ward – service number 3988, of H.M.A.S. “Australia”, Royal Australian Navy. He was the son of S. J. and E. M. Ward of Asher and Waratah Streets, Newcastle, New South Wales.

Stoker 2nd Class Theodore Gordon Jennings Ward is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 1.

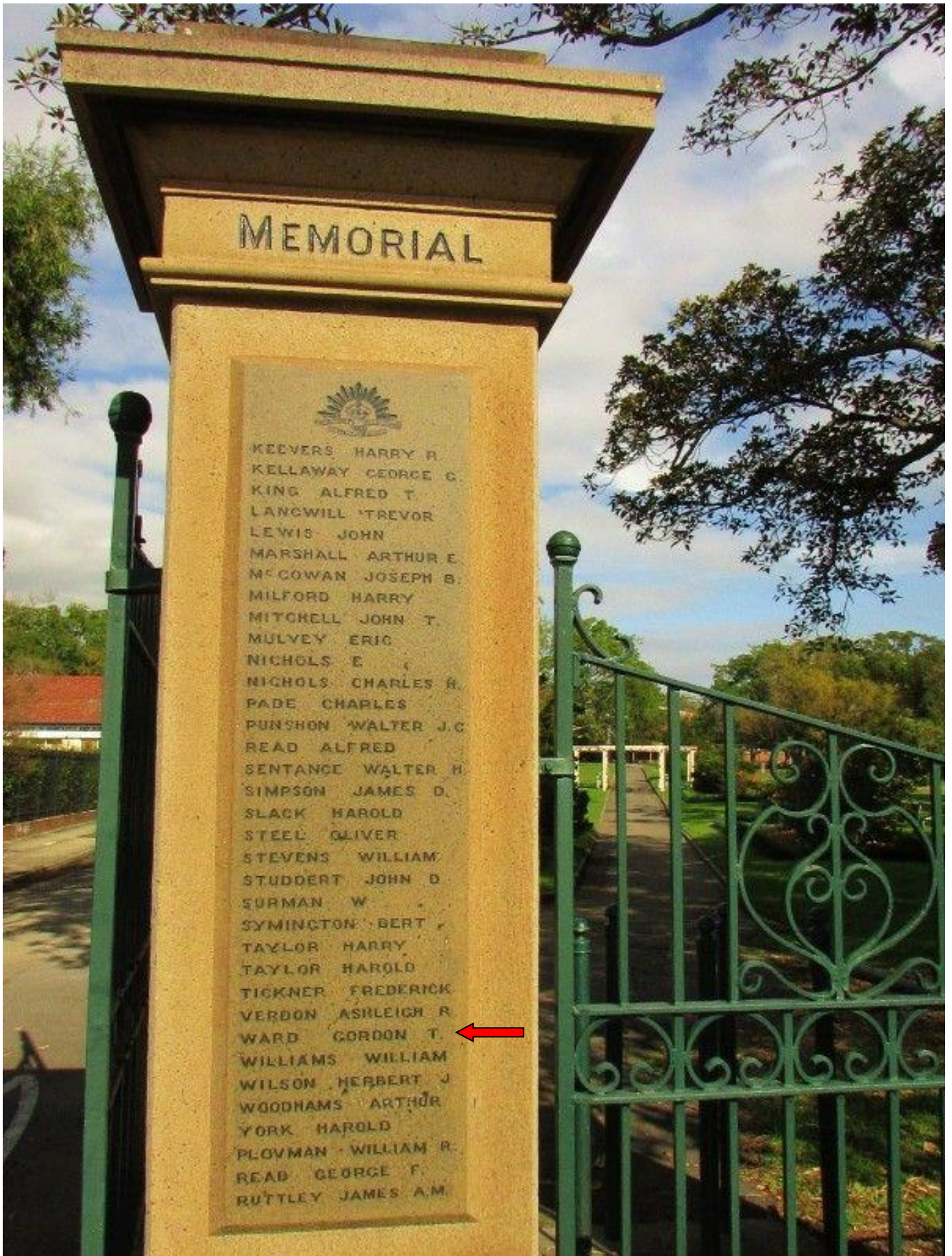


Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Gordon T. Ward is remembered on the Waratah Memorial Gates located at the main entrance of Waratah Park, Platt Street, Waratah, NSW.



Waratah Memorial Gates (Photos from Monument Australia – Sandra Brown)



MEMORIAL



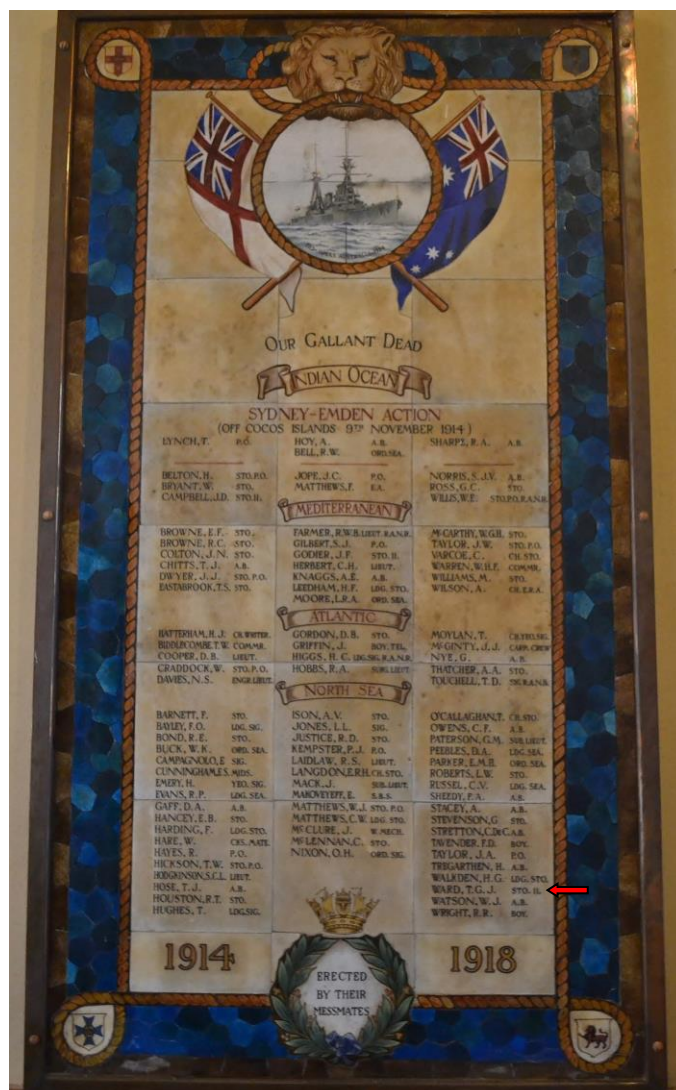
KEEVERS HARRY R.
KELLAWAY GEORGE G.
KING ALFRED T.
LANGWILL TREVOR
LEWIS JOHN
MARSHALL ARTHUR E.
MCCOWAN JOSEPH B.
MILFORD HARRY
MITCHELL JOHN T.
MULVEY ERIC
NICHOLS E.
NICHOLS CHARLES H.
PADE CHARLES
PUNSHON WALTER J.C.
READ ALFRED
SENTANCE WALTER H.
SIMPSON JAMES D.
SLACK HAROLD
STEEL OLIVER
STEVENS WILLIAM
STUDDERT JOHN D.
SURMAN W.
SYMINGTON BERT
TAYLOR HARRY
TAYLOR HAROLD
TICKNER FREDERICK
VERDON ASKLEIGH R.
WARD GORDON T.
WILLIAMS WILLIAM
WILSON HERBERT J.
WOODHAMS ARTHUR
YORK HAROLD
PLOYMAN WILLIAM R.
READ GEORGE F.
RUTTLEY JAMES A.M.

Waratah Memorial Gates

Stoker II T. G. J. Ward is remembered on Royal Australian Navy WW1 Memorial, located at HMAS Cerberus Protestant Chapel of St Mark, Nelson Road, Crib Point, Victoria.



HMAS Cerberus Protestant Chapel of St Mark, Crib Point, Victoria (Photos courtesy of Karen Standen)





STOKER GORDON WARD.

(NEWCASTLE DISTRICT).

DIED OF ILLNESS ON H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA.

Stoker Ward was 29 years of age, and son of Mr. S. Ward, of Georgetown, Waratah, Newcastle. The deceased, whose death was due to pneumonia, joined the Australia on August 4 last.

(*The Daily Telegraph*, Sydney, NSW – 10 June, 1915)



Theodore Ward,
AN "Australia" boy, who died
on active service in Scot-
land. He belonged to Waratah.

(*Sydney Mail*, NSW – 31 May, 1916)

FATHER AND SON



MR. SAMUEL WARD



THEODORE GORDON WARD

Mr. Samuel Ward, of Waratah, joined the Miners' Unit, and after serving six months was discharged for being over age. His son, Theodore Gordon Ward, early in the war, was on H.M.A.S. Australia, but he died in Scotland from pneumonia.

(The Newcastle Sun, NSW – 3 January, 1919)

Newspaper Notices

STOKER OF H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA

DEATH AT SHORE HOSPITAL

Melbourne, Wednesday

The Naval Board announces the death from pneumonia of Stoker Theodore G. J. Ward, of H.M.A.S. Australia on May 12.

Death occurred at a shore hospital. Next of kin is his father, Mr S. J. Ward, Spark Street, Waratah, Newcastle.

(The Maitland Weekly Mercury, NSW – 22 May, 1915)

IN MEMORIAM

WARD – In loving memory of our dear son, Gordon, of H.M.A.S. Australia, who died on May 12, 1915; aged 20 years, interred in Dalmeny Cemetery, Scotland. – Inserted by his loving parents and brothers, Waratah.

(Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate, NSW – 13 May, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOUR

WARD – In loving memory of Theodore Gordon, dearly beloved son of E. M. and S. J. Ward, died serving King and Empire aboard H.M.A.S. Australia 12th May, 1915; aged 20 years. Inserted by his loving parents and brothers, Waratah.

WARD – In loving memory of our dear nephew and cousin Theodore Gordon Ward, stoker H.M.A.S. Australia, who died for his country 12th May, 1915.

Inserted by Mr and Mrs J. Sullivan, Teralba.

(Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate, NSW – 12 May, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

WARD – In loving memory of our dear son, Gordon, of H.M.A.S. Australia, who died in Scotland, May 12, 1915.

Inserted by his loving parents, Station Street, Waratah.

(Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate, NSW – 12 May, 1919)

ROLL OF HONOUR

WARD – In loving memory of Gordon, stoker H.M.A.S. Australia, died on active service abroad.

Inserted by aunt, uncle, cousins, Teralba.

(Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate, NSW – 13 May, 1919)

ROLL OF HONOUR

WARD – In loving memory of our dear son, Gordon, of H.M.A.S. Australia, died on active service, Queensferry, Scotland, May 12, 1915; aged 19 years. -Inserted by his loving father and mother, Victoria Street, Adamstown.

WARD – In loving memory of our dear nephew and cousin, Gordon, stoker, H.M.A.S. Australia, died on active service abroad. – Mr and Mrs J. Sullivan and family, Teralba.

(Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate, NSW – 12 May, 1921)

ROLL OF HONOUR

WARD – In loving memory of our dear son, Gordon, of H.M.A.S. Australia, died on active service, Queensferry, Scotland, May 12, 1915; aged 19 years. -Inserted by his loving father and mother, Victoria Street, Adamstown.

WARD – In loving memory of Gordon, died on active service abroad. Not forgotten. Inserted by Aunt Clara.

(Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate, NSW – 12 May, 1922)

ROLL OF HONOUR

WARD – In loving memory of our dear son, Gordon, of H.M.A.S. Australia, died on active service, Queensferry, Scotland, May 12, 1915; aged 19 years. -Inserted by his loving father and mother, Victoria Street, Adamstown.

(Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate, NSW – 12 May, 1923)

Queensferry Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland

Queensferry Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland contains 180 First World War burials, almost all of them naval. There are also eight burials of the Second World War. There are 11 War Graves from World War 1 belonging to members of the Royal Australian Navy.

(Information & photos from CWGC)



Photo of Stoker Theodore Gordon Jennings Ward's Private Headstone in Queensferry Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland. His headstone was erected by his shipmates.





(Photo courtesy of Allan Noble - 2020)



(Photo courtesy of Allan Noble - 2020)



(Photo from CWGC)