

**St. Lawrence Churchyard,
Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



7567 PRIVATE

V. WOOD

9TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

1ST NOVEMBER, 1917

Victor WOOD

Victor Wood was born on 9th December, 1897 at Gympie, Queensland to parents George & Annie Elizabeth Wood (nee Skinner).

Victor Wood was a 19 year old, single, Carpenter from Theebine, Queensland when he enlisted on 23rd February, 1917 at Maryborough, Queensland with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 7567 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr G. Wood, Theebine, Queensland. As Victor Wood was under the age of 21, his parents were required to sign their consent for their son to enlist in the Australian Imperial Force for active service abroad. George Wood & Annie E. Wood both signed their consent on the “Application to Enlist in the Australian Imperial Force” form.

Private Victor Wood was posted to 11th Depot Battalion on 2nd March, 1917 for recruit training. He was transferred to 8th Reinforcements of 41st Battalion on 9th March, 1917. Private Wood was admitted to Clearing Hospital from 19th March, 1917 & discharged on 27th March, 1917 with Febricula. He was posted to Hospital Unit from 2nd April until 5th April, 1917. Private Wood was posted back with 8th Reinforcements of 41st Battalion on 6th April, 1917. He was transferred to 25th Reinforcements of 9th Battalion on 1st May, 1917.

Private Victor Wood applied for Home Leave from 6 am on 12th April, 1917 returning by 8 am on 17th April, 1917 to have “*final home leave to attend to business which cannot be completed under 4 days.*” He was granted 5 days leave on 10th April, 1917 by Adjutant, Rifle Range Camp, A.I.F., Enoggera, Queensland.

Private Victor Wood embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Hororata (A20)* on 14th June, 1917 with the 9th Infantry Battalion, 25th Reinforcements & disembarked at Liverpool, England on 26th August, 1917.

9th Battalion

The 9th Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. It was the first battalion recruited in Queensland, and with the 10th, 11th and 12th Battalions it formed the 3rd Brigade.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

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 Victor Wood was marched in to 3rd Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire from Australia on 26th August, 1917.

Private Victor Wood was sent sick then admitted to Hospital at Parkhouse on 31st August, 1917 with Mumps. He was discharged to Training Depot on 20th September, 1917.

Private Victor Wood was admitted to Sutton Veny Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 26th October, 1917 dangerously ill. Cause – N.Y.D. (Not yet determined). The next entry on the Casualty Form – Active Service recorded “*Adm: to Hosp: Gastro-Enteritis.*”

Private Victor Wood was admitted to Salisbury Isolation Hospital on 28th October, 1917 from Sutton Veny Military Hospital with Cerebro Spinal Fever.

Private Victor Wood died at 4 am on 1st November, 1917 at Isolation Auxiliary Hospital, Salisbury, Wiltshire, England from Cerebro Spinal Fever.

A death for Victor Wood, aged 19, was registered in the December quarter, 1917 in the district of Salisbury, Wiltshire, England.

Private Victor Wood was buried on 5th November, 1917 in St Lawrence’s Churchyard, Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire, England – Plot number 127 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private Victor Wood - *Coffin was good polished Elm. Brass fittings with engraved plate. The Firing*

Party consisted of friends of the deceased and also friends were at his funeral. There was a very nice wreath placed on his grave by his fellow comrades. The full band of 3rd Training Battalion was in attendance.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Victor Wood contains a request from the Red Cross obtain the nature of the sickness. J. E. Gordon, Medical Superintendent, Salisbury and District Joint Isolation Hospital wrote the following letter: "Re. the attached inquiry as to 7567 Pte V. Wood, 9th Battn, A.I.F. Please note that the date of his admission to this hospital was 28.10.17 – not as stated in the inquiry. He was suffering from Cerebro-spinal Meningitis of a severe type, and died at 4 am on the 1st Novr. This fact was communicated the same day by telegram to the Australian Imperial Headquarters in Horseferry Road. Presumably they will have cabled the relatives in Australia. These relatives have been written to both by the Matron and the Clergyman who visits our patients."

Private Victor Wood requested in his Will (in his Pay Book), dated 14th May, 1917 that in the vent of his death the whole of his property & personal effects be given to his father – Mr George Wood, Theebine, North Coast Line, Queensland.

The Loyal Mary River Lodge, Theebine, Queensland wrote to The Secretary for Defence, Melbourne in November, 1917, requesting a death certificate for Private Victor Wood, No 7567, to claim Funeral Benefit from the Lodge. Another request for the death certificate was made on 1st March, 1918. Base Records replied on 21st March, 1918 to Mr W. Watson, The Financial Secretary, Loyal Mary River Lodge, Theebine, Queensland, enclosing a copy of the death certificate.

Private Victor Wood was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Wood's father – Mr G. Wood at , as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque sent October, 1922).

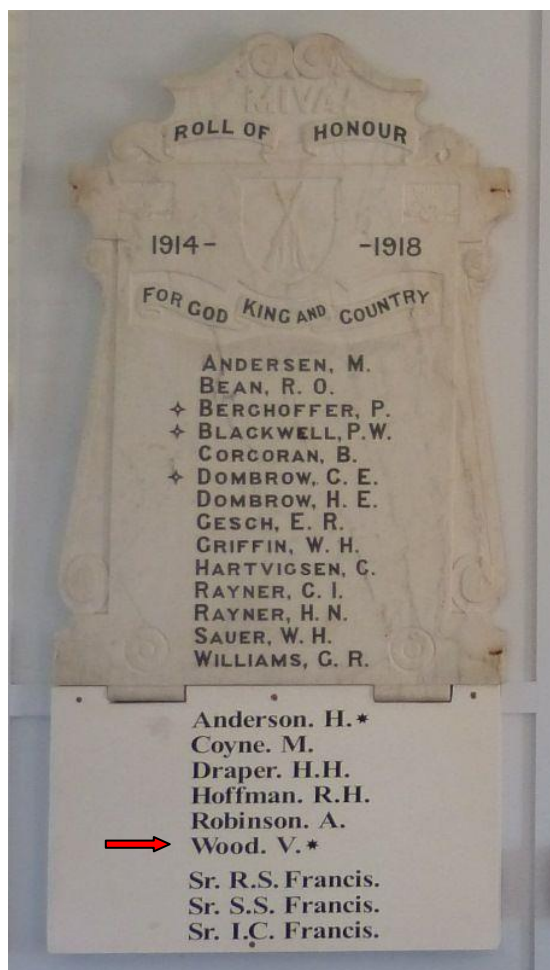
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private V. Wood – service number 7567, of 9th Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private V. Wood is remembered on the Theebine Honour Roll, erected by Theebine Rifle Club and District & located in the Theebine Memorial Hall, 6 Old Cleveland Road, Theebine, Queensland.



Theebine Honour Roll (Photo from VWMA – courtesy of Theebine Hall Committee)

V. Wood is remembered on the Miva Roll of Honour, located in C.W.A. Hall, 1185 Miva Road, Miva, Queensland.



Miva Roll of Honour (Photo from Monument Australia – Owen Seeman)

Private V. Wood is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 58.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(64 pages of Private Victor Wood'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

DISTRICT RECRUITING

The following recruits were accepted yesterday at the Lennox-street Drill Shed for service with the A.I.F.: Philip Whelan (Maryborough), Victor Wood (Theebine), and Harold Thomas Chewings (Maryborough).

(Maryborough Chronicle, Wide Bay and Burnett Advertiser, Queensland – 24 February, 1917)

THEEBINE

There was a very large gathering in the Hall on Saturday evening last, to bid farewell to Private Victor Wood, who was home on final leave. Mr C. Watson acted as Chairman, and after introducing Private V. Wood to the audience, he called on Mr Balderson to present Private Wood with a wristlet watch, given by the Rifle Club, of which Private Wood was a member. Mr Balderson, in his usual style, addressed the audience on the sterling qualities of Private Wood, and also spoke very forcibly on the important mission of the brave men, who are fighting for the Empire. He then called upon Miss Lily Bulmer to buckle on the watch. The young lady in doing so wished Private Woods a prosperous career and a happy return. Private Wood suitably returned thanks, after which all members of the Rifle Club present joined hands and sang "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" and "Auld Lang Syne". Mr G. Wood, on behalf of Mrs Wood and himself, thanked all those present for the splendid reception and good wishes tendered to their son, Private Wood.....

Private Wood left by Monday night's mail train for camp and a good roll up of friends assembled at the station to see him off and have the last farewell shake of the hand.

(Maryborough Chronicle, Wide Bay and Burnett Advertiser, Queensland – 21 April, 1917)

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

LISTS Nos. 360 AND 361

Died of Illness

Private V. Wood (Theebine)

(Morning Bulletin, Rockhampton, Queensland – 3 December, 1917)

General Items

BRISBANE, Saturday

The two latest Australian casualty lists Nos. 360 and 361, contain the names of 317 Queenslanders, among which are those of Private Victor Wood, Theebine, died of illness.....

(Gympie Times and Mary River Mining Gazette, Queensland – 4 December, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

WOOD – In loving memory of our dear son, Victor, who died at Salisbury, 1st November, 1917, aged 20 years.

Days of sadness still come o'er us,
Hidden tears do often flow;
Dear memories keep our loved son near us
Though he died a year ago.
Time may heal a broken heart
And make the sound less sore,
But time can never stay the longing
For our brave son gone before.

(Inserted by his loving father and mother, Mr and Mrs Wood).

(Maryborough Chronicle, Wide Bay and Burnett Advertiser, Queensland – 1 November, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

WOOD – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private V. Wood, who died at Salisbury, England, November 1st, 1917.

One of the best – a loving son;
A brother kind and true,
So dearly loved, and sadly missed
By everyone he knew.
Sad and oft our thoughts do wander
To a grave so far away,
Where they laid our dearly loved one
Just two years ago to-day.

(Inserted by his loving parents, sister, and brother).

(Maryborough Chronicle, Wide Bay and Burnett Advertiser, Queensland – 1 November, 1919)

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 V. Wood does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

St Lawrence's Churchyard, Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire, England

During the two world wars, the United Kingdom became an island fortress used for training troops and launching land, sea and air operations around the globe. There are more than 170,000 Commonwealth war graves in the United Kingdom, many being those of servicemen and women killed on active service, or who later succumbed to wounds. Others died in training accidents, or because of sickness or disease. The graves, many of them privately owned and marked by private memorials, will be found in more than 12,000 cemeteries and churchyards. Most of the 47 First World War burials in Stratford-sub-Castle (St Lawrence) Churchyard were made from the local hospital and more than half of them are of Australian servicemen who were based at the many Australian depots and training camps in the area. There are also two burials of the Second World War in the cemetery. *(Information from CWGC)*



St. Lawrence Church, Stratford-sub-Castle



Churchyard of St. Lawrence, Stratford-sub-Castle with CWGC Cross of Sacrifice



Original Grave Markers



(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)



(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)




(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)

Photo of Private V. Wood's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St Lawrence's Churchyard, Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)

Stratford-sub-Castle War Graves

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
A	RAF	British Army			NZ	NZ	Rogers 3 AIF		Robson Nurse	NZ	
B			Nicol AFC	Mason 5 Aus Pioneer	Dundas 29 AIF	Thorsby 20 AIF	Walpole (Wilson) 3 AIF	O'Grady 10 AIF	Kubank 40 AIF	NZ	
C	NZ	Jacob 31 AIF	Wood 9 AIF 	Smith 55 AIF	British Army	British Army	Smith Aus ASC	O'Donnell 16 AIF	Knight 52 AIF	Lawrence 54 AIF	Edmonds 48 AIF
D		Lewis 30 AIF	British Army	Whitchurch 51 AIF	British Army	Dee 52 AIF	Greenslade 17 AIF	British Army	Thorburn 13 AIF	Knight 13 AIF	Hannabry 16 AIF
E					Adams 13 AIF	Crow Aus FA	British Army	Bolton 40 AIF	British Army	British Army	
F		British Army		British Army	British Army	British Army		Canada		British Army	

(Information for layout of graves – courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)