

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

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



17445 PRIVATE

R. T. WOODVILLE

AUST. ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

13TH SEPTEMBER, 1917 Age 46

Thou Thy Worldly Task

Hast Done

Home Art Gone

And Ta'en Thy Wages

Roland Travers WOODVILLE

Roland Travers Woodville was born at East Melbourne, Victoria on 7th August, 1864 to parents William Harris Woodville & Alice Woodville (nee Dittmar).

Roland Travers Woodville attended Scotch College, Melbourne, Victoria from 1874.

William Harris Woodville, father of Roland Travers Woodville, died on 13th March, 1880 at 1 Simpson Street, East Melbourne, Victoria.

Alice Woodville, mother of Roland Travers Woodville, died on 8th November, 1891 at Parkes, New South Wales.

The 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912 & 1913 Rate Books for Perth, Western Australia recorded Roland Travers Woodville, Liveryman renting a Room & 8 Stables in South Ward of Perth.

Roland Travers Woodville stated he was a 44 year old, single, Livery Stable Proprietor from Perth, Western Australia when he enlisted on 15th December, 1915 (date as per Embarkation Roll, Attestation Papers & "Application to enlist in the Australian Imperial Force" have date as 24th November, 1915) with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his sister – Mrs B. Cook, Orrong Road, Elsternwick, Victoria. His postal address was listed on "Application to enlist in the Australian Imperial Force" as Perth Club, St. George. Terrace. One of the Attestation Papers with date as 24th November, 1915 then crossed out to show 15th December, 1915 has recorded "(Parents Dead) & his next of kin was listed as "Brother: William Woodville (on active service). Sister: Mrs Beatric Cook, Orrong Road, Elsternwick, Victoria" – the "Brother: William Woodville (on active service)" has been crossed out in red pen.

Private Roland Travers Woodville was posted to A.M.C. (C.H.) – (Army Medical Corps) for recruit training on 15th December, 1915. He was promoted to Acting Corporal from 15th January, 1916 then Provisional Sergeant from 1st April, 1916. Provisional Sergeant Travers was transferred to A.M.C. March Reinforcements on 29th June, 1917 with the rank of Private.

Private Roland Travers Woodville, Service number 17445, embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Borda* (A30) on 29th June, 1917 with the Army Medical Corps, March 1917 Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 25th August, 1917.

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 Roland Travers Woodville was marched in to A.A.M.C. (Australian Army Medical Corps) Training Depot at Parkhouse, Wiltshire on 26th August, 1917 from Australia.

Private Roland Travers Woodville was admitted to Parkhouse Hospital, Wiltshire on 27th August, 1917 for Observation. He was discharged as fit on 30th August, 1917.

Private Roland Travers Woodville reported sick to Parkhouse Hospital on 3rd September, 1917 then was transferred to Delhi Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire on the same day. He was transferred & admitted to Military Hospital at Tidworth, Wiltshire on 3rd September, 1917 dangerously ill with Cerebro Spinal Fever. The Hospital Admissions form recorded: "*Admitted on 3rd day of illness with temp 104° LP ten times 300 Temp remained up & was 102.8 on (day) of death. C.S. fluid next cleared at all. He was found on admission to have chronic nephritis also Mitral Heart Disease he was 45 years of age but looked 55. He became unconscious & delirious & died of coma.*"

Base Records advised Mrs B. Cook, Orrong Road, Elsternwick, Victoria, listed as next-of-kin of Private Roland Travers Woodville, on 12th September, 1917 that Private R. T. Woodville had been admitted to Tidworth Military Hospital, England on 4th September, 1917 suffering from cerebro spinal meningitis – dangerous.

Private Roland Travers Woodville died at 5.30 pm on 13th September, 1917 at Military Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire, England from Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.

A death for Roland T. Woodville, aged 45, was registered in the September quarter, 1917 in the district of Pewsey, Wiltshire, England.

Private Roland Travers Woodville was buried on 15th September, 1917 in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Plot number C. 301 and now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

From the burial report of Private Roland Travers Woodville - *Coffin was unpolished Elm with brass fittings. Linings and shroud etc with mouldings. Condition satisfactory. Military Funeral. Chaplain Hely-Wilson, C. of E., Tidworth officiated.*

An enquiry was made to Base Records on 26th November, 1917 by Mrs Beatrice Cook, 39 Orrong Road, Elsternwick, Victoria for a Certificate of Death for Private R. T. Woodville, 17445, A.M.C.

Base Records replied to Mrs Beatrice Cook, 39 Orrong Road, Elsternwick, Victoria on 30th November, 1917, enclosing as requested a certificate of report of death of the late No. 17445 Private Roland Travers Woodville, General Reinforcements, Army Medical Corps.

Base Records contacted Mrs B. Cook, 39 Orrong Road, Elsternwick, Victoria, on 7th June, 1921 stating she was registered on the records of the late No. 17445 Private R. T. Woodville, Army Medical Corp, as the next of kin but enquired to know if there were any nearer blood relatives than herself & asked if he had any brothers due to the "Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918" which stated that the War Medals & Mementoes of a deceased soldier were to be handed in the following order of relationship – Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister etc.

A reply was received from W. Woodville (no date) which reads: *"I am the eldest surviving brother & wish to collect all medals & c due to my deceased brother R. T. Woodville."*

Private Roland Travers Woodville 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 Woodville's brother – Mr W. Woodville, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent October, 1921 & Plaque sent September, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Roland Travers Woodville – service number 17445, aged 46, of Australian Army Medical Corps. He was the son of William Harris Woodville & Alice Dittman Woodville.

Private R. T. Woodville 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



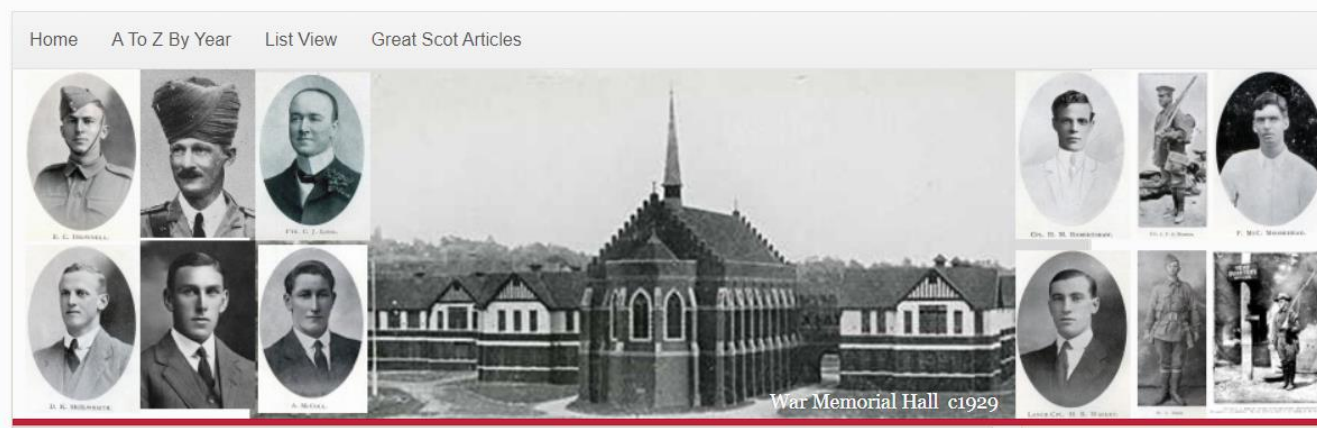
Roll of Honour at Australian War Memorial

R. T. Woodville is remembered on the Scotch College Honour Board for World War 1, located in the Memorial Hall, 1 Morrison Street, Hawthorn, Melbourne, Victoria.

He is also remembered on the Scotch College Melbourne, World War 1 Commemorative Website.



Memorial Hall at Scotch College, Melbourne (Photo by Seqlder 2010)



Roland Travers WOODVILLE

Roland Woodville was born on 7 August 1864 in East Melbourne, Victoria. His parents were William Harris and Alice (née Dittmar) Woodville. He entered Scotch in 1874.

Roland was a livery stable proprietor when he enlisted on 15 December 1915 in Perth, Western Australia. He served in the Australian Army Medical Corps with the rank of Private. His Regimental Number was 17445.

Roland died on 13 September 1917 at Tidworth Military Hospital, Tidworth. Although officially he was 46 years old, in fact he was 53.

Service record

Roland gave his age on enlistment as 44, when in fact it was 51. He was allotted to reinforcements for the Australian Army Medical Corps as a Private. In January 1916 he was made an Acting Corporal, and then a Provisional Sergeant in April. Nevertheless, he was a Private when he embarked with AAMC Reinforcements at Fremantle on 29 June 1917. On 25 August 1917 he disembarked at Plymouth, England.

Roland could not have known that he had just weeks to live. The day after arriving, he went to the AAMC Training Depot at Parkhouse. Just 8 days later on 3 September he was admitted, 'dangerously ill', to No. 5 Military Hospital at Tidworth. He died on 13 September, of cerebro spinal meningitis.

The medical report on his death, by a Captain Watts of the RAMC, said that Roland was 45 but 'looked 55' – he was in fact 53 (see below). Watts said too that Woodville had entered the hospital on the third day of the illness with a temperature of 104 degrees F (40 degrees C). The doctor concluded: 'He became unconscious and delirious and died of coma'(see below).

His service file contains a letter from the military authorities to Raymond's sister Beatrice explaining the circumstances of his funeral (see below).

Roland Woodville is buried in the Tidworth Military Cemetery (Row C, Grave 301), North Tidworth, Wiltshire, England.



R. T. Woodville is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

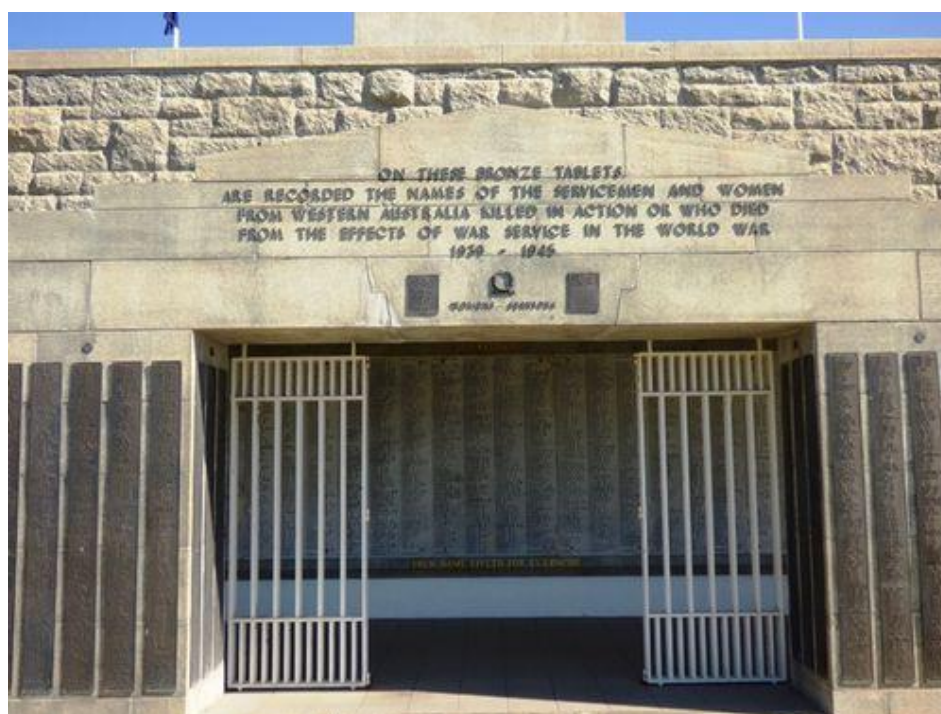
The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.



Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park (above)

& (below) The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names

(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)





(Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)

According to information provided by his sister for the Roll of Honour – “He was responsible for the forming of the permanent land at the Blackboy Camp, W.A. _____ collected all the necessary funds within 10 days had the instruments purchased & the land _____”

(70 pages of Private Roland Travers Woodville'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

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the **PARTNERSHIP** hitherto existing between **CHARLES GEORGE LYDIARD** and **ROLAND TRAVERS WOODVILLE**, as Livery Stable Proprietors, trading under the style or firm of "W. B. Castles and Co.," has this day been **DISSOLVED** by mutual consent. The said Roland Travers Woodville will receive all moneys and pay all debts of the said firm, and will in future carry on the said business on his own account.

Dated this 8th day of March, 1909.

C. G. LYDIARD.
R. T. WOODVILLE.

Witness—Arthur G. Jenkins, Solicitor.
Perth.

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 10 March, 1909)

THE CALL TO THE COLOURS

AND THE MEN WHO ARE ANSWERING

THE WEEKLY HONOR ROLL

"NARROGIN TOPS THE POLL"

List of recruits for the week ended 20/12/15:

.....

Perth - R. T. Woodville, A. G. Wright.

(*Camp Chronicle*, Midland Junction, Western Australia – 23 December, 1915)

THE SOLDIER'S PAPER

A.M.C. CONCERT

On Friday evening last the members of the A.M.C. gave an enjoyable concert in the Y.M.C.A. Hall. The following programmes was carried out:- Instrumental quartette, Ptes Saunders Bros., Wright and Carngham; song, "Sweet Genevieve," Corporal F. E. Guy; recitation, "St Peter at the Gate," Pte R. T. Woodville.....

(*Camp Chronicle*, Midland Junction, Western Australia – 20 January, 1916)

DEATHS

WOODVILLE – On September 13, 1917, at Tidworth Military Hospital, England, Sergeant Roland Travers Woodville, from meningitis.

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 20 September, 1917)

DIED ON SERVICE

WOODVILLE – On the 13th September, at Tidworth Military Hospital, England, of meningitis, Private Roland Travers Woodville, second son of the late W. H. and Alice Woodville, of East Melbourne.

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria - 20 September, 1917)

AUSTRALIANS IN ACTION

W.A. ROLL OF HONOUR

The 339th list of casualties among West Australians serving with the A.I.F. in the various theatres of war (in which men whose rank is not mentioned are private soldiers) is as follows:-

ILL

Roland Travers Woodville, Elsternwick, Vic., dangerously

(*Kalgoorlie Miner*, Western Australia – 22 September, 1917)

W.A. Casualties

At the Fighting Fronts

340TH OFFICIAL LIST

DIED

Roland Travers Woodville, Elsternwick, Vic, died of illness

(*The Daily News*, Perth, Western Australia – 4 October, 1917)

PROBATES AND ADMINISTRATIONS

The following list was issued by the Supreme Court yesterday:- Probates:....Roland Travers Woodville, late of Perth, to Walter Hartwell James, amount not stated;....

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 11 January, 1918)

W.A.T.C. ANNUAL REPORT

The annual report of the W.A.T.C. for the year ended April 30 states:- During the year the club held nine race meetings, extending over 16 days, and distributed prize money the sum of £17,750 as against £19,850 for the previous year, when the club raced on 15 days.....

Ten new members joined the club during the year, the total number on the roll on April 30, 1918, being 414. The committee record with regret the deaths of the following members, viz., - Messrs. H. R. Coombs, B. Duffy.....J. H. Phillips, H. Russel (died of wounds), J. W. Wright, and R. T. Woodville (on active service).

(*Western Mail*, Perth, Western Australia – 7 June, 1918)

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 R. T. Woodville does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Thou Thy Worldly Task Hast Done

Home Art Gone And Ta'en Thy Wages

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.

Identified graves marked by a cross and headstone in the foreground

Front row: 50727 Private Rowland James Dickson, Australian Machine Gun Corps, died 14 October 1918.

*Second row, left to right: 18282 Driver John Thalma Jackson, Details Australian Engineers, died 30 October 1917; **17445 Pte Roland Travers Woodville, Australian Army Medical Corps, died 13 September 1917;** 31712 Gunner John Alexander McDonald, 15th Field Artillery Brigade, Australian Field Artillery, died 30 July 1917, aged 37, at Tidworth Military Hospital; 3062 Pte Even Thomas Kennedy, 3rd Australian Pioneers, died 7 August 1917.*



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 R. T. Woodville's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England



(Photo courtesy of Selena Hardie)

