Warriston Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland, War Graves

Lest We Forget

World War 1

TEMPORARY SURGEON PROBATIONER

C. HORDERN

ROYAL NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE

21ST JUNE, 1915  AGE 25

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Cedric HORDERN

Cedric Hordern was born on 1st June, 1890 in Hawthorn, Victoria to parents William and Harriet Hordern (nee Bull).

Cedric Hordern attended Scotch College, Melbourne from 1906 to 1907.

The 1912 & 1913 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Kooyong, subdivision of Kew, Victoria listed Cedric Hordern, Student, living at 19 Princess Street, Kew. Also living at the same address was Harriett Hordern (mother) & Harriett May Hordern, Student (sister).

Cedric Hordern married Louisa Hyacinth Mary Knibbs on 1st September, 1913 at St. Columb’s Church Hawthorn, Victoria.

Newspaper Article:

**MR C. HORDERN TO MISS L. H. M. KNIBBS**

A very pretty but quiet wedding was celebrated at St. Columb’s, Hawthorn, on Monday, 1st September, by the Rev. D. M. Deasey, when Mr Cedric Hordern, younger son of Mrs William Hordern and the late Mr William Hordern, of “Cobramasta” Kew, was married to Miss Louise Hyacinth Mary Knibbs, younger daughter of Mr G. H. Knibbs C.M.G., and Mrs Knibbs, of “Ardmara”, Hawthorn. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore white satin, draped with beautiful lace net, veil and orange blossom, and carried a shower bouquet of beautiful flowers, which included pale pink hyacinths. Miss Marjorie Hordern (sister of the bridegroom) attended as bridesmaid, and wore a pretty frock of pale pink silk crepe, her shower bouquet being of lovely pink flowers. Mr Clarence Pawsey acted as best man. The bride received a large number of useful and valuable presents, among which were a number of cheques.

(*Punch*, Melbourne, Victoria – 11 September, 1913)

Cedric Hordern, Doctor, aged 23, and his wife Louise Hordern, aged 24, were listed as passengers on *Persic*. They had embarked at the port of Melbourne & disembarked at London on 21st October, 1913.

A son, Cedric Louis Hordern, was born to Cedric & Louise Hordern on 5th February, 1914 at Edinburgh, Scotland.

Louise Hordern, wife of Cedric Hordern, died on 6th April, 1914 at Edinburgh, Scotland.

Newspaper Article:

The many friends of Mr G. H. Knibbs, Commonwealth Statistician, and Mrs Knibbs, will learn with regret of the death of their younger daughter Louise, Mrs Cedric Hordern, in Scotland. She was married only last year, and left Melbourne with her husband in September for Edinburgh, that he might pursue his medical studies in that city. Appendicitis was the cause of her death. Mrs Knibbs, who was visiting her elder daughter, Mrs Reade Kane, of Bombala, left for Melbourne last week on receipt of the sad news.

(*The Sydney Morning Herald*, NSW – 23 May, 1914)

Cedric Hordern was a medical practitioner when he volunteered with the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve in 1914 in England. He served on H.M.S. *Kale*, a torpedo-boat destroyer with the rank of Temporary Surgeon Probationer.


Surgeon Probationer Cedric Hordern was on duty on H.M.S. *Kale* in the North Sea until May, 1915. He was transferred to work in a hospital in Perth, Scotland.

Temporary Surgeon Probationer Cedric Hordern died on 21st June, 1915 at V.A.D. (Red Cross) Hospital, Perth, Perthshire, Scotland from Pneumonia. He had worked at the Hospital for six weeks & contracted double pneumonia & died just two days later.
Newspaper Article:

Regret will be felt by his many friends at the death of Dr. Cedric Hordern from pneumonia at the V.A.D. Hospital (Red Cross), Perth, Scotland, where he was surgeon, pending his appointment to a naval hospital. At the outbreak of the war, Dr Hordern volunteered for service in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve and received a commission as surgeon, with the rank of lieutenant, being appointed to the destroyer H.M.S. Kale, on which he remained till the end of April. His wife, who was the younger daughter of Mr and Mrs G. H. Knibbs, died about a year ago, leaving a son. (The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 25 June, 1915)

Temporary Surgeon Probationer Cedric Hordern was buried in Warriston Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland – Plot number C1. 142, along with his wife. He has a private shared headstone and his death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Mrs W. Hordern, widow, aged 47 (Mother of Cedric Hordern), was a passenger on Mongolia which departed from London on 18th September, 1915 bound for Sydney. She was travelling with Cedric Hordern, infant aged 1 (her grandson) & Miss Hordern, aged 23.

Surgeon Prob. Cedric Hordern was entitled to 1914-15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal.

H.M.S. Kale

H.M.S. Kale was a Hawthorn Leslie type River Class Destroyer ordered by the Royal Navy under the 1903 – 1904 Naval Estimates. Named after the River Kale a Scotland-England border river, she was the first ship to carry this name in the Royal Navy.

In early 1914 when displaced by G Class destroyers she joined the 9th Destroyer Flotilla based at Chatham tendered to HMS St George. The 9th Flotilla was a Patrol Flotilla tasked with anti-submarine and counter mining patrols in the Firth of Forth area.

In August, 1915 with the amalgamation of the 9th and 7th Flotillas she was deployed to the 7th Destroyer Flotilla based at the River Humber. She remained employed on the Humber Patrol participating in counter mining operations and anti-submarine patrols for the remainder of the war.

On 27th March, 1918 HMS Kale was lost after striking a contact mine in the North Sea with the loss of 41 officers and men.

Cedric Hordern is remembered on the Commemorative Roll Book, located in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The Commemorative Roll records the names of those Australians who died during or as a result of wars in which Australians served, but who were not serving in the Australian Armed Forces and therefore not eligible for inclusion on the Roll of Honour.

C. Hordern is remembered on the Scotch College Honour Board for World War 1, located in the Memorial Hall.
Cedric Hordern is remembered in UK De Rivigny’s Roll of Honour 1914 – 1919, Volume 1:

Hordern, Cedric, Surgeon-Lieut., R.N., H.M.S. Kale, s. of the late William Hordern, of Melbourne, Solicitor, by his wife, Harriet (Cabramatta, Howard Street, Kew, Melbourne, Victoria); b. Hawthorne, Melbourne, 1 June, 1890; educ. Scotch College, Melbourne, and Melbourne and Edinburgh Universities; offered his services on the outbreak of war; was gazetted a Surgeon-Lieut., Dec. 1914, and died of pneumonia in the V.A.D. Hospital at Perth, 21 June, 1915. Buried in Warriston Cemetery, Edinburgh. He m. at Hawthorn aforesaid, 1 Sept. 1913, Louise (died 6 April, 1914), dau. of G. H. Knibbs, Statistician for Commonwealth of Australia, and had a son: Cedric Louis, b. 2 April, 1914.
Photo of Cedric Hordern’s Private Headstone that he shares with his wife in Warriston Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland.

( Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett Private Collection)
In Memory

Of

Louise

The Dearly Beloved Wife

Of

Cedric Hordern

Who Died 6th April, 1914

Aged 25

“My Darling”

Also The Above

Cedric Hordern

Beloved Younger Son

Of

Harriet And The Late

William Hordern

Of Melbourne, Australia

Who Died 21st June, 1915

Aged 25

Reunited
Warriston Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland

Warriston Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland contains 72 scattered burials of the First World War; a screen wall commemorates those whose graves are not individually marked by headstones. Second World War burials number 27, and there is also one Belgian war grave and one non-war service burial within the cemetery.

The cemetery is maintained by the City of Edinburgh Council. A number of grave stones are lying flat for safety reasons.

*(Information from CWGC)*