

**Hollybrook Memorial,
Southampton, Hampshire, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1986 PRIVATE

H. W. WARK

58TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

25TH JULY, 1916

Harold Wallace WARK

Harold Wallace Wark was born at Camperdown, Victoria in 1894 to parents Thomas & Sarah Jane Wark (nee Easterbrook).

Harold Wallace Wark attended school at Timboon, Victoria.

Harold Wallace Wark was a 21 year old, single, Farmer, from Timboon, Victoria when he enlisted at Warrnambool, Victoria on 22nd February, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1986 & his religion was Presbyterian (as listed on Embarkation Roll, however listed as Wesleyan on Attestation Papers). His next of kin was listed as his mother – Sarah Jane Wark, of Timboon, Victoria.

Private Harold Wallace Wark was posted to 21st Depot Battalion, A.I.F. Camp, Warrnambool for recruit training. He was transferred to 19th Depot Battalion, Geelong on 8th March, 1916 then transferred to 3rd Reinforcements of 58th Battalion at Broadmeadows on 25th April, 1916.

58th Battalion

The 58th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 17 February 1916 as part of the expansion of the AIF. Roughly half of its recruits were Gallipoli veterans from the 6th Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 6th, the 58th was predominantly composed of men from Victoria. The battalion became part of the 15th Brigade of the 5th Australian Division.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Harold Wallace Wark embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Ajana* (A31) on 8th July, 1916 with the 15th Infantry Brigade, 58th Infantry Battalion, 3rd Reinforcements.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

PB0075

HMAT *Ajana* (A31)

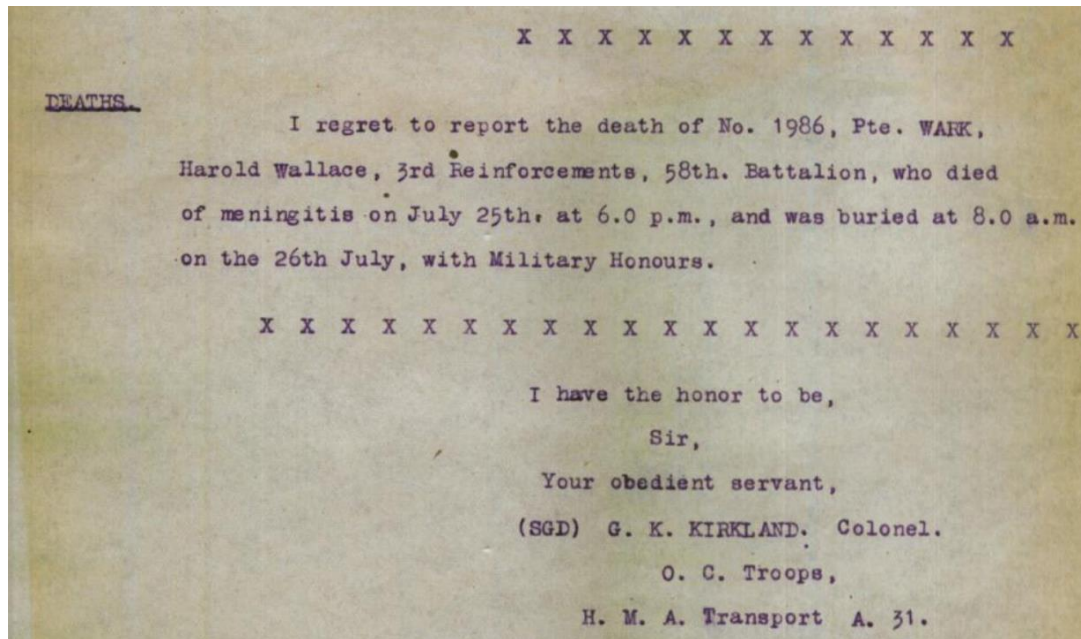
Private Harold Wallace Wark was admitted to Ship's Hospital on 19th July, 1916 with symptoms of Influenza.

Private Harold Wallace Wark died at 6 pm on 25th July, 1916 at Sea on board HMAT *Ajana* (A31) from Meningitis. Lat. 28.10S. Long. 62.34E.

From the Official Ship's Log:

"Private Harold Wallace War was admitted into the General Hospital on 19th Inst. with symptoms of Influenza. On the 21st. Inst. Meningitis appeared to develop. He was transferred to the isolation hospital and put under the serum treatment. On 22nd and 23rd, he showed signs of hopeful improvement but had a relapse on the 24th, and died at 6.0 pm on 25th July, 1916."

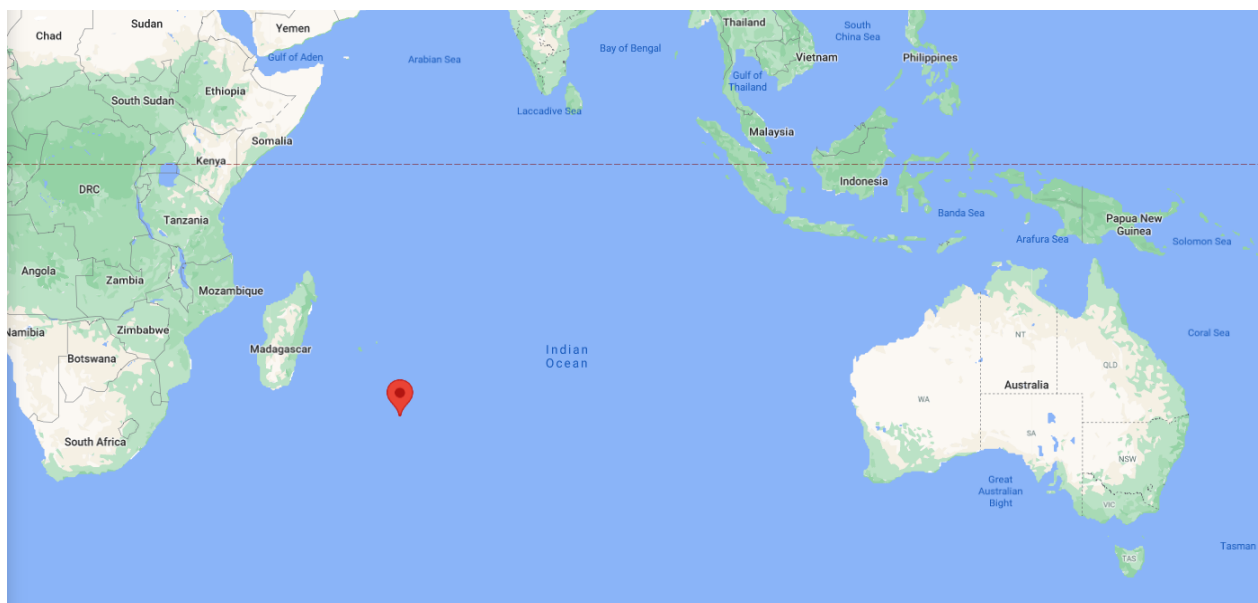
Private Harold Wallace Wark was buried at Sea at 8 am on 26th July, 1916 from on board HMAT *Ajana* (A31). He is commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England as he has no grave. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.



From the Official Ship's Log:

"No. 1986 Private Harold Wallace Wark, 3rd. Reins. 58th Battn., aged 21 years 11 months, was buried at 8 am with Military Honours."

Lat. 28.10S Lon. 60.30E.



Second Corporal William George Bill, 9824, 9th Field Company Engineers, also died on board HMAT *Ajana* (A31) while at Sea from Meningitis. He died on 20th July, 1916 & was also buried at Sea.

A War Pension was granted to Sarah J. Wark, Timboon, widowed mother of the late Private Harold Wallace Wark, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 28th September, 1916.

The State Savings Bank of Victoria – Camperdown Branch, wrote to Base Records on 5th July, 1917, requesting a certificate of report of death of Private H. W. Wark, No. 1986. 58th Battalion.

Base Records replied on 10th July, 1917 enclosing the certificate of report of death of the late No. 1986, Private H. W. Wark, 58th Battalion.

Private Harold Wallace Wark 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 Wark's widowed mother – Mrs S. J. Wark, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent May, 1922 & Plaque sent July, 1922).

Mrs S. J. Wark, Hazel Glen, Timboon, mother of the late Private Harold Wallace Wark, wrote to Base Records on 7th April, 1924 asking *"if there are ___ medal to come to me. On account of the service of the late Private H. W. Wark No 1986, 58th Battalion. The Medal I understand are On British War Medal. One Victory Medal."*

Base Records replied on 17th April, 1924 stating that the *"British War Medal issuable on account of the service of your son, the late No. 1986 Private H. W. WARK, 58th Battalion, has this day been forwarded to you per separate registered post.....I regret to state that the Victory Medal is not issuable in connection with your son as he did not serve on the establishment of a unit in a theatre of war."*

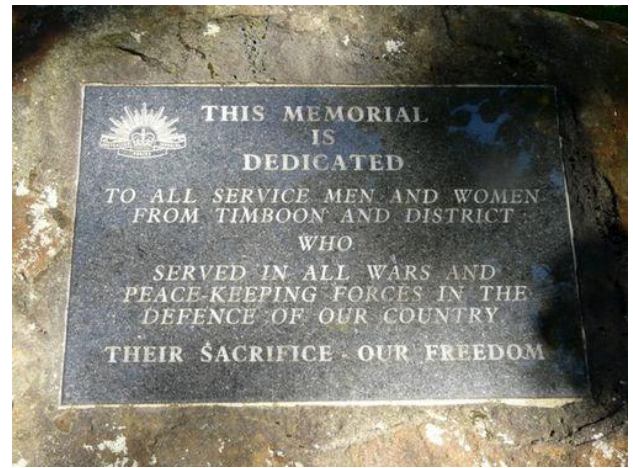
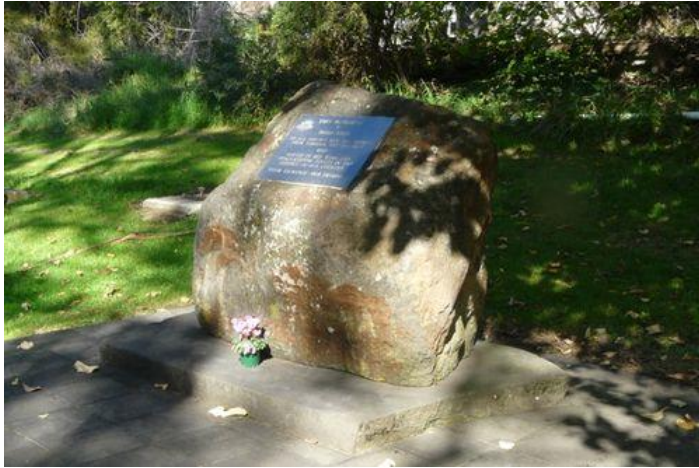
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Harold Wallace Wark – service number 1986, of 58th Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private H.W. Wark is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 166.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

The Timboon War Memorial, located in Power Creek Reserve, Timboon-Curdievale Raod, Timboon, Victoria does not list individual names.



Timboon War Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia – Graeme Saunders)

Harold Wallace Wark was named on the Timboon Honor Roll. It was a board on which 76 names were written in letters of gold, the top portion being embellished with the Union Jack, in colours, and at the foot the words "Duty Nobly Done" This honor board was destroyed in a fire in 1960's in the Hall in which it was located.

(48 pages of Private Harold Wallace Wark'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) & National Archives



Newspaper Notices

TOLL OF WAR

190th CASUALTY LIST

VICTORIA

DIED OF ILLNESS

Pte Wark, H. W., Timboon

(The Evening Echo, Ballarat, Victoria – 5 August, 1916)

SOLDIER'S DEATH

PRIVATE H. WARK

FROM MENINGITIS

Mr Thomas War, of Timboon, on Thursday received a telegram from the Defence department conveying the sad intelligence that his son, Private Harold, had died from meningitis and was buried at sea. The deceased soldier was in good health when the troopship left Fremantle: Death occurred on July 21.

(Camperdown Herald, Victoria – 5 August, 1916)

PRIVATE HAROLD W. WARK

His many friends in this district will regret to hear that Private Harold Wallace Wark, of Timboon, succumbed to an attack of meningitis while voyaging to Egypt, and was buried at sea. Private Wark, who was 21 years of age, was a son of Mrs and the late Thomas Wark, of Timboon, where he had resided all his life, and was known as an industrious young fellow, possessed of many sterling qualities. He enlisted early in April and after spending some weeks in the Geelong training camp, sailed from Australia early in July.

Recently his mother received a letter from Private Wark, dated Fremantle July 15, and then conveyed the information that he was in good health and spirits, and was having a most enjoyable time with his mates on board the transport. His aged mother therefore received a shock when, on July 27, she was informed by telegram from the officer in charge of Base Records to the following effect:- "It is officially reported that Private H. W. Wark died of meningitis on July 25, 1916, and was buried at sea." The message conveyed the sympathy of the King and Queen and the Commonwealth Government to the parents and relatives in their bereavement. Evidently his illness was of short duration. The deceased soldier was not married. His mother has received many expressions of sympathy, and the district regrets the passing of a young man who was in every way an exemplary citizen.

(Camperdown Chronicle, Victoria – 5 August, 1916)

THE LATE PRIVATE WARK

Mrs Wark, of Timboon, is in receipt of the following letter from Lieut. A. A. Deanes, O.C. 3rd Reinforcements, concerning the death of her son recently recorded in these columns. The letter was written at sea, is dated 27th July, and reads:—"I wish to offer you my sincere sympathy on the occasion of your son's (Private Harold Wallace Wark) death at sea on Tuesday, July 25. Private Wark reported sick on the 19th, and was immediately examined and admitted to ship's hospital. On the following day he developed symptoms of meningitis, and everything possible to combat the disease was done by the medical staff. Although he rallied on Sunday and Monday, and great hopes were held out for his recovery he again got worse on Tuesday, and died peacefully that evening at 6 o'clock. He was

buried at sea with full military honors, the firing party (13 men and 1 sergeant) being supplied from his platoon. Private Wark had been in my company for five months, and during the whole of that time acted as a soldier and a gentleman, and consequently he made many friends. His death was deeply regretted by myself and the whole of the company. I trust you will be consoled by the fact that your son received the greatest possible care during his illness, and that he did his duty and died an honorable death while on active service."

(Camperdown Chronicle, Victoria – 21 September, 1916)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England

The Hollybrook Memorial is situated in Southampton (Hollybrook) Cemetery behind the plot of First World War graves near the main entrance.

The Hollybrook Memorial 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 (*Officers and men of the Commonwealth's navies who have no grave but the sea are commemorated on memorials elsewhere). The memorial 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. Almost one third of the names on the memorial are those of officers and men of the South African Native Labour Corps, who died when the troop transport Mendi sank in the Channel following a collision on 21 February 1917. Other vessels sunk with significant loss of life were: HS Anglia, a hospital ship sunk by mine off Dover on 17 November 1915. SS Citta Di Palermo, an Italian transport carrying Commonwealth troops, sunk by mine off Brindisi on 8 January 1916. In rescuing survivors, two Royal Naval Otranto drifters were themselves mined and blown up. HMTs Donegal and Warilda, ambulance transports torpedoed and sunk between Le Havre and Southampton on 17 April 1917 and 3 August 1918. HS Glenart Castle, a hospital ship torpedoed and sunk off Lundy on 26 February 1918. SS Galway Castle, torpedoed and sunk in the Atlantic on 12 September 1918. RMS Leinster, the Irish mail boat, torpedoed and sunk in the Irish Sea on 10 October 1918. Among those commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial is Field Marshall Lord Kitchener, Secretary of State for War, who died when the battle cruiser HMS Hampshire was mined and sunk off Scapa Flow on 5 June 1916.

The memorial was designed by T. Newham and unveiled by Sir William Robertson on 10 December 1930.

There are approximately 162 Australian World War 1 Service Personnel commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England.

(Information & photos from CWGC)



Cross of Sacrifice



Name Panels behind Cross of Sacrifice

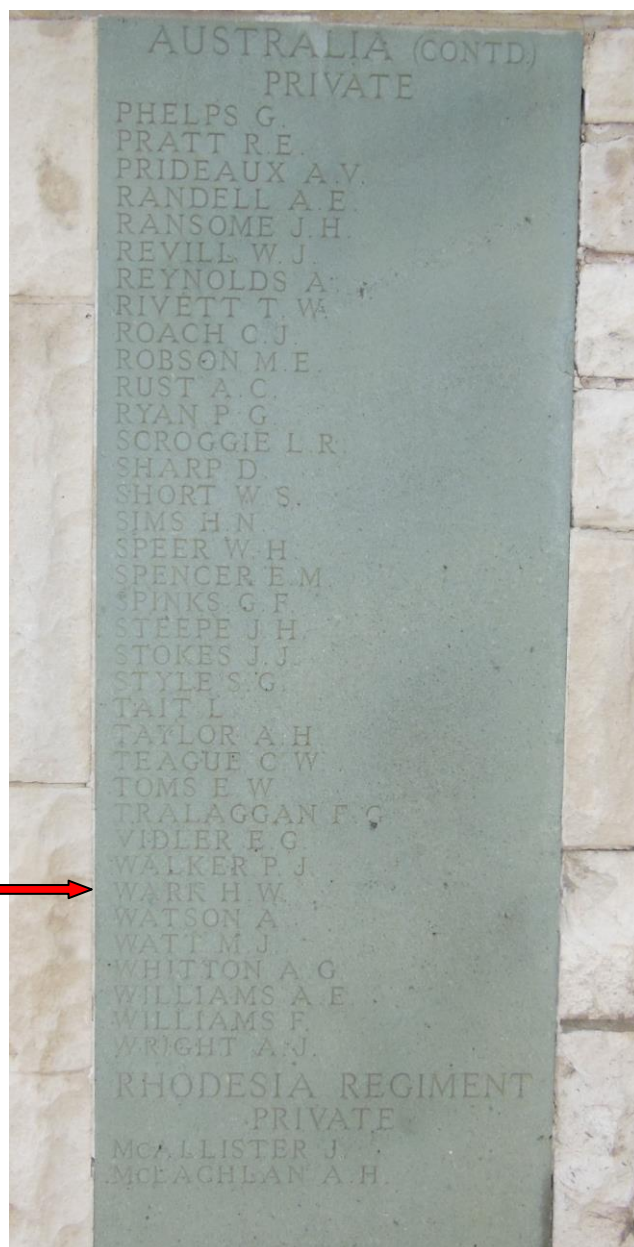


CWGC Graves in Hollybrook Cemetery with Cross of Sacrifice & Hollybrook Memorial

(Photos from CWGC)



Photo of Private H. W. Wark's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England.



(Photo by *julia&keld* – Find a Grave)

