

William Richard (Dick) BOWMAN



Regimental No. 3696
Religion Church of England
Occupation Labourer
Address Monbulk, Victoria
Marital status Single
Age at embarkation 18
Next of kin Father, William Bowman, Monbulk PO, Victoria
Enlistment date 5th February 1917
Rank on enlistment Private / Gunner
Unit name 4th Light Horse Regiment, 28th
Reinforcement

AWM Embarkation Roll No. 10/9/4
Embarkation details Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A32 *Themistocles* on 4th August 1917 for training in England.
Rank from Nominal Roll Private
Unit from Nominal Roll 31st Battery, 8th Field Artillery A.I.F.
1917 October - November Training, Lark Hill, Salisbury etc. with 4th Light Horse Reinforcements, now detailed to reinforce 8th Field Artillery in France.
1918 11th January Embarked for France with 2nd Draft of 4th Light Horse Reinforcements, held until his 19th birthday (under the new regulations for service in France) in England.
1918 23rd January Proceeded overseas to France.
1918 29th January Embarked for Havre and sent forward with Unit to the Front Line at Messines. Taken on strength of the Field Artillery Brigade.
1919 10th January Granted leave in France. Rejoined Unit on 9th February.
1919 19th May Marched out of France disembarking in England 20th May.
Fate Returned to Australia on SS *Prinz Hubertus* 3rd July 1919 arriving Melbourne 24th August 1919.

Other details War service: Western Front
Discharged 23rd September 1919
Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal
Born 11th January 1899 in Melbourne to Mary Annie (nee McKie) and William Bowman.
Died 19th August 1994.



Sons on Active Service
World War Two

1. No. 438977 Flight Sergeant Alan William Bowman. Enlisted in R.A.A.F. December 1943. May 1942 sent to Canada for training for service in Europe. Graduated Navigating Bomber 1945 when returned home for discharge.

In 1993 at the age of 95, William Bowman returned to the former Battlefields of France where he visited the areas he had served during the First World War. On the following ANZAC Day the people of Monbulk gave him a 'Welcome Home' in which he headed the R.S.L.'s traditional march down the Main Street of Monbulk. He passed away on the 19th August 1994.