

## Owen Curle



Private (Pte) 3286 Owen Curle enlisted in the 38<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion in the 10<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian Division in South Melbourne on 15 October 1917. He embarked overseas on 22 December and disembarked in Southampton, after short stops at Suez and Taranto enroute, on 14 February 1918.

He spent three weeks with an undisclosed illness in the Hurdcott Military Hospital from 26 February – 18 March, then joined the 9<sup>th</sup> (Brigade) Training Battalion at Fovant on 30 March.

He departed England on 28 May and landed in France the next day, where he was taken on strength of the 38<sup>th</sup> Battalion, in the field at Villers-Bretonneux, on 5 June 1918.

The 38<sup>th</sup> Battalion was in reserve for the allies' Amiens offensive on 8 August and played no active part on the first day. In the lead up to the attack on Proyart planned for 10 August, Pte Curle was caught in the open and killed in action during a German artillery bombardment on 9 August 1918. The ground was not held, and his body was never recovered, so he has no known grave.

Private 3286 Owen Curle is remembered on the Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, France.

Name: Curle, Owen	
Service Number	3286
Date enlisted	15 October 1917
Place enlisted	South Melbourne, Victoria
Rank on enlistment	Private
Initial Unit	38 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion
Date and ship embarked for overseas	22 December 1917 HMAT A38 <i>Ulysses</i>
Previous military service	Senior cadets
Stated age/DOB (if known)	21 years 1 month (20/8/1896)
Place of birth	Taunton, Somerset, England
Marital status	Single
Occupation	Labourer
Religion	Church of England
Next of kin and address	Allen, Frederick S, Inverleigh, Victoria
Permanent address	Little River, Victoria
Appearance	Medium complexion, dark brown hair, brown eyes, height – 5 feet 3 ½ inches, weight – 7 stone, 8 lbs, chest measurement – 32/33 inches
Final Rank	Private
Final Unit	38 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion
Theatres of war served in	Egypt, Italy, France
Fate	Killed in action
Date and place died	9 August 1918 near Proyard, France
Cemetery details	No known grave. Commemorated on the Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, France.
Honours/medals	British War Medal, Victory Medal
Notes	Also listed on the Little River Roll of Honor, Werribee Shire Great War Roll of Honor, Werribee War Memorial and the Lara & District War Memorial Gates.