

George Henry Edward Robson



Private (Pte) 1294 George Henry Edward Robson enlisted in the 38th Infantry Battalion in the 10th Infantry Brigade of the 3rd Australian Division at Geelong on 1 February 1916. He was promoted to Lance Sergeant (L Sgt) and embarked overseas on 20 June and disembarked in Plymouth on 10 August, where he joined the 10th (Brigade) Training Battalion.

He was subsequently attached to the training battalion as a member of the permanent cadre from 1 January 1917 and he also attended the 34th Physical and Bayonet Training Course at Aldershot from 30 June – 17 July 1917.

He was promoted to Extra Duties and Pay (EDP) Regimental Sergeant Major from 26 September then reverted to his original rank of Lance Sergeant upon his embarkation to France on 30 January 1918, where he was taken on strength of the 38th Battalion, in the field near Messines, on 7 February.

Following the success of the German Spring Offensive on the Somme on 21 March, the 38th Battalion was rushed south three days later, where they moved into Marrett Wood near Morlancourt, at the junction of two exhausted British armies. On 28 March about 100 Germans attacked the battalion but they were repulsed with heavy casualties.

On 25 April 1918, the battalion was in the line near Buire sur Ancre where, according to the 38th Battalion unit diary, they conducted several raids and patrols during the night. Presumably it was during one of these patrols that L Sgt Robson sustained a gunshot wound to his left thigh. He was evacuated to the 1st General Hospital at Etretat from 29 April – 27 May, then transferred to England and admitted to the 2nd Southern General Hospital in Bristol between 28 May – 8 July, where his left leg was amputated above the knee.

He then spent ten weeks at the 2nd Auxiliary Hospital at Southall between 8 July – 25 September, following which he was granted leave from 26 September – 4 October. He returned to the hospital and then embarked for return to Australia on 5 January 1919.

Lance Sergeant 1294 George Henry Edward Robson disembarked in Melbourne on 7 March 1919, where he was medically discharged from the AIF on 30 May 1921.

Name: Robson, George Henry Edward	
Service Number	1294
Date enlisted	1 February 1916
Place enlisted	Geelong, Victoria
Rank on enlistment	Private
Initial Unit	38 th Infantry Battalion
Date and ship embarked for overseas	20 June 1916 HMAT A54 <i>Runic</i>
Stated age/DOB (if known)	44 years (22/9/1871)
Place of birth	Ballarat, Victoria
Marital status	Married
Occupation	Builder and contractor
Religion	Church of England
Next of kin and address	Robson, Mrs Harriet Eva, wife, Hesse Street, Queenscliff, Victoria
Permanent address	Hesse Street, Queenscliff, Victoria
Appearance	Medium complexion, brown hair, grey eyes, height – 5 feet 6 inches, weight – 11 stone, chest measurement – 35/39 inches
Final Rank	Lance Sergeant
Final Unit	38 th Infantry Battalion
Theatres of war served in	France, Belgium
Fate	Returned to Australia
Date and place wounded	25 April 1918 Buire, France
Nature of wounds	Gunshot wound to left thigh (amputated)
Date and ship embarked for Australia	5 January 1919 HT <i>Kanowna</i>
Date discharged	30 May 1921
Nature of discharge	Medically Unfit (wounds)
Honours/medals	British War Medal, Victory Medal
Notes	Died 31 May 1955. Also remembered on the Borough of Queenscliffe Roll of Honor.