

Henry James Houghton Phillips

Driver (Dvr) 11868 Henry James Houghton Phillips enlisted in the 3rd Division Supply Column (Mechanical Transport) in Melbourne on 6 April 1916. He embarked overseas on 5 June and disembarked in Southampton on 24 July.

He was evacuated to the 1st London General Hospital and treated for haemorrhoids between 30 September – 16 November then discharged to the No. 1 Convalescent Camp at Weymouth until 6 February 1917.

After several weeks on the staff of the School of Technical Training at AFC Reading from 12 March, he was formally transferred and taken on strength of No. 5 (Training) Squadron AFC at Shawbury on 2 April 1917, where he was also re-mustered as a Fitter.

The squadron's principal role was to prepare personnel for service with No. 1 Squadron, AFC, which formed part of the British air forces operating against the Turks in Palestine.

Fitter Phillips was re-mustered as a Rigger on 24 October, then promoted to 1st Class Air Mechanic on 1 December 1917. The squadron relocated to Minchinhampton in early April 1918 and remained there for the duration of the war.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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Members of No. 5 (Training) Squadron AFC dismantling an Australian Sopwith Camel aircraft at Minchinhampton aerodrome, 15 March 1919

While his service record does not elaborate, it appears at some stage that Air Mechanic Phillips suffered from a nervous ailment. As a result, he embarked for return to Australia on 6 May 1919.

1st Class Air Mechanic 11868 Henry James Houghton Phillips disembarked in Melbourne on 16 June, where he was medically discharged from the AIF on 8 September 1919.

Name: Phillips, Henry James Houghton	
Service Number	11868
Date enlisted	6 April 1916
Place enlisted	Melbourne, Victoria
Rank on enlistment	Driver
Initial Unit	3 rd Division Supply Column (Mechanical Transport)
Previous military service	Royal Northwest Mounted Police, Canada – 1903-1908
Date and ship embarked for overseas	5 June 1916 HMAT A19 <i>Afric</i>
Stated age/DOB (if known)	32 years 6 months
Place of birth	Parramatta, NSW
Marital status	Single
Occupation	Motor mechanic
Religion	Church of England
Next of kin and address	Phillips, Mr William, father, “Addiscombe”, Rothschild Street, Glen Huntly, Victoria
Permanent address	Glen Huntly, Victoria
Appearance	Fresh complexion, black hair, grey eyes, height – 5 feet 7 ¾ inches, weight – 7 stone, 15 lbs, chest measurement – 32/34 inches
Final Rank	1 st Class Air Mechanic
Final Unit	No. 5 (Training) Squadron, Australian Flying Corps
Theatres of war served in	n/a
Fate	Returned to Australia
Date and ship embarked for Australia	6 May 1919 HT <i>Kaiser I Hind</i>
Date discharged	8 September 1919
Nature of discharge	Medically Unfit (nervous instability)
Honours/medals	British War Medal
Notes	Father was Vicar of St Marks Church between 1894 – 1898. Died 27 March 1932. Also remembered on the Leopold War Memorial