Hore, Fred Malcolm

A West Australian railway employee
killed while on military service for their country



Memorial at Railway Workshops
Midland (D.Graham/panoramio)

Rail employment information

Employer:	Western Australian Government Railways & Tramways
Branch:	Locomotive
Designation:	Cleaner

Rail employment notes: Born 22/11/1894. Joined WAGR 13/11/1915 aged 20 as Cleaner, Merredin. ("Cleaner" in this case was a position in the Locomotive branch, cleaning and otherwise working around locomotives whilst training to be a Fireman, the next step up the ladder) Granted leave to join AIF 20/3/1916 (Service No.2678). Died of illness on SS *Karoola* 31/12/1918.

Military service information:

Conflict:	First World War 1914-1918
Service:	Australian Imperial Force
Military unit:	48th Australian Infantry Battalion
Service number:	2678
Date of death:	31 December 1918
Place of death:	At sea en route UK to Australia
Rank:	Private
Age:	24
Burial/memorialisation:	Buried at sea (see below), recorded Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, Picardie, France

Fred Malcolm Hore commenced his enlistment in the AIF at Merredin and completed it at Blackboy Hill Camp where he began his basic military training on 22 May 1916. At the time of enlistment, he nominated his mother Mrs Elizabeth Hore as his NOK but when he completed his last Will he made his father Reuben T Hore his executor. He had no previous military experience prior to enlistment. Following basic training he was allotted to 6th Reinforcements to 48 Battalion with the regimental number 2678. He departed Australia from Fremantle on 30 October 1916 aboard A16 HMAT *Port Melbourne* and disembarked at Devonport where he marched into 12 Training Battaloon on 28 December 1916. After training in the UK, he left to join the BEF through Southampton on 25 June 1917 and was absorbed onto the trainee strength of 4 ADBD. Following time at 4 ADBD he was taken on strength of 48 Bn on 17 July 1917, in the field. Pte Hore served in the field throughout the Third Battle of Ypres. On 18 September 1918 he was Wounded in action (Gunshot wound Left Thigh) and admitted to 47 Casualty Clearing Station. Four days later he was transferred to the UK and admitted to Southwark Military Hospital. Following stabilization and improvement he moved to 3 AAH on 06 Dec 1918 and then departed for Australia aboard the Hospital Ship *Karoola*. He died at sea on 31 December 1918 and was buried at sea the cause of death being recorded as Uraemia secondary to Nephritis (Renal Failure in modern parlance). Private Hore was buried at sea 12º 25'N 44º 50'E. There were two other AIF deaths at sea on the voyage but both these soldiers were buried at Colombo.

Further information and/or photographs may be added as available. Information may also be found on the Australian War Memorial website: *https://www.awm.gov.au/advanced-search/people*

Additional/personal information:

As he had no physical grave and his last theatre of operations was France he was recorded on the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial. For his service he was entitled to the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. These were issued to his father together with the other memorabilia except for the booklet *Where Australians Rest* which was over written "Not Eligible"!

Family notices after his death do not indicate he was married, nor had children. His parents lived then at Balingup in the south-west.

Abbreviations: WAGR= Western Australian Government Railways (& Tramways at some periods); MRWA= Midland Railway of Western Australia; BDM=Western Australian Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages website; AWM=Australian War Memorial (Canberra and website); CWGC= Commonwealth War Graves Commission (including website).

Acknowledgements: Rail employment notes from WAGR records held by State Records Office, Perth, transcribed by J.Austin 2019. Military and personal information researched and prepared by Dr G.M.Galvin.

----------Lest we forget----------