

# Thomas McCORMACK



## Pre-enlistment:

- Thomas was born on 15 February 1879 in Townsville, QLD to parents Thomas and Johanna (nee Luhey) McCormack. They were married in Ireland where they departed on 25 July 1875 on the ship Kapunda, and arrived in Townsville on 17 November 1875. Joanna died in 1889 and Thomas remarried in 1890 to Catherine O'Donnell
- Siblings of Thomas were Michael (b 1875), Mary (b & d 1878), Winifred (b 1880), Patrick (b 1882), Johanna (b 1884), Theresa (b 1885, d 1903), Ellen (b & d 1887), Ellen (b 1888)
- He attended school at St Joseph's Townsville
- At time of enlistment his occupation was a lorry driver in Townsville

## Military Records

- Service Number: 1601
- Thomas McCormack enlisted on 23 August 1915 in Townsville, with 5th Light Horse Regiment, 12th Reinforcement, aged 37 years 7 months
- He embarked with his Unit on 30 Nov 1915 on board HMAT Suffolk, from Sydney
- He arrived at Maadi Camp (Egypt) on 7 January 1916
- On 21 January 1916 he was admitted to hospital in Abbassia then discharged to duty on 16 March 1916
- He was Taken on Strength on 1 April 1916 by 2nd Reserve Regiment at Maadi and later that month transferred to 5th Light Horse Regiment at Tel-el-Kebir
- On 26 June 1916 he was admitted to hospital then invalided to England on Hospital Ship Galeka
- He marched into Rolleston from 5th Light Horse on 10 September to the 12th Training Battalion.
- On 22 September he proceeded overseas to France and he was Taken on Strength by 4th Battalion on 3 October 1916.
- On 3 October 1916 he was transferred to 47th Battalion
- Private Thomas McCormack was killed in action in France, 11 April 1917, and buried 500 yards east of Bullecourt
- His war service was in the Middle East and on the Western Front.

## Cemetery &/or Memorial

- Villers-Bretonneux Memorial (Australian National Memorial - France)
- AIF Cemetery, West Terrace Cemetery, Adelaide, South Australia Section: LO, Road: 4S, Site No: 13
- Memorials: Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour,
- Townsville Cenotaph
- Townsville City Council Honour Board

## Honours & Awards

- British War Medal
- Victory Medal

## Rifle Shooting

- Thomas McCormack was a member of the Yungaburra Rifle Club

## ACWM Commemoration Service

## Reference Links

- <https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=1940916>
- <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/42894563?searchTerm=anthony%2C%20Norman%20John%2C%20Rifle%20club>
- <https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=194805>
- <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R1650127>
- <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/319578>
- The Townsville Cenotaph World War I Soldiers' by Carolyn Lee Larard and Maureen Valda Newnham