

How and where to research a persons individual Military Service Record. Unit Histories, Campaigns and other Military History Records in Australia and the United Kingdom



This information is published by The Army Museum of South Australia (AMOSa) as part of their Military History Education Program.
A booklet containing this information is available from the Museum on request.

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Pte J.M.Ryan - WW1
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Introduction

The obtaining of a persons Military Service Records are an important aspect of determining an insight into an individuals time in the Services, such as the campaigns they served in, their rank, Units in which they served and any Medals, Honours, Awards or Decorations they received.

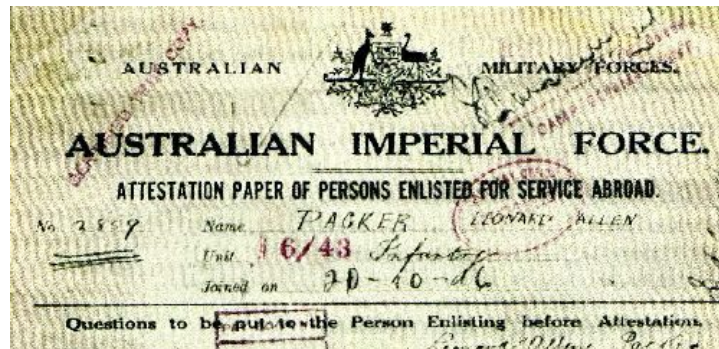
This information can be useful when researching for a Military History Project or for researching a relative as part of a genealogical investigation of a family.

The Military Records of an individual can provide information:

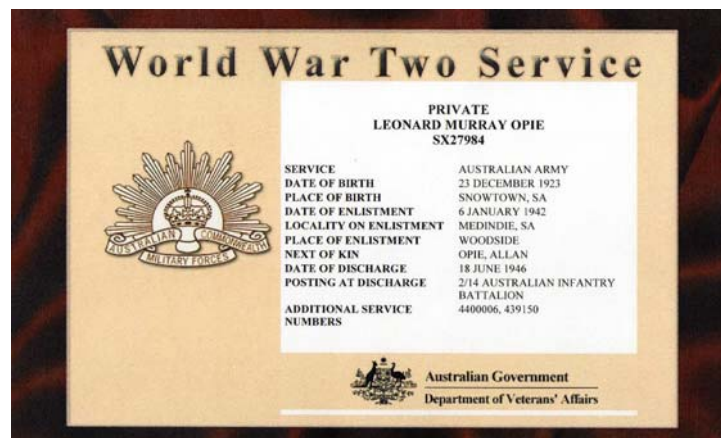
- Records of Service
- Certificate of Service (WW2)
- Unit(S) in which a person served
- The Service in which they served Army, Navy or Air Force
- Campaign Areas or Theatres of War
- Embarkation and Return dates from and to Australia
- Method of departure—Ship or Plane
- Were they captured and became a Prisoner of War (POW)
- Were they wounded or Killed in Action (KIA)
- War Graves
- Medals and Decorations awarded

Examples of information that can be obtained:

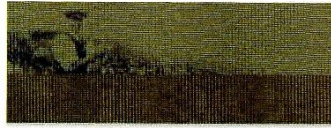
- **Record of Service** for a discharged Service Person from all Wars and Campaigns:
 - World War 1 Records are Digitised and are available on the National Australian Archive site (without any charge).



- World War 2 Records are available through the National Australian Archives site (charges apply)



- **Location of War Graves** for deceased Australian service personnel.



Here are the results of your enquiry. There are **1** records which match your search criteria.

Select a name to see more details

No	Surname	Rank	Service Number	Date Of Death	Age	Regiment/Service	Nationality	Grave/Memorial Ref.	Cemetery/Memorial Name
1	PACKER, LEONARD ALLEN	Private	2859	31/07/1917	23	Australian Infantry, A.I.F.	Australian	Panel 7 - 17 - 23 - 25 - 27 - 29 - 31.	YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL

Page 1

- **Medals, Honours and Awards** have been awarded to service personnel in all wars and campaigns
- **Nominal Rolls** [available on the internet]:
 - Sudan 1885
 - Boxer Uprising (China) 1900-1901
 - Boer War (South Africa) 1899-1902
 - WW1 1914-1918 and Embarkation Rolls
 - WW2 1939-1945
 - Korean War 1950-1953
 - Malaya Emergency 1948-1960
 - Malaysia & Borneo Confrontation 1963-1966
 - Vietnam War 1962-1972
 - Gulf War 1991
 - East Timor 1999-2003
 - Peace Keeping (UN) 1973

1916 Register No. *1806*
 AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

Certificate of Discharge of No. *562* (Rank) _____

(Name) *Ryan James Michael*

(Regiment or Corps) *4th Infantry Battalion*

born at or near the Town of *Yorketown*

in the State or County of *South Australia*

Attested at *Adelaide* on the *21st January 1916* for the *Australian Imperial Force* Regiment or Corps at the age of *23* years.

He is discharged in consequence of *cessation* of *Hostilities*

Service towards completion of engagement *three years 206 days.* Medals _____ and _____

Service Abroad *three years 22 days.* Decorations _____

THE LAST OF THESE NO Duplicates OF IT CAN BE OBTAINED.

- **Other information:**
 - Discharge Certificates

Prisoner of War Records
Commerative Rolls
Remembrance Book
Red Cross Wounded and Missing records

Sources of Information Australia

In Australia the major sources of information are:

- The Australian War Memorial (AWM) Canberra
www.awm.gov.au
- The National Archives of Australia (NAA) Canberra
www.naa.gov.au
- Central Army Records Office
www.defence.gov.au/ARMY/CARO/
- Unit Associations
- SA War Memorial Register
www.tributesofhonour.info/php/wm_names_list_ww1.php
- Dept of Vetrans Affairs
www.dva.gov.au

Internet Research Sites

In Australia specific sites are:

- National Archives of Australia
www.naa.gov.au/collection/explore/defence/index.aspx
- All Wars and Conflicts
www.naa.gov.au/collection/explore/defence/conflicts.aspx
- Service records
www.naa.gov.au/collections/explore/defence/service-records/index.aspx
- Record Search (General)
www.naa.gov.au
- Certificate of Service (WW2)
www.ww2roll.gov.au
- Certificate of Service (Korea)
www.koreanroll.gov.au/search.aspx
- Certificate of Service (Vietnam)
www.vietnamroll.gov.au/veteransearch.aspx
- Certificate of Honour
www.cwgc.org/debt_of_honour.asp?
- Australian War Memorial
www.awm.gov.au/research
- Prisoners of War (Pacific Theatre)
www.awm.gov.au/awm232/results.asp
- Nominal Rolls (All Wars)
www.awm.gov.au/nominalrolls
- Honours and Awards

- www.awm.gov.au/honours/
- Medals
 - www.defence.gov.au/medals
- Australian War Diaries
 - www.awm.gov.au/diaries/index.asp
- Australian War Graves
 - www.cwgc.org
 - www.dva.gov.au/oawg
- General Military Background History
 - www.diggerhistory.info
 - www.itsanhonour.gov.au
- Military History of Australia WW2
 - www.http://en.wikipedia.org/Category:Military_history_of_Australia_during_World_War_II
- Australian ANZACS in the Great War 1914-1918
 - www.aif.edu.au:8080/index.html
 - www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/~rmallett/
- Army Museum of South Australia
 - www.amosa.org.au

Internet Research & Postal Sites United Kingdom

United Kingdom Military Records (1760-1945)

www.pro.gov.uk
www.1914-1918.net
www.regiments.org

Army Medal Section

Govt Office Building
 Droitwich
 Worcestershire WR 98 AU
 England

Army Personnel Centre

Historic Disclosures,
 Mail Point 400
 Kentigern House
 65 Brown St
 Glasgow G2 8EX
 United Kingdom

Ministry of Defence (RN)

Personnel Records Section
 Bourne Ave Hayes
 Middlesex UB 31 RF
 England

RAF Personnel Management Centre

HQ Personnel and Training Command
 RAF Innsworth
 Gloucester GL 3 IE 2