

AUSTRALIAN



MILITARY FORCES

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

ATTESTATION PAPER OF PERSONS ENLISTED FOR SERVICE ABROAD

S/2281

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No. 2297

Name **PARKER, Leslie George**

After I attended ANZAC Day dawn service and breakfast earlier in the year, I started to understand the meaning of the ANZAC spirit. My understanding of the Anzac spirit is based on thousands of young Australian and New Zealand men were prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice for the King and Country. They showed great courage and determination to engage in battles for the freedom in our country which we now respect and show pride in their accomplishments. I wanted to learn more, and then I found out my great great Grandfather went to World War 1 & 2. I have been researching and going through his records to find out more about his experiences during his service on the Western Front.

1. What is your Name?

Leslie George Parker was born on the 27th of August 1896, in between Snowtown and Port Broughton. His family moved to the Eyre Peninsular in 1903 to take up farming near Butler Tanks. They were a poor pioneering family who cleared their land to make a living. Leslie would go out for days at a time with his brothers, with only a pick, axe, flour, sugar and a gun, to shoot rabbits to eat. Looking for adventure at nineteen years of age, Leslie enlisted at Tumby Bay on Saturday the 11th of March 1916. He was assigned as a soldier in the AIF 32nd battalion 7th reinforcement. When the time came, on the 27th of June 1916, he embarked at Adelaide on board HMAT A57 "Malakuta". On his voyage, Leslie got the measles and disembarked at Fremantle on the 4th of July 1916. He was ordered to be sent to Blackboy Hill camp to train and learn basic skills for the army. After his recovery and training, he was assigned to the 32nd battalion 10th reinforcement. On the 30th of October 1916, he boarded the HT "Port Melbourne" at Fremantle bound for England. On December the 28th 1916 he disembarked at Devonport in England. Leslie was on command at cookery school in Tidworth, England, until the 23rd June 1917. On the 28th of January 1918 he left South Hampton, heading overseas to France. On the 5th of February 1918 he joined the 48th battalion in the field of La Clytte, Belgium. While fighting in Albert Sector, in the Somme Valley, on the 28th of March 1918, Leslie was wounded in action, with a gunshot wound to his head. He was admitted to the 56th Casualty Clearing Station, and then transferred to the 22nd General Hospital at Camiers on the 29th of March 1918. On the 4th of April 1918, Leslie was evacuated to England, and admitted to Central Military Hospital at Eastbourne. He was transferred to the 3rd Auxiliary Hospital at Dartford on the 19th of April 1918. Leslie was discharged from hospital on the 24th of April 1918 on temporary leave without pay. On the 8th of May 1918, he was ordered to report to the No. 4 Command depot at Hurdcott. He marched in to Overseas Training Brigade at Longbridge, Deverill on the 31st of May 1918. He then marched in the 12th Training Battalion at Codford on the 17th of June 1918. On the 15th of August 1918, he proceeded overseas to France. Leslie rejoined the 48th Battalion in the field on the 28th of August 1918. On the 19th of September 1918, Leslie was fighting on the Hindenburg Out Post Line, he received a gunshot wound to his chest. Leslie kept a bible in his top pocket of his shirt when fighting, the bullet went through his bible first reducing the damage to his chest, saving his life. He was admitted to the 4th Australian Field Ambulance on the 20th of September 1918. The next day he was transferred to the 12th Casualty Clearing Station. On the 24th of September 1918, he was transferred to the 5th General Hospital at Rouen. The same day he was sent back to England, and admitted to the 1st Southern General Hospital at Birmingham, on the 26th of September 1918. After a long recovery, Leslie was discharged from hospital on the 11th of December 1918. He reported to No. 2 Command depot at Weymouth on the 27th of December 1918. March the 5th 1919 he boarded HT "Nevasa" bound for Australia. Leslie disembarked on the 18th of April 1919 and was discharged in Adelaide, 3rd of June 1919.

2. In what branch of the service are you engaged?

3. Are you a member of any religious denomination?

4. What is your occupation?

5. What is your trade?

6. Are you married?

7. Are you a member of any trade union?

8. What is your present address?

9. Have you ever been married?

10. Have you ever been married?



After researching my great great grandfather, Leslie George Parker, and reading through his records I have recognised his courage and determination that he demonstrated in the many horrific challenges at such a young age, fighting a war for our country and freedom, reflecting the Anzac spirit. Leslie was determined and very courageous to enlist again for the Second World War after been shot twice on the western front. Leslie had a hard life fighting two World Wars, working hard on the farm clearing the land. At sixty six years of age, on the 13th of May 1963, Leslie died from a second heart attack.

11. Do you intend to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever?

I, Leslie George Parker do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife * †

Date 11. MAR. 1916

Leslie George Parker
Signature of Person Enlisted.

* This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age.
† Two-fifths must be allotted to the wife, and if there are children three-fifths must be allotted.