

# Compton Chamberlayne War Graves



*Lest we Forget*

## World War I



**3245 PRIVATE**

**C. TULL**

**57<sup>th</sup> BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**16<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 1917 Age**

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte C Tull is located in Middle Row  
Grave Plot # 10 of Compton Chamberlayne Cemetery*

Charles Tull was born at Yea, Victoria in 1888. He was a Labourer, married & aged 28 years from Caulfield, Victoria when he enlisted, on his second attempt, on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 1916 with the 57<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 8<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements of the Australian Army. (Charles Tull was rejected on his first attempt due to the condition of his teeth). His service number was 3245 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Christina Tull of 23 Pental Road, Caulfield, Victoria. Charles Tull married Christina Schickerling on 26<sup>th</sup> October, 1916, about a fortnight before Charles embarked for duty.

*A wedding was celebrated at St Paul's Church of England, Malvern, on Thursday evening, 26<sup>th</sup> October, when Miss Tina Schickerling, daughter of the late Mr Philip Schickerling, of Hopetoun, was united in the bonds of matrimony to Mr Charles Tull, of Yea.*

(The Horsham Times, Victoria – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November, 1916)

Pte C Tull embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Medic (A7)* on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 18<sup>th</sup> February, 1917.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. These were located in the Salisbury Plain area in the county of Wiltshire.

Pte C Tull was marched into 15<sup>th</sup> Training Battalion at Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 18<sup>th</sup> February, 1917.

On 12<sup>th</sup> March, 1917 Pte C Tull was admitted sick to Fovant Hospital suffering acute Bronchitis.

Pte Charles Tull died at 5.50 a.m. on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1917 at the Military Hospital at Fovant from Bronchitis. A death for Charles Tull, aged 28, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire. ( Fovant was a parish in the district of Wilton).

Pte Tull was buried on 19<sup>th</sup> March, 1917 at Compton Chamberlayne Cemetery. From the burial report of Pte Charles Tull – Coffin was of Oak with metal mounts & name plate & deceased was given a Military Funeral. *Private Tull was known in the Battalion as one on whose comradeship one could not trespass too much. He was always willing and obliging and had been "noted" for early promotion.*

Private C Tull is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 164.



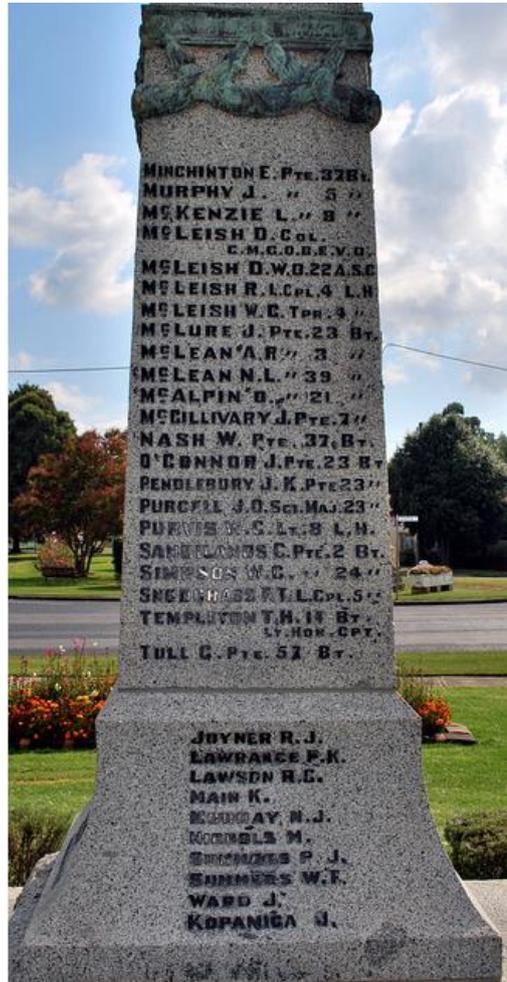
*(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)*



*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

Pte C Tull is also remembered on the Yea War Memorial located in a small park at Melba Highway, Lyons Street and Pelissier Street, Yea, Victoria.





*Photos courtesy of phunnyfotos via flickr*

Pte C Tull was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll (August, 1922) & Memorial Plaque (July, 1922) were sent to Pte C Tull's widow who had remarried – now Mrs C McAndrew of Main Road, Greensborough, Victoria.

Sadly Pte Charles Tull never saw his only child – Charles Weldon Tull, born 7<sup>th</sup> August, 1917.

( 60 pages of Pte C Tull's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

*Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives*

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\*\*\* Pte Charles Tull of the 57<sup>th</sup> Battallion, A.I.F. died at 5.50 a.m. on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1917 at the Military Hospital at Fovant.

Pte William Charles Snell of the 60<sup>th</sup> Battalion, A.I.F. died at 6.20 a.m. on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1917 at the Military Hospital at Fovant.

They were both buried at Compton Chamberlayne Cemetery on 19<sup>th</sup> March, 1917. They are buried next to each other in Middle Row – plots 10 & 11.

\*\*\* Pte Charles Tull (3245) embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Medic (A7)* on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 1916 & died 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1917.

Pte James Howard (3164) also embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Medic (A7)* on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 1916 & died 18<sup>th</sup> March, 1917.

Pte Thomas Henry William White embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Medic (A7)* on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 1916 & died 25<sup>th</sup> March, 1917

Pte Howard & Pte Tull & Pte White are buried next to each other in Middle Row – plots 8, 9 & 10.

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A War Pension was granted to Christina Tull, widow of Pte Charles Tull, in the amount of £2 per fortnight as from 23/5/1917. A War Pension was granted to the son of Pte Charles Tull – Charles W Tull in the amount of 20/- per fortnight as from 7/8/1917.

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## **DEATH OF A LOCAL SOLDIER**

*A cablegram was received on Saturday morning announcing the death of Private C Tull, of Murrindindi, from Bronchitis. Word was received only a short time ago that Private Tull had arrived in England, where his death took place in Fovant Hospital. The deceased soldier was married about a fortnight before his departure and great sympathy is felt for his sorrowing wife and mother and other members of the family. Immediately the news became known the flag at the Shire hall was hoisted half mast.*

(Yea Chronicle, Victoria – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 1917)

## **THE ROLL OF HONOUR**

### **Casualty List No. 285**

#### **Victoria**

*DIED OF ILLNESS – C. Tull, Caulfield, 16/3/17*

(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April, 1917) & (The Mercury, Hobart, Tasmania - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April, 1917) & (The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April, 1917)

## **BIRTHS**

*TULL(nee Tina Schickerling) – On the 7<sup>th</sup> August, at Nurse Hortle’s private hospital, Soudan Steet, Malvern, the wife of Private Charles Tull, A.I.F. – of a son (Charles Weldon).*

(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August, 1917)

## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **On Active Service**

*TULL – To the loved and honoured memory of my darling husband, Private Charles Tull, 57<sup>th</sup> Battalion, who died at Fovant Military Hospital, England, on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1917, aged 28 years.*

*No one knows the silent heartaches,  
Only those can tell  
Who have lost their best and dearest,  
Without even saying farewell.  
Our hero.*

*-(Inserted by his sorrowing wife and baby, Charles Weldon.)*

*TULL – In loving memory of my dear son, Private Charles Tull, who died of illness, in England, on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1917.*

*There came a day when the roll was called,  
That he did not answer "Here,"  
For he slept with his comrades his last long  
Sleep,  
And he died without a fear.*

*-(Inserted by his loving mother, wife, sisters, and brothers, Murrindindi, Yea.)*

(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1918)

## **ON ACTIVE SERVICE**

*TULL – In loving memory of my dear brother, Private Charles Tull, who died at Fovant Military Hospital, on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1917.*

*He bade no one a last farewell.  
He said good-bye to none.  
His spirit fled before we knew  
That from us he had gone.*

*-Inserted by his loving Sister and Brother-in-law, H and A.W. O'Connor, Lethbridge.  
(Yea Chronicle, Victoria – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 1918)*

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### Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone at Compton Chamberlayne Cemetery. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

*(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)*

Pte C Tull does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Photo of Pte C Tull's Headstone at Compton Chamberlayne War Graves Cemetery



Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey