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| Surname | Bellis |
| Forename(s) | Thomas Henry |
| Initials | T H |
| Age | |
| Honours/Awards | |
| Date died | 04/03/1917 |
| Rank | Private |
| Regiment | Australian Infantry, A.I.F. |
| Unit/Squadron | 10 th Bn. |
| Service Number | 4436 |
| Cemetery/Memorial | St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen |
| Grave Reference | O. VII. G. 2. |
| Further Information | Second son of the late Mr. Thomas Bellis, of Seacombe. |



Chronicle News

Liscard Australian's Death

The death from wounds in a Rouen hospital of Private Thomas Henry Bellis, of the Australian Contingent, occurred on Sunday, March 4th, and the news was conveyed to his mother at 9, Broughton Road, Poulton, in a letter from an Army chaplain. It is not known when he was wounded, but the first intimation received by his mother was a field postcard saying that he was in hospital with a gunshot wound in the thigh. After that several letters were received from a sister stating that he was very ill, and then came a letter saying that he had succumbed to his injuries.

The letter from the senior chaplain, Rev. Dr. Richards, which arrived on Thursday, read as under:-

"Please allow me to offer you my sincere sympathy on the loss you have sustained by the death in this hospital at 10.45 am today of your son, 4436

Private T.H. Bellis, Australian Imperial Forces. He was brought here a few days ago suffering from a wound in the buttocks, which, severe enough in itself, gradually became worse, and rendered his condition extremely critical. Everything possible was done for him, but his strength gave way, and all our efforts towards his recovery proved unavailing. I saw him several times during his stay here, and prayed and talked with him. He was wonderfully brave and patient, but his chief concern seemed to be that you, his mother, should not worry. For the last few hours of his life he remained in a comatose condition, so that I regret I was unable to receive any last message from him for you. The end came when I was at service, and to my sorrow he had passed away when I got back to his ward. His funeral will take place with military honours. at St. Severs, Rouen, when the brave British and Imperial boys are buried, and I will ask the Grave Registration Commission to send you as soon as practicable a photograph of his grave."

Private Bellis was the second son of the late Mr. Thomas Bellis, of Seacombe, and was himself well known in the district, being bred and born here and going to St. Paul's School, Seacombe, and the Liverpool Institute. Four or five years ago he went to Australia to make his fortune, and before joining up out there about two years ago he was clerk to the surveyor of a firm that were reclaiming land on the Murray River. He saw service in Egypt, and then went to France, where he had been since August last. He would have been 32 years of age yesterday (Friday) if he had lived. The youngest son of Mrs. Bellis is at present in France with the K.L.R., acting as instructor. Another son is in Canada, and has tried several times to enlist, but unfortunately.

References and Acknowledgments

Commonwealth War Grave Commission
Wallasey Central Library – Reference Library

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