

RILEY, William Henry



W.H. Riley, one of the soldiers photographed in *The Queenslander Pictorial*, supplement to *The Queenslander*, 1916. (2014). John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland.

Rank: Private

Service Number: 6084

Unit: 15th Battalion

Place of Birth: Eidsvold, Queensland

Date of Birth: 1 February 1892

Place of enlistment: Rockhampton, Qld, on 6 March 1916 aged 24 years 1 month.

Next-of-kin was mother Sarah Ann Marie Riley, Yarwoon (sic – Yarroon) Street, Gladstone, Qld. (Father: William Riley)

On enlistment he was 5 ft 5.5 inches and weighed 9 stone 12 lbs. His chest measurement was 36.5 inches. His occupation was waterside worker, Gladstone, Qld. Unit embarked from Brisbane, Queensland, on board HMAT A50 *Itonus* on 8 August 1916. Joined battalion in France 22 December 1916. Sick to hospital Rouen, France 28 December 1916 with mumps. Returned to Australia 2 March 1919. Returned to Etaples 20 January 1917. Sick to hospital with Otitis Media 24 January 1917 to 2 February 1917. Rejoined battalion 17 February 1917. Reported "Missing in Action Field 11 April 1917". Red Cross

Missing and Wounded File (AWM) reads: *"Prisoner of war – captured Reincourt 11 April 1917. Interned Limburg. Certified by information from German List dated 23 June 1917."* Riley wrote from Gustrow: *"I am as well as can be under the circumstances. I am receiving my parcels regularly, and getting a lot of back on my letters and cards are coming regular (sic). I have a couple of nasty scars left from ringworm so would like a pot of Zam."* (London 23 April 1918).

Arrived England 25 December 1918. Newspaper notice "Telegraph", page 4. 13 February 1919: List of prisoners released included 6084 William H Riley, Gladstone. Returned to Australia arrived 17 April, 1919.

Service Record: [View digital copy \(naa.gov.au\)](#)

Red Cross Missing and Wounded File: [5637794.PDF](#)

Paulette Flint, 2024