

## ALLAN BOND

Charles Allan Bond was born in 1893 in Rochdale, the son of Charles Bond of Spilsby and Elizabeth Bond. In 1901 the family, including daughters Ivy and Ruby, were living in Hirsted Cottages, Halifax Road, Wardle, Lancashire where Charles senior was a coachman.

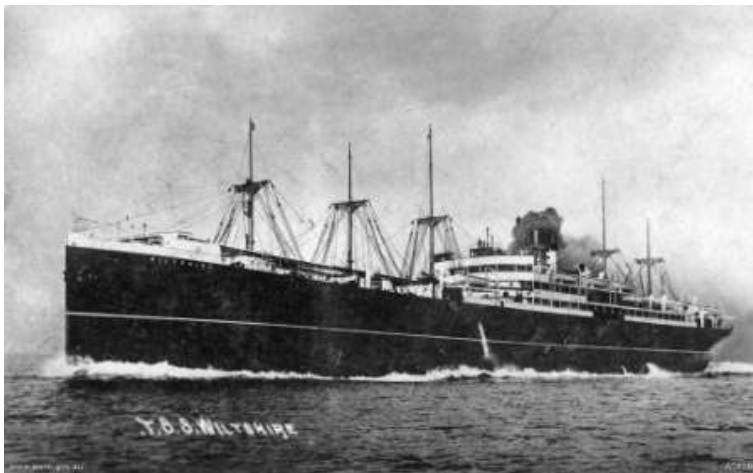
Charles senior had been born in Spilsby in 1867 and was living with his family in Dalby Road, Partney in 1881. The 1911 Census shows the family living in Partney. Charles is now a baker & grocer with Charles junior assisting him in the business.

On 8<sup>th</sup> May 1912, Charles and his father left London on board the Mamari bound for Sydney, Australia. Charles Allan Bond gave his occupation as a labourer.

According to Allan's service record, in 1916 he was living in Kings Road, Wahroonga, New South Wales with his father.

Allan was a motor driver when he enlisted on 13<sup>th</sup> March 1916, aged 22 years and 3 months. He was 5' 8" tall and weighed 130lbs. He had a fair complexion, blue eyes with fair hair. His chest measured 32 ½", 35 ½" expanded. He had a scar in the middle of his forehead. His daily pay was 5 shillings (25p).

He joined the Australian Motor Transport Section of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 19<sup>th</sup> Regiment and embarked from Sydney on board HMAT A18 *Wiltshire* on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1916. He was forced to disembark on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1916 at Cape Town as he was seriously ill with pneumonia.



HMAT *Wiltshire* was one of the steamships requisitioned by the Australian Government for use as a troop transport. She was one of the ships of the first convoy which assembled in King George's Sound, Albany, WA, in October 1914 to carry Australian and New Zealand forces to Europe. *Wiltshire* continued such duties until released by the Australian Government in 1917.

He re-embarked on 27 December 1916 on the *Briton* bound for Devonport where he landed on 30<sup>th</sup> January 1917. He left Folkestone on 13<sup>th</sup> March 1917 to reinforce the 53<sup>rd</sup> Battalion in France, landing at Etaples. By 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1918 he was in Belgium from where he went back to the UK for 2 weeks leave. He was found absent without leave at 7.30am on 15<sup>th</sup> February 1918 until he

reported at Victoria Station in London at 6am on 16<sup>th</sup> February 1918. For this he lost 7 days pay.

On 7<sup>th</sup> April 1918 Allan suffered a severe gunshot wound to the right thigh and hip and was sent to the hospital at Abbeville. The daily extract from the War Diary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion reads as follows:

WAR DIARY		INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.		Army Form C. 2118.
Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs. Part II and the Staff Manual respectively. This page will be projected in manuscript.				
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Intelligence	Remarks and References to Argentina
Bussy (Somme)	4/4	10.0	Bn. moved from Bussy by route march to BLANCY TRONVILLE. WEATHER very bad, heavy rain + practically no accommodation available. Bn. in reserve to front line troops.	
		5.30	Bn. moved from Blancy Tronville to relieve element of 1st & 2nd Army Regiments in front line.	4/4 6
			SH. 4th of the 39th 4th 9th	
St. Pierre de Noyelles	6	5.20	Relief complete. Action very quiet during the day on complete SH. 4th of the 39th 4th 9th. Casualties 14th 8th 9th. Return and 1st	4/4 7
		10.30	Bn. on order N. 76 units with instructions for attack at 5.20 on 7 <sup>th</sup> ant. B. Coy (Capt Wallace) detailed to carry out main attack in conjunction with 1st Coy of 20 <sup>th</sup> Bn. (1st Battalion) on attack on enemy in Bois de Noyelles. Casualties, but after advance through the wood, Bn. was withdrawn to original position owing to unsuitability of captured ground for consolidating holding - the ground being covered with a very heavy undergrowth, affording the field of fire.	4/4 8
			56 Prisoners were captured including 3 officers.	
			1 P.V. Stopping who took command of the attacking troops (Capt Wallace, wounded) was responsible for the capture of these prisoners + recommended for V.C.	
			Situation on the Bn. front remained quiet during remainder of day.	
			SH. 4th of the 39th 4th 9th Casualties 4th 6th 9th	
	7	10.0	Bn. front line pushed forward under cover of darkness + destruction of post, all was brought. No enemy opposition.	4/4 9
	8		Leaving on 8th April 1918. Casualties 3rd 13th	

On 10<sup>th</sup> April he was evacuated to England, landing in Brighton. On 11<sup>th</sup> April he was admitted to hospital in Colchester from where he was transferred 6 weeks later to the Army Hospital at Dartford and then on to Hindcote on 4<sup>th</sup> June 1918. A letter advising his father that he was convalescing was sent 10<sup>th</sup> June 1918.

By 8<sup>th</sup> September 1918 Allan was able to report for duty at Tidworth. He finally returned to Australia on 4<sup>th</sup> September 1919. He was discharged on 20<sup>th</sup> March 1920.

His mother Elizabeth died in Spilsby in 1925 aged 65. Charles married Veronica Hooworth in 1922 in St Leonards, Sydney, New South Wales.

On 20<sup>th</sup> January 1941 Allan, now living at 28 Park Road, Naremburn declared that he had lost his Soldier's Badge from his coat pocket on Anzac Day 1939. A duplicate was issued on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1941.

In June 1963 Charles Allan Bond applied to the Australian Government for repatriation benefits.