

1916  
11/11/16  
AUSTRALIAN  
50th BATTALION.



147  
MILITARY FORCES.

## AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

### ATTESTATION PAPER OF PERSONS ENLISTED FOR SERVICE ABROAD

No. 262  
3951

Name PEARLE Spencer Roy

Unit C Coy 2nd BATTALION A.I.F.

Joined on JAN 4 1916

#### Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name? ... 1. Spencer Roy Pearle
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? ... 2. In the Parish of Port Augusta in or South Australia  
near the Town of South Australia  
in the County of South Australia
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) ... 3. N.B.
4. What is your age? ... 4. 29 9/12
5. What is your trade or calling? ... 5. Railway Porter
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? ... 6. No
7. Are you married? Married Mrs M. Pearle ... 7. No
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) ... 8. Mother Mrs Mary Bell Pearle  
Beatrice St Prospect  
South Australia
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? ... 9. No 4K
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incorrigible and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with disgrace from the Navy? ... 10. No
11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge ... 11. 1 year Rifle Club
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? ... 12. Yes
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? ... 13. No
14. (For married men, widowers with children, and soldiers who are the sole support of widowed mother)—  
Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued to you in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with pay would reach £— per day? ... 14. C
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever? ... 15. C

I, Spencer Roy Pearle 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 \* †  
wife and children

Date JAN 4 1916

SR Pearle

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.

## CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER.

The foregoing questions were read to the person enlisted in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to by him.

~~I have examined his naturalization papers and am of opinion that they are correct.~~

(This to be struck out except in the case of persons who are naturalized British Subjects.)

Date JAN 4 1916

W.T. Oran  
Signature of Attesting Officer.

## OATH TO BE TAKEN BY PERSON BEING ENLISTED.\*

I. Spencer Roy Searle swear that I will well and truly serve our Sovereign Lord the King in the Australian Imperial Force from JAN 4 1916 until the end of the War, and a further period of four months thereafter unless sooner lawfully discharged, dismissed or removed therefrom; and that I will resist His Majesty's enemies and cause His Majesty's peace to be kept and maintained; and that I will in all matters appertaining to my service, faithfully discharge my duty according to law.

SO HELP ME GOD.

SR Searle  
Signature of Person Enlisted.

Taken and subscribed at Adelaide in  
the State of South Australia  
this JAN 4 1916 day \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
19 \_\_\_\_\_, before me—

W.T. Oran  
Signature of Attesting Officer.

\* A person enlisting who objects to taking an oath may make an affirmation in accordance with the Third Schedule of the Act and the above form must be amended accordingly. All amendments must be initialled by the Attesting Officer.



3

Description of Spencer Roy Searle on Enlistment

Age <u>24</u> years <u>9</u> months	DISTINCTIVE MARKS.  <u>Vis R. <math>\frac{6}{6}</math> L <math>\frac{6}{6}</math></u>  <u>Vacc 1 L</u>
Height <u>5</u> feet <u>10</u> inches	
Weight <u>144</u> lbs.	
Chest Measurement <u>33 35</u> inches	
Complexion <u>Medium</u>	
Eyes <u>Blue</u>	
Hair <u>Dark Brown</u>	
Religious Denomination <u>Methodist</u>	

#### CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

I HAVE examined the above-named person, and find that he does not present any of the following conditions, viz.:—

Scrofula; phthisis; syphilis; impaired constitution; defective intelligence; defects of vision, voice, or hearing; hernia; hæmorrhoids; varicose veins, beyond a limited extent; marked varicocele with unusually pendent testicle; inveterate cutaneous disease; chronic ulcers; traces of corporal punishment, or evidence of having been marked with the letters D. or B.C.; contracted or deformed chest; abnormal curvature of spine; or any other disease or physical defect calculated to unfit him for the duties of a soldier.

He can see the required distance with either eye; his heart and lungs are healthy; he has the free use of his joints and limbs; and he declares he is not subject to fits of any description.

I consider him fit for active service.

Date JAN 4 1916

Place Adelaide

H. Halloran  
Signature of Examining Medical Officer.

#### CERTIFICATE OF COMMANDING OFFICER.

I CERTIFY that this Attestation of the above named person is correct, and that the required forms have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and

appoint him to C. Coy. 2ND DEPOT BATTALION A.I.F.

Date JAN 17 1916

Place Adelaide

McHannan LT. COL.  
CAMP COMMANDANT  
Commanding  
2ND DEPOT BATTALION A.I.F.

3951  
Army Form B. 103

**50TH BATTALION A.I.F.  
Casualty Form—Active Service.**

Regimental Number **3951**

Regiment or Corps **50TH BATTALION A.I.F.**

Rank **Private** Surname **SEARLE** Christian Name **S. R.**  
Religion ..... Age on Enlistment ..... years ..... months  
Enlisted (a) **4.1.16** Terms of Service (a) ..... Service reckons from (a) .....  
Date of promotion to present rank ..... Date of appointment to lance rank .....  
Extended { ..... } Re-engaged { ..... } Qualification (b) .....  
or Corps Trade and Rate .....  
Occupation ..... Signature of Officer.

Report		Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B. 113, Army Form A. 35, or other official documents
Date	From whom received			
		Embarked ...		
		Disembarked...		
2.4.16	7th Tng Bn	Allotted to & Proceeded to join 50th Bn	Helicopolis 2.4.16	AP6856
8.4.16	CO 50th Bn B213	Taken on strength	Serapeum 2.4.16	AL489 DO/1675
5.6.16	H.M.T.	Proceeded to join B.E.F.	Alexandria 5.6.16	LR5796
	"Arcadian"	Disembarked	Marseilles 12.3.16	
	C.O. 50th Bn B213	Wounded in Action	France 16.8.16	D030/4038
VERIFIED LIST 57 Dated 25.8.16 AQ3262				
	A.A.G.	Previously reported as		
	3/rd Echelon	Wounded now reported as	Verified List 129	SEA125
	G.H.Q.	Wounded & Missing	France 16.8.16	D043/5237

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.  
(b) Signaller, Shoeing-Smith, &c.

16224 W. 13063/1497 2.400.000 1/17 M & W Ltd Forms B. 103/4 (E. 504)

[P.T.O.]



Report		Remarks
Date	From whom received	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service as reported on Army Form B 213, Army Form A 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.
		Place of Casualty Date of Casualty Taken from Army Form B 213, Army Form A 36, or other official documents
1.8.17	G.O.f Enquiry 60th Rn	Previously reported as Wounded & Missing Now reported as KILLED IN ACTION
		VERIFIED LIST 392 Dated 29.6.17 19/54236 FRANCE 16.9.16 D.O.26/2747
Anzac Section	3rd Echelon G.H.Q. B.E.F.	(SGD.) S.H. CRAWFORD Lieut. Officer i/c Repres
	Buried at Moquet Farm Sh. 54 d. SE R 33 b. 33.	V.R. 6 (Sh. 16)

# FIELD SERVICE.

Army Form B. 2090A.

REPORT of Death of a Soldier to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt of notification of death on Army Form B. 213 or Army Form A. 36, or from other official documentary sources.

REGIMENT OR CORPS } **50TH BATTALION A.I.F.** Squadron, Troop, Battery or Company }  
 Regimental No. **3951** Rank **PRIVATE**  
 Surname **SEARLE** Christian Names **S. R.**  
 Died { Date **16TH AUGUST 1916** Place **FRANCE**  
 Cause of Death\* **KILLED IN ACTION**

Nature and Date of Report **Court of Enquiry Proceedings Dated 1ST JUNE 1917**

By whom made **Commanding Officer 50th Battalion A.I.F.**

\* Specially state if killed in action, or died from wounds received in action, or from illness due to field operations or to fatigue, privation or exposure while on military duty, or from injury while on military duty.

Burial { Place **Particulars not yet to hand** Date  
 By whom reported

State whether he leaves { (a) in Pay Book (Army Book 64) **Will not received** (b) in Small Book (if at Base)  
 a Will or not (c) as a separate document

All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital, as well as the Pay Book, should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office.

Any information received as to verbal expressions by a deceased soldier of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be reported to the War Office as soon as possible.

A duplicate of this Report is to be sent to the Fixed Centre Paymaster at Home, or to the D.F.A.G., Indian Expeditionary Force, or Field Disbursing Officer, as the case may require, together with the Deceased's Pay Book (after withdrawal of any will from the latter). If the deceased's Small Book is at the Base, it should be forwarded to the War Office with this Report.

Station and Signature of Officer in charge of Section **Ansac, Section 3rd Echelon, D.F.A.G.** **Lieut.**  
 Date **11TH JULY 1917** Officer i/c Records

healthy; he has the free use of his joints and limbs; and he declares he is not subject to fits of any description.

I consider him fit for active service.

Date **JAN 4 1916**

Place **ADELAIDE.**

Signature of Examining Medical Officer.

## CERTIFICATE OF COMMANDING OFFICER.

I CERTIFY that this Attestation of the above named person is correct, and that the required forms have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and

appoint him to **"O" COY., 2nd DEPOT BATTLN.**

Date **17 JAN 1916**

Place **EXHIBITION A.I.F. CAMP.**

Commanding **EXHIBITION A.I.F. CAMP.**



4

Name Charles Henry Ray

SEE COPY A.F. B103 ENCLOSED

I have examined the above details, and find them correct in every respect.

3951  
Army Form B. 103

50TH BATTALION A.I.F.  
Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regimental Number 3951

Regiment or Corps 50TH-BATTALION-A.I.F.  
Rank Private Surname SEARLE Christian Name S. R.  
Religion Age on Enlistment years months  
Enlisted (a) 4.1.16 Terms of Service (a) Service reckons from (a)  
Date of promotion to present rank Date of appointment to lance rank  
Extended Re-engaged Qualification (b)  
or Corps Trade and Rate  
Occupation Signature of Officer.

Report		Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B.113, Army Form A.36, or other official documents
Date	From whom received			
		Embarked ...		
		Disembarked...		
2.4.16	7th Tng Bn	Allotted to & Proceeded to join 50th Bn	Heliopolis 2.4.16	AP6856
8.4.16	CO 50th Bn B213	Taken on strength	Serapeum 2.4.16	AL439 DO/1575
5.6.16	H.M.T.	Proceeded to join B.E.F.	Alexandria 5.6.16	LR5799
	"Arcadian"	Disembarked	Marseilles 12.6.16	
	C.O. 50th Bn B213	Wounded in Action	France 16.8.16	DO30/4038
		VERIFIED LIST 57 Dated 26.8.16 AQ3262		
	A.A.G.	Previously reported as		
	3/rd Echelon	Wounded now reported as	Verified List 129	SEA125
	G.H.Q.	Wounded & Missing	France 16.8.16	DO43/5237

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.  
(b) Signaller, Shipping Smith, &c.

16228 W.1356/M1477 2.400.000 1/17 MeA & W Ltd Forms B/103/4 (R. 224)

(P.T.O.)



[illegible]

TELEPHONE:  
CENTRAL ~~XXX~~ 4780

In all communications regimental number,  
rank, full name and unit of Soldier referred  
to, are to be stated. D.T.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

BASE RECORDS OFFICE,  
VICTORIA BARRACKS.

Melbourne, 4th September, 1922.

Dear Sir,

With reference to the issue of the Memorial Plaque and Scroll in respect of the services of your son, the late No. 3951 Private S.R. Searle, 50th Battalion, the former memento has now been received at this office inscribed in the name of -

"Spencer Ray Searle"

but as some doubt exists regarding the second christian name, I should be glad of your definite advice in the matter.

I should also be glad to learn in the event of the Plaque being incorrectly embossed, if you are prepared to accept same in its present form. Otherwise it will be necessary to arrange for the provision of a fresh Plaque, and I am afraid some considerable time must elapse before this can be obtained.

Thanking you in anticipation of the favor of an early reply.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. M. Searle,  
Beatrice Street,  
PROSPECT. S.A.

*J. M. Linn* Major,  
Officer i/c Base Records.



28 Beatrice St.  
Prospect  
6<sup>th</sup> Sept 22

Dear Sir

In reply to your request, my son  
No 3951 Private S. R. Searle, 50 Battalion.  
His full name is Spencer Roy Searle.  
Yes, I am willing to accept the article  
in its present form

Yours faithfully  
M Searle



DECEASED  
SECTION  
SEP 16. 1922  
RECEIVED

R. 19/9

Miss Gardiner  
18/9

M. Bartoli

19/9

# FIELD SERVICE.

Army Form B. 2090A.

REPORT of Death of a Soldier to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt of notification of death on Army Form B. 213 or Army Form A. 36, or from other official documentary sources.

REGIMENT OR CORPS	50TH BATTALION A.I.F.		Squadron, Troop, Battery or Company	
Regimental No.	3951	Rank	PRIVATE	
Surname	SEARIE	Christian Names	S. R.	
Date	16TH AUGUST 1916	Place	FRANCE	
Died	Cause of Death* KILLED IN ACTION			
Nature and Date of Report	Court of Enquiry Proceedings Dated 1ST JUNE 1917			
By whom made	Commanding Officer 50th Battalion A.I.F.			
* Specially state if killed in action, or died from wounds received in action, or from illness due to field operations or to fatigue, privation or exposure while on military duty, or from injury while on military duty.				
Particulars	Particulars not yet to hand			
Place		Date		
By whom reported				
State whether he leaves	Will not received			
a Will or not	(a) in Pay Book (Army Book 64)	(b) in Small Book (if at Base)		
	(c) as a separate document			

All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital, as well as the Pay Book, should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office.

Any information received as to verbal expressions by a deceased soldier of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be reported to the War Office as soon as possible.

A duplicate of this Report is to be sent to the Fixed Centre Paymaster at Home, or to the D.F.A.G., Indian Expeditionary Force, or Field Disbursing Officer, as the case may require, together with the Deceased's Pay Book (after withdrawal of any will from the latter). If the deceased's Small Book is at the Base, it should be forwarded to the War Office with this Report.

Anzac Section 3rd Echelon G.H.Q.

Station and Date } Signature of Officer in charge of Section }  
 Date } Adjutant-General's Office at the Base }

British Expeditionary Force 11TH JULY 1917

(1452) W8587/M830 500,000 10/16 JFW (E328) Forms/E2590A/2

Lieut. Officer i/c Records



DLT

25th October, 1917.

32564

Dear Sir,

Herewith please receive certificate of report of death of your son, the late No. 3951, Private Spencer Roy Searle, 50th Battalion.

Yours faithfully,

Major.  
Officer i/c Base Records.

Mr. M. Searle,  
Beatrice Street,  
PROSPECT, S.A.

W.B.

MRS M. B. SEARLE

BEATRICE STREET

PROSPECT. S.A.

REGRET REPORTED SON PRIVATE SPENCER R. SEARLE WOUNDED.

WILL PROMPTLY ADVISE IF ANYTHING FURTHER RECEIVED.

BASE RECORDS.

15/9/16.



A.R.

10th October, 1916.

3275

Dear Madam,

In acknowledging receipt of your communication dated 3rd instant, concerning your son No. 3951 Private S.R. Searle, 50th Battalion, I have to inform you this soldier is not reported as seriously wounded and in the absence of - further particulars favorable progress is to be assumed, it being the practice of the overseas Authorities to notify this Department of any unsatisfactory change in condition.

It is regretted that the name of the hospital in which he is located is not at present known here, but letters addressed as under will be directed to wherever he may be located :-

WOUNDED -

No. 3951 Private S. R. Searle,  
50th Australian Infantry,  
C/o A.I.F. Headquarters,  
130 Horseferry Road,  
London, S.W.

Upon receipt of any later information you will be promptly advised.

Yours faithfully,

Major  
Officer i/c Base Records.

Mrs. M. Searle,  
Beatrice Street,  
PROSPECT, S.A.

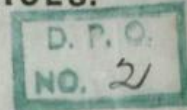
AUSTRALIAN



MILITARY FORCES.

C/EH.

4TH MILITARY DISTRICT.



TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS	CAMP:
ALL OFFICERS C 5820	MITCHAM C 6550
S.O.O. C 1366	
D.P.M. C 4368	
KEBWICK HOSPITAL C 6270	

WHEN REPLYING PLEASE  
QUOTE REFERENCE NO.

MILITARY PAY OFFICE.  
NTH. TERRACE. ADELAIDE.  
18th Oct. 1917.

The Officer in Charge,  
Base Records,  
Victoria Barracks,  
MELBOURNE-VIC.

Re No. 3951. Pte. S.R. SEARLE. (Deceased)

Enclosed copy of letter from -

Mr. M. Searle.  
Beatrice Street,  
PROSPECT. S.A.

Father of above deceased soldier, is forwarded for  
your kind attention and reply direct.

Non-Effective Statement regarding above  
came to hand over a week ago.



I Enclosure.

*W. H. Martin*  
OFFICER IN CHARGE,  
A.I.F. SECTION.

Lieut.

*Rams. Morgan*  
*19/10*



W

Transferred to

D 31751

## AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

No. 3951

Rank

Name

SEARLE

Unit

50th Fz Coy.

Casualty

Wounded, Serial 369/6996<sup>AD</sup> 10th London 8/9/16  
 16.8.16 Previously reported wounded now reported wounded  
 and missing "C 2982 711/7543B" 10th London 16.11.16  
 Previously reported missing action missing  
 now reported killed in action. (16/8/16) "C 2982 711/7543B" dated London 4.7.17

DATE

A.F. B. 103 Received

PURPORT

A.F. B. 2090A Received.

REF. NO.

16.10.16  
 20.11.16  
 22.11.16  
 9 JUL 1917

16.7.17

20.11.17

M.O. 4. Advised Wounded

M.C. 4

Advised

Wounded &amp; Missing 16/8/16

COPY MADE FOR WAR PENSIONS

M.O. 4 ADVISED, KILLED IN ACTION. 16.8.16

A.C. &amp; Pensions advised re Casualty. re de statement. 7.6.43

CONFIRMATION RECEIVED OF

Cable No. 10202 1574 1574 7/260 1574 7/17

Court of Inquiry proceedings received - B. R. M. 23/6/16

No personal effects in kit. B. R. M. No. 19/483

Circular B.R.M. 48/1368 &amp; Booklet re Graves despatched 12.12.19

BRITISH WAR MEDAL to Comdt 24/11 M.D.B.R.M. 54/5

WAR HISTORY INDEX

LIST.

D.214/3.31-C.242-104





Despatched 18.11.21 *MR*

"WHERE THE AUSTRALIANS REST."  
Pamphlet sent to *Mr M Searle* on 15.11.21 *S*

MEMORIAL  
PLAQUE  
*Father (per 4 M.D.)*  
*Mr M Searle*  
*326956*  
*26.9.22*

MEMORIAL  
SCROLL  
*To*  
*Father*  
*Mr M Searle*  
*326956*  
*15.11.21*

Despatched  
18.11.21 *MR*

VICTORY MEDAL to *Father* B.R.P.F. 42  
16 FEB 1923 Registered Post No. *3107* G. P. O. Melbourne

*6/1/26* REGISTER ORDER FORM despatched  
*VTM*



**SEARLE, Spencer Roy**



Service No: 3951  
Private  
27th and 50th Battalions

Born 13 March 1891 at Port Augusta  
Son of Mark SEARLE and Mary Bell nee McDONALD  
Of 28 Beatrice St, Prospect  
Enlisted: 4 January 1916  
Embarkation: 7 February 1916  
Age: 24 years  
Occupation prior to enlisting: Railway Porter  
Served in France  
Reported wounded & missing in action  
Later reported Killed in Action: 16 August 1916  
Buried: Moquet Farm  
Commemorated Villers Bretonneux Memorial

State Records of SA GRG 26/5/4/1088

