



Military History tips for transcribers of WW1 items

There are several databases that will give you information on a soldier, where they were born, parents names, where they served, when and if they returned.

AIF Project

<https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/index.html>

Will provide basic data sourced from their service record, also a link to lists of others in the same unit. [Data not always complete, check with NAA if unsure]

National Archives of Australia - Basic record search

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/SearchScreens/BasicSearch.aspx>

Use keywords such as surname, regimental number - to view list of service and other records. WW1 service records are all digitised, and can be viewed at no cost.

Australian War Memorial

[Search for a person](#) - limit this by conflict - First World War, 1914-1918

This will give you access to:

Embarkation Rolls - lists of men and women who embarked together, includes brief biographical details

Red Cross Wounded & Missing files - details of where they were wounded, killed or captured

[Search the Collections](#) - you may find details of the objects you are reading out

[Unit / War Diaries](#) 1914-1918

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/awm4/>

Browse the list of units i.e. Infantry & select the relevant battalion - you can then choose by month and year the diary kept by the commander of the unit for that time.

Data included is: Location, date, movements, casualties, maps, orders.

This will help locate the soldier within his battalion at the date of his diary entry.

Other useful tools:

TROVE - National Library of Australia - digitised newspapers

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/>

A search of the collections for “the name of your soldier” can reveal casualty lists, published letters, family notices and other items that may assist with the transcription.

Australian Dictionary of Biography

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/>

These entries are highly researched biographies and can assist with dates and places along with a selected bibliography.