

SERJEANT JOHN REID 200042

1st/5th Bn., Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders

Born Stonehouse 22-09-1888 at 37 King Street Stonehouse

Parents: David Reid and Elizabeth Curr

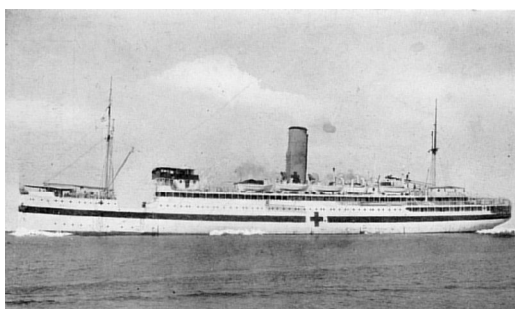
Killed 3 months prior to close of War on 3rd August 1918 whilst being shipped home on the Hospital ship Warilda.

Fought in Egypt with, 1st/5th Bn., Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and was being transferred home on HM Hospital Ship Warilda from Le Harve to Southampton.

HM Hospital Ship Warilda was built by Wm. Beardmore & Company Dalmuir, Yard No 505 in 1912 for the Adelaide Steamship Company. She was 7,713 gross tonnes and measured 413 ft. by 57 feet; she was a steam vessel capable of 16 knots and could carry 546 casualties. Initially she was requisitioned first as His Majesty's Australian Troopship, and converted to a troopship to ferry Anzacs to Gallipoli and, later, France, then she became a hospital/ambulance transport ship. She served from 25th July 1916 to 3rd August 1918 and was used on the Southampton - Le Havre route



Picture courtesy of <http://www.roll-of-honour.com/Ships>



HOSPITAL SHIP TORPEDOED.—The homeward bound Ambulance Transport Warilda (Captain James Sim, master) was torpedoed and sunk August 3rd. There were 123 lives lost, including seven members of the crew, the Warilda was a vessel of 7,713 tons, owned by the Adelaide Steamship Company.

(Extract from spectator)

On 3rd August 1918, at 1.30 am, while on a voyage from Le Havre and despite being marked with the Red Cross, she was torpedoed and sunk by the German submarine UC-49 in the English Channel. There were 471 sick and wounded on board, 439 of these were cot cases. The losses were very heavy - 115 patients, one nursing sister, and an RAMC orderly. The rest of the patients, staff and crew were evacuated from the ship within an hour.

More than 120 people went down with the ship, whose death throes were agonizing: the torpedo blast wrecked one of Warilda's propellers and jammed/destroyed her steering gear.

As a result, the ship sailed around in circles for about two hours at 15 knots – making it extremely difficult to launch the lifeboats, or for her escorts to come alongside and take people off.

Most of the wounded, nursing staff and crew were rescued and subsequently landed in Southampton – *Warilda*'s original destination on her voyage from Le Havre. Survivors were taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital in Netley and the Jellicoe Sailors' Rest, which was based in Washington Terrace (now Orchard Lane) and run by Southampton-based maritime charity Sailors' Society, which also provided clothing for many of the survivors.

Among the most prominent victims was Violet Long OBE, Deputy Chief Controller of the Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps – the Army's equivalent of the Wrens. She was the last woman to leave the stricken ship, having made sure her colleagues were safely off.

U BOAT UC49

Type	UC II
Shipyard	Germaniawerft, Kiel (Werk 265)
Ordered	12 Jan 1916 and Launched 7 th Nov 1916
Commissioned	2 Dec 1916
Commanders were as follows:	
2 Dec 1916 - 21 Apr 1917	Kptlt. Karl Petri
22 Apr 1917 - 17 May 1917	Oblt. Alfred Arnold
18 May 1917 - 2 Nov 1917	Kptlt. Karl Petri
3 Nov 1917 - 8 Aug 1918	Oblt. Hans Kükenthal
Career	13 patrols

As for *UC-49*, the submarine which fired the fatal torpedo, she was depth charged by HMS *Opossum* (a sunfish class destroyer) to destruction five days later on 8th August 1918. All hands were lost.

Hollybrook Memorial

John was listed as missing at sea and is Honoured in the Hollybrook Memorial which commemorates by name almost 1,900 servicemen and women of the Commonwealth land and air forces* whose graves are not known, many of whom were lost in transports or other vessels torpedoed or mined in home waters (*Officers and men of the Commonwealth's navies who have no grave but the sea are commemorated on memorials elsewhere). The memorial also bears the names of those who were lost or buried at sea, or who died at home but whose bodies could not be recovered for burial.

Among those commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial is Field Marshall Lord Kitchener, Secretary of State for War, who died when the battle cruiser HMS Hampshire was mined and sunk off Scapa Flow on 5 June 1916.