

Sir Thomas Henley

Sir Thomas Henley (1860-1935), politician and building contractor, was born in England and migrated to Sydney about 1884.

Henley was elected in 1904 to the NSW Legislative Assembly as the member for Burwood which he represented until 1935.

In 1915 Henley volunteered to go to Egypt as a commissioner for the Citizens' War Chest Fund. Organizing the distribution of comforts from Alexandria, Marseilles and Le Havre, France, and London, Henley personally accompanied the goods. He was gazetted lieutenant-colonel to overcome objections to civilians entering the battle zone and was appointed C.B.E. and K.B.E. in 1920.

In 1935 Henley fell from a Manly ferry and was drowned. The coroner found no suspicious circumstances and noted a record of ill health. [Extract from Australian Dictionary of Biography]

Henley is pictured below at Mersa Matruh, Egypt, with No. 3 Company, Australian Camel Corps, in May 1916 [courtesy of Burwood Council].

