The *Themistocles* was an 11,200 ton ocean liner of the Aberdeen Line and launched in 1910. After sold to Shaw, Savill and Albion Line, it travelled to Australia via Cape Town (South Africa) for both companies.

My father William Arthur Needham, his parents (Alexander Charles Needham and Louisa Hester nee Warneck) and three brothers travelled on the *Themistocles* on its last trip to Australia before the outbreak of World War I in 1914. I was told it was the last passenger ship out of England before the War. It was boarded and searched by the French Navy in the British Channel before berthing in Melbourne 40 days later.

The *Themistocles* returned to England via Albany (WA), where it joined other ships carrying Australian soldiers and proceeded under naval protection to England where the soldiers joined forces in the Great War.

A photo of Albany Harbour with the ships moored going to England can be seen at the Anzac Memorial in Albany.