

Baverstock War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



4333 PRIVATE

G. W. P. ALBERTSON

30TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

26th FEBRUARY, 1917 Age 25

George William Percy ALBERTSON

George William Percy Albertson was born at Dungowan, near Tamworth, New South Wales in 1890, to parents Hans P. & Elizabeth A. Albertson. He was a 26 year old Labourer from Dungowan Road, Tamworth, N.S.W. when he enlisted on 24th July, 1916 with the 8th Infantry Brigade, 30th Infantry Battalion, 11th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 4333 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Hans Peter Albertson, “Kyalla” Havelock Street, Chatswood, Sydney, NSW. (George had previously been rejected from serving due to a bad arm, which was operated on.)

Whilst in training at Kiama, NSW, Pte Albertson was charged with the offence of being Absent without Leave for 2 days from 18th to 19th September, 1916. He was fined 10/-.

Pte George William Percy Albertson embarked from Sydney on SS *Port Napier* on 17th November, 1916 & disembarked at Devonport, England on 29th January, 1917. Pte Albertson had been admitted to Ship’s Hospital from 17th December, 1916 until 17th January, 1917.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

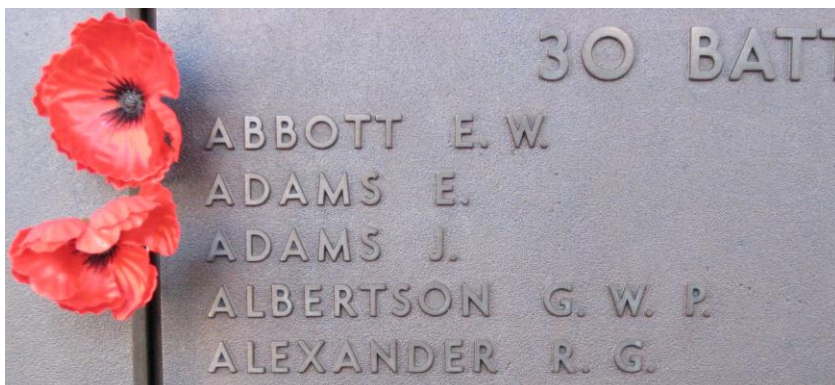
Pte Albertson was admitted sick to Fovant Military Hospital, Wiltshire from 8th Training Battalion at Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 17th February, 1917.

Private George William Percy Albertson died of bronchitis at Military Hospital at Fovant, Wiltshire on 26th February, 1917 at 11.50 pm.

A death for George Albertson, aged 26, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire.

Private George William Percy Albertson was buried in the churchyard of St. Edith’s at Bavertsock, Wiltshire on 1st March, 1917 & has a Commonwealth War Graves Headstone.

Private G. W. P Albertson is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 116.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Pte George William Percy Albertson was entitled to British War Medal only. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Albertson's father – Mr H. P. Albertson (January, 1922 & August, 1922)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Pte George William Percy Albertson – service number 4333, as being 25 years old & served with 30th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of H. P. & E. A. Albertson of "Kyalla" Kavilah St, Chatswood, Sydney. Born at Dungowan Creek.

(40 pages of Pte George William Percy Albertson's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives

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Newspaper Reports

CASUALTIES – 279th List

Died of Illness

Pte G. W. P. Albertson, Chatswood;

(*The Land*, Sydney, NSW – Friday 23 March, 1917)

In the Supreme Court of New South Wales — (Probate Jurisdiction.— 'In the Will of George William Percy Albertson , late of Dungowan, in the State of New South Wales a member of the Australian Imperial Forces, deceased. Pursuant to the Wills, Probate and Administration Act, 1898, Notice is hereby given that all creditors and other persons having any claims upon or interest in the Estate of the above-named deceased (who died on active service in England on the twenty sixth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen, and formerly resided at Dungowan, in the State of New South Wales, and Probate of whose Will was on the sixth day of July one thousand nine hundred and seventeen, granted by the Supreme Court of New South Wales, in its Probate Jurisdiction to Albert Nicholas Albertson, the sole Executor, named in the said Will) are hereby required to send in full particulars in writing of their claims to the undersigned, the Proctors for the Executor of the Will of the said deceased, before the fourteenth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and eighteen, after which date the said Executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have notice, and the said Executor shall not be liable for the assets or any part thereof so distributed to any person of whose claim he shall not have had notice at the time of such distribution. Dated this twenty-fourth day of November, A.D., 1917. Patterson and Lamrock, Proctors for Executor, Tamworth.

(Daily Observer, Tamworth, NSW – Monday 26 November, 1917)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone at St. Edith's Churchyard, Baverstock. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

Pte George William Percy Albertson does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Photo of Pte George William Percy Albertson's CWGC Headstone at St. Edith's Churchyard, Baverstock, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey 2012)



St. Edith's Churchyard, Baverstock, Wiltshire.

(Photo from CWGC)