

Codford War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I

20134 RIFLEMAN

E. FOSTER

N.Z. RIFLE BRIGADE

14TH NOVEMBER, 1916 Age 34



Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Rifleman E. Foster is located in Second Row (Left Hand Side) Grave Plot # 47 of Codford War Graves Cemetery (Using Map by Brian Marshall)

(CWGC Reference - Grave # 25)

Edward Foster was born 16th May, 1882 at Sydenham, Christchurch, New Zealand. He was a 32 year old, single, Labourer from Gisborne, New Zealand when he enlisted on 30th April, 1916 with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. His service number was 20134 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his half brother – Arthur Norman of Wanganui, New Zealand. Edward Foster stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously served for 1 year in the Military with the Putea Rifles. His medical sheet had the following remark “very deficient intelligence.”

Rifleman Edward Foster embarked with 10th Reinforcements, 2nd Battalion, F Company from Wellington, New Zealand on HMNZT (61) *Aparima* on 19th August, 1916, destination England. He was admitted to Hospital on 21st September, 1916 & returned to duty on 16th October, 1916. Rifleman Foster disembarked at Devonport, England on 25th October, 1916.

Rifleman Edward Foster was marched in to Sling Army Camp, Wiltshire on 25th October, 1916.

Rifleman Edward Foster was admitted to No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital on 9th/10th November, 1916 with Broncho pneumonia - slight.

Rifleman Edward Foster died on 14th November, 1916 at No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital at Codford, Wiltshire of Pneumonia.

Rifleman Edward Foster was buried at St. Mary's Cemetery, Codford on 16th November, 1916.

Rifleman Edward Foster, 20134 was last attached to New Zealand Rifle Brigade (Reserve).

Rifleman Edward Foster was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to his half brother – Mr A. Norman of Castle Cliff Rd, Wanganui (June, 1921 & January, 1922)

(18 pages of Rifleman Edward Foster's Service records are available for On Line viewing at Archives New Zealand website).

Information obtained from the Archives New Zealand, Auckland War Memorial Museum, Commonwealth War Graves Commission & PapersPast, National Library of New Zealand.

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Newspaper Reports

NEW ZEALAND CASUALTIES

DIED OF PNEUMONIA

Rifleman E. Foster

(*Hawera & Normanby Star*, Volume LXXI, 17th November, 1916)

Rifleman E. Foster has a Commonwealth War Graves Headstone. None of the New Zealand CWGC headstones at Codford have a personal inscription.

Photo of Rifleman E. Foster's Headstone at Codford War Graves Cemetery



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)