

Durrington War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



6813 PRIVATE

A. W. SAGGERS

11TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

6TH FEBRUARY, 1917

Called to a Higher Life

Thy Will Be Done

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte A. W. Saggars is located in Grave Plot # 177
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

Aubrey William SAGGERS

Aubrey William Saggars was born at Ringarooma, Tasmania in 1893 to parents William & Mary Saggars. He was educated in Perth.

Aubrey W. Saggars married Muriel Brittain on 26th May, 1915 in the district of Wellington, Western Australia.

Aubrey William Saggars was a 22 year old, married, Butcher from Bunbury, Western Australia (with one child) when he enlisted on 4th July, 1916 with the 11th Infantry Battalion, 22nd Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 6813 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Muriel Saggars - Rathmines, Bunbury, Western Australia. Aubrey had served 3 years with 86 Infantry, Bunbury.

Pte Aubrey William Saggars embarked from Fremantle on HMAT *Argyllshire (A8)* on 9th November, 1916 & disembarked at Devonport, England on 10th January, 1917. Pte Saggars had been admitted to Ship's Hospital from 30th November to 12th December, 1916 whilst at sea.

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.

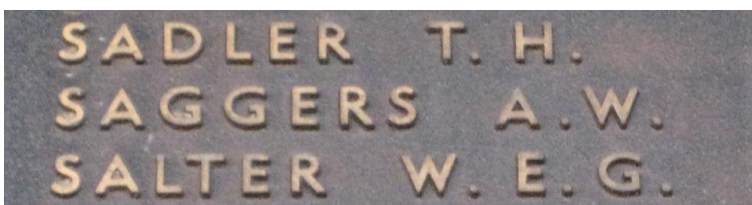
Private Aubrey William Saggars was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 30th January, 1917 from 3rd Training Battalion, Durrington, Wiltshire. He was reported seriously ill on 2nd February, 1917.

Private Aubrey William Saggars died at 1.11 am on 6th February, 1917 at Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire from Bronchitis & Asthma. Pte Saggars was the first of three soldiers, all from 3rd Training Battalion, to die from Bronchitis related illnesses on 6th February, 1917. Pte W. C Gilchrist – 6462 died at 7.15 a.m. from Bronchitis & Pte G. F. Holmes – 6520 died at 7.50 a.m. from Broncho pneumonia.

A death for Aubrey W. Saggars, aged 23, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private Aubrey William Saggars was buried on 9th February, 1917 at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – Plot number 177 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private A. W. Saggars is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 64 .



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Pte Aubrey William Saggars 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 Pte Saggars's widow – Mrs M. Saggars (sent December, 1921 & February, 1922)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Aubrey William Saggars – service number 6813 as being 22 years old & served with 11th Battalion Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

(47 pages of Pte Aubrey William Saggars' Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

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

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Pte Aubrey William Saggars

Newspaper Reports

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

DEATHS

A. W. Saggars (Bunbury), died of illness

(Sunday Times, Perth, Western Australia – Sunday 25 February, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

SAGGERS—In sad but loving memory of my dear husband Aubrey, who died in Fargo Military Hospital, England, February 6, 1917.

I would that I could tell you now

The love I have for you.

I wish that I could but express

The thoughts for ever true.

But simple words could ne'er convey

The longing of my heart,

The wish to see my darling one

Never again to part.

-Inserted by his loving wife Muriel, and little son Bertie (Bunbury).

SAGGERS.-In sad but loving memory of our dear son and brother Aubrey, who died in Fargo Military Hospital, England, on February 6, 1917. Ever remembered.

-Inserted by his mother and stepfather, M. and T. K. Kelly, sisters and brother.....

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – Wednesday 6 February, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

ANZAC HEROES

SAGGARS – In loving memory of my dear husband, Private Aubrey Saggars, who died of illness at Fargo Military Hospital, February 6, 1917, Durrington, 11th Battalion. Age 23 years.

Until the dawn breaks and the shadows flee away

Inserted by his loving wife and son, Muriel and Bertie.

SAGGARS – In sad but loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Aubrey W. Saggars, who died on February 6, 1917, in Fargo Military Hospital, England. Peace, perfect Peace.

Inserted by his loving mother and step-father and family, Mr and Mrs T. H. Kelly, 51 Albany-road, Victoria Park, and his loving sister and brother-in-law, E. and J. Crick, Bongardie.

SAGGARS – In sad but loving memory of Private Aubrey Saggars, who died on February 6, 1917, in Fargo Military Hospital, England, aged 22 years. So dearly loved, so sadly missed.

Inserted by his loving sister (Elvie) and Private C. Straw (on active service).

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – Thursday 6 February, 1919)

IN MEMORIAM

ANZAC HEROES

SAGGARS – In loving memory of my dear husband and dear daddy, Aubrey William Saggars, who died while on active service February 6, 1917, in Fargo Military Hospital, England.

You are always in our thoughts, dear Aubrey,

‘Tis sweet to breathe your name;

In life we loved you dearly,

In death we do the same.

Inserted by his loving wife and son, Muriel and little son Bertie.

SAGGARS – In sad but loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Aubrey W. Saggars, who died Fargo Military Hospital, England on February 6, 1917, aged 22 years.

Thy will be done

Inserted by his loving mother and step-father and family, Mr and Mrs T. H. Kelly, Victoria Park, and sisters and brothers-in-law, Ethel and J. Crick, Elvie and C. Straw, Bunbury, also Mavis, Edythe and Arthur Kelly, and little nephew Malcolm.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – Friday 6 February, 1920)

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 Durrington War Graves Cemetery. 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 A. W. Saggars does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Photo of Pte A. W. Siggers's Headstone at Durrington War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)