

Durrington War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



2642 PRIVATE

E. SHADWICK

40TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

1ST FEBRUARY, 1917 Age 19

He Gave His Life For Others

Till The Day Breaks

& Shadows Flee Away

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte E. Shadwick is located in Grave Plot # 171
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

Edney SHADWICK

Edney Shadwick was born 6th July, 1897 at Lisdillon, Tasmania to parents George Henry and Maria Shadwick (nee Kean). He was a 19 year old, single, Farmer from Gretna, Tasmania when he enlisted on 2nd October, 1916 with the 40th Infantry Battalion, 5th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 2642 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – George H. Shadwick of “Glenelg”, Gretna, Tasmania.

Pte Edney Shadwick embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Ulysses (A38)* on 25th October, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 23rd December, 1916.

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 Edney Shadwick was sent sick to Parkhouse Hospital around 25th January, 1917 from 10th Training Battalion, Durrington, Wiltshire. He was admitted seriously ill with Broncho Pneumonia to Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 25th January, 1917.

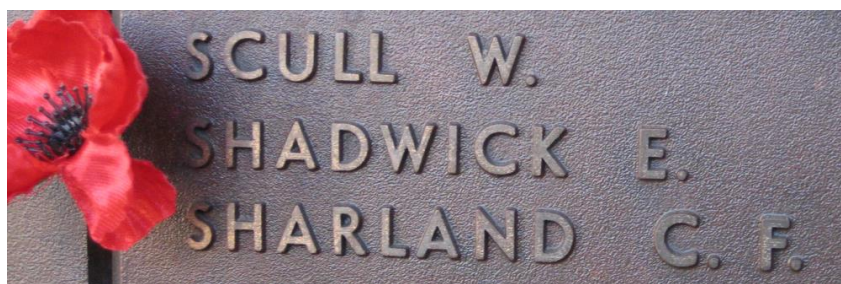
Private Edney Shadwick died at 6.40 p.m. on 1st February, 1917 at Fargo Military Hospital from Broncho Pneumonia.

A death for Shadwick EDNEY (names reversed), aged 19, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private Edney Shadwick was buried on 5th February, 1917 at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – Plot number 171 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Pte Edney Shadwick 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 Shadwick’s father – Mr G. H. Shadwick (sent December, 1921 & July, 1922).

Private E. Shadwick is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 133.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Pte Edney Shadwick was also remembered with a memorial tree planted in the township of Hamilton in 1918. Pte Edney Shadwick is also remembered with a Memorial tree on Soldiers Memorial Avenue, Gordon River Road, Bushy Park.



Bushy Park – Memorial Avenue

Pte Edney Shadwick was also remembered on the Upper Derwent Roll of Honour located at Bushy Park Hall, Gordon River Road, Bushy Park, Tasmania.



Upper Derwent Roll of Honour – Bushy Park Hall

Edney Shadwick is also remembered on the Gretna War Memorial located on Lyell Highway, Gretna, Tasmania.



Gretna War Memorial (Photo by Geoff Ritchie)

E. Shadwick is also remembered on the Hamilton Municipality Roll of Honour located in Hamilton Town Hall, Tarleton Street, Hamilton, Tasmania. (Middle board, right column, sixth name from bottom)



The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Edney Shadwick – service number 2642 as being 19 years old & served with 40th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of George Henry and Maria Shadwick, of Gretna, Tasmania.

(38 pages of Pte Edney Shadwick’s 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

Newspaper Reports

ROLL OF HONOUR

SHADWICK – Died of pneumonia, Edney, youngest son of George and the late Maria Shadwick, at Fargo Hospital, Salisbury.

(The North Western Advocate and the Emu Bay Times, Tasmania – Wednesday 14 February, 1917)

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES – 272ND LIST

TASMANIA – DIED OF ILLNESS

E. Shadwick, Gretna 1/2/17.

(The Queenslander, Brisbane – Saturday 24 February, 1917)

TREE PLANTING AT HAMILTON

Practically all the residents of Hamilton township gathered in that part of Franklin-place, commonly called the "Green Lane," where the memorial trees to the fallen soldiers, residents or the sons of residents of the township, were to be planted by relatives of the deceased men. A local committee, with Mr. Robert Spencer as hon. secretary, had worked very hard for the success of the function, the trees (blackwood) and the substantial guards to protect them having been provided by public subscription, invited by the committee, and a glorious spring day brightened and cheered the hearts of all assembled, including the sorrowing relatives. Senior-Chaplain Archdeacon Whittington was present from Hobart, and it was a matter of regret to those present that the Roman Catholic chaplain was unable, from illness, to attend. The Warden and councillors were in attendance officially, and also officers of the council, and a number of people journeyed specially from Hobart and from distant parts of the district to be present. Lieutenant E E Jones was in attendance from Hobart to represent the returned Sailors' and Soldiers' League, and also returned soldiers including Coy. QMS Clifford Hills (Military medal), Sergeant William Heawood, Private Bert Jenkins, and others. The school children had been granted a half-holiday by the Minister of Education. The Archdeacon gave an address, and Lieutenant Jones spoke in feeling terms of the sacrifice made for all by his fallen comrades. After heartily singing by the whole company assembled, led by Mr. Marsden of the hymn, "O God, our help in ages past," the relatives and friends present planted memorial trees to the following fallen soldiers: -

Private William John Alder Brown 14th Battalion (enlisted in Victoria), and Private Harold Baylie Brown, 15th Battalion (brother), both killed in action 2nd May, 1915;

Private Herbert Harold Shearing, 15th Battalion, killed in action, May, 1915;

Major Arthur Justin Sanford Hutchinson, 58th Battalion, killed in action, 1916;

Private Henry Alfred Hack, 12th Battalion, killed in action between 19th and 22nd August, 1916;

Private Edney Shadwick, 40th Battalion, died of illness, 1st February, 1917;

Company Sergeant-Major Joseph Norman Hills, 47th (late 15th) Battalion, killed in action, 5th April, 1918;

Private Leslie Frank Hills, 40th Battalion, died of wounds, 12th October, 1917;

Private George Rory Sullivan, Otago Infantry Brigade (New Zealand), killed in action, 3rd December, 1917.

The National Anthem was then sung and the meeting dispersed, a great number, including the Warden and councillors and council clerk, Archdeacon Whittington, Lieutenant Jones, and the returned soldiers, proceeding to Ouse, to take part in a similar function there later the same afternoon. The Hamilton Council has accepted the gift of the trees and guards and will see to the maintenance of them.

(The Mercury, Hobart, Tasmania – 22 August, 1918)

SOLDIERS MEMORIAL

The construction of a new steel and concrete bridge over the Styx River at Bushy Park has necessitated the removal of five large chestnut trees in the Soldiers' Memorial Avenue. The removal of the trees was necessary to overcome a dangerous approach to the new bridge. The trees were planted soon after the First World War in memory of Edney Shadwick, John Tasman O'Neal, Gerald Morris, G. Arthur Ransley, and Albert Salier, who were killed in action. The Bushy Park Progress Association, which has been responsible for the care of the trees during the past 20 years, sanctioned their removal to a point near the existing wooden bridge, which will be demolished when the new structure is completed. The transfer of the trees was completed yesterday, and employees from estates at Bushy Park and Glenora assisted in the work. The operations were carried out under the direction of Mr. I. Thornicroft, curator of the Hobart Botanical Gardens. The overseer in charge of the bridge work (Mr. N. G. Excell) and men employed on the job, operated the haulage gear, which was used to uproot the trees.

(The Mercury, Hobart – 6th June, 1935)

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 E. Shadwick does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

He Gave His Life For Others. Till The Day Breaks & Shadows Flee Away

Photo of Pte E. SHadwick's Headstone at Durrington War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)