

Durrington War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



3053 PRIVATE

E. C. T. EGGELING

44TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

5TH MAY, 1917 Age 21

In Loving Memory

Of Our Dear Son

And Brother Ernie

Rest In Peace

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte E. C. T. Eggeling is located in Grave Plot # 242
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

Ernest Christian Theodor EGGELING

Ernest Christian Theodor Eggeling was born at Coolgardie, Western Australia in 1897 to parents Hainrith Christoph Theodor & Amy Marguerite Eggeling (nee Linnett). He was a 20 year old, single Shop Assistant from Esperance, Western Australia when he enlisted on 28th December, 1916 with the 44th Infantry Battalion, 7th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 3053 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Henry Eggeling of Esperance, Western Australia. Ernest had previously served with Esperance Rifle Club.

Pte Ernest Christian Theodore Eggeling embarked from Fremantle on HMAT *Miltiades (A28)* on 29th January, 1917 & disembarked at Devonport, England on 27th March, 1917. Whilst at sea Pte Eggeling had been admitted to Ship's Hospital from 6th March until 12th March, 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 Eggeling was marched in to A.I.F. Details at Fovant, Wiltshire on 28th March, 1917.

Pte Eggeling was admitted sick to Fovant Hospital on 5th April, 1917 & discharged on 13th April, 1917, suffering from Influenza.

Pte Eggeling was marched out from Fovant to 11th Training Battalion at Durrington on 18th April, 1917.

Pte Eggeling was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital on 24th April, 1917 – seriously ill with Broncho-pneumonia.

Pte Ernest Christian Theodore Eggeling died at 4.45 p.m. on 5th May, 1917 from Measles & Broncho – pneumonia at Fargo Military Hospital.

A death for Ernest C. T. Eggeling, aged 20, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Pte Ernest Christian Theodore Eggeling was buried in Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – plot number 242 on 9th May, 1917. From the burial report of Pte Eggeling – *The deceased's friends from his Unit and Officers attended the funeral which was a full Military one. The service was conducted by the Rev. Buckley, partly at the Church of England Durrington – at the graveside with the Rev. Clarke was also present. A wreath was also placed on the grave.*

Pte E. Eggeling requested in his Will, dated 29th April, 1917, his property to be left to his mother – Annie Margarate Eggeling.

A War Pension was granted to Annie Margaret Eggeling – mother of late Pte Ernest Christian Theodor Eggeling in the sum of 40/- fortnightly, granted from 9th July, 1917.

Private E. C. T. Eggeling is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 138.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

E. C. T. Eggeling is also remembered on the Norseman Roll of Honour located in the Foyer of the Norseman Town Hall, Prinsep & Ramsay Streets, Norseman, Western Australia.



(Photo from War Memorials In Australia)

Pte Ernest Christian Theodor Eggeling was entitled to British War Medal only. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Eggeling's father – Mr H. Eggeling (both July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Ernest Christian Theodore Eggeling – service number 3053 as being 21 years old & served with 44th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Henry Christoph Theodore and Annie Margaret Eggeling, of Esperance Bay, Western Australia. Born at Coolgardie.

(54 pages of Pte Ernest Christian Theodor Eggeling'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

NORSEMAN RECRUITS

Norseman, Dec. 21.

During the past few days five additional recruits have enlisted locally, four of whom – Messrs. L. N. Sinclair, E.C.T. Eggeling, J.B. Orr and F.C. daw- hailed from, Esperance.....

(Kalgoorlie Miner, Western Australia Tuesday 26 December, 1916)

W.A. CASUALTIES – 301st Official List

DIED OF ILLNESS

Private E.C.T. EGGELING, Esperance

(The Daily News, Perth, Western Australia Monday 21 May, 1917)

NORSEMAN - ROLL OF HONOUR

The list of local casualties in the A.I.F. is higher than ever before....

Private E. C. Eggeling, of Esperance, who died of pneumonia in England, only enlisted here a few months ago.....

(Kalgoorlie Miner, Western Australia Tuesday 29 May, 1917)

DEATHS

EGGELING - On May 5th, on his way to the front, Private Ernest Eggeling, in his 21st year.

He never shunned his country's call.

He gave his life, he gave his all.

Memories of his upright ways.

Will linger with us all our days.

— For six years a faithful employee of W. E. Hughes & Co., Esperance.

EGGELING - Died in England from, pneumonia, on May 5th, 1917, Ernest C. T. Eggeling, aged 20 years. Member of the A.I.F., son of Mr. H. and Mrs. A. Eggeling, of Esperance.

Beloved by all who knew him.

(*Kalgoorlie Miner*, Western Australia Tuesday 29 May, 1917) &

(*Western Argus*, Kalgoorlie, W.A., Tuesday 5 June, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

EGGELING - In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Ernest C. T. Eggeling, of the 44th Battalion, died in England, 5th May, 1917; aged 20 years and 4 months.

No loved ones stood around him,

To bid a fond farewell;

No word of comfort could we give

To dear Ernie, we loved so well,

Too far away your grave to see,

But not too far to think of thee.

-Inserted by his loving mother, father, brothers and sisters.

(*Western Argus*, Kalgoorlie, W.A., Tuesday 7 May, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

EGGELING - In sad and loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Ernest Eggeling, died in Fargo Military Hospital, England, on the 5th May, 1917.

In life we loved him dearly,
In death we do the same.

-Inserted by his loving mother, father, brothers and sisters, Elsie, Henry, Fred, Gladys and Ray, Norseman.

(*Kalgoorlie Miner*, Western Australia Wednesday 5 May, 1920) &
(*Western Argus*, Kalgoorlie, W.A., Tuesday 11 May, 1920)

IN MEMORIAM

EGGELING - In sad and loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Ernest Eggeling, died in Fargo Military Hospital, England, on the 5th May, 1917.

Over in England our sad hearts roam
To a lonely grave so far from home.
Sleep on, my darling, take thy rest,
We miss you most who loved you best.

—Inserted by his loving parents, brothers and sisters, Norseman.

(*Kalgoorlie Miner*, Western Australia Thursday 5 May, 1921)

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. C. T. Eggeling does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

In Loving Memory Of Our Dear Son And Brother Ernie Rest In Peace

Photo of Pte E. C. T. Eggeling's Headstone at Durrington War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)