



Soldiers' Graves in England

Private C. C. Cana, of the 3rd Reinforcements, 38th Battalion, A. I. F., has written to "The Advertiser" from Salisbury Plain stating that he visits the Durrington Cemetery every Sunday, having noticed there were 36 graves there of Australian soldiers. On every occasion he has been at the cemetery he has seen a band of young ladies attending to the graves, keeping the enclosures tidy, and placing wreaths and floral tributes on the mounds. Enquiries elicited the fact that the young ladies of the town had agreed to look after the graves, and Private Cana thinks the relations of soldiers buried at Durrington will be pleased to hear that the last resting places of their loved ones are being so carefully guarded by "the loving hearts and hands" of sympathetic young ladies.

The Advertiser (Adelaide, South Australia), Friday, 29 June 1917

The following version of the letter was published a few days later

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A soldier writing from a camp on Salisbury Plain instances the kind and generous feeling towards the Australians in England. Near the camp is the small village of Durrington and he mentions that the graves of more than 100 members of the A. I. F. are in a corner of the cemetery there. These are carefully and regularly tended by the young ladies of Durrington and fresh flowers are placed upon the mounds. "Those in Australia whose relatives have died here need have no fear that the men's graves are neglected" he states, "and if their remains had been taken back to Australia the memory of the men could not have been more tenderly and generously honoured."

The Argus (Melbourne, Victoria), Monday, 2 July 1917