

Durrington War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



2328 PRIVATE

V. A. HINCHCLIFFE

42ND BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

11th FEBRUARY, 1917 Age 36

Nearer My God To Thee

Nearer To Thee

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte V. A. Hinchcliffe is located in
Grave Plot # 191 of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

Vincent Alexander HINCHCLIFFE

Vincent Alexander Hinchcliffe was born in 1878 at Kangaroo Point, Brisbane, Queensland to parents Verdon & Christina Hinchcliffe (nee Nicol). He was a 36 year old, single, Farmer from Veresdale, Queensland when he enlisted on 10th April, 1916 with the 42nd Infantry Battalion, 4th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 2328 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Christina Hinchcliffe of Veresdale, Queensland.

Pte Vincent Alexander Hinchcliffe embarked from Brisbane on HMAT *Boonah* (A36) on 21st October, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 10th January, 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.

Private Vincent Alexander Hinchcliffe was marched in to 11th Training Battalion from Australia on 10th January, 1917.

Private Vincent Alexander Hinchcliffe was sent sick to Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire & admitted with Influenza on 31st January, 1917.

Private Vincent Alexander Hinchcliffe died at 12.42 a.m. on 11th February, 1917 at Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire from Bronchitis & Asthma.

A death for Vincent A. Hinchcliff, aged 37, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private Vincent Alexander Hinchcliffe was buried on 15th February, 1917 at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – Plot number 191 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private V. A. Hinchcliffe is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 135.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

V. A. Hincliffe is also remembered on the Beaudesert War Memorial located at the intersection of Brisbane and William Streets and Mt Lindsay Highway, Beaudesert, Queensland.



Beaudesert War Memorial (Photos from Qld War Memorials by Shirley & Trevor McIvor)

Pte V. A. Hinchcliffe 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 Hinchcliffe's father – Mr V. Hinchcliffe (December, 1921 & January, 1923).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Vincent Alexander Hinchcliffe – service number 2328 as being 36 years old & served with 42nd Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Verdon and Christina Hinchcliffe of Veresdale, Beaudesert, Queensland. Born at Brisbane.

A War Pension was granted to Christina Hinchcliffe, mother of late Pte Vincent Hinchcliffe, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 17th April, 1917.

(48 pages of Pte Vincent Alexander Hinchcliffe'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

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Newspaper Reports

PERSONAL NOTES

Mr V. Hinchcliffe, of Veresdale, has received a cablegram stating that his son, Private V. A. Hinchcliffe, who left Australia with the 41st Battalion, has died of bronchitis.

(The Queenslander – Saturday 24 February, 1917)

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES - LIST NO. 275

DIED OF ILLNESS

Private V. A. Hinchcliffe (Veresdale)

(Morning Bulletin, Rockhampton, Qld – Tuesday 27 February, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

HINCHCLIFFE – On the 11th February, at Fargo Military Hospital, England, of bronchitis, Private Vincent Alexander Hinchcliffe, dearly beloved son of Mr and Mrs Verdon Hinchcliffe, Veresdale, Upper Logan.

(The Queenslander – Saturday 10 March, 1917)

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 V. A, Hinchcliffe does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Nearer My God To Thee Nearer To Thee

Photo of Pte V. A. Hinchcliffe's Headstone at Durrington War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)