Durrington War Graves



World War I



6525 PRIVATE

W. HAYTHORNTHWAITE

11TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

9th JANUARY, 1917 Age 22

The Lord Gave

And The Lord Hath Taken Away

Ever Dear

Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte W. Haythornthwaite is located in Grave Plot # 151 of Durrington War Graves Cemetery

William HAYTHORNTHWAITE

William Haythornthwaite was born in 1893 at Bendigo, Victoria, to parents William James & Margaret Jane Haythornthwaite (nee Hardy). He was a 22 year old, single Farmer from Perth, Western Australia when he enlisted on 14th March, 1916 with the 11th Infantry Battalion, 21st Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 6525 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr William James Haythornthwaite, Post Office, Quairading, Western Australia.

Pte William Haythornthwaite embarked from Fremantle on HMAT *Suffolk (A23)* on 10th October, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 2nd 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.

Private William Haythornthwaite was marched in from Australia to 8th Training Battalion & then transferred to 3rd Training Battalion, No. 3 Camp, Durrington, Wiltshire on 17th December, 1916.

Private William Haythornthwaite was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 17th December, 1916 seriously ill with acute appendicitis.

Private William Haythornthwaite died on 9th January, 1917 at Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire from Appendicitis.

A death for William <u>Haythornwaite</u>, aged 23, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private William Haythornthwaite was buried on 12th January, 1917 at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – Plot number 151 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private W. Haythornthwaite is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 62.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

W. Haythornthwaite is also remembered on the Quairading War Memorial located opposite the old railway station between Quairading – York Road and Heal Street, Quairading, Western Australia.



Quairading War Memorial



Pte William Haythornthwaite 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 Haythornthwaite's father – Mr W. J. Haythornthwaite (December, 1921 & February, 1922)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private William Haythornthwaite – service number 6525 as being 22 years old & served with 11th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Mr W. J. and Mrs M. J. Haythornthwaite. Born at Victoria.

(48 pages of Pte William Haythornthwaite'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

W. A. CASUALTIES

ILL

W. Haythornthwaite, Quairading, seriously.

(The Daily News, Perth – Friday 19 January, 1917)

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES - LISTS No. 266 AND 267 ISSUED

DIED OF ILLNESS

Western Australia - W. Haythornthwaite, Quairading.

(The Argus, Melbourne – Tuesday 23 January, 1917)

PROBATES AND ADMINISTRATIONS

The following list was issued from the Supreme Court yesterday:-.... William Haythornthwaite, late of Quairading. To William James Haythornthwaite, £222 7s. 9d.

(The Western Australian, Perth – Friday 5 July, 1918)

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)

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Pte W. Haythornthwaite does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

The Lord Gave And The Lord Hath Taken Away Ever Dear

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



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)