

Sutton Veny War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



7479 PRIVATE

D. D. DONNELLY

10TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

10TH MARCH, 1918 Age 22

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte D. D. Donnelly is located in
Grave Plot # 327. D. 17. of St. John the Evangelist Churchyard, Sutton Veny*

Daniel Davitt / David DONNELLY

Daniel Davitt Donnelly was born on 18th May, 1895 at Ararat, Victoria to parents James & Margaret Donnelly (nee Crone). He was a 22 year old, single Labourer from Adelaide, Sth Australia when he enlisted at Adelaide on 27th August, 1917 with the 10th Infantry Battalion, 25th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 7479 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs M. Donnelly, Korumburra, Gippsland, Victoria.

Pte Daniel David Donnelly was admitted to No. 7 Australian General Hospital from 15th to 25th September, 1917 with "Lysol" Poisoning, which he drank "3 parts of a bottle of Lysol in mistake for beer." He was transferred to No. 17 Auxiliary Hospital on 25th September, 1917 & discharged on 1st October, 1917.

Pte Daniel David Donnelly embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Aeneas* (A60) on 30th October, 1917 & disembarked at Devonport, England on 27th December, 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 Daniel David Donnelly was marched in to 2nd Training Battalion at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 27th December, 1917.

Private Donnelly was absent without leave from midnight 29th January, 1918 till 4 p.m. on 30th January, 1918. He was fined a total forfeiture of 4 days pay.

Private Daniel David Donnelly was admitted to the Group Clearing Hospital on 8th March, 1918 then transferred & admitted to Military Hospital at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on same day with Influenza.

Private Daniel David Donnelly died on 10th March, 1918 at the Military Hospital, Sutton Veny of Pneumonia.

A death for David S. Donnelly, aged 23, was registered in the March quarter, 1918 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing File for Pte D. D. Donnelly contains a request from the Red Cross of behalf of the relatives to obtain the fullest details possible of his death & burial. The Assistant Matron of the Military Hospital at Sutton Veny replied & also two Privates that knew Pte Donnelly.

The letter from the Assistant Matron, The Military Hospital Sutton Veny reads:

"Re D.B. Donnelly he was only in the Hospital for a short time and was very ill with pneumonia all the time. The sister of the Ward is away just at present but I believe she wrote to his people. If I can get any more particulars on her return I will send them. So many of these boys are so bad when they come in and their breathing so bad it is impossible for them to talk much. He is buried in Sutton Veny Churchyard."

The letter from Pte A. Brand, 7459, 10th Battalion, 26th Reinforcements reads:

"I came over in same reinforcements as Donnelly and W. O'Grady both from S. AUs, the latter from Grange S.A. Donnelly died in the Sutton Veny Hospital on March 10. O'Grady also died – on e from Meningitis the other from Pneumonia but I cannot remember which it was Donnelly died of. He is buried at the Churchyard at Sutton Veny and his grave marked with a cross. I have seen the grave several times. O'Grady is buried at Salisbury. Several of our chaps went to his burial but I did not. We left Melbourne in the Aeneas on 27th Oct 1917 arriving in England on Christmas Day."

The letter from Pte A. G. Pallett, 7584, 10th Battalion reads:

"I saw him shortly before he died at Sutton Veney. He died from Pneumonia and had only been ill for about four days. The morning he went to Hospital – Sutton Veney, I saw him and he looked very ill. I knew him well and he enlisted at Adelaide, South Australia but I feel sure his people live in Geelong, Victoria. I came over on the Acacmeas from Australia with him in October 1917. He was buried at Sutton Veny (England) in a very nice Cemetery with full military honours. The grave is marked by a cross on which his full particulars are given. Refer to Captain Beare, Sutton Veny."

Private Daniel David Donnelly was buried on 15th March, 1918 in St. John the Evangelist Churchyard at Sutton Veny - Grave no. 327. From the burial report of Pte Donnelly - *The deceased soldier was buried with Military Honours, the coffin being of good quality elm. A firing party, escort, bearers and a band were supplied by the 2nd Training Battalion, of which Private Donnelly was a member. The grave is alongside those of other Australian soldiers.*

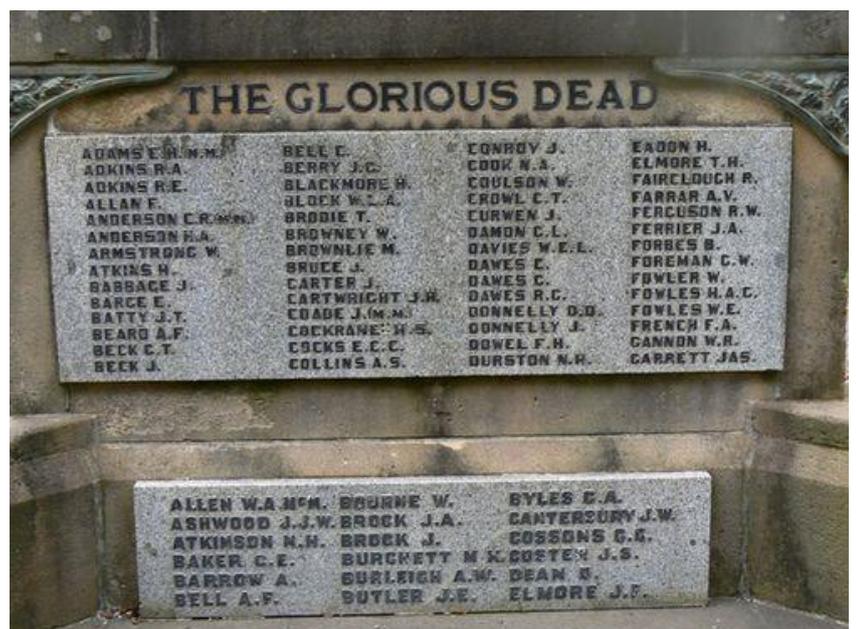
Pte Daniel David Donnelly requested in his Will, dated 27th August, 1917, that the whole of his personal property be given to his sister – Mrs Groves of 739 Malvern Rd, Toorak, Victoria.

Private D. D. Donnelly is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 58.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

D. D. Donnelly is remembered on the Korumburra War Memorial located in Coleman Park, Queen Street, Korumburra, Victoria.



Korumburra War Memorial (Photo from Monument Australia – Kent Watson)

D. D. Donnelly is also remembered on the Adelaide National War Memorial located at the corner of Kintore Avenue & North Terrace, Adelaide, South Australia.



Adelaide National War Memorial

Pte Daniel David Donnelly 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 Donnelly's mother – Mrs Margaret Donnelly (June, 1921 & October, 1922).

The CWGC lists Private Daniel David Donnelly, 7479, of 10th Battalion, Australian Infantry, A.I.F., as the son of James & Margaret Donnelly. Born at Dabie, Victoria.

A War pension was granted to Margaret Donnelly of Korumburra, mother of late Pte Daniel Davitt Donnelly, in the sum of £2 per fortnight as from 14th May, 1918.

(44 pages of Pte Daniel David Donnelly'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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives.



Newspaper Reports

ATTESTED ON MONDAY

..... D. D. DONNELLY, labourer;

(*The Register*, Adelaide, Sth Australia – Tuesday 28 August, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

VICTORIAN LIST

DIED - CAUSE NOT STATED

Pte D. D. Donnelly, Korumburra, 10/3/18

(*Weekly Times*, Victoria – Saturday 6 April, 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 St. John the Evangelist Churchyard at Sutton Veny. 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 Daniel David Donnelly does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.



Photo of Pte D. D. Donnelly's Headstone in St. John the Evangelist's Churchyard, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of David Milborrow)



War Graves at Sutton Veny (*Photos from CWGC*)