

**Havelock Cemetery,
Southall, Greater London, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



6224 PRIVATE

M. ALEXANDER

11TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

19TH DECEMBER, 1916 Age 42

Gone From Sight

To Memory Dear

Myles ALEXANDER

Richard Myles Alexander was born on 14th April, 1871 at Dunedin, Otago, New Zealand to parents William Henry & Jane Alexander (nee Conlan).

The 1890 New Zealand Electoral Roll for the division of Southland, subdivision of Wallace recorded Myles Alexander, Miner, from Nightcaps, New Zealand.

Jane Alexander, mother of Myles Alexander, died in 1890.

According to information supplied by his wife for the Roll of Honour – Myles Alexander came to Australia when he was around 24 years of age.

Myles Alexander married Elizabeth A. Lewis on 9th September, 1899 in Broken Hill, New South Wales.

Myles & Elizabeth Alexander had the following children: Gilbert Myles Alexander (b. 12th December, 1900, Broken Hill, NSW); James Conlon Alexander (b. 15th July, 1901, Broken Hill, NSW); Clement Albyn Alexander (b. 9th July, 1903, Cue, Western Australia); Barney Frederick Alexander (b. 6th November, 1905, Cue, Western Australia); Albert William Alexander (b. 5th July, 1909, Cue, Western Australia), John Arthur Alexander (b. 1911, district of Murchison, Western Australia) & Leonard George Alexander (b. 4th April, 1914, district of Geraldton, Western Australia).

The 1906 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Coolgardie, subdivision of Cue, Western Australia recorded Myles Alexander, Miner & his wife Elizabeth A. Alexander, Home duties from Kinsella Street.

The 1912 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Coolgardie, subdivision of Cue, Western Australia recorded Myles Alexander, Miner & his wife Elizabeth Ann Alexander.

The 1916 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Dampier, subdivision of Cue, Western Australia recorded Myles Alexander, Miner.

Myles Alexander was a 43 year old, married (with 7 children), Miner from Post Office, Cue, Western Australia when he enlisted on 3rd April, 1916 (Medically examined on 6th March, 1916) at Broken Hill, New South Wales with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs E. A. Alexander, of Post Office, Geraldton, Western Australia.

Private Myles Alexander was posted to 54th Depot on 3rd April, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 20th Reinforcements of 11th Battalion on 17th April, 1916.

Private Myles Alexander, Service number 6224, embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Clan McGillivray* (A46) on 18th September, 1916 with the 11th Infantry Battalion, 20th Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 2nd November, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England.

Private Myles Alexander was marched in to 3rd Training Battalion on 9th November, 1916 from Australia.

Private Myles Alexander was admitted to 2nd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Southall, London, England on 22nd November, 1916 with Influenza. He was reported to be dangerously & seriously ill on 11th December, 1916. (Another entry of the Statement of Service form recorded that he was admitted to 2nd Australian Auxiliary Hospital on 11th December, 1916 with Tubercular Broncho Pneumonia.)

11th Battalion

The 11th Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. It was the first battalion recruited in Western Australia, and with the 9th, 10th and 12th Battalions it formed the 3rd Brigade....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Myles Alexander died on 19th December, 1916 at 2nd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Southall, London, England from Tubercular Broncho Pneumonia.

A death for Myles Alexander, aged 43, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Uxbridge, Middlesex, England.

Private Myles Alexander was buried on 21st December, 1916 in Havelock Cemetery, Southall, Greater London, England – Section “A” New Ground Lot 4.

Mrs E. A. Alexander, Post Office, Geraldton, Western Australia was advised on 21st April, 1920 that her husband was buried in “*Southall Norwood Cemetery, Southall, grave No. 2, Cross Section 2.*”

Private Myles Alexander’s burial place is now recorded by CWGC as Plot number X2. 2. He now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

(Note: There appears to be some incorrect entries on the Statement of Service form for Private M. Alexander - “Admitted Holborn Military Hospital, Western Road, Mitcham 26.12.16. (Scabies) Discharged to Depot 21.2.17.”)

Mrs E. A. Alexander, Post Office, Geraldton, Western Australia, widow of the late Private Myles Alexander, wrote to Base Records (dated 1-8-17 & received by Base Records on 19th January, 1917) requesting a Death Certificate for Private Myles Alexander, 6224, 20th Reinforcements, 11th Battalion. “*Please send your earliest convenience as I am getting them for the Lodge.*”

Base Records replied to Mrs E. A. Alexander on 26th February, 1917 enclosing a certificate of report of death of the late No. 6224 Private A. Alexander, 11th Battalion.

Communications sent from Base Records in April, 1921 to Mrs E. A. Alexander, Post Office, Geraldton, Western Australia were returned undelivered.

Mrs E. A. Alexander wrote to Base Records on 26th May, 1921 advising that her place of residence had changed to George Street, Woodville, South Australia. She stated her previous address was Moses Street, Geraldton, Western Australia.

The 5th Military District, Perth, Western Australia advised Base Records on 2nd August, 1921 in regards to late No. 6224 Pte M. Alexander, 11th Battalion: “*In reply to your memo of 20/5/21 please note that the present address of the next of kin (Widow) of the abovementioned late member of the A.I.F. is :- Mrs E. A. Alexander, George St, Woodville, S.A.*”

Private Myles Alexander 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 Private Alexander’s widow – Mrs E. A. Alexander, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent February, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Myles Alexander – service number 6224, aged 42, of 11th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of William & Jane Alexander; husband of Elizabeth Ann Alexander, of Moses St., Geraldton, Western Australia.

M. Alexander is remembered on the Cue – Day Dawn Road Board Honour Roll, located in Cue Community Centre (former Municipal Chambers), 33 Robinson Street, Cue, Western Australia.



Cue – Day Dawn Road Board Honour Roll (Photo from Monument Australia – Erich Nussbaumer)

M. Alexander is remembered on the Geraldton District Honour Roll, located at Birdwood House, Chapman Road & Forrest Street, Geraldton, Western Australia.



Geraldton District Honour Roll (Photos from Monument Australia – Chris McLaughlin)



The Geraldton War Memorial, located outside Birdwood House, Chapman Road & Forrest Street, Geraldton, Western Australia does not list individual names.



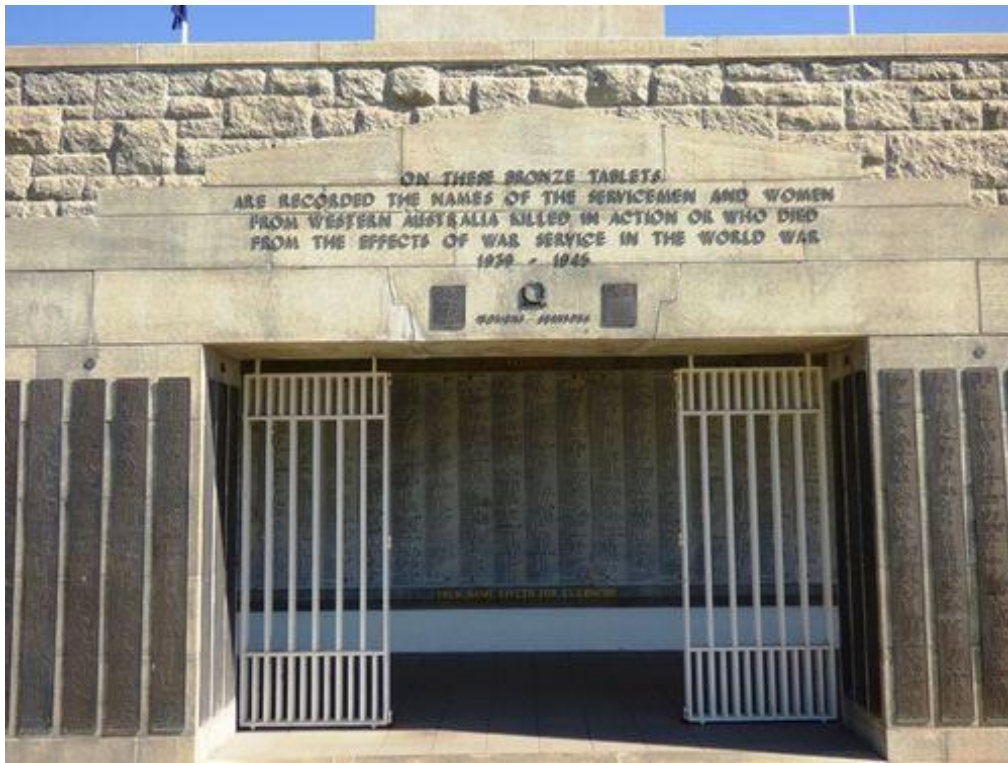
Geraldton War Memorial (Photo from Monument Australia)

M. Alexander is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.



Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park



The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names

(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)



11th Battalion Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)

Private M. Alexander is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 61.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Myles Alexander is remembered by the New Zealand War Graves Project.



[Home](#) / [Myles Alexander](#)



Private
 **Myles Alexander**

Additional Information: Son of William and Jane Alexander; husband of Elizabeth Ann Alexander, of Moses St., Geraldton, Western Australia.

References:

- [CWGC](#)
- [National Archives of Australia](#)



Casualty

Service Number: 6224
Name: Myles Alexander
Rank: Private
Date of Birth: Not known
Place of Birth: Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand
Date of Enlistment: 04 March 1916
Occupation on Enlistment: Miner
Unit: Australian Infantry, 11 Battalion

Casualty Details

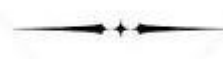
Cause of Death: [Died of disease](#)
Date of Death: Not known
Age at Death: 42

Myles Alexander is remembered by New Zealand's Auckland Museum Online Cenotaph.



(49 pages of Private Myles Alexander'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



Newspaper Notices

For King and Country

Hats off to those silent bushmen who, while on the outer fringe of civilisation, have heard their country's call and are still riding many hundreds of miles to Meekatharra in order to catch a train which will take them to Blackboy Hill encampment. It was not for the likes of these sunbrowned men of lean proportions that eloquent recruiting speeches have been delivered throughout the land with the view of installing the spirit of duty. Hardly a week passes but we hear of one or more having arrived from the far north. This week two brothers came through from Bamboo Creek and they are hastening south so that they may get into a uniform of Khaki and do their little bit for the nation.—
Meekatharra Miner.

Amongst the latest Cueites to enlist for active service is Mr. M. ("Dick") Alexander, who left for Geraldton en route to Blackboy Hill on Tuesday morning. Prior to his departure a number of his old friends met him at the Crown Hotel on Monday evening to wish him good-bye, over a social glass. During the evening Mr. Jas. Chesson, on behalf of the gathering, presented Mr. Alexander with a pipe as a small token of the esteem in which he was held during his long residence in the district, and wished him good luck and a safe return.

(*The Murchison Times and Day Dawn Gazette*, Cue, Western Australia – 31 March, 1916)

General News

A letter received in Cue this week from Mr. Harry Strickland, who recently enlisted from Cue, states he has had a wood number of shifts from one Depot to another since going into camp. He has been through the N.C.O. school and won his three stripes (sergeant), and is now at No. 61 Depot, Blackboy Hill. Amongst the Cueites and Dawnites in camp he mentions Sergeant Hamilton, Corporal W. Eddy, Privates Mick Eddy, Tom Rochester, **Dick Alexander**, Jim McKerchar, W. McIntyre, L. Dunstan, Abe Dawson and T. Herbert, who are all doing AI and a happy family when they get together.

(The Murchison Times and Day Dawn Gazette, Cue, Western Australia – 12 May, 1916)

General News

One meets several Murchison soldiers, Harry Strickland being a full-blown sergeant, whilst Charlie Dineen, Frank Fulton, **Dick Alexander**, Alf Sowden, Abe Dawson, Bob Vernon, and others are privates, also Ray Alcorn, a corporal. Arthur Clarke, late of Railway Hotel, Cue, went into camp last week.

(The Murchison Times and Day Dawn Gazette, Cue, Western Australia – 8 September, 1916) & (Meekatharra Miner, Western Australia – 9 September, 1916)

PERSONAL ITEMS

The Rev. A. Craven received a telegram to-day from the Acting Chaplain General stating that Private M. Alexander, of Geraldton, had died in England on December 19th from tubercular bronchial pneumonia. Deceased, who was a miner by trade, and who was well known on the fields, only left for England about three months ago. He leaves a widow and seven children, all boys, the eldest being employed in the post office at Youanmi.

(Geraldton Guardian, Western Australia – 28 December, 1916)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

259th AND 260th CASUALTY LISTS

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260th LIST

5th MILITARY DISTRICT

DEATHS

M. Alexander (Geraldton), of illness

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 3 January, 1917)

General News

The many friends throughout the Murchison will regret to hear of the death of Private Dick Alexander, which took place in England last week. The news has come as a shock to his wife and family (who now reside at Geraldton), and his friends. Only a few weeks ago a Cue friend received a letter from him stating he was in the best of health, and an accompanying photo bore out that statement. The cause of death is stated as miners' complaint. The deepest sympathy is extended to the bereaved widow and family, who with the deceased, resided in Cue for a number of years.

(The Murchison Times and Day Dawn Gazette, Cue, Western Australia – 5 January, 1917)

Cue- Dawn Roads Board

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Correspondence

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Mrs Alexander, Geraldton, wrote in reply to an inquiry by the Secretary, in regard to money matters since the death of her husband (Private Dick Alexander), who died in England, stating that she was receiving her military pay regularly. Also acknowledging receipt of £10 from Mr J. White, Cue.

(The Murchison Times and Day Dawn Gazette, Cue, Western Australia – 9 March, 1917)

General News

Mr J. T. White, has received an acknowledgement from Mrs Alexander, Geraldton, widow of the late Private Dick Alexander, who died in England recently, and was well-known on the Murchison, for £6 0s 6d, being the balance of an amount of £16 0s 6d (£10 being previously sent) collected locally on behalf of herself and family.

(The Murchison Times and Day Dawn Gazette, Cue, Western Australia – 20 April, 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. 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)

Private M. Alexander has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone with the following inscription:

Gone From Sight

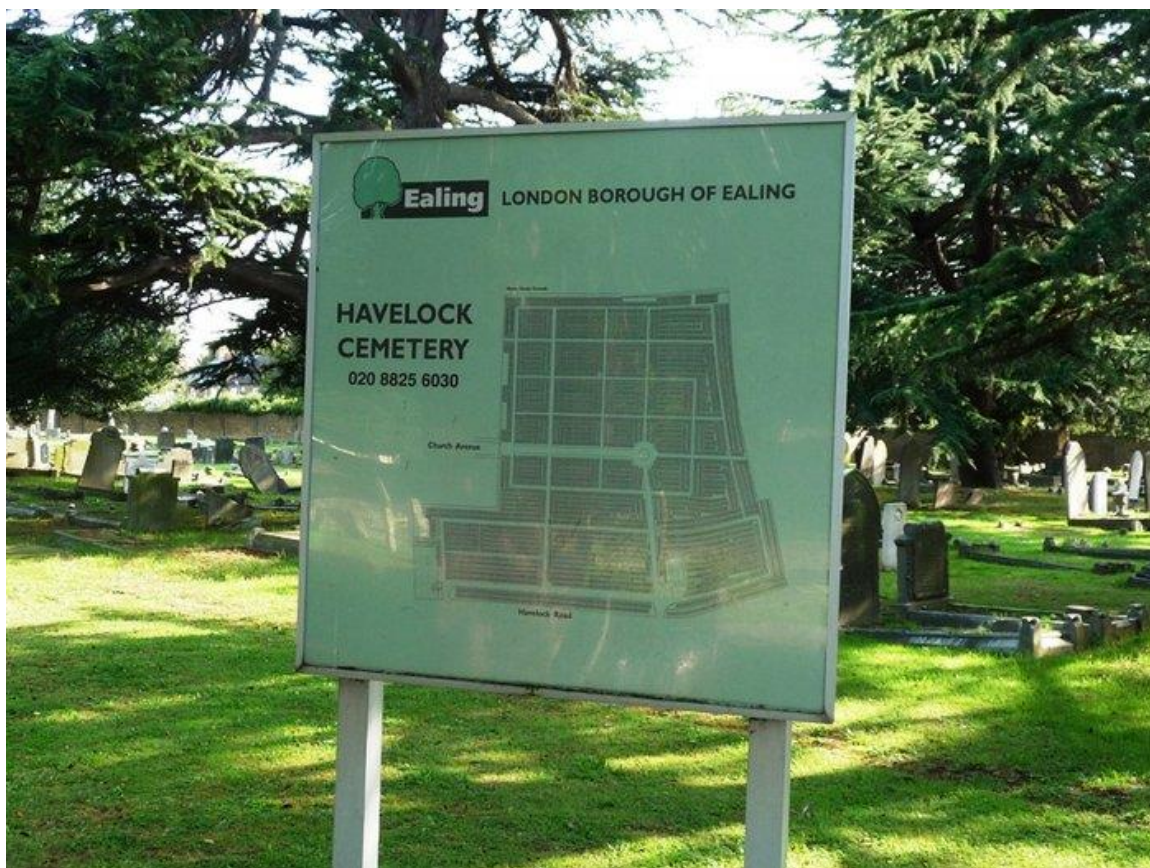
To Memory Dear

Havelock Cemetery (also known as Havelock Norwood Cemetery), Southall, Greater London, England

There are 83 Commonwealth War Graves located in Havelock Cemetery, Southall – 39 from World War 1 & 44 from World War 2.



Havelock Cemetery – Church Avenue Entrance



(Photo from Find a Grave – Darglish 2010)



Four WW1 Australian War Graves – Read, Alexander, Sanderson & Bennett

(Photos courtesy of Kevin – Portsmouth Remembers)



Photo of Private M. Alexander's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Havelock Cemetery, Southall, London, England.



(Photo courtesy of Kevin – Portsmouth Remembers)



(Photo from Find a Grave – Julia&keld – 2010)