

**Brookwood Military Cemetery,
Brookwood, Surrey**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2328 PRIVATE

P. AMERY

17TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

20TH AUGUST, 1918 Age 26

Father In The Gracious

Keeping

Leave We Now Our Dear One

Sleeping

Pirie AMERY

Pirie Amery was born on 23rd November, 1891 at Port Pirie, South Australia to parents Joseph Rowell Amery & Elizabeth Joan Hooper Amery (nee Luscombe).

Master P. Amery, Miss S. Amery & Mrs E. Amery were passengers on the *Dovedale* which left Port Pirie for Sydney on 22nd October, 1900. The three Amery's were listed as friends of Captains daughter - Miss L. Darley.

Joseph Rowell Amery, father of Pirie Amery, died in 1907 in Sydney, NSW.

Pirie Amery attended school at Port Pirie West, South Australia & St. John's Darlinghurst, Sydney, NSW.

The 1913 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Middle Harbour, subdivision of Manly, NSW recorded Pirie Amery, Dairyman of Curl Curl Dairy, N. Manly.

The 1915 & 1920 Sydney and New South Wales, Australia Sands Street Indexes recorded P. Amery, dairyman, from Constitution Road, Ryde.

Pirie Amery was a 24 year old, single, Dairyman from Federal Dairy, Constitution Road, Ryde, NSW when he enlisted at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW on 7th July, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2328 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs E. Amery, Federal Dairy, Constitution Road, Ryde, NSW.

Pirie Amery was posted to 5th Reinforcements of 17th Battalion for recruit training.

Private Pirie Amery embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Themistocles* (A32) on 5th October, 1915 with the 17th Infantry Battalion, 5th Reinforcements.

Private Pirie Amery was taken on strength of "B" Company, 17th Battalion in Egypt on 5th February, 1916.

Private Pirie Amery embarked from Alexandria on 17th March, 1916 to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 23rd March, 1916.

Private Pirie Amery was wounded in action in France on 3rd May, 1917. He was admitted to 3rd Australian Casualty Clearing Station on 3rd May, 1917 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to right Thigh & foot. Private Amery was transferred & admitted to 11th Stationary Hospital at Rouen, France on 6th May, 1917. He was discharged to England on 18th May, 1917 & embarked from Boulogne, France for England on 18th May, 1917 on Hospital Ship *Essquibo*.

17th Battalion

The 17th Battalion was raised at Liverpool in New South Wales in March 1915 as part of the 5th Brigade....The Battalion was evacuated from Gallipoli in December 1915.

After further training in Egypt, the 17th Battalion proceeded to France. Landing there on 22 March 1916, it took part in its first major battle at Pozieres between 25 July and 5 August. The Battalion returned to the Pozieres trenches for a second time, although in a reserve role, between 18 and 28 August. After a spell in a quieter sector of the front in Belgium, the 2nd Division, which included the 5th Brigade, came south again in October. The 17th Battalion was spared from having to mount an attack across the quagmire the Somme battlefield had become, but did have to continue manning the front through a very bleak winter.

In 1917 the 17th was involved in the follow-up of German forces after their retreat to the Hindenburg Line, and was one of four battalions to defeat a counter-stroke by a German force, almost four times as strong, at Lagincourt. The battalion took part in three major battles before the year was out, second Bullecourt (3-4 May) in France, and Menin Road (20-22 September) and Poelcappelle (9-10 October) in Belgium.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 17th Battalion

May 2 – VAULX:

Left VAULX & moved up to position to attack HINDENBURG LINE. Were in position on “tape line” @ 3.40 am. 3rd.

May 3 –

Attack commenced at 3.45 am. Hostile barraged was placed in rear of our troops within 10 minutes of zero hour & causes waves to become mixed up.

The attack was successful on the left.

Casualties 11 officers & 286 OR's

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Pirie Amery was admitted to Military Hospital at Devonport, England on 19th May, 1917 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to right Thigh & foot. He was transferred to 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Dartford on 23rd July, 1917 then discharged on 27th July, 1917 to No. 2 Command Depot, Weymouth, Dorset.

Mrs E. H. Amery, Federal Dairy, Constitution Road, Ryde, NSW was advised by Base Records on 28th May, 1917 that Private P. Amery had been wounded. She was advised on 6th June, 1917 that Private P. Amery had been admitted to Devonport Military Hospital, England on 19th May, 1917 suffering from gunshot wound to right leg & right foot – mild.

Private Pirie Amery was transferred from No. 2 Command Depot, Weymouth, Dorset on 7th September, 1917 & was marched in to No. 4 Command Depot at Codford, Wiltshire on the same day.

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 & also Dorset. Later Training & Convalescing Units were combined under the one Command Depot.

Private Pirie Amery was marched out from No. 4 Command Depot, Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 2nd February, 1918 & marched in to Overseas Training Brigade at Longbridge Deverill, Wiltshire the same day.

Private Pirie Amery proceeded overseas to France from Overseas Training Brigade via Southampton on 21st February, 1918. He was marched in to A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) at Havre, France on 22nd February, 1918 & rejoined 17th Battalion on 26th February, 1918.

Private Pirie Amery was sent sick to 5th Australian Field Ambulance on 9th April, 1918 – P.U.O. (Pyrexia (fever) of unknown origin. He was transferred to Ambulance Train on 9th April, 1918 & admitted to 10th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 10th April, 1918. Private Amery was transferred to England on 11th April, 1918 on Hospital Ship *Aberdonian*.

Private Pirie Amery was admitted to Horton County of London War Hospital, Epsom, England on 13th April, 1918 – P.U.O. The Hospital Admissions for recorded he was suffering from Trench Fever. He was discharged to furlo from 13th May, 1918 & was then to report to No.4 Command Depot.

Private Pirie Amery was marched in to No. 4 Command Depot on 27th May, 1918 from furlo. The Hospital Admissions form recorded that Private Amery was medically classified on 28th May, 1918 as B1B (Observation) had headaches & his pulse was slow. He was medically assessed on 3rd June, 1918 as B1B2 & again on 10th June, 1918 & classified as B1 A3 (fit for Overseas Training Camp in 2 – 3 weeks). Private Amery was medically classified on 17th June, 1918 as A3 (fit for Overseas Training Camp – to which transferred for hardening, prior to rejoining their Unit Overseas). He was marched out to Overseas Training Brigade at Longbridge Deverill, Wiltshire on 27th June, 1918.

Private Pirie Amery proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone on 24th July, 1918 from Longbridge Deverill. He was marched in to A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) at Havre, France on 26th July, 1918. Private Amery was marched out from A.I.B.D. on 28th July, 1918 & rejoined 17th Battalion in France on 1st August, 1918.

Private Pirie Amery was wounded in action in France on 8th August, 1918. He was admitted to 61st Casualty Clearing Station on 8th August, 1918 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to Left Hip then transferred to Ambulance Train on 9th August, 1918. Private Amery was admitted to 2nd Canadian Stationary Hospital at Outram, France on 10th August, 1918 then transferred to England on 11th August, 1918 on Hospital Ship *St. Denis*.

17th Battalion

After another winter of trench duty, 17th Battalion helped to thwart the German Spring Offensive of 1918. With this last desperate offensive defeated, the Allied armies turned to the offensive and the 17th participated in the battles that pushed the German Army ever closer to defeat: Amiens on 8 August, the legendary attack on Mont St Quentin on 31 August, and the forcing of the Beaurevoir Line around Montbrehain on 3 October. Montbrehain was the battalion's last battle. It was training out of the line when the armistice was declared in November 1918, and was disbanded in April 1919.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 17th Battalion

Diary for period 5th to 11th August 1918 is included in Appendix 8 which also includes Report by C.O. Copies original messages, maps etc.

REPORT ON OPERATIONS 5th to 11th AUGUST 1918

INCLUDING ATTACKS OF 8th and 9th August 1918.

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The night was very dark, and some considerable difficulty was experienced in getting the Battalion in position. This was eventually accomplished by 3.40 am Lieut. G. SMALL, MC. acted as Liaison Officer with the 27th Battalion A.I.F. (Right) and Lieut. E. W. DARK, MC in similar capacity with the 19th Battalion A.I.F. The 18th and 17th Battalion Headquarters were established together, both before attack and after move forward which resulted in closer liaison. The morning turned out extremely foggy. Copy of brief report hereunder:-

Headquarters

17th Bn. A.I.F.

8th August 1918.

Brief report is submitted on operations to date. The thick fog at Zero hour caused very great difficulty in maintaining direction during the advance, consequently the attack at the start was somewhat disorganised and resolved itself into isolated bodies of Infantry following the Tanks. Owing to complete knowledge of the operation on the part of Officers and N.C.O.'s the objective was reached in good time, and elements of all Companies were digging in on the GREEN LINE by 7.10 am As the fog lifted these were reinforced by parties which had become disconnected.

The enemy whose resistance had been completely smashed by the artillery, surrendered freely, and it is estimated that 220 prisoners were taken.

.....

CASUALTIES Killed – 4 o/rs. Wounded – 2 officers 45 o/rs

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Pirie Amery was admitted to General Military Hospital, Edmonton, England on 12th August, 1918 with G.S.W. to left Hip & fractured Pelvis – severe.

Private Pirie Amery died on 20th August, 1918 at General Military Hospital, Edmonton, England from wounds received in action – G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to Left Hip, Fractured Pelvis (Tetanus). A Telegram from War Hospital Edmonton to Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London stated “*Regret report death in this Hospital this morning of No. 2328 Pte AMERY P. 17th Battn A.I.F. relative in England Aunt Mrs Luscombe, The Quay, Britham, Devon notified by us.*”

A death for Pirie Amery, aged 26, was registered in the September quarter, 1918 in the district of Edmonton, Middlesex, England.

Private Pirie Amery was buried at 1.30 pm on 24th August, 1918 in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England – Australian Military Burial Ground - Plot number 181,421.

From the burial report of Private Pirie Amery - Coffin was good polished Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military Funeral, Firing Party, Bugler and Pallbearers being in attendance from Administrative Headquarters. The coffin was draped with the Australian Flag. Prior to the interment a service was conducted by Chaplain the Rev. Vine. The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside. An oak cross has been erected on the grave. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.

Base Records originally wrote to Mrs E. H. Amery, Federal Dairy, Constitution Road, Ryde, NSW on 22nd March, 1923 but the letter was returned "Not at Address". Base Records then wrote to Mrs S. R. Searle, 244 Bondi Road, Bondi, Sydney, NSW on 9th June, 1923 stating that the site of her brother's grave in Brookwood Military Cemetery, the late No. 2328 Private P. Amery, 17th Battalion, had been officially registered as Plot 4 Row D Grave 13. "*While the actual place of burial remains unchanged the previous registration allotted thereto has been altered to conform with the uniform layout of this Cemetery.*"

This is now recorded by CWGC as Memorial reference – IV. D. 13. Private Pirie Amery has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Pirie Amery contains the following letters regarding his wounding & his stay in hospital.

- Informant Corporal L. C. Clark, M.M., B Company, 17th Battalion, Gosberton, Flora Street, Lakemba: "*Informant described Amery as about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, heavy build, medium complexion, aged about 26. Informant states that they both belonged to B. Company. Amery being in No. 7 Platoon. On 8/8/18 the Battalion was in action at Warfusee. They hopped over at daylight and captured their objective by 7 o'clock. When about half way to the objective, Amery was wounded by a shell. Informant was about 100 yards away and saw Amery hit, but was unable to go over to him, as it was for the moment impossible for the stretcher bearers to do anything on account of the heavy firing. Informant was a stretcher-bearer. He never saw Amery again, but knows that he was picked up when things quietened down a bit and believes that he eventually reached England and died there. According to Informant Amery was very well liked by his mates.*"
- A letter from Matron, Edmonton Military Hospital reads: "*I am sorry to have to send you the details regarding the death of 2328 Pte P. Amery for his relatives in Australia. He was admitted here on August 11th, suffering from a severe abdominal wound with fractured pelvis, from which he developed tetanus. He became suddenly worse and died on August 20th. I saw Pte Amery myself on admission and also during the period that he was seriously ill. He was unnaturally bright and cheerful for the serious condition of his wounds, and was very brave in bearing pain. Two ladies visited the Hospital after his death from whom I expect his relatives will have heard. He was buried in the Australian portion of the London Necropolis Company's Cemetery at Brookwood. It is always a sad incident with us when an Australian, or other Colonial soldier dies so far away from home, but I would like to inform his relatives that he had every possible care and attention we could bestow on him.*"

Private Pirie Amery requested in his Will, dated 20th February, 1918 that he bequeathed all his real estate to Mrs Susan Rowell Searle, Federal Dairy, Constitution Road, Ryde, NSW. His personal estate he bequeathed also to Mrs Susan Rowell Searle, Federal Dairy, Constitution Road, Ryde, NSW & monies due to him from the Military Authorities to be divided equally between his nieces Beatrice Josephine Dickes and Amy_____.

The personal effects of the late Private Pirie Amery were sent to Mrs S. R. Searle, Federal Dairy, Constitution Road, Ryde, NSW, on 28th February, 1919.

The Public Trust Office, Sydney, NSW wrote to Base Records on 23rd October, 1919 requesting a Certificate of Death in duplicate for the late Private P. Amery, also the address of the deceased prior to enlistment & the name and address of the person nominated as his next of kin.

Base Records replied on 6th November, 1919 enclosing the Certificate of Death in duplicate & also advised that the address of the deceased prior to enlistment was shown as Federal Dairy, Constitution Road, Ryde, NSW. They also advised that the next-of-kin of the late Private Pirie Amery was listed as his mother – Mrs E. Amery, Federal Dairy, Constitution Road, Ryde, NSW.

Base Records contacted Mrs E. H. Amery, Federal Dairy, Constitution Road, Ryde, NSW, mother of the late Private Pirie Amery, on 27th September, 1920 stating that she was registered on the records of the late Private P. Amery as the next of kin but required to know if there were any nearer blood relatives than herself & specifically asked if his father was alive due to the “Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918” which stated that the War Medals & Mementoes of a deceased soldier were to be handed in the following order of relationship – Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister etc.

Base Records wrote to Headquarters, 2nd Military District on 23rd November, 1920 stating “*On 27th September last a communication was forwarded to Mrs E. Amery, Federal Dairy, Constitution Road, Ryde, requesting her to advise me whether the father of the late No. 2328 Private P. Amery, 17th Battalion, is still living and if so to furnish me with his present address. As no reply has so far been received I shall be obliged if you will endeavour to obtain the information required and advise me as soon as possible, as it is desired to dispose of the 1914/15 Star and other War Medals etc.. issuable on account t of the abovementioned late soldier’s service.*”

Special Inquiry Officer W. J. Potter, Provost Marshals Office, Victoria Barracks, Sydney, NSW, replied to Base Records on 26th May, 1921 stating “*I beg to report that I interviewed Mrs Elizabeth Jone Hooper Amery who resides at the Federal Dairy, Constitution Road, Ryde, and she stated that the above mentioned soldier was her son, and that his father is deceased, and that he was a single man and had no children. He made a Will in favour of his sister Mrs Susan Searle residing at that address who administered the estate and that he did not specially bequeath the war medals in his will. She is desirous of obtaining the war medals and decorations of the late soldier, and duly signed attached undertaking.*”

Mrs Elizabeth Jone Hooper Amery signed a declaration on 25th May, 1921 stating that she desired to make claim for any war medals and decorations awarded to her late son No. 2328 Private P. Amery, 17th Battalion. A.I.F.

A handwritten notation, dated 13th June, 1921, was made on the letter from Special Inquiry Officer W. J. Potter that the War Medals would be awarded to mother.

A letter was written to Base Records on 3rd May, 1923 by Susan Rowell Searle, 244 Bondi Road, Bondi stating “*In connection with Memorial Plaque No. 349417 issued in respect of my brother the late No. 2328 Pte P. Amery 17 Btn, I beg to state that both the parents of the late soldier are deceased, that I am his eldest sister and that Samuel Chant Paddon Amery, who has signed the order authorising me to obtain the plaque is the only brother of the late soldier. My brother resides at Stanley Terrace, Hong Kong, China.*”

[Note: NSW Births, Deaths & Marriages have a death registered in 1921 for Elizabeth J. H. Amery (nee Luscombe). From Newspaper Death Notice - she died 27th November, 1921 at Constitution Road, Ryde]

The front page of Private Pirie Amery’s Attestation Papers has the following marked in red (below the stamp marked “*War Medals to mother 13-6-21*”) “*Eldest brother Mr S. C. P. Amery, Stanley Terrace Hong Kong, China. Stat Dec 8/6/23*”

Private Pirie Amery was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Amery’s mother – Mrs E. H. Amery, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent September, 1921 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

(These details are shown on the last & second last page of Private Pirie Amery’s Service Record file but it is unsure who received the medals – based on the red notation on the front page of the Attestation Papers dated 8th June, 1923 – the medals may have been sent to Private Pirie Amery’s eldest brother as per “Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918”.)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Pirie Amery – service number 2328, aged 26, of 17th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Joseph Rowell Amery and Elizabeth J. H. Amery, of Constitution Rd, Ryde, Sydney.

P. Amery is remembered on St. Anne's Honour Roll, located in St. Anne's Anglican Church, 44 – 46 Church Street, Ryde, Sydney, NSW.

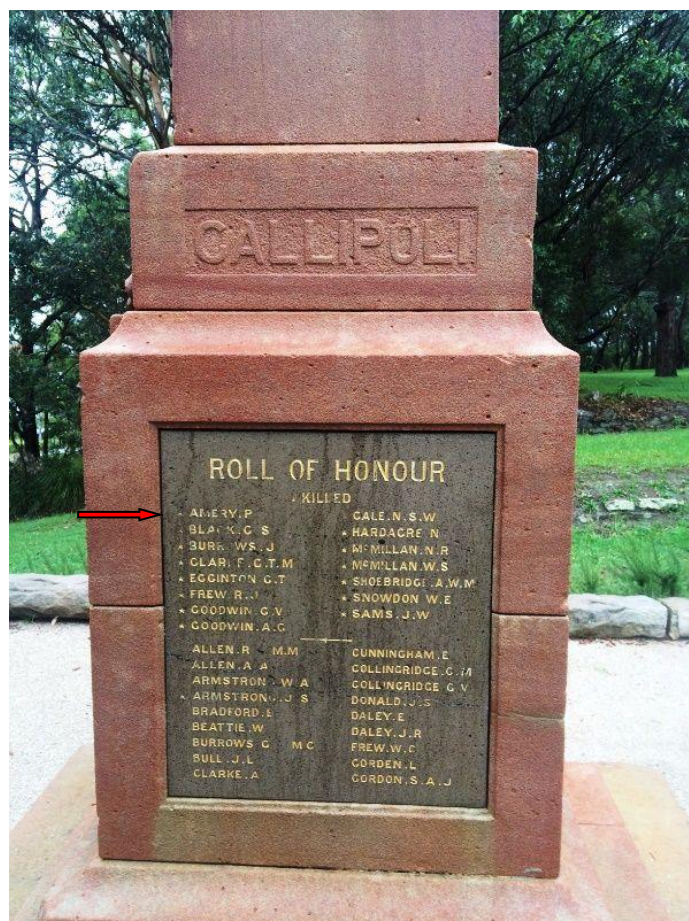


St. Anne's Honour Roll, Ryde (Photo from Monument Australia – Heather Stevens)

P. Amery is remembered on the Meadowbank War Memorial, located in Memorial Park, Meadow Crescent, Meadowbank, Sydney, NSW.



Meadowbank War Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia)



Private P. Amery is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 82.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(62 pages of Private Pirie Amery'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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



Newspaper Notices

SOLDIERS WOUNDED

Mrs H. Dickes, of Port Pirie West received news on Wednesday that her younger brother, Private Pirie Amery, had been wounded in France. He enlisted at Sydney about two years ago, and after getting to the Front was attached to a machine gun section. Private Amery— the son of a former well-known and popular resident, the late Captain Amery — was born at Port Pirie and received part of his education, at the Pirie West School. He will doubtless be remembered by borne of the old scholars. Prior to enlisting he was successfully engaged in dairying operations on land he took up some time ago— near Sydney.

(The Area's Express, Booyoolie, Sth Aust – 8 June, 1917)

Australian Casualties

Lists Nos 308 and 309

New South Wales

WOUNDED

Pte P. Amery (Ryde)

(Australian Town and Country Journal, Sydney, NSW – 13 June, 1917)

Port Pirie News

PRIVATE PIRIE AMERY – Through the Broken Hill Associated Smelters Proprietary Ltd, word was received yesterday that Private Pirie Amery (brother of Mrs Dickes, of Port Pirie West) was in hospital in England, suffering from the effects of a gunshot wound in the thigh. The message stated that he was progressing favourably.

(The Wooroora Producer, Balaklava, Sth Australia – 14 June, 1917) & (The Area's Express, Booyoolie, Sth Aust – 15 June, 1917)

A DOUBLE MISFORTUNE

News was received in Port Pirie on Tuesday that Private Pirie Amery, son of the late Capt. and Mrs Amery, formerly residents of Port Pirie, and brother of Mrs H. Dickes, of Port Pirie, had been killed in action in France. The deceased was a native of this port. Almost simultaneously with the receipt of this sad news came word that Mrs Amery, who now resides in Sydney, had met with a severe burning accident. Mr and Mrs Dickes left by motor car for Adelaide on Tuesday night to catch Wednesday's express for Sydney.

(Port Pirie Recorder, South Australia – 30 August, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

AMERY-Died of wounds, in France, August 20, 1918, after 3 years and 2 months' active service. Private Pirie Amery aged 24 years, youngest son of Mrs Amery, of Ryde, Sydney, and the late Capt. J. R. Amery (late of Port Pirie, S.A.), and beloved brother of Mrs. H. Dickes, Port Pirie; Mrs. Searle, of Ryde; and Mr. S. Amery of Hongkong.

Another young Australian who heard his country's call and answered it.

-Inserted by his loved ones.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 3 September, 1918 & 4 September, 1918)

PRIVATE PIRIE AMERY

On Tuesday last Mrs H. Dickes, of Port Pirie West, received the sad news that her youngest brother, Private Pirie Amery, had been killed in action in France. He enlisted at Sydney, and left Australia with the 17th Battalion about three years ago, being later attached to a machine gun section. In May, 1917, he was wounded and invalided to England, where he remained in hospital for some months. He again returned to the front, and after several weeks in action he was stricken with trench fever, which caused him to be sent to England for the second time. He had only got back to France a short while when he made the supreme sacrifices. The deceased soldier was a son of a former

well known and popular resident, the late Captain Amery, whose memory old residents will associate with the arrival in this port of that trim little craft The Crummock Water. Private Amery was a manly young fellow, a true type of the Australian soldier who has won for his country imperishable fame. Prior to enlisting he was successfully engaged with dairying operations on land he took up at Ryde, near Sydney but as soon as he possibly could make the necessary arrangements he answered his country's call. Deceased, who was about 26 years of age, was born at Port Pirie, and received part of his education at the Pirie West school. Doubtless he will be remembered by many of the old scholars. His widowed mother and a married sister reside at Ryde. The former who has not been enjoying good health of late, last week sustained a shock as the result of a burning accident, and on hearing the news of the death of Private Amery, Mr and Mrs Dickes decided to go over to Sydney, and left for Adelaide by motor on Wednesday to catch the afternoon's express.

(The Wooroora Producer, Balaklava, Sth Australia – 5 Sept, 1918) & (The Area's Express, Booyoolie, Sth Aust – 6 Sept, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

AMERY-Died of wounds in France on the 20th August, after 3 years and 2 months' active service. Private Pirie Amery aged 25 years, youngest son of Mrs Amery, of Ryde, Sydney, and the late Capt. J. R. Amery (late of Port Pirie), and loved brother of Mrs. H. Dickes, of Port Pirie West; Mrs. Searle, of Ryde. and Mr. S. Amery of Hong Kong.

Another young Australian who heard his country's call and answered it.

-Inserted by his loved ones.

(Port Pirie Recorder, South Australia – 7 September, 1918)

430th CASUALTY LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED OF WOUNDS

Pte PIRIE AMERY, Ryde

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 26 September, 1918)

On Active Service

AMERY – In loving memory of our son and brother, Pirie Amery, who died at Edmonton Military Hospital, London, of wounds received in France, August 20, 1918, 17th Battn. Inserted by his mother, sisters, and brother.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 20 August, 1919)

On Active Service

AMERY – In loving memory of Private Pirie Amery, 17th Battalion, died of wounds Edmonton Military Hospital, August 20, 1918. Inserted by his loving sister and mother, Mrs Amery and Mrs Searle, Constitution road, Ryde.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 20 August, 1920)

HERO OF THE WAR

AMERY – In memory of my dearly loved brother (Private Pirie Amery), who died on August 20, 1918, of wounds received in action at Warfuses, on August 8.

Sunshine passes, shadows fall.

Love's sweet memory outlives all.

Inserted by his sister and brother-in-law, L. and H. Dickes; also Trixie and Amy, Port Pirie West.

(Recorder, Port Pirie, South Australia – 20 August, 1920)

MR OSBORNE'S MEMORIES

THOSE listening-in on Wednesday last to a broadcast of the ceremony of dedication by Dr. Ward (Bishop of London) of the Australian Chapel of Remembrance in Harewood Parish Church. England, doubtless included relatives of several soldiers from this State who in World War I were laid to rest there. One of those soldiers was Pirie Amery, whose father, Capt. Amery, was a native of Brixham, Devonshire. The latter abandoned a seafaring life to settle in Pirie and became licensee of Royal Exchange Hotel. The young soldier referred to was a brother of Mrs. H. Dickes, of Glenelg, formerly for many years a resident of Pirie.

(Recorder, Port Pirie, South Australia – 1 May, 1950)

Private Pirie Amery is remembered with a plaque on his parents' headstone in Waverley Cemetery, Sydney, NSW (Section 19 Select Row 55).



(Photos by Chris Pigott – Find a Grave)



In Loving Memory Of
PRIVATE PIRIE AMERY
Son Of The Above
Who Died Of Wounds In London
On 20TH August 1918. Aged 27 Years
"In God's Care."

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 P. Amery does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Father In The Gracious Keeping Leave We Now Our Dear One Sleeping

Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England

Located 30 miles from London in Surrey, Brookwood Military Cemetery is the largest CWGC cemetery in the United Kingdom. The cemetery contains the graves of more than 1,600 servicemen of the British Empire in the First World War and over 3,470 from the Second World War.

Brookwood Military Cemetery lies adjacent to Brookwood Cemetery (The London Necropolis), a vast space which covers 500 acres. In 1917, an area to the north of the cemetery was set aside as Brookwood Military Cemetery for men and women of Commonwealth forces who died, many of battle wounds, in the London district. This site was further extended to accommodate Commonwealth casualties of the Second World War. *(Information from CWGC)*

There are 446 Australian War Graves in Brookwood Military Cemetery – 351 from World War 1 & 95 from World War 2.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00185

A large crowd attends an A.I.F. military funeral at Brookwood Cemetery. In the foreground wooden crosses mark rows of graves. (Photo c1919)

Identified: Front row, left to right: Second Lieutenant Douglas Abbott Ferguson, Australian Flying Corps, died of accidental injuries 18 August 1918; Lieutenant (Lt) Francis John Smedley MC, 7th Battalion, died of wounds 20 August 1918.

Second row: 6860 Private (Pte) James Alexander McKeown, 21st Battalion, died of wounds 20 June 1918; 3622 Pte S T Wilson, 2nd Australian Pioneers, died of wounds 4 July 1918; 2390 Sergeant Frederick Charles Stronell, 21st Battalion, died of wounds 9 July 1918; Lt Arthur Melville Lilburne MC, 6th Brigade Australian Field Artillery, died of disease 11 July 1918.



Brookwood Military Cemetery (Photo from CWGC)



Brookwood Military Cemetery (Photos by Magicfingers)



Australian Graves in Brookwood Military Cemetery (Photos by Magicfingers)





(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher)



Australian War Graves *(Photo courtesy of Neil Bright 2020)*

Photo of Private P. Amery's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England.



(Photos by Ian Fletcher)





(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher – Jan 2021)

