

Bulford War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



358 PRIVATE

W. E. ANDERSON

35TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

9TH JUNE, 1917

William Edward ANDERSON

William Edward Anderson was born at Newcastle, NSW in late 1886 to parents Charles & Agnes Anderson (nee Lawless). His birth was registered as Edward William Anderson in the district of Bungendore (near Queanbeyan). (His Attestation Papers list place of birth as Bungadore, Newcastle).

William Edward Anderson married Clarice Emelda Natrass in 1910 in the district of Kurri Kurri, NSW. Births were registered in the district of Kurri Kurri for the following: George C. Anderson (born 1910), Cornelius O. Anderson (born 1912), Lorna B. Anderson (born 1914) & William John Anderson (born 1916).

William Anderson was a 29 year old, married, Miner from First Street, Weston, NSW when he enlisted at West Maitland on 17th December, 1915 with the 9th Infantry Brigade, 35th Infantry Battalion of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 358 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Clarence (should be Clarice) Natrass Anderson of First Street, Weston.

Pte William Edward Anderson embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Benalla* (A24) on 1st May, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 9th July, 1916. While sailing to England Pte Anderson was written up on 11th June, 1916 for Breaking Coal Guard & A.W.L. (Absent without leave) from Troopship "A 24". He was given 30 days fatigue duty A24 at Capetown.

Pte Anderson was Absent without leave from 1 pm 20th July 1916 to 4 pm 21st August, 1916. He was punished with 28 days F. P. (Field Punishment) No. 2 & a total forfeiture of 30 days' pay.

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.

Pte Anderson was admitted to Bulford Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 1st September, 1916 with V.D. & discharged on 11th September, 1916.

Pte Anderson was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot on 17th October, 1916. He was written up for the offence at Tidworth for 1. Drunk & 2. A.W.L. from Tattoo on 24th October, 1916 till 10.30 pm the same day. This was admonished by Lt. Col. Osborne on 27th October, 1916.

Pte Anderson was on furlough from 10th to 24th November, 1916.

Pte Anderson was marched out to H. Q. on 5th December, 1916 & attached to Aust. Postal Corps, Mount Pleasant, London.

Pte Anderson was given 26 days detention for A.W.L. London from 3rd February and breaking open arrest & A.W.L. 27th February, 1917. Total forfeiture of 52 days' pay.

Pte Anderson was admitted to 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital, Bulford on 3rd March, 1917. He was detached from duty & discharged from 1st A.D.H. on 25th March, 1917 to Depot No. 20. He was marched out to No. 1 Command Depot, Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 31st March, 1917.

Pte Anderson was written up for the following crimes on 24th April, 1917 at Perham Downs, Wiltshire – 1. Breaking Camp 2. Absent without leave from 7 am 24th April, 1917 till 10.30 pm 30th April, 1917. He was awarded 7 days Field Punishment No. 2 by Lt. Col. G. H. Knox & in custody awaiting trial for 2 days from 3rd May, 1917. He was awarded a total forfeiture of 16 days' pay.

Pte Anderson was admitted to 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital, Bulford on 29th May, 1917 with V.D.

Private William Edward Anderson died on 9th June, 1917 in the Military Hospital, Bulford Camp, Wiltshire. A post mortem was held & the cause of death reported as Syphilis (originally contracted at London).

A death for William Anderson, aged 30, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private William Edward Anderson was buried on 12th June, 1917 in Bulford Church Cemetery, Wiltshire Grave No. 5 Australian Reserve Section (CWGC Plot number 3. I. 5.) and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Pte William Edward Anderson - *Coffin was in good condition, Pine (stained) – The deceased was cared for in every possible way in the Hospital and everything was done for him by the medical staff for his comfort and recovery. He was accorded a full Military Funeral. The Chaplain will write direct to the next of kin.*

Pte William Edward Anderson 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 Anderson's widow – Mrs C. E. Anderson (February, 1922 & November, 1921)

Mrs C. E. Anderson wrote to Base Records in June, 1923 & was advised that as her husband, the late 358 Pte W. E. Anderson had "no service in a theatre of War, it is regretted that the Victory Medal cannot be issued."

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private W. E. Anderson – service number 358, who served with 35th Battalion Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

War Pensions were granted to the following in respect of the death of the late Pte William Edward Anderson, 358:

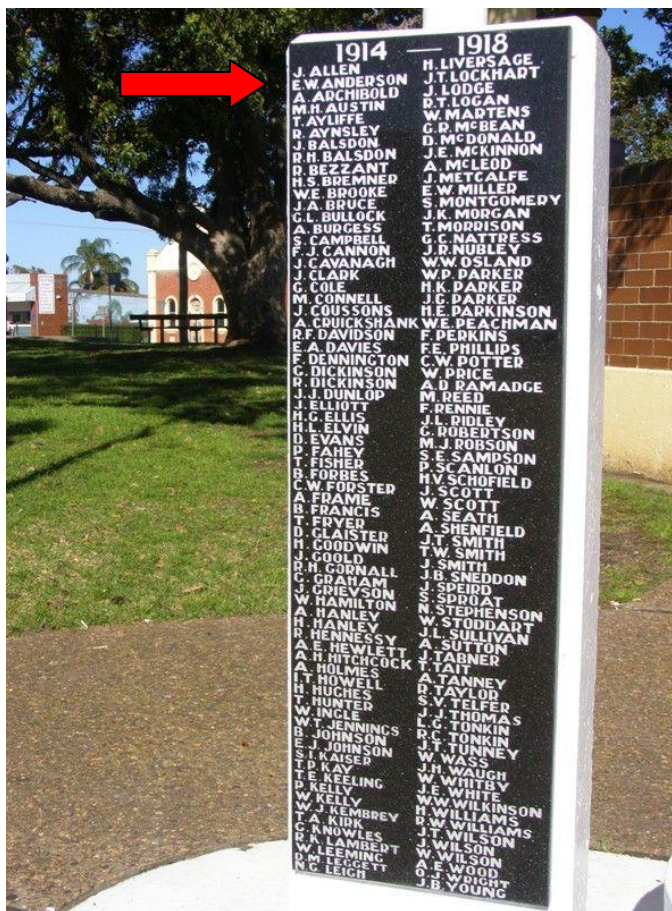
- Clarice Emelda Anderson, widow - £2 per fortnight from 13th August, 1917.
- Geo. Chas. Anderson, Child - £1 per fortnight from 13th August, 1917.
- Cornelius Oscar Anderson, Child – 15/- per fortnight from 13th August, 1917.
- Lorna Bella Anderson, Child – 10/- per fortnight from 13th August, 1917.
- William John Anderson, Child – 15/- per fortnight from 13th August, 1917

Private W. E. Anderson is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 124.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

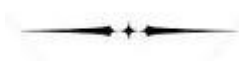
E. W. Anderson is also remembered on the Kurri Kurri War Memorial located in Rotary Park, Lang & Hampden Streets, Kurri Kurri, NSW.



Kurri Kurri War Memorial (Photo by Sandra Brown – Monument Australia)

(66 pages of Pte William Edward Anderson’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

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

LIST NO. 315

New South Wales

DIED (Cause Not Stated)

William Edward Anderson (Weston) 9/6/17

(Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners’ Advocate, NSW – Tuesday 26 June 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 Bulford Church 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)

A letter from Base Records, dated 1st July, 1921, to Mrs C. E. Anderson of Carlisle Street, North Stockton, Newcastle, advises that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of the late Pte W. E. Anderson had not been answered & non-receipt of a reply within 21 days would have to be accepted as indicating that no further action was to be taken.

Pte W. E. Anderson does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.



Bulford Church Cemetery *(Photo courtesy of Andrea Charlesworth 2012)*

Photo of Pte W. E. Anderson's Headstone at Bulford Church Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of Andrea Charlesworth 2012)