

**Brookwood Military Cemetery,  
Brookwood, Surrey, England**

**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**7457 PRIVATE**

**A. E. BARR**

**1ST BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**21ST FEBRUARY, 1919 Age 33**

*In Loving Memory Of*

*My Dear Husband*

## Albert Ernest BARR

Albert Ernest Barr was born on 19th March, 1883 in Sydney, New South Wales to parents Samuel and Annie Rosetta Barr (nee Hart). He was privately baptised on 27th March, 1883 then baptised in St. Andrew's Cathedral Church, Sydney, New South Wales on 11th April, 1883.

Albert Ernest Barr married Alice Maud McCarthy in Sydney, NSW on 22nd August, 1903. They had the following children: Annie Elizabeth Barr (born 1904); Alice Florence Barr (born 7th May, 1907, Erskineville, NSW; died 6th April, 1908); Maude Ruby Eileen Barr (born 1910); Rosetta Ada Mildred Barr (born 1912), Albert William Barr (born 13th February, 1915) & Dorothy L. Barr (born 1917).

The 1913 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Phillip, subdivision of Chippendale, NSW recorded Albert Ernest Barr, Storeman, & his wife Alice Maud Bar, Domestic duties, living at 53 Louis Street.

Albert Ernest Barr was a 34 year old, married, Storeman from 53 Lewis Street, Redfern, Sydney, NSW when he enlisted at Newtown, Sydney, NSW on 16th April, 1917 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 7457 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs A. M. Barr, 53 Lewis Street, Redfern, Sydney, NSW.

Private Albert Ernest Barr was posted to Recruits at Show Ground Camp, Sydney, NSW on 16th April, 1917.

Private Albert Ernest Barr embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Marathon (A74)* on 10th May, 1917 with the 1st Infantry Battalion, 25th Reinforcements & disembarked at Devonport, England on 20th July, 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 Albert Ernest Barr was marched in to 1st Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire from Australia on 20th July, 1917.

Private Albert Ernest Barr proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone on 23rd April, 1918 from No. 4 Camp, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire. He was marched in to NZ Infantry & General Base Depot at Etaples, France on 24th April, 1918. Private Barr proceeded to join his Unit on 25th April, 1918 from NZ Infantry & General Base Depot & was taken on strength of 1st Battalion in France on 30th April, 1918.

Private Albert Ernest Barr reported sick on 27th August, 1918. He was admitted to 1st Australian Field Ambulance on 27th August, 1918 – cause N.Y.D. (not yet determined) – pains in all joints. Private Barr was transferred & admitted to 61st Casualty Clearing Station on 27th August, 1918 then transferred to Ambulance Train 11 with P.U.O. (Pyrexia (fever) of unknown origin). He was admitted to 1st US General Hospital at Etretat on 28th August, 1918 with Influenza. Private Barr was transferred to Australian Convalescent Depot at Havre on 5th September, 1918. He was discharged to Base Depot on 19th September, 1918. Private Barr proceeded from A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) at Havre on 22nd September, 1918 & rejoined 1st Battalion in France on 24th September, 1918.

Private Albert Ernest Barr proceeded on Leave to UK from 12th February, 1919. He was on Leave from France from 13th February, 1919 to 27th February, 1919.

### 1st Battalion

The 1st Battalion was the first infantry unit recruited for the AIF in New South Wales during the First World War.....

The battalion participated in the battle of Amiens on 8 August 1918. This advance by British and empire troops was the greatest success in a single day on the Western Front, one that German General Erich Ludendorff described as 'the black day of the German Army in this war'.

*(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)*

Private Albert Ernest Barr was admitted to 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, Kent, England on 17th February, 1919 with Influenza. (The Hospital Admissions form recorded he had Broncho Pneumonia.) Private Barr was reported to be dangerously ill on 20th February, 1919.

Private Albert Ernest Barr died at 15.40 hrs on 21st February, 1919 at 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, Kent, England from Influenza.

A death for Albert E. Barr, aged 37, was registered in the March quarter, 1919 in the district of Dartford, Kent, England.

Private Albert Ernest Barr was buried on 27th February, 1919 in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England – Australian Military Burial Ground - Plot number 183073.

*From the burial report of Private Albert Ernest Barr - Coffin was Oak. The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler and Pallbearers being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the Australian Flag, and conveyed to the graveside, where the "Last Post" was sounded by a Bugler of the A.I.F. London, and the burial service conducted by the Rev: Ed Makeham, C. of E. of the A.I.F. The grave will be turfed and an oak cross erected by the A.I.F. London. A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Base Records wrote to Mrs A. M. Barr, 53 Lewis St, Redfern, Sydney, NSW on 22nd March, 1923 stating that the site No. 7457 Private A. E. Barr's grave in Brookwood Military Cemetery had been officially registered as Plot 4 Row 1 Grave 8.

This is now recorded by CWGC as Memorial reference – IV. I. 8. Private Albert Ernest Barr now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Albert Ernest Barr contains a letter from the Red Cross to Mrs Thorn, Ingleside, Duke's Avenue, New Malden, Surrey, which reads: *"In reply to your enquiry for 7457 Pte A. E. Barr, 1st Bttn, A.I.F., who died whilst on leave from Influenza and broncho pneumonia at the 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford on 21.2.19. We beg to inform you that he was buried in the Australian Military Burial Ground, Brookwood Cemetery, Church of England Section, the number of his gave being 183073. The burial took place on 27.2.19 and was conducted by Chaplain Edward Makeham."*

Private Albert Ernest Barr requested in his Will dated 2nd May, 1917 that in the vent of his death the whole of his Property and Effects be given to his wife – Alice Maude Barr, 53 Lewis St., Redfern, Sydney, NSW.

Private Albert Ernest Barr was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Barr's widow – Mrs A. M. Barr, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent May, 1922 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Albert Ernest Barr – service number 7457, aged 33, of 1st Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Samuel and Annie Rosetta Barr; husband of Alice Maud Barr, of 53 Lewis Street, Redfern, Sydney.

Private A. E. Barr is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 28.



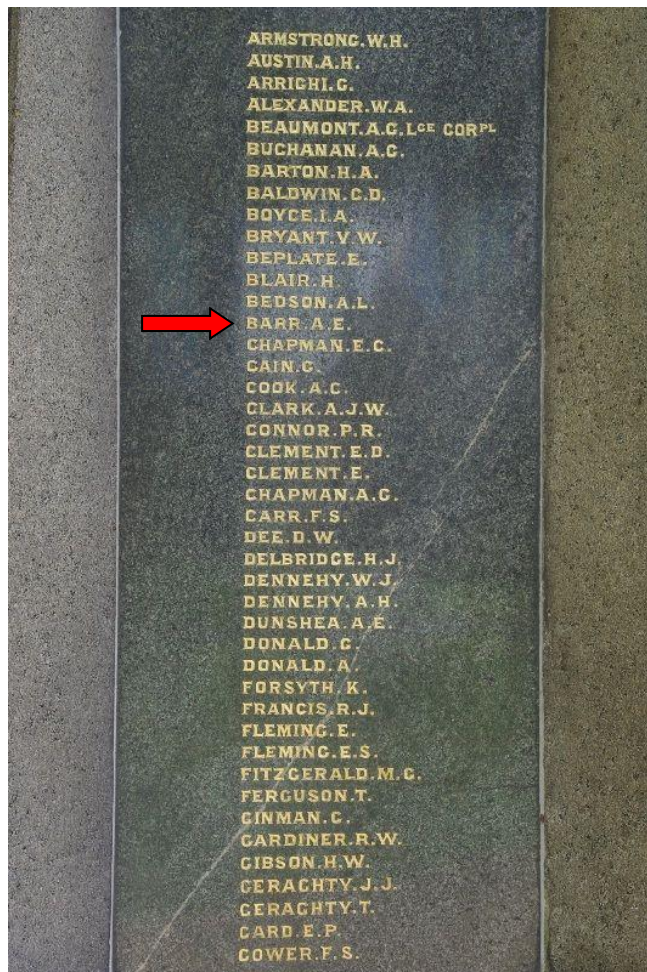
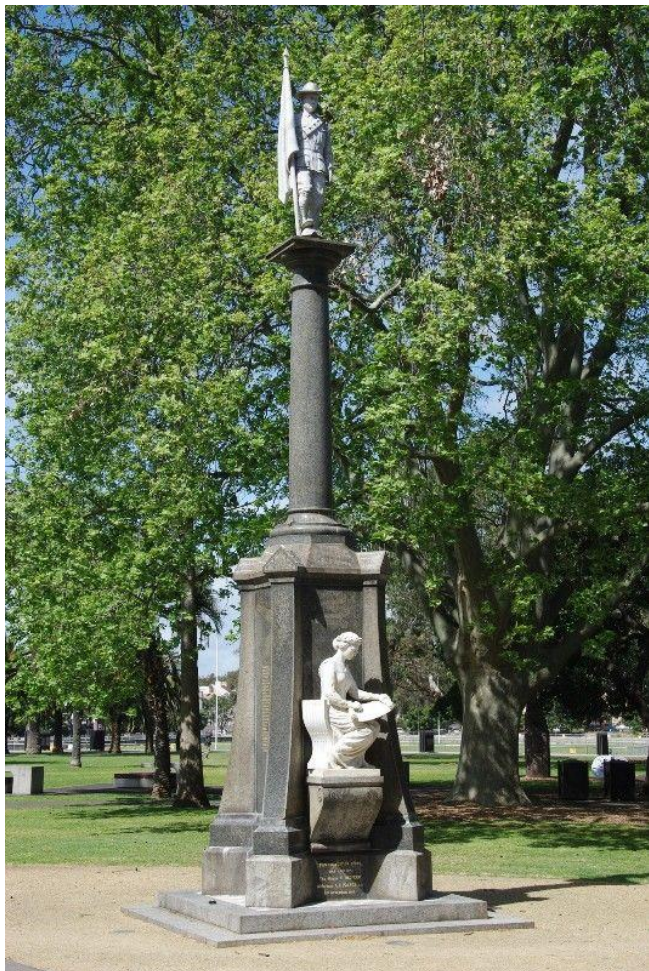
Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

A. E. Barr is remembered on the Redfern Town Hall First World War Honor Roll located in Redfern Town Hall, 73 Pitt Street, Redfern, Sydney, NSW.



**Redfern Town Hall First World War Honor Roll** (Photo from City of Sydney, NSW Gov)

A. E. Barr is remembered on the Redfern War Memorial, located in Redfern Park, 51 Elizabeth Street, Redfern, Sydney, NSW.



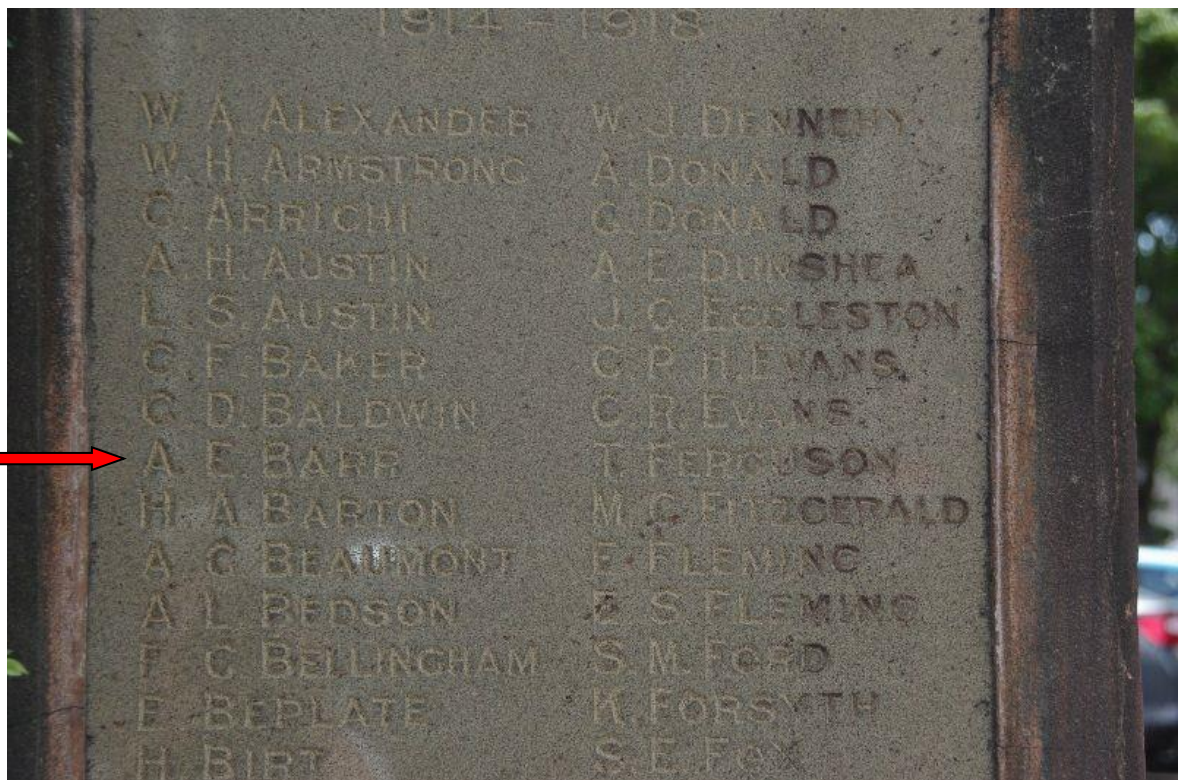
**Redfern War Memorial** (Photos from Monument Australia)

A. E. Barr is remembered on the Redfern Memorial Gates (left pillar), located at the former St. Paul's Anglican Church, now Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 242 Cleveland Street, Redfern, Sydney, NSW.





**Redfern Memorial Gates** (Photos from Monument Australia)



(64 pages of Private Albert Ernest Barr'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**

### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

BARR – Died of pneumonia, February 21, 1919, in England, A. E. Barr, 1st Battalion, B Company, after two years on active service. Inserted by his brother, Sid, also sister-in-law and family, Thelma, Eighth-avenue, Campsie.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 12 March, 1919)*

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### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

BARR – Died in the 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, England, of influenza, Private Albert E. Barr, 1st Battalion, B Company, 25th Reinforcements, after two years on active service. Ready for embarkation for home.

Lonely is my heart to-day,  
For the one I loved has passed away.

Inserted by his loving wife and five children, also his niece, Florence McDougall

BARR – Private Albert E. Barr, aged 36, third eldest son of Samuel and Annie Barr, of 46 Albert-street, Erskineville, died February 21, 1919, of influenza, in the 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, England, 1st Battalion, B Company, after being listed for home.

And God postponed the meeting,  
We will meet in a better land.

Inserted by his loving father and mother.

BARR – Died on February 21, 1919, Private Albert E. Barr, of influenza, in the 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, England, after two years' active service. Inserted by his loving sister, Maud also bother-in-law, Wil, and family.

BARR - Died February 21, 1919, of influenza, Private Albert E. Barr, in 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, England, after two years' active service. Inserted by his loving sisters, Rosie, Ada, also brother-in-law, Tom and Bert Wood.

BARR – Died of influenza, February 21, in England, after two years' service, Private Albert E. Barr, 1st Battalion, aged 36 years. At rest. Inserted by his loving sister and brother, Millie and Will Clayton, and little niece.

BARR – Died of influenza, in the 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, England, A. E. Barr, 1st Battalion, B Company, after two years on active service. He lies in a hero's grave. Inserted by his loving brother, Tom, and Dollie.

BARR – My dear brother, A. E. Barr, late of 1st Batt., died in England, of influenza, February 21, 1919, after two years on active service.

We pictured his home returning,  
We longed to clasp his hand;  
But God has postponed the meeting

To a far and better land.

Inserted by his loving brother and sister-in-law, W. and G. Barr.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 15 March, 1919)*

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## **462nd CASUALTY LIST**

### **NEW SOUTH WALES**

#### **DIED, OTHER CAUSES**

Pte ALBERT ERNEST BARR, Redfern, (illness)

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 1 April, 1919)*

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**\*\*Notices were also placed in 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924**

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### 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)*

A letter from Base Records, dated 1st July, 1921, to Mrs A. M. Barr, 53 Lewis Street, Redfern, Sydney, NSW advised that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of her husband, the late No. 7457 Private A. E. Barr, 1st Battalion, 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.

Mrs Barr replied to Base Records in July, 1921 stating *“Very sorry to delay so long but I have had another death in Family would you be kind enough to state how much it will all cost before hand as I may not be able to pay to much.”*

Base Records replied to Mrs Barr on 26th July, 1921 stating that the inscription chosen by her exceeded the limit imposed by the Imperial War Graves Commission *“namely 66 letters – the space between words to count as an additional letter. It is pointed out that on the headstone will be inscribed the soldier’s regimental number, rank, name, unit and date of death. In view of this the inscription supplied has been abbreviated as follows:- “In loving memory of my dear husband.” Kindly advise if this meets with your approval. The rate per letter is 3 1/2d, and this is subject to fluctuation. The account for same would be rendered at a later date.”*

The following was written in red on the side of the copy of the letter *“No reply to hand to date. Form forwarded to London 26-1-22.”*

Private A. E. Barr does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*In Loving Memory of My Dear Husband*



## 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 A. E. Barr's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher)*



*(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher)*



*(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher – Jan 2021)*

