

**Greenbank Cemetery,
Bristol, Gloucestershire, England**

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



954 PRIVATE

A. E. BATE

23RD BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

22ND JANUARY, 1916 Age 18

Lead Kindly Light

Arthur Edward BATE

Arthur Edward Bate was born at Brunswick, Victoria in 1897 to parents Richard and Martha Annie Jane Bate (nee Moffat).

Arthur Edward Bate attended the State School at Prahran West, Victoria.

Arthur Edward Bate was an 18 year old, single, Plumber from 36 Andrew Street, Windsor, Melbourne, Victoria when he enlisted on 8th March, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 954 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr Richard Bate, 36 Andrew Street, Windsor, Melbourne, Victoria. Arthur Bate stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served with Senior Cadets for 2 & 2/3 years & was still serving.

Private Arthur Edward Bate was posted to B Company, 23rd Battalion on 29th March, 1915 for recruit training.

Private Arthur Edward Bate embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Euripides (A14)* on 10th May, 1915 with the 6th Infantry Brigade, 23rd Infantry Battalion "B" Company.

Private Arthur Edward Bate proceeded to join M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) at Gallipoli on 30th August, 1915.

Private Arthur Edward Bate was admitted to 13th Casualty Clearing Station at Anzac on 13th September, 1915 with Tonsillitis. He was transferred to Mudros & admitted to Hospital on 17th September, 1915. Private Bate was transferred by Hospital Ship *Somali* on 21st September, 1915 with Rheumatism then admitted to St John's Hospital at Malta on 22nd September, 1915 with Osteo Arthritis. He was invalided to England on Hospital Ship *D'Italie* on 29th October, 1915 with Rheumatism.

23rd Battalion

The 23rd Battalion was raised in Victoria in March 1915 as the third battalion of the 6th Brigade. After initial training, it left Australia in March and arrived in Egypt, where it would complete its advanced training, in June.

As part of the 2nd Australian Division, the 6th Brigade landed at ANZAC Cove in early September. The 23rd Battalion was soon manning one of the most trying parts of the Anzac front line - Lone Pine. The fighting here was so dangerous and exhausting that battalions were relieved every day. The 23rd manned Lone Pine, alternating with the 24th Battalion, until they left Gallipoli in December 1915.

(Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Arthur Edward Bate was admitted to 3rd London Hospital, Wandsworth, London, England on 10th November, 1915 with Rheumatism & discharged on 23rd November, 1915. According to the Hospital Admissions form the Rheumatism was caused by "*Active Service (Dardanelles). Nature – Rheumatism affecting left thigh, knee, leg & ankle..... Referred to Kanferry Rd.*"

Private Arthur Edward Bate died on 22nd January, 1916 at Sydney Hall Hospital, Weymouth, Dorset, England from Pneumonia & Pleurisy.

A death for Arthur E. Bate, aged 18, was registered in the March quarter, 1916 in the district of Weymouth, Dorset, England.



Sydney Hall Hospital, Weymouth

Private Arthur Edward Bate was buried on 29th January, 1916 in Greenbank Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England – Plot number AA.1868 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Newspaper item – *Western Daily Press*, Bristol, England – 29 January, 1916:

FUNERAL OF AN ANZAC HERO

This afternoon the funeral of Private Bate, of the Australian Expeditionary Force, will take place at Greenbank Cemetery. The funeral will be semi-military. The gun carriage, which has kindly been lent from the Royal Naval Volunteer headquarters, will be drawn by Australian and New Zealand soldiers, and the Recruiting Band and contingents of the Boy Scouts will be in attendance. The cortege will leave the relatives' house, in Seymour Road, Warwick Road, at three o'clock.

Colonial and other soldiers in uniform who would like to take part are asked to meet on the Tramways Centre at 1.30 to-day.

Newspaper item – *Western Daily Press*, Bristol, England – 31 January, 1916:

AN AUSTRALIAN SOLDIER'S FUNERAL

GREAT TRIBUTE OF RESPECT

There was a remarkable scene of respect and sympathy at the funeral of Private Arthur E. Bate, of the 23d Battalion, 6th Infantry Brigade, Australian Expeditionary Force, which took place at Greenbank Cemetery on Saturday afternoon. This young soldier, who had served through the Gallipoli campaign, was but 18 years of age. He had recovered from wounds received at the Dardanelles, and after spending some weeks with relatives at Seymour Road, Stapleton Road, had proceeded to Weymouth preparatory to going on active service again. Here, in an endeavour to save life from drowning, he contracted a chill, pneumonia followed, and the young soldier died. His body was brought by relatives to Bristol for burial, and though apparently Army regulations forbade a full military funeral, official honours having been accorded at Weymouth, the burial on Saturday was accompanied by a remarkable demonstration of respect. The coffin, covered by the flag of the Commonwealth of Australia, was drawn to the cemetery on the gun carriage provided by the Naval Volunteers from their headquarters, Jamaica Street, by

Australian and New Zealand soldiers, all of whom had fought at Anzac, These men were on furlough in Bristol, and had been gathered together by Private W. Vickery, A.F.A., and Private Stephens, A.M.C. The pall-bearers were Sergt. Smith, 8th Light Horse, Private Raff, 2nd Light Horse, Private Power, 6th Light Horse, Private G. Trotman,, 3rd Battalion, E. P. Brogan, New Zealand Rifles, and E. M. Bennett, 24th Battalion. Able seaman C. Sharp, who had served on board the Queen Elizabeth at the Dardanelles, and several men, with Petty Officer G. Wiggins, from the R.N.V.R., Jamaica Street, were also present. Sergt.-Major Scott was in charge of the Colonial soldiers.

The deceased had been greatly interested in the Boy Scout movement, and this fact becoming known the officers of the Bristol Association gladly co-operated with the arrangements n Saturday. Four hundred Scouts followed the coffin, the official present being Hon. Scoutmaster W. S. Paul, vice-president; District Scoutmaster G. I. Pocock, chairman, Bristol South; Hon. Scoutmaster E. Hopkins, chairman, Bristol East; and Assistant Hon. Secretary R. Howard Pakeman. The Crimean and Indian Mutiny Veteran's Association was represented by Sergt.-Major Wilson, R.M.A., and Mr S. Singleton. 6th Regiment.

The mourners were Mr Joseph Crew (uncle), Mr Edward Crew, Mr Percy Crew, Mr W. Briggs, Mr H. Fox, and the Rev. J. Trebilco. The procession, which was a very considerable one, was headed by the Bristol Recruiting Band, and in addition to the Australian and New Zealand soldiers who drew the gun carriage and acted as pall-bearers, some wounded Australian soldiers, accompanied by Mr A. G. Powell, followed in a car kindly provided by the Red Cross Society.

There were some very beautiful floral tributes. One in the form of the Australian badge was from "Anzac Boys;" another was from Australian and New Zealand comrades; other were from relatives, a few members of the Bristol Liberal Club, Mr E. M. Hopkins, Bristol West Boy Scouts' Association; staff of St. Gabriel's Girls' School, Mrs Robbins, Mrs Tincknell and family, Mrs Anning and son, "Two friends," Mrs A. F. Wade, "A friend at Weymouth," and the Staff Officers and Scouts of the City and County of Bristol Boy Scouts' Association.

Thousands of sympathisers had assembled along the line of the route and at the cemetery, and the scene at the graveside was a most impressive one.

In a short but earnest and deeply-impressive address, the Rev. J. Trebilco said he would like to say just a word or two of the lad around whose graveside they were gathered. He had known him but a month, but to know him was to love him. He had given his life for his country. He was but 18 years of age, yet he had served thought that terrible campaign at Gallipoli, was wounded, and was going on to further active service in France. After staying for a whole with his relatives in Bristol he went to Weymouth. He tried to save some of his comrades from drowning, and he gave up his coat to one who was rescued from the water. As a result of this action he took a chill and died from Pneumonia. Continuing the rev. gentleman said he was glad to see that demonstration of respect; he was glad that his relatives here and his parents in far-away Australia were able to be comforted by the knowledge that there was nothing lacking to show a last mark of respect to the brave lad. He was glad, too to know that his soldier comrades who happened to be in Bristol had done all they possibly could to show their affection for one who, like them, had served King and country so faithfully. Those comrades had gathered themselves together from their own homes, strangers in a strange city, to organise a fitting funeral. He had nothing but admiration for those Colonial soldiers who had so much for the Empire. Almost the last words of their dear young friend were, "Arthur up there," and he pointed toward heaven. His name was Arthur, and he (the speaker) had no doubt that while they stood round his graveside Arthur was with his Saviour in Heaven.

The Last Post was rendered by the buglers of the Boy Scouts.

The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr W. M. Colston, of E. Colston and Son, Ashley Road and Lawrence Hill.

Item from Bristol and The War – March, 1916:

AUSTRALIAN SOLDIER'S FUNERAL

There was a remarkable scene of respect and sympathy at the funeral of Private Arthur E. Bate, of the 23d Battalion, 6th Infantry Brigade, Australian Expeditionary Force, which took place at Greenbank Cemetery on Saturday afternoon. This young soldier, who had served in the Gallipoli campaign, was only eighteen years of age. He had recovered from wounds received at the Dardanelles, and had spent a few weeks with relatives at Seymour Road, Stapleton Road, had proceeded to Weymouth preparatory to going on active service again. Here, in a most heroic endeavour to save from drowning some of the crew who were shipwrecked, he contracted a chill; pneumonia followed, thought giving his overcoat and tunic to the men, and the brave young soldier died.

The coffin, covered by the flag of the Commonwealth of Australia, was drawn to the cemetery on a gun carriage, kindly lent by the Naval Volunteers, by Australian and New Zealand soldiers, all of whom had fought at Anzac. The deceased being greatly interested in the Scout movement, the Bristol Association co-operated, and about 500 followed the coffin.

There were some very beautiful floral tributes. One, in the form of the Australian badge, was from the Anzac boys, and another was from the Australian and New Zealand boys. Thousands of sympathisers assembled along the route and at the Cemetery, and the scene at the graveside was most impressive one. The "Last Post" was sounded by the buglers of the Boy Scouts.



Private Arthur Edward Bate was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Bate's father - Mr R. Bate, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent August, 1921 & Plaque sent May, 1922).

Base Records contacted Mr R. Bate. 36 Andrew Street, Windsor, Victoria, father of the late Private Arthur Edward Bate, in June, 1931: *"At the request of Mr Robert E. Bush, of Bishops Knoll, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, England, I am forwarding under separate cover a copy of the "Western Daily Press" containing an article referring to the Anzac Day Pilgrimage and Memorial Service held at Arnos Vale Cemetery, Wherein the remains of your son, the late No. 954 Private A. E. BATE, 23rd Battalion are interred. Mr Bush has expressed a wish that he would be pleased to hear from any relatives receiving a copy of this publication."*

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Arthur Edward Bate – service number 954, aged 18, of 23rd Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Richard and Martha Annie Jane Bate, of 36 Andrew Street, Windsor, Victoria.

Private A. E. Bate is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 98.



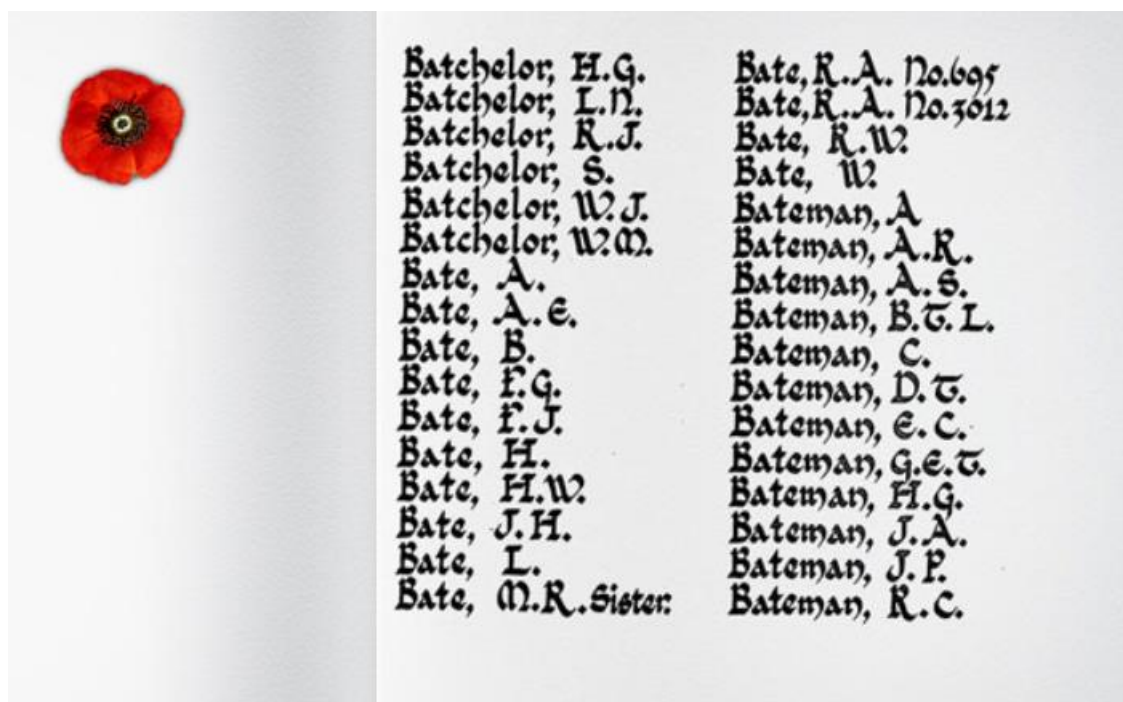
Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

A. E. Bate is remembered on the Prahran RSL Roll of Honour, located at Prahran RSL, 301 High Street, Prahran, Victoria.



Prahran RSL Roll of Honour (Photo from Prahran RSL Club)

A. E. Bate is remembered in the Book of Remembrance at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne, Victoria.



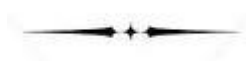
(57 pages of Private Arthur Edward Bate's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives





Private Arthur Edward Bate



Newspaper Notices

The 6th Brigade in Action

We willingly publish the appended verses. They were penned by Pte A. E. Bate, of Prahran, at Gallipoli, and forwarded to a friend. In the words of Private Bate himself, they were "composed in a dug out in the support trench by myself while shells and bullets were flying overhead, and we were having a spell." Admittedly the lines will be found to reflect in finite credit on Private Bate's heart, not forgetting his heroism and his patriotism.

On the _____ day of September,
In the dark and roarious night,
We landed at Gallipoli,
Some thousand miles away.

The Turks were lying along the cliffs,
A dreadful sight to see,
But we advanced upon them,
As bravely as could be.

We fairly made the Turkey trot,
Across their homeland plains,
We gave them_____, and then a spell,
And drove them on again.

The shrapnel it was flying,
With bullets in galore,
We thought we'd never see again
Old Melbourne any more.

Australia's boys showed their mettle,
It was a lurid sight,
But the gallant 6th Brigade
Stuck gamely to the fight.

(Prahran Chronicle, Victoria – 20 November, 1915)

DEATHS

BATE – Private A. Bate, late of 23rd Battalion, 8th Infantry Brigade, Australian Expeditionary Force, nephew of Joseph Crew, 22, Seymour Road, Stapleton Road. Funeral to-day (Saturday), Greenbank Cemetery, 3 o'clock.

(Western Daily Press, Bristol, England – 29 January, 1916)

DEATHS

On Active Service

BATE – On the 22nd January, at Weymouth Hospital, England, Private A. E. Bate, of Andrew-street, Windsor.

He rose responsive to his country's call,

He gave his life, his best, his all.

-Inserted by his true friends, A. Barrass, L. Munro, J. Doherty, T. Collins

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 2 February, 1916)

Australian Casualties

139th CASUALTY LIST

The Victorian names are as follows:

DIED OF ILLNESS

Private A. E. Bate, Windsor

(*The Mildura Cultivator*, Victoria – 9 February, 1916)

UPON THE ANZAC FIELD

The appended verses were penned by the late Pte A. E. Bate, of Prahran, when in the Anzac support trenches for a spell, and while shot and shell were flying overhead –

Dashing about on the cliffs and downs,

After the fighting Turks,

A famous band of heroes grand,

Defying wind and weather;

With many a wild and warlike cry,

While neither officer nor man doth yield,

Such is the scene that melts the eye

Upon the Anzac field.

Following fleetly on the fray,

With keen determination,

Charging together one and all,

In splendid combination;

A stout and stubborn tussie here,

While many a Turk and German yield

Upon the Anzac field.

Fighting the hun in finest form,

Officer and men uniting,

Soldiers all, with exertion warm,

each for victory fighting;

Chaffing each other, their errors are few,

© Cathy Sedgwick 2019

Happy as seaside pierrots,
Receiving praise where praise is dur,
Such are the Anzac heroes.

Long may the cry of "Anzac!"
Be heard from every land,
And may a loyal spirit rule
To King and Motherland;
Let every soldier act for good,
Do nothing mean and brutal,
Playing the game is sportsmen should,
Right to the final victory.

(*Malvern Standard*, Victoria – 19 February, 1916) & (*Prahran Chronicle*, Victoria – 19 February, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOR

Fallen Heroes

Our Men at the Dardanelles

WINDSOR

Private A. E. Bate, 23rd Battalion

(*The Prahran Telegraph*, Victoria – 11 March, 1916, 1 April, 1916 & 3 June, 1916)

DIED ON SERVICE



—(*The Marlborough*.)
Private A. E. Bate.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 6 May, 1916)

IN MEMORIAM

The Anzac Heroes

BATE – In loving memory of our dear friend, Private Arthur E, Bate, who died at Weymouth, England, on 22nd January, 1916.

He never shunned his country's call,
He gave his life, he gave his all;
He died the helpless to defend,
An Australian soldier's noble end.

-Inserted by his pals, A. Barras and L. Munro

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 23 January, 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 A. E. Bate does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Lead Kindly Light

Greenbank Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England

The cemetery contains burials of both wars. It is no longer possible to mark many of the graves individually so the names of the dead now appear on screen walls and other special memorials in two commemorative plots. There are also special memorials to a number of casualties buried in other burial grounds in Bristol whose graves can no longer be maintained. There are now 178 First World War casualties commemorated in this cemetery and 129 from the Second World War. There are 26 Foreign National war burials and 11 non-war service burials here.

(Information from CWGC)



Greenbank Cemetery, Bristol (Photos by JohnM – Find a Grave)





Greenbank Cemetery, Bristol (Photos from CWGC)

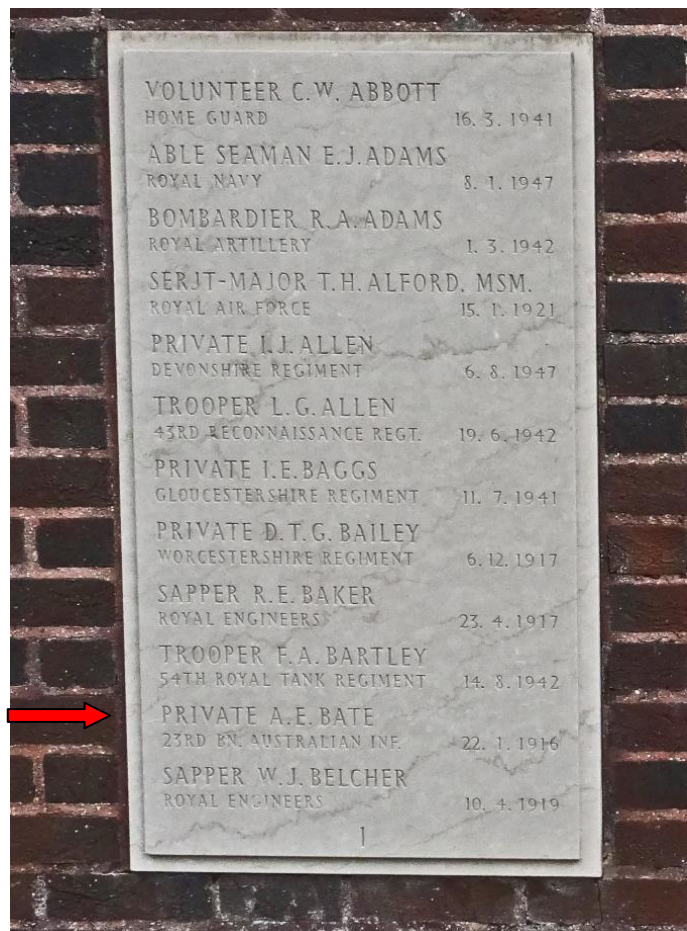


Photo of Private A. E. Bate's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Greenbank Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England.



(Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave)



(Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave)

GREENBANK
CEMETERY



(Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave)