Southgate Cemetery,

Greater London, England

War Grave

Lest We Forget

World War 1

8062 CHIEF WRITER

H. J. BATTERHAM

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA"

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

5TH JANUARY, 1918   Age 37

Henry James BATTERHAM

Henry James Batterham was born at Kingston, Southampton, England on 6th April, 1880 to parents William Robinson Batterham & Annie Elizabeth Batterham (nee Richardson). (According to information provided for the Roll of Honour – his brother stated Henry James Batterham was born at Portsmouth, England). A birth was registered in June quarter, 1880 in the district of Portsea Island, Hampshire, England for Henry James Batterham.

The 1881 England Census recorded Henry Batterham as an 11 month old, loving with his family at 4 Park Villas, Edmonton, Middlesex. His parents were listed as William Batterham (House Decorator, aged 36, born Cork, Ireland) & Annie Batterham (aged 35, born Portsmouth, Hants). Henry was the youngest of five children listed on this Census (all born Portsmouth, Hants) – Rosa (Scholar, aged 12), Minnie (Scholar, aged 8), George (Scholar, aged 5), Bertha (aged 3) & Henry.

Grace Batterham & Henry James Batterham were both baptised on 1st March, 1885 at St. Michael's Church, Bowes Park, Southgate, Middlesex, England. Their parents were listed as William (Painter) & Ann Elizabeth Batterham & the family lived at 6 Eleanor Rd, Bound's Green.

Henry James Batterham attended school at Wood Green, London, England.

The 1891 England Census recorded Henry Battersham as an 11 year old, Scholar, living with his family at 6 Flettong Road, Tottenham, Middlesex, England. His parents were recorded as William Battersham (Decorator, aged 46) & Ann Battersham (aged 45). Henry was one of seven children listed on this Census – Rosa (aged 22), Minnie (Dressmaker's Apprentice, aged 18), George (Clerk, aged 15), Bertha (Scholar, aged 13), then Henry, Grace (Scholar, aged 8) & Muriel (aged 1).

Henry James Batterham joined the Royal Navy on 11th February, 1899 for a period of 12 years. He was issued an official number of 342536 (Chatham). His occupation was listed as Clerk.

Henry James Batterham was assigned to *Pembroke I* on 11th February, 1899 as 3rd Writer. He was transferred to *Severn* on 23rd February, 1899; *Wildfire* from 8th May, 1899 & *Wye* from 15th July, 1899

The 1901 England Census recorded Henry James Batterham as a 20 year old, 3rd Writer in the Royal Navy (place of birth listed as Kingston, Southampton, Hants). He was listed as Crew on H.M.S. *Wye* which was a Store Ship & was in dry dock, H.M. Dockyard, Sheerness on the night of the Census – Sunday 31st March, 1901.

William Robinson Batterham, father of Henry James Batterham, died on 14th September, 1902 at Edmonton, Middlesex, England.

3rd Writer Henry James Batterham was transferred to *Thetis* from 25th November, 1902. He was promoted to 2nd Writer on 11th February, 1903 while serving in *Thetis*.

2nd Writer Henry James Batterham was transferred to *Pembroke I* from 13th July, 1905 then promoted to 1st Writer from 10th February, 1909.

1st Writer Henry James Batterham was transferred to *Lord Nelson* from 12th March, 19009 then *St. Vincent* from 9th June, 1910. He was promoted to Chief Writer on 9th February, 1911 while serving in *St. Vincent*.

Chief Writer Henry James Batterham was transferred back to *Pembroke I* on 8th May, 1911 then transferred to *Actaeon* from 22nd November, 1911; transferred to *Pembroke I* from 14th October, 1912.

Chief Writer Henry James Batterham was transferred to H.M. Naval Depot (London) on 19th April, 1913.

Chief Writer Henry James Batterham was on loan to Royal Australian Navy from Royal Navy from 19th April, 1913 for a period of 3 years. He was issued a Service number of 8062 (Royal Navy No. 342536). The next-of-kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Annie Batterham, 9 Elevendon Road, Palmers Green, London, England.

Chief Writer Henry James Batterham was assigned to London Depot from 19th April, 1913. He was transferred to H.M.A.S. *Australia* from 24th June, 1913.

H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA.

LIST OF OFFICERS.

The complete list of officers appointed to the Australia, the flagship of the Australian Navy is now printed for the first time:—

Rear-Admiral.—G. E. Patey, M.V.O.

Rear-Admiral's Personal Staff.—Secretary, C. H. Rodham; Flag Lieutenant, B. R. Poe.

Clerks to Secretary.—L. S. Brown and J. D. Jackson, R.A.N.

Chief Writer (secretary's office).—H. J. Batterham.

Captain.—S. H. Radcliffe.

Commander.—G. F. Hyde, R.A.N.

Lieutenants.—C. D. Longstaff, J. G. Walsh. W. C. Allen, A. R. A. MacDonald, W. M. V. Lewis, F. C. Darley, D. C. Piliaps, J. G. Crase, O. C. Warner, C. Euman, G. A. Hill.

Acting-Lieutenant, R.N.R.—H. L. Quick.

Engineer Commander.—W. Crump Johnson.

Engineer-Lieutenants.—R. A. Lee, H. Bleackley, T. W. Ross, R.A.N., H. M. F. Robinson, R.A.N., O. A. Ireland, R.A.N., A. B. Doyle, R.A.N., G. Bridge, R.A.N.

Chaplain.—Rev. Father Giblin, R.A.N., Roman Catholic (for passage out).

Chaplain.—Rev. F. Riley, R.A.N., Church of England.

Fleet Paymaster.—R. F. Wardroper.

Staff Surgeon.—A. R. Caw, R.A.N.

Surgeon.—W. E. Roberts, R.A.N.

Sub-Lieutenant.—C. M. Mereweather.

Assistant Paymaster.—L. H. Mosse Robinson.

Gunners.—D. Ogilvie, J. Wilkes, A. C. Newton, A. E. Shute, W. Gregory.

Boatswain.—A. M'Cutcheon.

Signal Boatswain.—W. D. Hunter, R.A.N.

Carpenter.—A. H. Martin.

Warrant Armorer.—G. Prideaux, R.A.N. (for passage only).

Midshipmen.—N. H. M'William, C. F. Creswell, W. H. Bremner, F. A. B. Haworth-Booth, A. L. Pears, H. A. Packer, H. H. Lyle, E. E. Hill, R. G. Fenton Livingstone, F. B. Findlay, E. W. Billyard-Leake, V. R. S. Bowlby, G. E. Nelson, J. W. Pinhay.

Clerks.—J. Hehir, R.A.N., A. E. Sharp, R.A.N.

(The Sun, Sydney, NSW – 30 June, 1913)

Chief Writer Henry James Batterham received the Long Service & Good Conduct Medal on 8th February, 1914.

Chief Writer Henry James Batterham was transferred to London Depot from 8th March, 1915 until 24th October, 1916. He was transferred back to H.M.A.S. *Australia* from 25th October, 1916.

H.M.A.S. *Australia*

The Australian Navy's first flagship, the battle cruiser HMAS Australia (I) was the centrepiece of the 'Fleet Unit', whose acquisition signalled the RAN's arrival as a credible ocean going force….

The Commonwealth Government decided upon the name Australia, and it proved a popular choice, carefully avoiding any suggestion of favouritism towards any one Australian State. The ship's badge maintained the national theme by featuring the Federation Star overlaid by a naval crown, while the motto 'Endeavour' reflected the ideal of the Australian spirit and recalled Lieutenant James Cook's ship of 1768-71.whose acquisition signalled the RAN's arrival as a credible ocean going force….
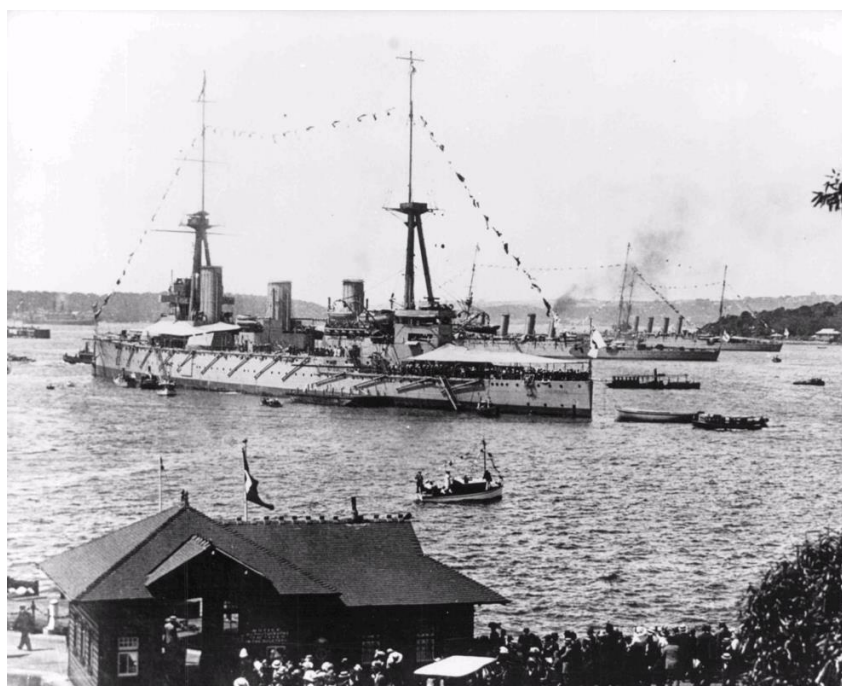
Following successful gun, torpedo and machinery trials she commissioned as an Australian unit at Portsmouth, England, on 21 June 1913 under the command of Captain Stephen H Radcliffe, RN. Two days later the ship hoisted the flag of Rear Admiral George Edwin Patey, MVO (later Vice Admiral Sir George Patey, KCMG, KCVO), who had been selected to command the Australian Fleet.

In company with the new light cruiser HMAS Sydney (I), Australia (I) sailed from Portsmouth on 21 July 1913, and their voyage home was seen as a further opportunity to stimulate public awareness and naval sentiment around the British Empire. The appearance of the Australian warships would, the Sydney Morning Herald remarked, provide a practical demonstration of the RAN as a "thoroughly competent, efficient, and considerable force". Australia (I) called in at Capetown where Patey and his officers were directed to extend every possible courtesy…..

On the morning of 4 October 1913, Australia (I), leading the remaining ships of the Fleet Unit (the cruisers Melbourne (I), Sydney (I) and Encounter, and the destroyers Warrego (I), Parramatta (I) and Yarra (I)), entered Sydney for the first time. Port Jackson was no stranger to imperial and foreign warships, but the battle cruiser, both majestic and forbidding at the same time, was something different. She was the embodiment of the Commonwealth's own sea power, and unquestionably superior to every other European warship in the Pacific. Already described as a "living sentient thing", Australia (I)'s entry at the head of the fleet evoked a nationalistic euphoria never before experienced. "The sight of the Fleet meant more to the Australian people than the visit of any foreign fleet. It was our expression of patriotism, ships of defence bought in love of country and empire..." wrote the Sydney Mail…

On the outbreak of World War I Australia (I) operated (with other ships of the Australian Fleet) as a counter to the German East Asian Cruiser Squadron under Admiral Graf von Spee. The battle cruiser's presence deterred von Spee from operating in local waters, and as Prime Minister WM 'Billy' Hughes later declared, "but for the Australia (I)...the great cities of Australia would have been reduced to ruins, oversea trade paralysed, coastal shipping sunk, and communications with the outside world cut off". Australia (I) meanwhile kept busy, taking part in a series of operations to seize German Pacific colonies and destroy the enemy's radio network. During these operations Australia (I) captured the German ship Sumatra.

In late December 1914 Australia (I) received orders to sail to England via the Pacific and reached Devonport on 28 January 1915. En route she captured and sank von Spee's supply ship Eleonore Woermann (5000 tons) off South America. From Devonport Australia (I) proceeded to Rosyth in Scotland, where in February 1915 she became flagship of the 2nd Battle Cruiser Squadron, flying the flag of Rear Admiral Sir William Pakenham, KCB, MVO. The squadron as initially formed comprised Australia (I) and her two sister ships, HMS New Zealand and HMS Indefatigable. From then until 22 April 1916, Australia (I) was based at Rosyth accompanying the Battle Cruiser Fleet on a succession of sweeps, patrols, and convoy escort tasks across the length and breadth of the North Sea. The enemy was rarely if ever seen, and a shot at a suspected submarine on 30 December 1917 marked the only occasion when she fired her armament in anger.

HMAS *Australia* entering Sydney Harbour for the first time on 4 October 1913.

On 22 April 1916 Australia (I) collided with New Zealand in heavy fog and the damage kept her in dockyard hands until 9 June 1916. She thus missed the Battle of Jutland, her place as flagship of the 2nd Battle Cruiser Squadron being taken by New Zealand. On her return to service in June 1916, Australia (I) continued North Sea patrols as a unit of the British Grand Fleet until 12 November 1917, when another collision, this time with HMS Repulse, caused her to be docked for three weeks. Repairs completed, she resumed her generally uneventful routine of patrol and fleet exercises in the North Sea.

The routine was briefly broken by a call in February 1918 for volunteers for special service. In April, one officer and ten ratings from Australia (I) found themselves among 1300 other volunteers taking part in a bold commando raid on the occupied Belgian ports of Ostend and Zeebrugge. The Australians acquitted themselves well, with six receiving awards for bravery.

The last year of the war also saw Australia (I) used for aircraft experiments, with the ship's echelon turrets being thought to offer better wind exposure and a safer take-off position than alternative warships. On 7 March 1918 Australia (I) successfully launched a Sopwith 1½ Strutter from a platform erected on one of her 12-inch gun turrets. This was the first ever launching of a two-seater aircraft from a battle cruiser. Australia (I) would go on to achieve the first take-off with a full load on 4 April 1918 and launch several more flights without difficulty, including one at anchor. By the end of the war nearly every British capital ship carried a Strutter for reconnaissance and a Sopwith Pup or Sopwith Camel as a fighter.

On 11 November 1918, the signing of the Armistice brought the fighting in Europe to an end. On 21 November, the Grand Fleet came out from the Firth-of-Forth in two divisions to meet the German High Seas Fleet steaming across the North Sea to be interned at Scapa Flow. Australia (I) had the honour of leading the port line at the head of her squadron. Melbourne (I) and Sydney (I) were also there, taking their place among the light cruisers. After anchoring, each enemy ship was allocated a guard-ship. Australia (I) was given charge of the latest German battle cruiser Hindenburg……

(Extract of information from Royal Australian Navy)

Chief Writer Henry James Batterham died on 5th January, 1918 at Royal Naval Hospital, Plymouth, England from Cirrhosis of Liver.

According to information provided by George William Batterham (brother) for the Roll of Honour - Chief Writer Henry James Batterham contracted his illness while in North Sea engagement. He stated he had served for 19 years with Royal Navy & the greater part of those 19 years were spent at sea in all parts of the world. He had *"great ambition in H.M. Navy & love for the Sea."*

A death for Henry J. Batterham, aged 37, was registered in the March quarter, 1918 in the district of E. Stonehouse, Devon, England.

Chief Writer Henry James Batterham was buried in Southgate Cemetery, Greater London, England – Plot number P. 611 & has a shared Private Headstone. His death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

England & Wales National Probate Calendar:

BATTERHAM, Henry James of 9 Elevdon-road, Palmers Green, Middlesex chief writer H.M.S. Australia died 5 January 1918 at R.N. Hospital, Plymouth. Probate London 17 April to George William Betterham, bank clerk, Effects £900 4s. 1d.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Chief Writer Henry James Batterham – service number RAN/8062, aged 37, of   Royal Australian Navy, H.M.A.S. "Australia". Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. He was the son of William Robinson Batterham & Annie Elizabeth Batterham.

Chief Writer H. J. Batterham is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 1.

The Australian War Memorial holds:

Collection relating to service of 8062 Chief Petty Officer Henry James Batterham, HMAS Australia, 1914-1917. Collection includes typed copies of letters to family in England. Typed copies made by Australian War Memorial 1928. Location of originals unknown.

Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

H. J. Batterham is remembered on Royal Australian Navy WW1 Memorial, located at HMAS *Cerberus* Protestant Chapel of St Mark, Nelson Road, Crib Point, Victoria.

HMAS *Cerberus* Protestant Chapel of St Mark, Crib Point, Victoria *(Photos courtesy of Karen Standen)*

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OUR GALLANT DEAD

INDIAN OCEAN

SYDNEY-EMDEN ACTION
(OFF COCOS ISLANDS 9TH NOVEMBER 1914)

LYNCH, T.	P.O.	HOY, A.	A.B.	SHARPE, R.A.	A.B.
		BELL, R.W.	ORD. SEA.		

BELTON, H.	STO. P.O.	JOPE, J.C.	P.O.	NORRIS, S.J.V.	A.B.
BRYANT, W.	STO.	MATTHEWS, F.	E.A.	ROSS, G.C.	STO.
CAMPBELL, J.D.	STO. II.			WILLIS, W.E.	STO.P.O.R.A.N.R.

MEDITERRANEAN

BROWNE, E.F.	STO.	FARMER, R.W.B.	LIEUT. R.A.N.R.	McCARTHY, W.G.H.	STO.
BROWNE, R.C.	STO.	GILBERT, S.J.	P.O.	TAYLOR, J.W.	STO. P.O.
COLTON, J.N.	STO.	GODIER, J.F.	STO. II.	VARCOE, C.	CH. STO.
CHITTS, T.J.	A.B.	HERBERT, C.H.	LIEUT.	WARREN, W.H.F.	COMMR.
DWYER, J.J.	STO. P.O.	KNAGGS, A.E.	A.B.	WILLIAMS, M.	STO.
EASTABROOK, T.S.	STO.	LEEDHAM, H.F.	LDG. STO.	WILSON, A.	CH. E.R.A.
		MOORE, L.R.A.	ORD. SEA.		

ATLANTIC

BATTERHAM, H.J.	CH. WRITER.	GORDON, D.B.	STO.	MOYLAN, T.	CH.YEO.SIG.
BIDDLECOMBE, T.W.	COMMR.	GRIFFIN, J.	BOY. TEL.	McGINTY, J.J.	CARP. CREW
COOPER, D.B.	LIEUT.	HIGGS, H.C.	LDG.SIG. R.A.N.R.	NYE, G.	A.B.
CRADDOCK, W.	STO.P.O.	HOBBS, R.A.	SURG. LIEUT.	THATCHER, A.A.	STO.
DAVIES, N.S.	ENGR. LIEUT.			TOUCHELL, T.D.	SIG. R.A.N.R.

NORTH SEA

BARNETT, F.	STO.	ISON, A.V.	STO.	O'CALLAGHAN, T.	CH. STO.
BAYLEY, F.O.	LDG. SIG.	JONES, L.L.	SIG.	OWENS, C.F.	A.B.
BOND, R.E.	STO.	JUSTICE, R.D.	STO.	PATERSON, G.M.	SUB. LIEUT.
BUCK, W.K.	ORD. SEA.	KEMPSTER, P.J.	P.O.	PEEBLES, D.A.	LDG. SEA.
CAMPAGNOLO, E	SIG.	LAIDLAW, R.S.	LIEUT.	PARKER, E.M.B.	ORD. SEA.
CUNNINGHAM, E.S.	MIDS.	LANGDON, E.R.H.	CH. STO.	ROBERTS, L.W.	STO.
EMERY, H.	YEO. SIG.	MACK, J.	SUB. LIEUT.	RUSSEL, C.V.	LDG. SEA.
EVANS, R.P.	LDG. SEA.	MANOVEYEFF, E.	S.B.S.	SHEEDY, P.A.	A.B.
GAFF, D.A.	A.B.	MATTHEWS, W.J.	STO. P.O.	STACEY, A.	A.B.
HANCEY, E.B.	STO.	MATTHEWS, C.W.	LDG. STO.	STEVENSON, G	STO.
HARDING, F.	LDG. STO.	McCLURE, J.	W. MECH.	STRETTON, C.DeC.	A.B.
HARE, W.	CKS. MATE.	McLENNAN, C.	STO.	TAVENDER, F.D.	BOY.
HAYES, R.	P.O.	NIXON, O.H.	ORD. SIG.	TAYLOR, J.A.	P.O.
HICKSON, T.W.	STO. P.O.			TREGARTHEN, H.	A.B.
HODGKINSON, S.C.L.	LIEUT.			WALKDEN, H.G.	LDG. STO.
HOSE, T.J.	A.B.			WARD, T.G.J.	STO. II.
HOUSTON, R.T.	STO.			WATSON, W.J.	A.B.
HUGHES, T.	LDG. SIG.			WRIGHT, R.R.	BOY.

1914   1918
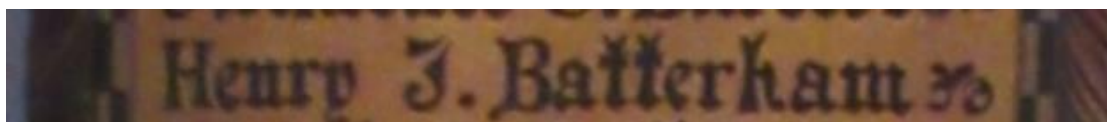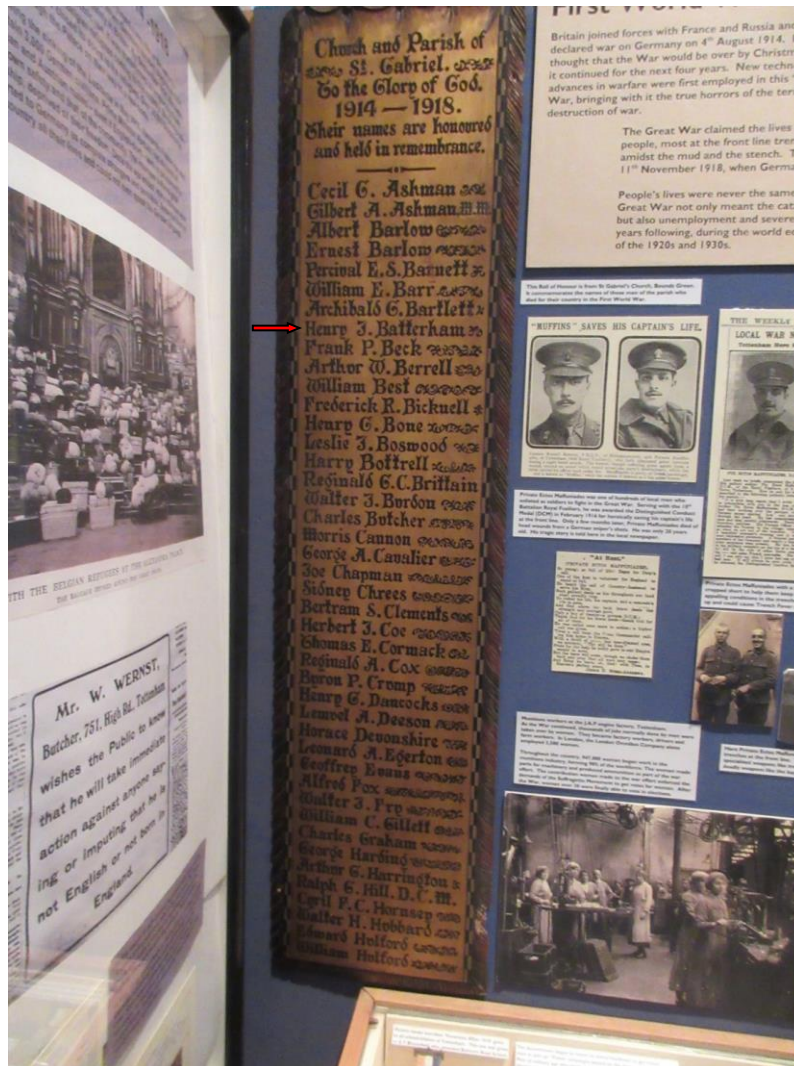
ERECTED
BY THEIR
MESSMATES

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Henry J. Batterham is remembered on St. Gabriels Church Roll of Honour, Bounds Green, which is now located in Bruce Castle Museum, Lordship Lane, Tottenham, London, England.

St. Gabriels Church Roll of Honour, Bounds Green *(Photos from War Memorials Online)*

Henry James Batterham is remembered on the London WW1 Memorial Online website.

(2 pages of Chief Writer Henry James Batterham'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) & National Archives Australia

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Chief Writer Henry James Batterham has a shared Private Headstone.

Southgate Cemetery, Greater London, England

Southgate Cemetery has 92 Commonwealth War Grave's – 20 from World War 1 & 72 from World War 2.

Entrance to Southgate Cemetery *(Photo by N. Chadwick)*

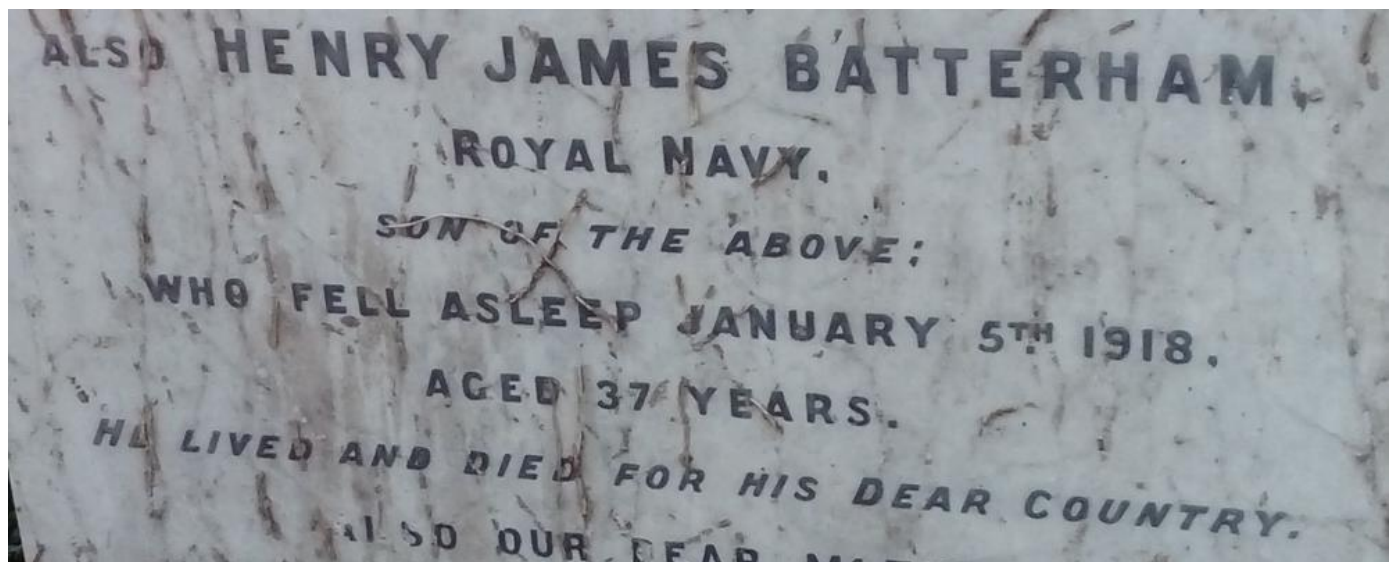**War Graves in Southgate Cemetery** *(Photo from CWGC)*

Photo of Chief Writer Henry James Batterham's shared Private Headstone in Southgate Cemetery, Greater London, England.

(Photo from Find a Grave – Edward Smith 2020)

Also HENRY JAMES BATTERHAM

Royal Navy

Son Of The Above:

Who Fell Asleep January 5TH 1918

Aged 37 Years

He Lived And Died For his Dear Country

(Photo from Find a Grave – Julia&keld 2009)