

**Tidworth Military Cemetery,  
Tidworth, Wiltshire, England**

**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**823 L. SGT**

**J. P. H. BOLAND**

**61ST BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**8TH APRIL, 1917 Age 34**

*In Memory Of My Brother John*

*May His Soul Rest In Peace*

## John Patrick Harte BOLAND

John Patrick Harte Boland was born at Belturbet, Co. Cavan, Ireland on 18th January, 1884, a twin with Thomas Pendergast Boland, to parents Timothy & Alicia Mary Boland (nee Harte).

Alicia Mary Boland, mother of John Patrick Harte Boland, died in 1894 at Belturbet, Co. Cavan, Ireland.

John Patrick Harte Boland attended Irish National School.

The 1901 Ireland Census recorded John Boland as a 17 year old Shop Assistant, living with his father at Bridge Street Upper, Belturbet, Cavan, Ireland. His father was listed as Timothy Boland (Chairman of Urban Council, Belturbet & a General Merchant, aged 55, widower, borne Co. Westmeath). Also listed was Mary Reilly (Servant, aged 23).

According to information provided by his brother (Vincent J. Boland) for the Roll of Honour – John served a 12 year enlistment in English Army – Royal Irish Fusiliers.

John Patrick Boland enlisted with Royal Irish Rifles at Belfast on 4th March, 1902. He was issued a Regimental number of 6688.

The 1911 England Census recorded John Boland, aged 26, as a Rifleman with 1st Royal Irish Rifles. "D" Company of 1st Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles were posted Maymyo, Burma when the 1911 Census was conducted.

Private John Patrick Boland was discharged from Royal Irish Rifles on 19th March, 1914. He had served on Home Service from 4th March, 1902 until 3rd October, 1904 – 2 years & 214 days. He had served in India from 4th October, 1904 until 19th March, 1914 – 9 years & 167 days.

John Patrick Harte Boland was a 29 year old, single, Labourer from 68 Bourke Street, Woolloomooloo, Sydney, NSW when he enlisted on 28th January, 1915 at Liverpool, Sydney, New South Wales with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Roman Catholic & his next of kin was listed as Vincent Boland, 29 Bridge Street, Belturbet, Ireland. John Boland stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served as an Apprentice for 5 years with Grocer W. Gillick, Belturbet, Ireland. He also stated he had served with Royal Irish Rifles for 12 years.

John Patrick Harte Boland was posted to Signallers from 21st January, 1915. He was transferred to 5th Reinforcements of 1st Battalion from 1st March, 1915 then transferred to "C" Company, 18th Battalion on 14th March, 1915. On 29th March, 1915 he was appointed Sergeant while posted at Liverpool Camp, NSW.

Sergeant John Patrick Hart Boland, Service number 823, embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Ceramic (A40)* on 25th June, 1915 with the 5th Infantry Brigade, 18th Infantry Battalion "C" Company.

*[Note: The Embarkation Roll & the Attestation Papers have his second middle name as Hart – should be Harte.]*

Sergeant John P. H. Boland proceeded to join M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) at Gallipoli from 16th August, 1915. He reverted to Ranks at his own request from 17th August, 1915 while posted at Gallipoli Peninsula.

Private John P. H. Boland was wounded at Gallipoli on 22nd August, 1915. He was admitted to 16th Casualty Clearing Station, No. 4 Post at Anzac on 22nd August, 1915 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to Chest. Private Boland was transferred to Hospital Ship *Franconia* on 28th August, 1915 & admitted to St. David's Hospital at Malta. He was transferred to Ghain Tuffieha Camp on 12th October, 1915. Private Boland embarked for England on Hospital Ship *Panama* on 31st October, 1915.

Private John P. H. Boland was admitted to 3rd Southern General Hospital at Oxford, England on 9th November, 1915 (The Purport Card recorded he was admitted to Brook War Hospital, Woolwich, SE, England).

Private John P. H. Boland proceeded to join M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) with 22nd Draft from England (no date) & disembarked from H. T. *Kingstonian* at Alexandria on 5th March, 1916. He rejoined his Unit from Details on 9th March, 1916.

Private John P. H. Boland proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) from Alexandria on 18th March, 1916 & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 25th March, 1916.

Timothy Boland, father of Private John Patrick Harte Boland, died on 7th February, 1916 at Cavan, Ireland.

Private John P. H. Boland was promoted to Corporal then Lance/Sergeant vice Dickson on 28th July, 1916 while posted in France.

Lance Sergeant John P. H. Boland reported sick on 30th July, 1916 & was admitted to 2nd Australian Field Ambulance the same day. He was transferred to 44th Casualty Clearing Station on 31st July, 1916 then transferred to Ambulance Train 29. Lance Sergeant Boland was admitted to No. 1 Convalescent Depot at Boulogne, France on 31st July, 1916 with synovitis of left Knee. He was discharged to Base Depot on 5th August, 1916 – fit. Lance Sergeant Boland was marched in to 2nd A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 6th August, 1916.

Lance Sergeant John P. H. Boland was admitted to 5th Australian Field Ambulance at Val de Maison on 16th August, 1916. He was transferred to 12th Australian Field Ambulance then on 20th August, 1916 he was admitted to 4th Casualty Clearing Station (another entry on Casualty Form – Active Service recorded 44th Casualty Clearing Station) with synovitis of left Knee. He was transferred to Ambulance Train 19 on 21st August, 1916. Lance Sergeant Boland was admitted to No. 3 Canadian General Hospital at Boulogne, France on 22nd August, 1916. He was transferred to 7th Convalescent Depot at Boulogne on 25th August, 1916. Lance Sergeant Boland was marched in to 2nd A.D.B.D. at Etaples on 4th September, 1916. He rejoined his Battalion from Details on 21st September, 1916.

Lance Sergeant John P. H. Boland was to be Lance Corporal to complete Establishment from 9th October, 1916. (as listed on the Statement of Service form & Casualty Form – Active Service. The Purport Card recorded he was appointed L/Cpl in the Field to complete establishment on 2nd October, 1916)

Lance Corporal John P. H. Boland reported sick on 19th November, 1916. He was admitted to 36th Casualty Clearing Station on 20th November, 1916 with Exhaustion. Lance Corporal was transferred & admitted to 5th General Hospital at Rouen on 22nd November, 1916 – cause N.Y.D. (Not yet determined). He was diagnosed with Debility on 27th November, 1916 & embarked for England on Hospital Ship *Aberdonian* on the same day.

### **18th Battalion**

The 18th Battalion was raised at Liverpool in New South Wales in March 1915 as part of the 5th Brigade. It left Australia in early May, trained in Egypt from mid-June until mid-August, and on 22 August landed at ANZAC Cove.

The battalion had not been ashore a day when it was committed to the last operation of the August Offensive ' the attack on Hill 60 ' which lasted until 29 August and cost it 50 per cent casualties. For the rest of the campaign the 18th played a purely defensive role, being primarily responsible for holding Courtney's Post. The last members of the battalion left Gallipoli on 20 December.

After further training in Egypt, the 18th Battalion proceeded to France. Landing there on 25 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 in late August. After a spell in a quieter sector of the front in Belgium, the 2nd Division including the 5th Brigade, came south again in October. The 18th Battalion was spared from having to mount an attack across the quagmire that the Somme battlefield had become, but did have to continue manning the front through a very bleak winter.....

*(Extract of information from The Australian War Memorial)*

Lance Sergeant John P. H. Boland was admitted to "*Vol Aid Temp*". at Exeter, England (stamped on the Hospital Admissions form was "Head Quarters Grouped Auxiliary Hospitals, Central Registry Exeter") on 29th November, 1916 with Bronchitis. He was transferred to 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield, Middlesex on 20th December, 1916.

Lance Sergeant Boland was discharged to Furlough on 6th January, 1917 & was to report to Wareham on 22nd January, 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 & also Dorset. Later Training & Convalescing Units were combined under the one Command Depot.

Lance Sergeant John P. H. Boland was taken on strength from Headquarters London on 11th January, 1917 & was to report to No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham. He was absent from No. 4 Command Depot, Wareham on 18th January, 1917 & reported back on 29th January, 1917. Lance Sergeant Boland was medically classified as B1A3 (fit for Overseas Training Camp in 2 – 3 weeks) on 31st January, 1917 & again on 7th March, 1917. ("*Coughing keeps awake at night*").

Lance Sergeant John P. H. Boland was transferred to 61st Battalion from 18th Battalion at Wareham, Dorset on 23rd March, 1917 & was taken on strength on the same day.

### **61st Battalion**

When the A.I.F. reached France, plans were made to raise the 6th Division. The establishment was raised in April 1917 and men began to be posted in, but the plan was abandoned after the casualties sustained at Bullecourt, then Messines, in May-June 1917, when it was realised reinforcements would barely be adequate to sustain five Divisions let alone a sixth, without Conscription.

The 61st Battalion was an infantry battalion of the Australian Army. It was originally raised in 1917 during the First World War but was disbanded the same year without seeing active service.

*(Information from VWMA & Wikipedial)*

Lance Sergeant John P. H. Boland was marched in to Infantry Draft Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 4th April, 1917 from 61st Battalion at Wareham.

Lance Sergeant John P. H. Boland was admitted sick to Tidworth Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 6th April, 1917 from Australian Details at Perham Downs, Wiltshire. He was reported to be seriously ill with Malaria on 7th April, 1917. (as reported on Army Form A. 21A by Military Hospital, Tidworth & signed by Lieutenant Colonel, R.A.M.C., Registrar, I/C Military Hospital.) The Hospital Admissions form recorded his illness as Pneumonia "*A rapid case complicated by Delerium Tremens*".

Lance Sergeant John Patrick Harte Boland died at 2 pm on 8th April, 1917 at Military Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire, England from Pneumonia.

A death for John P. Boland, aged 35, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Andover, Hampshire, England.

Lance Sergeant John Patrick Harte Boland was buried on 11th April, 1917 in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Plot number A. 51 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Public Trust Office, Sydney, New South Wales wrote to Base Records on 7th February, 1918 requesting a certificate in duplicate relating to the death of 825 J. P. H. Boland, 61st Battalion as well as his address prior to enlistment & the name & address of the person nominated as his next of kin.

Base Records replied to The Public Trustee on 12th February, 1918 enclosing, as requested, a Certificate in duplicate, of the report of Death of the late No. 823 Sergeant J. P. H. Boland, 61st Battalion. His address was shown as 68 Bourke Street, Woolloomooloo, NSW. The address for the next of kin was listed as Vincent Boland, 29 Bridge Street, Belturbet, Ireland.

Communications addressed from Base Records to Vincent Boland, 29 Bridge Street, Belturbet, Ireland, listed as the next of kin, were returned unclaimed in January, 1920. Base Records wrote to The Public Trustee, Sydney on 15th September, 1920 as they were administering the estate of the late No. 823 Lance Sergeant J. P. H. Boland, 61st Battalion, requesting any information regarding the deceased's blood relations.

Lance Sergeant John Patrick Harte Boland was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Lance Sergeant Boland's next-of-kin – Mr S. Boland. (Scroll & Plaque issued in England). The personal effects of the late Lance Sergeant Boland had previously been sent to his brother – Mr S. Boland, Main Street, Gallirah, Co. Cavan, Ireland. Two different packages had been signed for by Francis/Frank Boland, Ballinargh, Co, Cavan, Ireland on 28th April, 1917 & 17th August, 1917

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Lance Sergeant John Patrick Hart Boland (second middle name as listed on CWGC) – service number 823, aged 34, of 61st Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Timothy & Alicia Mary Boland.

Lance Sergeant J. P. H. Boland (second middle name is listed as Harte on Roll of Honour) is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 84.



*Roll of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

John Patrick Boland is remembered on The Irish Great War Dead Archive.

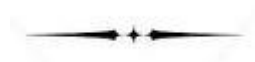


The Irish Great  
War Dead Archive

+	Boland	John Patrick	Lance Sergeant	Australian Infantry, A.I.F.	08/04/1917	Tidworth Military Cemetery, U.K.
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(68 pages of Lance Sergeant John Patrick Harte Boland'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)*



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **Official List of Casualties**

#### **EIGHTY-FIRST LIST**

NEW SOUTH WALES

Wounded

Sgt J. P. H. Boland

*(The Land, Sydney, NSW – 24 September, 1915)*

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### **LOSSES OF WAR**

The casualty list (No. 117) issued this morning contains 375 new names.....

IN HOSPITAL

Sergt J. P. H. BOLAND, 18th Bn., Ireland (Oxford, previously reported wounded)

*(The Sun, Sydney, NSW – 29 November, 1915)*

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### **Australian Casualties**

#### **Lists Nos 153 to 155**

New South Wales

Returned to Duty

Sergt J. P. H. BOLAND, 18th (Ireland)

*(Australian Town and Country Journal, Sydney, NSW – 22 March, 1916)*

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## **FOR AUSTRALIA**

### **TWO CASUALTY LISTS**

The 255th and 256th casualty lists were issued this morning.....

#### **NEW SOUTH WALES**

III

Sergt J. P. H. BOLAND, Ireland

*(The Sun, Sydney, NSW – 23 December, 1916)*

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### **THE 289th CASUALTY LIST**

#### **KILLED OR DIED OF WOUNDS**

#### **NEW SOUTH WALES**

Sgt J. F. H. Boland (Ireland), p.r.i;

*(The Farmer and Settler, Sydney, NSW – 27 April, 1917)*

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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)*

Lance Sergeant J. P. H. Boland does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*In Memory Of My Brother John*

*May His Soul Rest In Peace*

## Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England

Tidworth Military Cemetery, which contains burials of both wars, was directly connected with training grounds on, or near, Salisbury Plain.

During the First World War, the cemetery was used for burials from Tidworth and Fargo Military Hospitals and the 417 graves, many of them of Australian or New Zealand servicemen, are scattered throughout the cemetery.

There are 106 Second World War graves in the cemetery, two substantial groups of which can be found in sections F and D. The rest are scattered.

The cemetery also contains 40 war graves of other nationalities, many of them Polish.

*(Information from CWGC)*



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00327

*The AIF Tidworth cemetery under snow. – March 1919.*

*Identified graves marked by a cross and headstone in the foreground*

*Front row: 50727 Private Rowland James Dickson, Australian Machine Gun Corps, died 14 October 1918.*

*Second row, left to right: 18282 Driver John Thalma Jackson, Details Australian Engineers, died 30 October 1917; 17445 Pte Roland Travers Woodville, Australian Army Medical Corps, died 13 September 1917; 31712 Gunner John Alexander McDonald, 15th Field Artillery Brigade, Australian Field Artillery, died 30 July 1917, aged 37, at Tidworth Military Hospital; 3062 Pte Even Thomas Kennedy, 3rd Australian Pioneers, died 7 August 1917.*





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00481

### Tidworth Military Cemetery – 12 June, 1919

*A corner of the Australian cemetery. Front row, left to right: 5840 Private F. W. Heede, 25th Battalion died 3 June 1917; 7350 Private A. E. Campbell, 8th Battalion, died 2 August 1917; 1824 Driver A. C. Jones, 4th Company, Australian Machine Gun Corps, AADC, died 8 August 1917; 8009 Corporal W. J. Giles, Australian Tunnelling Company, died 17 March 1918.*



**Tidworth Military Cemetery** (Photo by *julia&keld* – Find a Grave)



**Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire** (Photo courtesy of John Prestidge)



**Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire** (Photo by Chris Talbot 2009)



(Photo courtesy of Portsmouth Remembers – Kevin)

Photo of Lance Sergeant J. P. H. Boland's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Kevin – Portsmouth Remembers)*

