

**Havelock Cemetery,
Southall, Greater London, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



3111 PRIVATE

A. BOTTRELL

53RD BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

19TH FEBRUARY, 1917

Arthur BOTTRELL

Arthur Bottrell was born at Amosfield, near Wilson's Downfall, New South Wales on 15th April, 1896 to parents Thomas & Sarah Bottrell (nee Seaman).

Arthur Bottrell was a 20 year old, single, Labourer & Grazier from Amosfield, via Wilson's Downfall, New South Wales when he enlisted on 3rd October, 1916 at Armidale, NSW with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). (He had his Medical Examination on 1st September, 1916 at Tenterfield, NSW). His religion was Methodist & his next of kin was listed as his father – Mr Thomas Bottrell, Amosfield, via Wilson's Downfall, New South Wales.

As Arthur Bottrell was under the age of 21, his parents were required to sign their consent for their son to enlist in the Australian Imperial Force for active service abroad. Thomas Bottrell & Sarah Bottrell both signed their names on "Application To Enlist In The Australian Imperial Force" form.

Private Arthur Bottrell was posted to "C" Company, 35th Battalion at Rutherford on 3rd October, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 8th Reinforcements of 53rd Battalion on 4th November, 1916. (Another copy of Statement of Service form recorded he was posted to 35th Battalion at Rutherford on 5th October, 1916 & transferred to 8th Reinforcements of 53rd Battalion on 11th November, 1916).

Private Arthur Bottrell, Service number 3111, embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Suevic* (A29) on 11th November, 1916 with the 53rd Infantry Battalion, 8th Reinforcements. He was admitted to Ship's Hospital on 5th January, 1917 with Mumps & was discharged on 25th January, 1917. Private Bottrell disembarked at Devonport, England on 30th 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.

Private Arthur Bottrell's Kit, which was issued at Hurdcott, Wiltshire, was inspected on 12th February, 1917.

53rd Battalion

The 53rd Battalion was raised in Egypt on 14 February 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. Half of its recruits were Gallipoli veterans from the 1st Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 1st, the 53rd was predominantly composed of men from the suburbs of Sydney. The battalion became part of the 14th Brigade of the 5th Australian Division.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Arthur Bottrell died on 19th February, 1917 at 2nd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Southall, London, England from Pneumonia.

A death for Arthur Bottrell, aged 20, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Uxbridge, Middlesex, England.

Private Arthur Bottrell was buried on 23rd February, 1917 in Havelock Cemetery, Southall, Greater London, England – Plot number Section D Grave number 8.

From the burial report of Private Arthur Bottrell - Coffin was good, Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military Funeral. The firing party was furnished by the Royal Fusiliers. The Last Post was sounded by an Australian Bugler. A Platoon of Australian Soldiers under the Command of Captain T. E. Davis, A.I.F. followed the remains of the deceased soldier to the Cemetery. Funeral arrangements were satisfactory. No relatives present. Chaplain – Very Rev. Dean Mercier, Australian Military Hospital, Southall.

Private Arthur Bottrell's burial place is now recorded by Commonwealth War Graves Commission as D.8. and he now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Thomas Bottrell, Amosfield, via Tenterfield, NSW, wrote to Base Records on 16th April, 1917 requesting the Military Death Certificate for No. 3111 Private Arthur Bottrell, 53rd Battalion.

Base Records replied to Mr T. Bottrell on 9th May, 1917 enclosing a certificate of report of death of the late No. 311, Private A. Bottrell, 53rd Battalion.

Private Arthur Bottrell 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 Private Bottrell's father – Mr T. Bottrell, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll despatched January, 1922 & Plaque sent July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Arthur Bottrell – service number 3111, of 53rd Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private A. Bottrell is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 156.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia



A. Bottrell is remembered on the Liston-Amosfield War Memorial, located on Stanthorpe Street, Liston, NSW.



Liston-Amosfield War Memorial (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Colin Stokes)



(52 pages of Private Arthur Bottrell'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,ssing) & National Archives Australia



The Bottrell Family (c 1907)

Back Row: Gertie; Arthur; Bessie; Elsie

Middle Row: Herb; Daisy; Mama (Sarah) holding George; Dada (Thomas) holding Dolly; Eva

Front Row: Rennie (Thomas Reynolds); Olive; Marion





Arthur Bottrell (*Photo kindly provided by Andrew Blunden – great nephew*)



Private Arthur Bottrell (*Photo kindly provided by Andrew Blunden*)



Newspaper Notices

TENTERFIELD

News has been received of the death from pneumonia, of Private Arthur Bottrell, of Amosfield. He went into camp with Privates Newley and Beddow, of this district. The latter, it will be remembered, succumbed to the same malady.

(Glenn Innes Examiner, NSW – 5 March, 1917)

Australian Casualties

List No. 276

Died of Illness

Pte A. BOTTRELL (Wilson's Downfall), 19/2/17

(Australian Town and Country Journal, Sydney, NSW – 7 March, 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)

A letter was sent from Base Records, dated 4th July, 1921, to Mr T. Bottrell, Amosfield, via Tenterfield, NSW, advising that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of his son, the late No. 3111 Private A. Bottrell, 53rd 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.

Private A. Bottrell has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone but no inscription.

Havelock Cemetery (also known as Havelock Norwood Cemetery), Southall, Greater London, England

There are 83 Commonwealth War Graves located in Havelock Cemetery, Southall – 39 from World War 1 & 44 from World War 2.



Havelock Cemetery – Church Avenue Entrance



Original Cross Marker for Private Arthur Bottrell's grave *(Photo kindly provided by Andrew Blunden)*



Four WW1 Australian War Graves – Read, Alexander, Sanderson & Bennett

(Photos courtesy of Kevin – Portsmouth Remembers)



Photo of Private A. Bottrell's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Havelock Cemetery, Southall, London, England.



(Photo courtesy of Kevin – Portsmouth Remembers)



(Photo from Find a Grave – Julia&keld 2010)