

**St. Giles Churchyard,
Balderton, Nottinghamshire**

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



6058 PRIVATE

C. C. BURGIN

20TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

3RD JULY, 1917 Age 33

He Lived Well And Died Nobly

Christopher Collins BURGIN

Christopher Collins Burgin was born at Balderton, Nottinghamshire, England in 1884 to parents Christopher and Mary Ann Burgin (nee Dunford)

The 1891 England Census recorded Christopher Burgin as a 6 year old Scholar living with his family at 21 Woodbine Terrace (a 4 roomed dwelling), Balderton, Nottinghamshire, England. His mother was listed as Mary A. Burgin (Dressmaker, aged 36, born Lincolnshire). His father was not listed in the household. Christopher was one of 5 children listed on this Census – John W. Burgin (Scholar, aged 10, born Beekingham, Lincolnshire) then Christopher. Archibald Burgin (Scholar, aged 3, born Balderton, Nottinghamshire) & 1 month old twins Percy & Cissll Burgin (born Balderton, Nottinghamshire).

The 1911 England Census recorded Christopher Colin Burgin as a 28 year old Private in the Royal Marine Light Infantry on board H.M.S. Edgar, Royal Navy, which was Captained by Charles Blois Miller & was located in the China and East Indies area on the night of 2nd April, 1911.

Christopher Collins Burgin came to Australia when he was 23 years old, according to information supplied by his wife for the Roll of Honour.

Christopher Colin Burgin married Emma Barnes on 22nd December, 1913 at St. Peter's Church, Cooks River, St. Peters, Sydney, NSW. Christopher was recorded as a 29 year old Tram Conductor from Waverley. Emma was recorded as a 32 year old Nurse from Tempe, Sydney, NSW.

Colleen Lloyd Burgin, daughter of Christopher & Emma Burgin was born on 23rd November, 1914 & baptised on 17th January, 1915 at St. Peter's Church, Cooks River, St. Peters, Sydney, NSW.

The 1915 Sydney and New South Wales Sands Street Index recorded Christopher C. Burgin & Nurse Burgin at Brisbane Street, Waverley, NSW.

Christopher Collins Burgin was a 31 year old, married, Tram Conductor from 9 Grove Street, Bondi, NSW when he enlisted at Show Grounds, Sydney, NSW on 29th May, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 6058 & his religion was Wesleyan. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Emma Lloyd Burgin, of 9 Grove Street, Bondi, NSW. Christopher Burgin stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served for 12 years with R.M.L.I. (Royal Marine Light Infantry). He had a tattoo of an eagle & woman on his back & various tattoos on both his forearms.

Private Christopher Collins Burgin was posted to "B" Company, 1st Battalion at Cootamundra on 30th May, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to "A" Company of 1st Battalion on 22nd July, 1916 then transferred to Liverpool, Sydney, NSW on 11th September, 1916. Private Burgin was transferred to Dubbo Depot Battalion on 19th September, 1916 then back to Liverpool, NSW. Pte Burgin was transferred to 17th Reinforcements of 20th Battalion as Acting Corporal. (Note: There are 2 Statement of Service forms for Christopher Collins Burgin with different dates & movements.)

Acting Corporal Christopher Collins Burgin embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Ascanius (A11)* on 25th October, 1916 with the 5th Infantry Brigade, 20th Infantry Battalion, 17th Reinforcements & disembarked at Devonport, England on 28th December, 1916.

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.

Acting Corporal Christopher Collins Burgin was marched in to 5th Training Battalion at Rollestone, Wiltshire from Australia on 29th December, 1916. He reverted to the rank of Private on 29th December, 1916.

Private Christopher Collins Burgin was appointed to Acting E.D.P (extra duty pay) Corporal on 30th December, 1916 while posted at Rollestone.

Lance Corporal Christopher Collins Burgin proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone on 4th February, 1917 on S.S. *Arundel* from 5th Training Battalion in England. He was marched in to 2 A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 4th February, 1917 & reverted to the rank of Private on 5th February, 1917.

Private Christopher Collins Burgin joined 20th Battalion in the Field on 9th February, 1917 & was taken on strength of 20th Battalion from 16th Reinforcements.

Mrs Emma L. Burgin, wife of Private Christopher Collins Burgin, advised Base Records in April, 1917 of her change of address from 9 Grove St, Bondi to 103 Ebley St, Waverley, NSW.

Private Christopher Collins Burgin was wounded in action in France on 2nd May, 1917. He was admitted to 6th Australian Field Ambulance on 2nd May, 1917 with shrapnel wounds to left thigh then transferred on 3rd May, 1917 to Casualty Clearing Station. Private Burgin was admitted to 3rd Australian Field Ambulance on 3rd May, 1917 then transferred to Ambulance Train on 5th May, 1917. He was admitted to 1st Australian General Hospital at Rouen, France on 6th May, 1917. Private Burgin was transferred to Havre, France & embarked for England on Hospital Ship *Warilda* on 17th May, 1917.

20th Battalion

..... In 1917, the 20th was involved in the follow-up of German forces after their retreat to the Hindenburg Line, and was one of four battalions to defeat a counter-stroke by a German force, almost five times as strong, at Lagnicourt. The Battalion took part in three major battles before the year was out, second Bullecourt (3-4 May) in France, and Menin Road (20-22 September) and Poelcappelle (9-10 October) in Belgium.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Christopher Collins Burgin was admitted to 4th Southern General Hospital (Ford House) at Plymouth on 18th May, 1917 with G.S.W. to left thigh & Pneumonia. A Telegram to Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F., London states "*Next of kin present.*"

Private Christopher Collins Burgin died at 5 pm on 3rd July, 1917 at Ford House Hospital, Devonport, England from Pneumonia & Syncope.

A death for Christopher C. Burgin, aged 32, was registered in the September quarter, 1917 in the district of Devonport, Devon, England.

Private Christopher Collins Burgin was buried at 3.15 pm on 7th July, 1917 in St. Giles Churchyard, Balderton, Nottinghamshire, England – Plot number P. 23 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private Christopher Collins Burgin - *Coffin was good polished Elm with brass plate and handles & was supplied by Devonport Hospital. Military Funeral. Royal Engineers supplied: Four horse Gun Carriage, Firing Party and Band. Coffin draped with the Union Jack and wreaths from relatives. Comrades forwarded glass covered wreath from Devonport Hospital.*

Names of relatives or friends present at the Funeral – Mother and Father, Brothers and Aunt & Uncle.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Christopher Colin Burgin contains a letter from The Matron, 4th Southern General Hospital, Devonport which reads: "*Re Pte Christopher Burgin No. 6058 who died at this Hospital on the 3.7.17. He was admitted with G.S. Wound of thigh, this was quite healed and he had been getting up when he contracted Pneumonia, from which he died after five days illness. He had I am sorry to say rather acute pain and some Haemoptysis. The Medical Officer was of opinion that he had some old lung trouble. He was quite conscious to the last and knew his Mother and two brothers who came to see him from New Balderton Newark, Notts. His mother took him there to be buried. He was such a cheery soul, everybody was fond of him.*"

A War Pension was granted to Emma Lloyd Burgin, of 103 Ebley St, Waverley, NSW, widow of the late Private Christopher Collins Burgin, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 7th September, 1917. A War Pension was also granted to Colleen Lloyd Burgin, daughter of the late Private Christopher Collins Burgin, in the sum of £1 per fortnight from 7th September, 1917.

Mrs Emma L. Burgin, of "Balderton" Edwin St., Tempe, NSW, widow of the late Private Christopher Collins Burgin, wrote to Base Records in March, 1920 after seeing notification in the newspapers that unclaimed letters sent to her at 103 Ebley St, Waverley, NSW. Base Records replied that circulars in connection with Memorial inscriptions etc. had been forwarded to her at Ebley Street, Waverley but had been returned unclaimed.

Private Christopher Collins Burgin was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Burgin's widow – Mrs E. L. Burgin, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent December, 1921 & Plaque sent July, 1922).

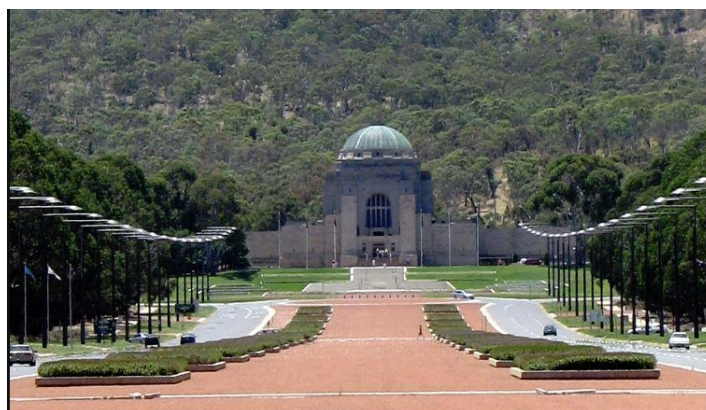
Mrs Burgin, widow of the late Private Christopher Collins Burgin had moved to "Lloella" Goulburn, NSW & was advised by Base Records in September, 1922 that as she was now living outside the 10 miles Sydney radius of metropolitan area the Memorial Plaque would need to be forwarded to her.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Christopher Collins Burgin – service number 6058, aged 33, of 20th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Christopher and Mary Ann Burgin, husband of Emma Lloyd Burgin, of "Balderton," Edwin St., Tempe, New South Wales.

Private C. C. Burgin is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 90.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia



C. C. Burgin is remembered on the Waverley Soldiers' Memorial, located in Waverley Park, Bondi Road, Bondi, NSW.



Waverley Soldiers' Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia)



A - F Panels

C. C. Burgin is remembered on the NSW Government Railways & Tramways Roll of Honour, located at Eddy Avenue, Haymarket, Sydney, NSW.



(Photo from NSW War Memorials Register – Jennifer Edmonds)

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS AND TRAMWAYS ROLL OF HONOUR <small>NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES SERVING WITH</small> HIS MAJESTY'S AUSTRALIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES <small>THE UNDERMENTIONED HAVE</small> DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE							
BENNETT, F. T.	TRAM	MOORE, W. M.	LOCO	GANNON, W.	TRAFFIC	BLADIN, H. W.	TRAFFIC
CATO, REGINALD J.	TRAFFIC	FANNING, E.	LOCO	RICHARDSON, R.	PER WAY	FENTON, R.	TRAFFIC
MACKLEY, TOM	TRAM	ELVIN, L. R.	LOCO	BUSH, C. V.	TRAM	DAVIDSON, G. R.	TRAFFIC
GIBSON, P.	LOCO	TILBROOK, W. C.	PER WAY	MUTTON, O. F.	PER WAY	CORRIGAN, J. H.	LOCO
JONES, EDWARD J.	LOCO	LUCAS, A. T.	TRAFFIC	MANTON, A. E.	TRAM	MATTHEWS, A. F.	SIG
LITTLE, ROBERT H.	TRAM	KIRKBY, F. J.	SIG	SAMBROOK, H. J.	LOCO	HARVEY, W. G.	LOCO
BROWN, IVO	LOCO	PEARSON, S. W.	TRAFFIC	SHEAN, JOHN	TRAM	BINGLEY, CLAUD	LOCO
MOON, C. L.	PER WAY	LEWIS, ARTHUR	TRAFFIC	GOOLD, F. A.	TRAM	DAVIS, C. H. F.	TRAM
HORNBY, T. W.	LOCO	FORREST, T. S.	TRAFFIC	AMOUR, P. W.	TRAM	FERGUSON, L.	PER WAY
ELEY, SAMUEL T.	PER WAY	WEBB, ARTHUR	LOCO	RICHARDS, T. J.	LOCO	BOLTON, J. C.	LOCO
AYRE, JOHN	TRAFFIC	TWISS, JOHN E.	TRAFFIC	DIXON, B. J.	TRAFFIC	CLARK, A. H.	PER WAY
MITCHELL, H. G.	LOCO	QUINN, W. J.	TRAFFIC	SUTHERLAND, D. A. V.	LOCO	MONTGOMERY, G.	TRAM
PICKERING, S.	LOCO	SWANSON, H.	TRAFFIC	M'CAUNCH, PETER	LOCO	JOYCE, PETER	LOCO
ARTHURSON, D. H.	TRAFFIC	HOUSE, W.	TRAM	THOMPSON, B.	TRAM	COOPER, F. R.	LOCO
SMITH, EDWIN	LOCO	WALLACE, A. L.	PER WAY	WILLIAMS, G.	TRAFFIC	COLEMAN, ERIC	TRAFFIC
HOOD, W. R.	LOCO	STORMONT, F. G. L.	LOCO	SAMUEL, A.	LOCO	HARTNETT, JOHN	TRAM
STEVENSON, G.	PER WAY	SULLIVAN, F. W.	TRAFFIC	DEACON, JOHN G.	LOCO	ELMS, JOSEPH W.	TRAFFIC
GILES, FRANCIS	LOCO	HILLIER, A. J.	LOCO	HENNESSY, J. A.	TRAM	BOWMAN, C.	TRAM
PROCTOR, T. J.	PER WAY	WILSON, GEORGE	LOCO	STIMSON, L. N.	LOCO	GOW, JAMES R.	TRAFFIC
MITCHELL G. P.	TRAFFIC	FLEMING, G.	LOCO	FAERBER, A. W.	PER WAY	BURGIN, C. C.	TRAM
QUILTER, R.	TRAM	JUDD, ALBERT S.	LOCO	HUNT, ARNOLD L.	TRAFFIC	WORSNIP, JAMES	TRAM
FOLLINGTON, J.	LOCO	BROWN, ALFRED	PER WAY	CUNNINGHAM, W.	TRAFFIC	WAUGH, F. W.	PER WAY
STEVENSON, A. L. G.	LOCO	WAILES, C. E.	TRAM	WADDELL, A. J. Mc.	TRAM	ROBINSON, L.	PER WAY
O'CONNOR, J.	PER WAY	TONNER, J. E.	TRAM	HARVEY, B. C.	TRAFFIC	PRINGLE, A. E.	LOCO
WASTNEY, N. D.	TRAFFIC	GILSON, V. G.	PER WAY	O'LEARY, DANIEL	LOCO	DIENER, LEO A.	LOCO
PARR, GEORGE	TRAM	MAGUIRE, H. J.	LOCO	MAYO, ERNEST	PER WAY	SHARP, CHARLES	PER WAY
WHITLOCK, A.	LOCO	SMITH, ALFRED	PER WAY	CLARKE, HENRY	TRAM	WILLIAMS, E.	PER WAY
HAYES, AARON H.	LOCO	BURKE, EDWARD	LOCO	FORD, JAMES P.	LOCO	HARRIS, J. H.	TRAM
BEITH, WILLIAM	TRAM	WILKINSON, C.	LOCO	MEURANT, W.	PER WAY	SHURNER, R. S.	TRAM



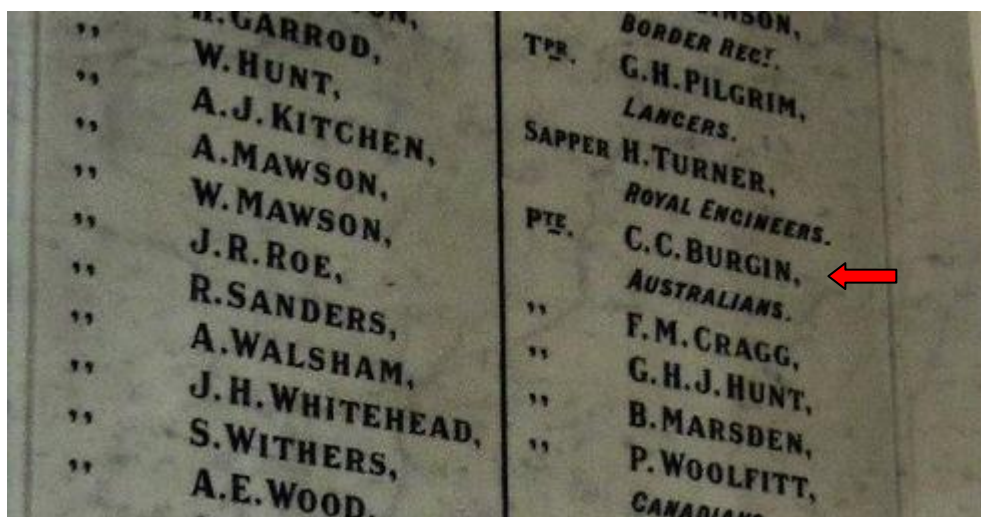


NSW Government Railways & Tramways Roll of Honour
 (Photos from AWM – Places of Pride – Peter F. Williams)

Pte C. C. Burgin is remembered on the St. Giles Balderton Roll of Honour, located inside St. Giles Church, Balderton.



St. Giles Balderton Roll of Honour (Photo by dajavous – flickr)



(67 pages of Private Christopher Collins Burgin'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

WAR CASUALTIES

OVER 780 WOUNDED

307TH LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

WOUNDED

Pte CHRISTOPHER COLLINS BURGIN, Waverley

(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 5 June, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

BURGIN – On July 3, at Willohford Hospital, Devonport, England, Private Christopher Collins Burgin, A.I.F., from wounds received in action, beloved husband of Emma L. Burgin, and father of Colleen Lloyd Burgin, of 103 Ebley-street, Waverley.

He lived well and died nobly.

BURGIN – On July 3, at Willohford Hospital, Devonport, England, Private C. C. Burgin, A.I.F., from wounds received in action. Inserted by his sorrowing friends, H. M., M., and R. M. Somerville

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 14 July, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

BURGIN – Private C. C. Burgin, died of wounds received in action, July 3, beloved brother-in-law of Mr and Mrs Ted Wells, of St. Peters, and Walter, Joseph, Charlie and Sergt. A. F. Barnes (on active service)

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 17 July, 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 C. C. Burgin does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

He Lived Well, And Died Nobly

St. Giles Churchyard, Balderton, Nottinghamshire, England.

St. Giles Churchyard, Balderton contains 7 Commonwealth War Graves – all relating to World War 1.



(Photo above by js – Find a Grave; below by David Dixon)





St. Giles Churchyard, Balderton *(Photo from CWGC)*

Photo of Private C. C. Burgin's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Giles Churchyard, Balderton, Nottinghamshire, England.



(Photo by js – Find a Grave)