

**Towcester Road Cemetery,
Northampton, Northamptonshire**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1007 2ND CORPORAL

W. A. CAMPELL

5TH AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY COY.

11TH NOVEMBER, 1918 Age 24

Peace Perfect Peace

William Argyle CAMPBELL

William Argyle Campbell was born at Flemington, Newmarket, Victoria in 1894 to parents John Lang Campbell & Jane Campbell (nee Edwards).

William Argyle Campbell attended school at Kalgoorlie Central, West Leederville & Claremont Central.

The 1915, 1916 & 1917 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Fremantle, subdivision of Claremont, Western Australia recorded William Argyle Campbell, Clerk, of "Trahalda" Princess Road, Claremont.

William Argyle Campbell was a 22 year old, single, Railway Clerk from Claremont, Western Australia when he enlisted in Perth, Western Australia on 5th January, 1917 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1007 & his religion was Congregational. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr John Campbell, of "Trahalda", Princess Road, Claremont, Western Australia. William Argyle Campbell stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served with the Regiment Band of 86th Infantry for 4 years & 6 months & was still serving. He also stated that he had previously been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's service 12 months prior due to Rheumatic Neuritis.

Private William Argyle Campbell was posted to Railways Corps on 10th January, 1917 for recruit training.

Private William Argyle Campbell embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Miltiades (A28)* on 29th January, 1917 with the Railway Unit, No. 3 Section & disembarked at Devonport, England on 27th March, 1917.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England.

Private William Argyle Campbell was marched in to St. Lucia Barracks (3 Section Aust. R.O.D. – Railway Operating Division) at Bordon on 27th April, 1917.

New Designation for Private William Argyle Campbell – 5th Australian Broad Gauge Rail Operating Company. A.I.F. Order No. 1224.

Private William Argyle Campbell proceeded overseas to France via Southampton on 11th May, 1917 from A.R.O.D. (Australian Railway Operating Division). He arrived in France on 12th May, 1917.

Private William Argyle Campbell was reported to be with his Unit – 5th R.O.C. (Railway Operating Group) in the field on 18th June, 1918.

Private William Argyle Campbell was on leave to England from 3rd August, 1918 & rejoined his Unit from leave on 19th August, 1918.

Private William Argyle Campbell was promoted to 2nd Corporal on 7th September, 1918.

2nd Corporal William Argyle Campbell was sent sick to Hospital on 3rd November, 1918. He was admitted to 7th Canadian General Hospital at Etaples, France on 3rd November, 1918 with Influenza then transferred by Ambulance Train 37 on 6th November, 1918. He embarked from France for England on Hospital Ship *Princess Elizabeth* on 6th November, 1918.

2nd Corporal William Argyle Campbell was admitted to Northamptonshire War Hospital, England on 6th November, 1918 with Influenza.

Second Corporal William Argyle Campbell died at 8 am on 11th November, 1918 at Northampton War Hospital, Dustan, Northamptonshire, England from Pneumonia.

A death for William Campbell, aged 24, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Northampton, Northamptonshire, England.

Second Corporal William Argyle Campbell was buried on 16th November, 1918 in Towcester Road Cemetery, Northampton, Northamptonshire, England – Soldiers' Plot 463. I. 17958 and has a Commonwealth War Graves

Commission headstone. From the burial report of Second Corporal William Argyle Campbell - *Coffin was Polished Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler and Pallbearers being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and surmounted by wreaths sent from comrades in Northampton War Hospital. The Last Post was sounded at the graveside, and the burial service conducted by the Rev. H. G. Lawson, of Northampton. The grave will be turfed and an oak cross erected by the A.I.F. London. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Names of relatives & friends present at the funeral – Miss Pearce, Y.M.C.A., Pte Gordon, 4th Pioneers and other patients from hospital.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Second Corporal William Argyle Campbell contains a letter from Grace M. Stewart, Matron, Northants War Hospital, Dunstan, Northampton which reads: "*Re Cpl Campbell. He was admitted to this Hospital (from France) suffering from Influenza on the 6th November. Pneumonia quickly developed and although everything possible was done for him it was of no avail and he died on November 11th. He was buried in the Lowinster Road Cemetery, Northampton on November 16th and his grave adjoins those of other Australians. He had a Military Funeral. Please convey to the relatives our deep sympathy.*"

Second Corporal William Argyle Campbell was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Second Corporal Campbell's father – Mr J. L. Campbell, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent June, 1922 & Plaque sent October, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists 2nd Corporal William Argyle Campbell - service number 1007, aged 24, of 5th Coy., Australian Engineers. He was the son of John Lang and Jane Campbell, of Trahalda", Princess Road, Claremont, Western Australia.

Second Corporal W. A. Campbell is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 26.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

William Argyle Campbell is remembered on the Midland Railway Workshops Soldiers Memorial, located at former Midland Railway Workshops, Yelverton Drive, Midland, Western Australia.



Midland Railway Workshops Soldiers Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia – Bryan Hardy)



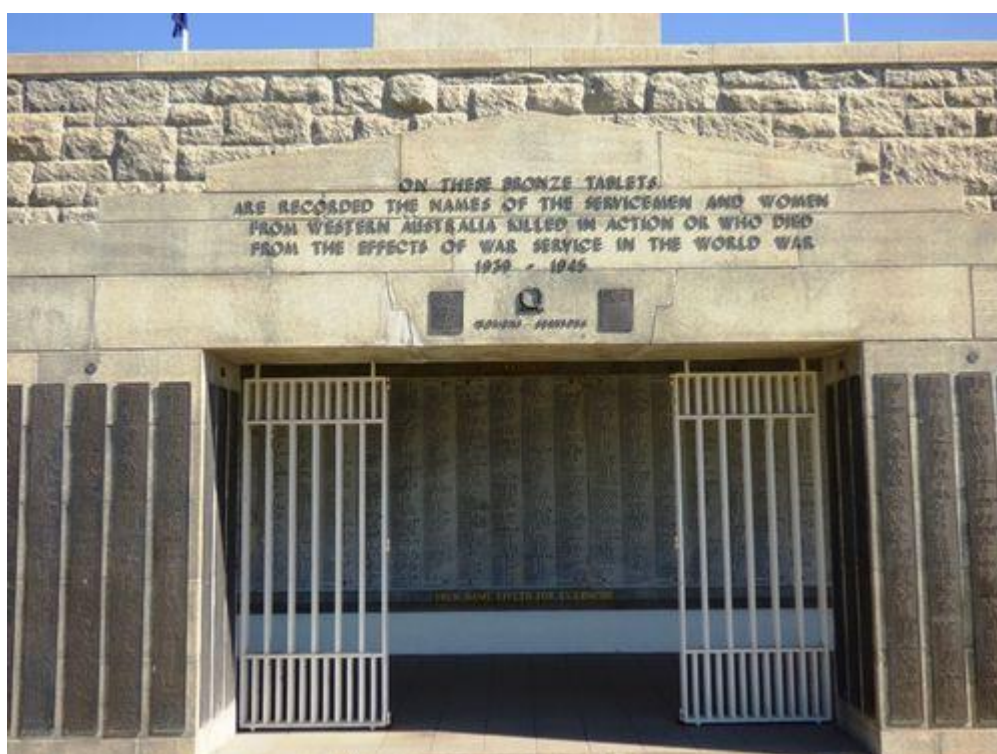
W. A. Campbell is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.



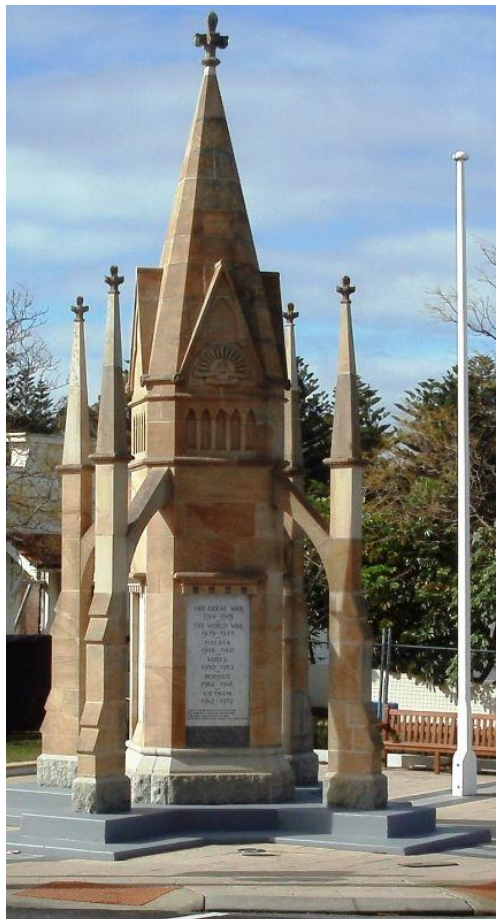
**Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park (above)
& (below) The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names**

(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)





The Claremont War Memorial, located at 308 Stirling Highway, Claremont, Western Australia, does not list individual names.



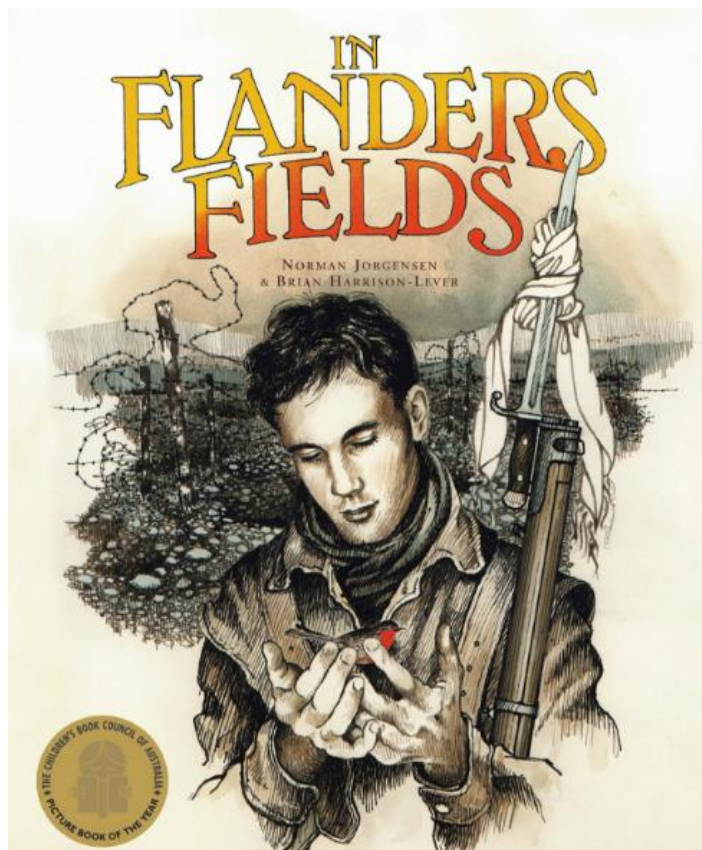
Claremont War Memorial (Photo from Monument Australia – Bryan Hardy)

The Book "*In Flanders Fields*" by Norman Jorgensen & Brian Harrison-Lever is dedicated to 6 Soldiers – 3 Australians – one being:

1007 2nd Corporal William Argyle Campbell

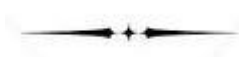
5th Company Australian Engineers

Died Northampton Military Hospital, 11 November, 1918.



(56 pages of Second Corporal William Argyle Campbell'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

KILLED IN ACTION

CAMPBELL – On November 11, 1918, at the Northampton War Hospital, No. 1007 William Argyle, beloved eldest son of John L. and Jane Campbell, of Trahalda, Princess-road, Claremont, loving brother of Donald Clyde (on active service), Jack and Olive; after two years' service in the B.G.R.O. Company, France and Belgium; aged 24 years and seven months. Deeply mourned.

(The West Australia, Perth, Western Australia – 28 November, 1918)

WAR CASUALTIES

Mr and Mrs J. L. Campbell of Princess-road, Claremont, have been notified that their eldest son, Corporal W. A. Campbell, passed away at the Northampton War Hospital on November 11.

(The West Australia, Perth, Western Australia – 29 November, 1918)

CONGREGATIONAL

CLAREMONT – 11 a.m., "Bought with a Price" 7.30 pm. In Memoriam late Corporal William Argyle Campbell. Communion close of service. Preacher, R. E. Chapman.

(The West Australia, Perth, Western Australia – 30 November, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

Died, Other Causes

2nd Cpl. W. A. Campbell, Claremont

(Sunday Times, Perth, Western Australia – 8 December, 1918)

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)

2nd Corporal W. A. Campbell does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Peace Perfect Peace

Towcester Road Cemetery, Northampton, Northamptonshire, England

Northampton (Towcester Road) Cemetery contains 116 First World War burials and 17 from the Second World War, most of which form a combined war graves plot to the left of the chapel. The cemetery also contains five non-war service burials and three Czech war graves.

(Information & photos from CWGC)



Towcester Road Cemetery, Northampton



Photo of 2nd Corporal W. A. Campbell's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Towcester Road Cemetery, Northampton, Northamptonshire, England.



(Photo from Great War Forum - Biffo)



Towcester Road Cemetery, Northampton *(Photo from CWGC)*