

**Brighton (Lewes Road) Cemetery,  
East Sussex, England  
War Grave**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**2147 PRIVATE**

**R. G. CHEESMAN**

**45TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**21ST JANUARY, 1917 Age 29**

## Reginald Hugh CHEESMAN

Reginald Hugh Cheesman was born at Brighton, Sussex, England on 16th December, 1887 to parents Cornelius John Childer Cheesman and Harriett Sarah Cheesman (nee Holland). His birth was registered in the March quarter, 1888 in the district of Brighton, Sussex, England.

(Note: Reginald Hugh Cheesman stated on his Attestation Papers that he was born in Penrith, NSW. His Medical History sheet also states he was born at Penrith.)

The 1891 England Census recorded Reginald H. Cheesman as a 3 year old, living with his family at 5 Kensington Place, Brighton, Sussex, England. His parents were listed as Cornelius J. C. Cheesman (Carpenter, aged 47, born Brighton, Sussex) & Harriott S. Cheesman (aged 46, born Brighton, Sussex). Reginald was the youngest of five children listed on this Census (all born Brighton, Sussex) – Charles Cheesman (Carpenter, aged 17), Joseph E. CHEESMAN (Whitesmilks Boy (?), aged 14), Herbert A. Cheesman (Scholar, aged 8), Florence A. Cheesman (Scholar, aged 7) then Reginald.

Reginald Hugh Cheesman was educated at Central School, Church Street, Brighton, England.

The 1901 England Census recorded Reginald Cheesman as a 13 year old, living with his family at 5 Kensington Place, Brighton, Sussex, England. His parents were listed as John Cheesman (Journeyman Carpenter, aged 57) & Harriett Cheesman (aged 56). Reginald was the youngest of three listed on this Census – Joseph Cheesman (Hot water Fitter, aged 24), Herbert Cheesman (Hot water fitter, aged 18) then Reginald.

The 1911 England Census recorded Reginald Cheesman as a 24 year old Motor Fitter Mate boarding at an 8 roomed residence at 26 George St, Euston Square, West St. Pancras, London, England. Louisa Margaret Davies (Widow, Housekeeper, aged 40) was the head of the house & she had two children aged 10 & 6. Reginald Cheesman was one of 7 Boarders living at this residence.

R. H. Cheesman, General Servant, aged 24, born Brighton, was a passenger on the *Port Jackson* which departed from the port of London, England & arrived in Sydney, NSW on 30th December, 1912.

According to information provided by his mother for the Roll of Honour – Reginald Cheesman had served as a Cadet Steward in the Merchant Service for 5 years.

The 1913 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Hawkesbury, subdivision of Penrith, NSW listed Reginald Hugh Cheesman, Cleaner from Station Street.

Reginald Hugh Cheesman was a 28 year old, single, Locomotive Cleaner from Station Street, Penrith, NSW when he enlisted at Bathurst, NSW on 22nd March, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2147 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Harriet Sarah Cheesman, Kensington Place, Brighton, Sussex, England. Reginald Cheesman stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously been rejected from enlisting due to his teeth.

Private Reginald Hugh Cheesman was posted to "K" Company, Bathurst Depot on 22nd March, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 4th Reinforcements of 45th Battalion at Kiama, NSE on 25th April, 1916.

Private Reginald Hugh Cheesman embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Wiltshire (A18)* on 22nd August, 1916 with the 45th Infantry Battalion, 4th Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 13th October, 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 & also in the county of Dorset.

Private Reginald Hugh Cheesman was marched in to No. 3 Command Depot at Wool, Dorset, England on 13th October, 1916.

Private Reginald Hugh Cheesman died at 1 am or 4 am (both times recorded on Hospital Admissions form) on 21st January, 1917 at Kitchener Hospital (No. 3 Australian General Hospital), Brighton, Sussex, England from Endocarditis & Pericarditis. The Hospital Admissions for recorded that Private Cheesman had *“been unable to do ordinary military duties. In camp in England he could not do physical drill ..”*

A death for Reginald H. Cheesman, aged 29, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Brighton, Sussex, England.

Private Reginald Hugh Cheesman was buried on 26th January, 1917 in Brighton (Lewes Road) Borough Cemetery, Brighton, East Sussex, England – Plot number PG. 84 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private Reginald Hugh Cheesman requested in his Will, dated 14th October, 1916, that in the event of his death the whole of his property and effects be given to his parents – Cornelius John Childrens Cheesman and Harriett Sarah Cheesman. In the event of their death the said property was to be equally divided between his sisters.

A claim for a War Pension was made by John Cheesman, 5 Kensington Place, Brighton, father of the late Private Reginald Hugh Cheesman, but was rejected as “Claimant has adequate means of support.” A similar claim was made by Harriet Cheesman, mother of the late Private Reginald Hugh Cheesman, but was rejected for the same reason.

The Manchester Unity Independent Order of Odd Fellows, NSW requested a death certificate for the late Private Reginald Hugh Cheesman. Albert E. Baker, Esq., Solicitor, 163 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW & Mr A. G. Harris, Aerated Water Works, Station Street, Penrith, NSW also requested a copy of the death certificate. Mr A. G. Harris stated in his letter that he was the Allottee and also Executor of the Will of the late Private Reginald Hugh Cheesman.

Private Reginald Hugh Cheesman 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 Cheesman’s mother - Mrs H. S. Cheesman (Scroll & Plaque issued in England in July, 1922).

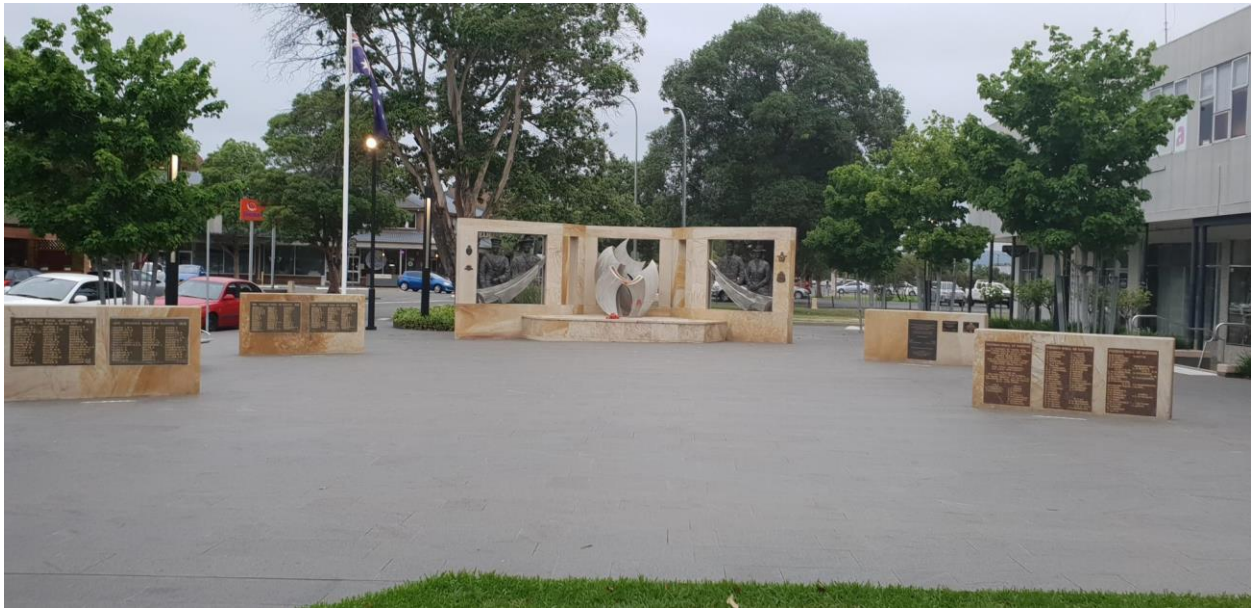
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Reginald Hugh Cheesman – service number 2147, aged 29, of 45th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Cornelius John Childers and Harriett Sarah Cheesman, of Kensington Place, Brighton.

Private R. H. Cheesman is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 139.

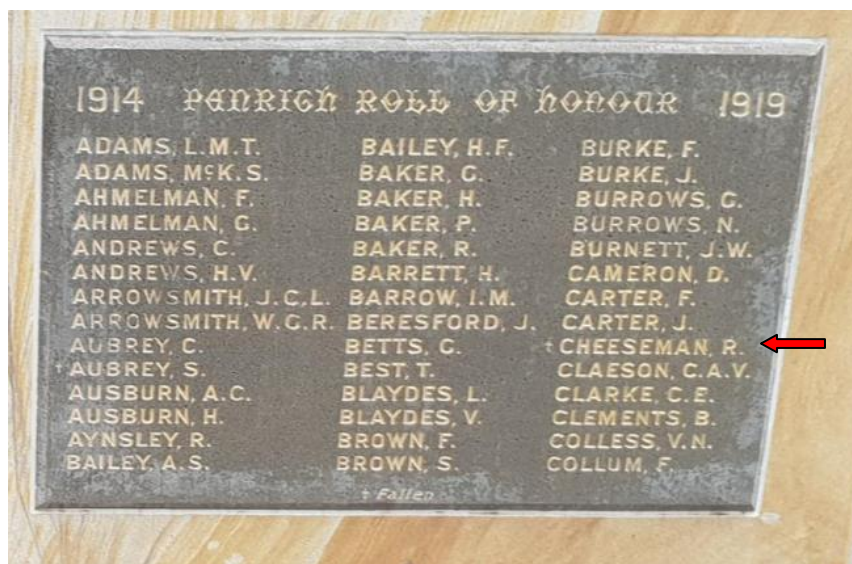


*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

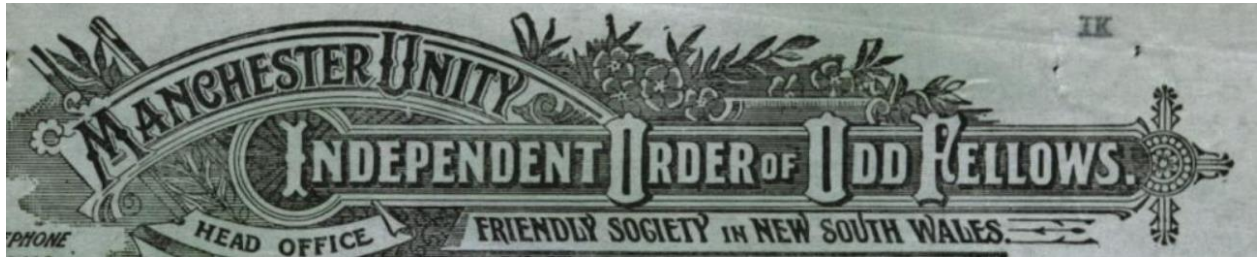
R. Cheeseman is remembered on the Penrith City Memory Park War Memorial, located at corner of Woodriff and High Streets, Penrith, NSW.



Penrith Memory Park (Photos from AWM – Places of Pride – Ross Manuel)



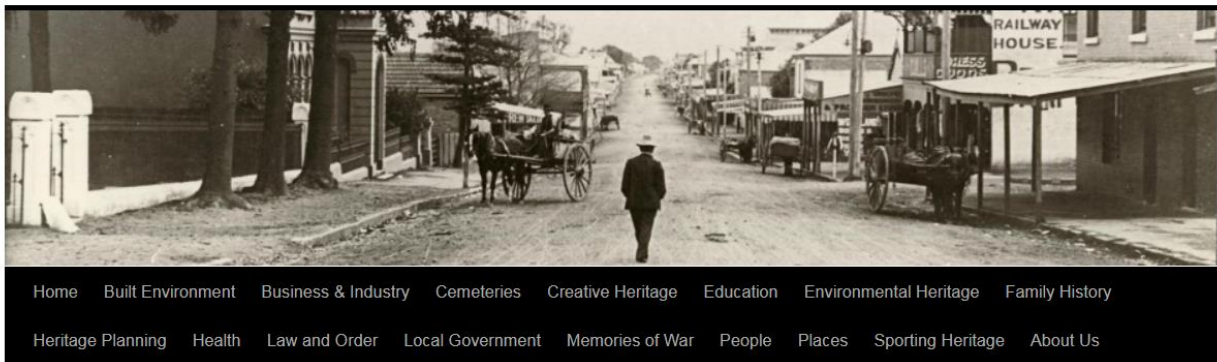
Reginald Hugh Cheesman is remembered on the Loyal Alexander (MU) Lodge Honor Roll which was located at the Masonic Hall, Penrith.



Reginald Hugh Cheesman is remembered on the Penrith City Local History website.

## Penrith City Local History

*Portal to access information about the Penrith local government area*



R. Cheesman is remembered on the New South Wales Government Railways and Tramways Roll of Honour – Died on Service, located at Central Railway – Country Train Concourse, Eddy Avenue, Haymarket, Sydney, NSW.



**NSW Government Railways and Tramways Roll of Honour** (Photo from AWM – Places of Pride)



NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT  
RAILWAYS AND TRAMWAYS  
ROLL OF HONOUR  
HIS MAJESTY'S AUSTRALIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES  
DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

HESTER WILLIAM	TRAM	WALSH LEO D	PER WAY	WATSON JAMES	LOCO	SMITH STUART R	TRAFFIC
STEVENS WILLIAM	LOCO	SCULLY CRAIG E	TRAM	SMITH WILLIAM F	PER WAY	WEST BARCEL	TRAM
TAYLOR ALBERT	TRAFFIC	SMITH DAVID W	TRAFFIC	SCOBIE WALTER F	TRAM	DUCKWORTH A	LOCO
COFFEY A P	LOCO	CAMPS VICTOR A	PER WAY	ADSHED WILLIAM	TRAFFIC	BRANZARD S H	PER WAY
BROWN LESLIE J	TRAFFIC	GOODE H HERBERT	TRAM	MORRISON T	PER WAY	BUTTERS ALFRED	TRAFFIC
MCDONALD R	PER WAY	MAHUR CHARLES	STORES	WYLAN DONALD	TRAFFIC	LEE ALBERT	LOCO
ROBIN WILLIAM	LOCO	ANDREWS C A	TRAFFIC	WATERS EDGAR	LOCO	WALTON THOMAS	PER WAY
DUFFY CLAUD W E	LOCO	MADDEN V J	PER WAY	SMITH ARTHUR	PER WAY	HODGSON WALTER	TRAFFIC
MULLER FANBY	PER WAY	KIRKMADE ERNEST	LOCO	MCDONALD W	TRAFFIC	HARRIS GEORGE	LOCO
ANDERSON W H	TRAFFIC	HESETH L	TRAFFIC	MCDONALD A	PER WAY	BYRNS WILLIAM	PER WAY
REID HERBERT A	LOCO	SMITH ARTHUR J	TRAFFIC	MCDONALD A	PER WAY	WALKER HERBERT	TRAM
KEATING THOMAS	PER WAY	SMITH ARTHUR L	TRAFFIC	MCCULLOCH W L	TRAM	MLEDIO HECTOR	PER WAY
SCHWARTZ C V	TRAFFIC	SMITH ARTHUR T	LOCO	ROBERT WILLIAM	TRAFFIC	WYER FRED H G	TRAM
DAVIES A N	LOCO	ROSLAND F	PER WAY	BRADSHAW STANLEY	PER WAY	HARTLEY WILLIAM	LOCO
PARKER EDWARD	PER WAY	GILPIN GREENFELL	LOCO	BROWN W E C	TRAM	ROPE EDWARD J	PER WAY
BRADY FRED D	TRAFFIC	THOMSON ALBERT	PER WAY	LANG WILLIAM	PER WAY	ASTON HARROLD	LOCO
DOOLEY JOHN T	LOCO	LANNING T J	TRAM	ADAMS WALTER	LOCO	ROWLINGTON S	TRAM
HARDING HENRY	PER WAY	GARDNER JOHN	TRAM	FLEMING ARTHUR	TRAFFIC	HARRINGTON H J	LOCO
JEFFCOATE A D	TRAM	KATHEN JOHN	LOCO	SCHEIDT S	TRAM	FINLEY ARTHUR T	TRAM
HARRISON T	LOCO	FAIRER JOHN	LOCO	MCDONALD F	LOCO	BUCKLEY T A	LOCO
MANNON A	TRAM	PAGE JAMES D	PER WAY	MCDONALD S C	LOCO	RICHARDS J P	PER WAY
MITCHELL T	LOCO	LAKE THOMAS J	TRAFFIC	MCDONALD S C	LOCO	JACKSON M V	LOCO
ROBERT ALBERT E	TRAM	WRIGHT T A R	LOCO	CHROOKS THOMAS	PER WAY	EARLS JOHN A	TRAFFIC
OVEREND ROBERT	PER WAY	REID NORMAN F	PER WAY	HANDERS J J	LOCO	CHARNOCK T	LOCO
MURLEY GEORGE	LOCO	FLOWER REG O	TRAM	TRULAND J H	LOCO	BELL JOHN H E	TRAM
ARNOLD ARTHUR	TRAFFIC	WALBY STANLEY W	LOCO	GIBBS GEORGE	TRAM	DEVER WALTER	ELEC
CAMERON BOY	TRAM	RALPH LESLIE	SIGNAL	CHATFIELD C W	LOCO	MALCOLM E D B	TRAM
MORGAN EDWARD	LOCO	HOLDEN JAMES	TRAM	MURPHY HENRY P	TRAFFIC	MURDER GEORGE	ELEC
STONOR GEORGE F	TRAFFIC	KELSO CYRIL	LOCO	GOLLINS MARTIN	TRAM	JENSEN A P	LOCO
LORD BOY	PER WAY	GARDNER ROBERT	TRAM	PALTON ROBERT	TRAFFIC	HURNIC PERCY	TRAM
MCGARRY EDWARD	LOCO	GARDNER WALTER	LOCO	HAWKES GEORGE	PER WAY	TEER WILLIAM B	TRAM
FLYNN THOMAS J	TRAM	HOWARD JOHN	TRAFFIC	MURPHY H A	LOCO	JENNINGS C W	PER WAY
ROSE DONALD	PER WAY	LATTER ALBERT C	TRAM	BURBURY H A	LOCO	CLARKE ALF C	TRAM
CLARK JAMES	LOCO	MADDEN T E	LOCO	KING GEORGE	TRAFFIC	BANES A J	TRAM
NOFFITT J A	TRAFFIC	BIRCHALL JOSEPH	PER WAY	BROWN AUBREY	TRAM	ROBERT FRED	PER WAY
ROSE WALTER	STORES	SADLER E J H	SIGNAL	HUNT CHARLES	PER WAY	CHEESMAN R	LOCO
MITCHELLSON H B	TRAM	CAMPBELL OLIVER	TRAM	GANE ARTHUR S	TRAM	JARRETT W F	LOCO
BLACK LESLIE H	LOCO	PRICE WILLIAM	LOCO	PENGLTON FRED	LOCO	BYRON E	TRAM
BRIDGES C	PER WAY	MADDEN T E	LOCO	MURPHY W J	TRAFFIC	DOYLE MICHAEL	PER WAY
FARRALL JAMES	LOCO	JONES EVANS	TRAM	READ CYRIL	PER WAY	WILSON W C	TRAM
REICHERD	LOCO	LINDSAY A	LOCO	FORBES JAMES	TRAFFIC	LE SUEUR W J J	LOCO
SLAYTON FELTON	TRAFFIC	BRINKMAN V E	TRAFFIC	TOOME W J	TRAFFIC	AVARD ALLAN	TRAM
MADDEN WILLIAM	LOCO	ROBINSON ROBERT	LOCO	IRWIN HERBERT	ELEC	STONELL ALFRED	LOCO
GOODMAN W J	LOCO	SPILLANE T E	TRAM	SEAGE JOSEPH	LOCO	WHITE RICHARD	TRAM
HEPNER JAMES	LOCO	BRUCE GEORGE H	TRAFFIC	BULLER THOMAS	TRAFFIC	TANSEY SHANNON	TRAM
MURSELL ARTHUR	PER WAY	KNIGHT CHARLES	LOCO	FITZPATRICK J	TRAM	KEEN RICHARD	TRAFFIC
COLLIER JOHN S C	LOCO	JAMIESON W H	TRAFFIC	STEWART D V	LOCO	SHANNON E F	TRAM
MOLYNEUX FRED	PER WAY	RICHARDSON S	TRAM	BROWLEY ALBERT	TRAFFIC	WATTS HORACE	LOCO
ROBINSON H	TRAFFIC	ALSTIN ARTHUR	LOCO	CLUNAN ALEX S	PER WAY	MCDONALD CLIVE	TRAFFIC
SIMPILL ALBERT	SIGNAL	SMITH HENRY	TRAM	RICHARDS LESLIE	TRAFFIC	EDWARDS H	PER WAY
JONES JOHN	TRAM	HARENCE E S	LOCO	WAINWELL FRANK	LOCO	DEAN ROBERT	TRAM
NOOD ROY B	TRAFFIC	SMITH W A	TRAM	DEWLEY FRED	PER WAY	SHENCH FRANCIS	LOCO
MAYNARD S	LOCO	HANCOCK W A	TRAM	MCDONALD J J	LOCO	WEST CLAUDE B	TRAFFIC
TROTTER JOSEPH	TRAFFIC	MILLER HAROLD	LOCO	SARRELL R J	SIGNAL	TWIGDEN D	ELEC
SHOENMARK LESLIE	LOCO	NOAKES JACK	PER WAY	DOOLEY GEORGE H	TRAM	JORDAN EDWIN	LOCO
PORTER SAMUEL	STORES	WOKNER W J	LOCO	JENNINGS C E	LOCO	KENNEDY GEORGE	TRAFFIC
HENBURY HENRY	LOCO	CAVANAGH M J	TRAM	CANE EDWARD	TRAFFIC	ROBERTSON R	TRAM
MOYLAN EDCL J	TRAFFIC	SAXTON JOHN	PER WAY	DALY FRANCIS H	TRAM	TOODY SYDNEY C	TRAFFIC
GREATER JOE	TRAM	BURNS GEORGE E	TRAFFIC	FISHER WILLIAM H	ELEC	BURBANK A H	TRAM
JONES GEORGE	TRAFFIC						
MURRAY JOHN	PER WAY						



AYRES GEORGE	PER WAY	LINSLEY GEORGE	TRAFFIC	DAVIS WILFRED	TRAM	STYLES C H	TRAM
POOLE F C	LOCO	PAVEY THOS P	LOCO	BROWN FRANCIS	TRAM	SHARROCK H W	TRAFFIC
WRIGHT THOMAS	TRAFFIC	MALCOLM N L	TRAFFIC	REIDMAN B J	LOCO	MURPHY JOHN J	TRAFFIC
HICKEY M J	TRAM	CROWE WH H	LOCO	CORMACK ALLAN	LOCO	AMOS OWEN A E	CONST
COLLINS JOHN D	TRAFFIC	CHAPMAN WH	LOCO	READ REGINALD	LOCO	SITCHER ROBERT	TRAM
PERRY ARTHUR R	TRAM	SANDERS J R	LOCO	BAILEY R H	LOCO	JUDD HENRY E	TRAFFIC
BRIGGS F	TRAM	ROBERTS E J	LOCO	RAINE THOMAS F	TRAM	TARRAN HARRY	LOCO
ALLEN F J	LOCO	MUMFORD R F	LOCO	LUCK PERCY	LOCO	MURRAY R H K	LOCO
ALLEN JAMES	LOCO	BUTTERWORTH R	PER WAY	SEAGE ALLAN J	TRAFFIC	WALLACE T	LOCO
ROBERTSON W J	LOCO	ROBINSON E	PER WAY	MACPHERSON E	LOCO	DUTTON B	PER WAY
LYONS JOHN W	TRAFFIC	JONES RUFERT C	PER WAY	REYNOLDS WH	LOCO	GIBBS FRED	LOCO
HOWARD A E	TRAFFIC	ROBERTS J H	PER WAY	ELLIS GEORGE	TRAFFIC	HOMER V W H	LOCO
FRAUENFELDER E F	TRAFFIC	CULLEN THOMAS	PER WAY	RYAN RICHARD	TRAFFIC	BOWEN F P	TRAFFIC
TOONEY S T	TRAFFIC	COLLINS LIONEL	PER WAY	FELTHAM F G	LOCO	BURTON V R	LOCO
RICHENS E W	TRAFFIC	SMITH JOHN H G	PER WAY	OWEN CHARLES	TRAFFIC	TEAKEL C	TRAM

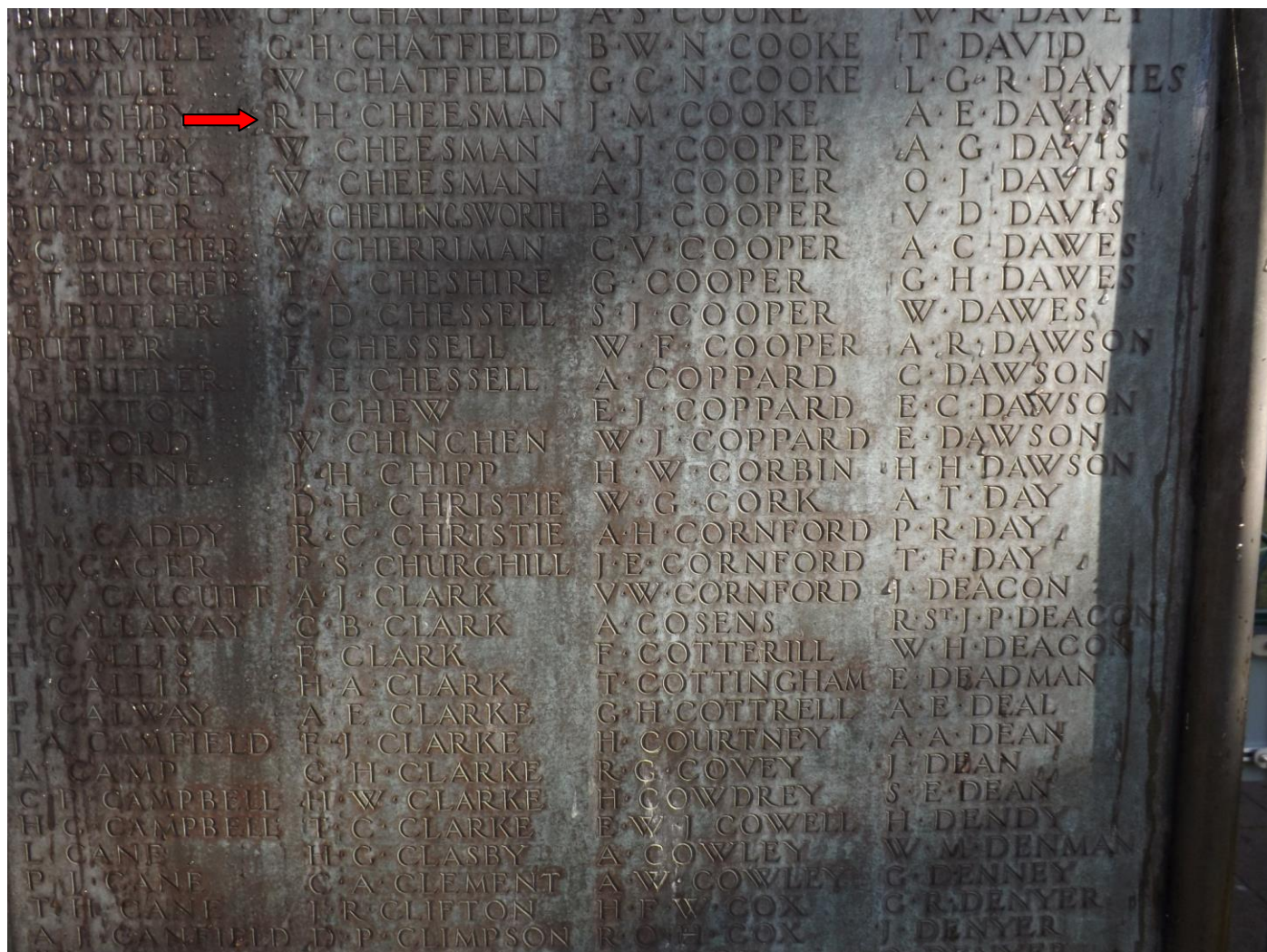
(Photo by Jennifer Edmonds)

R. H. Cheesman is remembered on the Brighton War Memorial, located in North Steine Gardens, Brighton, Sussex, England.



**Brighton War Memorial** (Photo above by Simon Carey; below by Nick)





**Brighton War Memorial** (Photo by David Larkin)

(53 pages of Private Reginald Hugh Cheesman'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) & National Archives*



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **CASUALTIES**

#### **270th LIST ISSUED**

#### **NEW SOUTH WALES**

#### **DIED OF ILLNESS**

Pte R. H. CHEESMAN, England

(*The Sydney Morning Herald*, NSW – 3 February, 1917)



## Death of a Penrith Soldier

We regret to have to record the death of Private Reginald H Cheesman (recently residing at Penrith, being employed in Loco Department) at the Kitchener Hospital — an institution officered by Australian Doctors and Nurses — Brighton, England, on 22nd January last, the cause of death, we understand, being pneumonia, supervening on a chill contracted soon after the deceased soldier's arrival at his native town in England in November last. Deceased was a native of England, his parents residing at Brighton (England), but he had been several years in Australia, and enlisted from Penrith, leaving for the seat of war, with other reinforcements, on August 22nd, 1916, and went into active training for several months. He was allowed a short furlough to visit his parents, and it is surmised contracted his fatal illness while on his visit to Brighton. Deceased, who was about 26 years of age, was of a genial and obliging temperament, and his demise will be mourned by many acquaintances. Mr A G Harris, of Bronger Bros., Penrith, received in formation from the military authorities during the week confirmatory of the sad news.

(*Nepean Times*, Penrith, NSW – 24 February, 1917)

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## Anzac Day In Penrith

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### THE SERVICE

His Worship the Mayor (Ald D Fitch) opened the commemorative proceedings shortly before 12 o'clock before an assemblage of some 800 persons. With the Mayor on the platform were Revs M G Hinsby and J Tarn, Ald T Jones and A Judges, the Town Clerk (Mr Orth), and Mr J Stanton.....

The hymn, 'Our Native Land,' was then spiritedly sung by the assemblage, and the Benediction, pronounced (sic) by Rev M G Hinsby, terminated the proceedings about 1 p.m.

In addition to wreaths prepared by the girls of the Superior Public School for individual presentation to parents and relatives of deceased heroes of the war, a nicely designed general wreath, dedicated as follows—"In loving memory of our Australian heroes (from Penrith District) who gave their lives for their country"— was also presented, His Worship the Mayor acknowledging the commemorative gift on behalf of the relatives. The names of the deceased soldiers in whose memory the wreath was offered are— Lieut. R H B Baynes, Lieut. R F B Baynes, Lieut Blaydes, Sergt Reg Pye, Sig. W J J Starling, Corporal H Pye, Lance- Corporal Le Seuer, Sapper V Stuckey, Privates H Adams, A Mitchell, Fred Messer, J H Syme, J Gardiner, E Andrews, L Phillips, P A Turner, **R H Cheesman**, W H Byrn. J Telfer, S Aubrey, B Perrau, Lal Smith, J Nicole, E H Ausburn, Chas Miller, W Mullen, W J Doolan, P. Collum, A Bourke and H Holt.

(*Nepean Times*, Penrith, NSW – 28 April, 1917)

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## In Honor of Fallen Heroes

At the Nepean Picture Theatre, High Street, Penrith, on next Saturday, May 19th (sic), at 3 p.m, the ceremony of unveiling enlarged photographs of five deceased soldiers— ex-railway employees— who enlisted for the war while in the employ of the Railway Department, will be performed, we understand by the Railway Commissioners. It is expected that several of the Commissioners, probably the Chief Commissioner (Mr . Fraser), will attend. The photographs to be unveiled are those of the late Corporal W Le Sueur, Privates J W Syme, **R Cheesman**, R Paxton, and J Collum. All military units will attend ceremony (in uniform), and all Penrith returned soldiers (in uniform) are invited to be present. The Penrith District Band will play an appropriate musical programme. A speaker from Challis House, it is expected, will, give an address on the occasion. The photographs will afterwards be hung in the School of Arts.

(*Nepean Times*, Penrith, NSW – 12 May, 1917)

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## Unveiling Portraits of Fallen Heroes

... The reverential ceremony of the unveiling of portraits of several fallen heroes (who previous to enlisting had been employees of the railway service) at the Nepean Picture Theatre (Penrith), on Saturday afternoon of last week – under auspices of the local railway workers en masse – again reminded the Penrith community, with melancholy vividness, of the appalling effects of war; the results of those infamous powers that “consecrated” to the criminally aggressive policy in Germany have destroyed in great part the flower of manhood of the nations, and have bereaved so many home-circles in our midst of their stalwart breadwinners or their gallant sons....

Speaking of the portraits, individually, he said the first (in proximate position) was that of John C Collum, who was better known to his mates and associates as 'Clare' Collum. He was a splendid young fellow, one whom it was a pleasure to know; always bright, kindly and cheerful; and he was sure that he (Private Collum) did his duty most valiantly on the field of battle, and fell with his face to the foe. (Hear, hear). **Private R H Cheesman was popularly known as 'Reg' at the railway yard. He had come from England some years ago in search of health and fortune; but, true Briton as he was, he responded to the call of his nation and Empire in the hour of need and enlisted. He eventually contracted that fell disease, pneumonia, while in training in England, and died there in hospital. His memory would be cherished as that of one who -went forth to fight for his country.....**

The portraits were all beautifully executed, and very clearly delineated the lineaments (in photographic portraiture) of each subject. That of Private William Le Sueur, who at the time of his death in action was 26 years of age, is about 27 by 36 inches in dimensions; and, like the other pictures— those of Privates J S C Collum (23 years old), **R H Cheesman (aged 28 years)** and P R Paxton (23 years)— bore the inscription: — “Hung as a token of esteem by the railway men of Penrith.” The embellishments, which had been designed in the instances of the portraits of Privates Le Sueur, **Cheesman** and Paxton, by Mr Herb Tipping were most appropriate, depicting the Union Jack as centrally shading the figure of the soldier, and the Commonwealth Flag (in colour) enfolding either side of the portrait. Each inscription recorded the date of the decease of the hero commemorated. The portrait of the late Private J W Syme, which had been unveiled at the Penrith Railway workshops some time ago was also shown, it being the intention of the railway employees committee to present the whole of the portraits to the School of Arts (as stated) in perpetuity.

(*Nepean Times*, Penrith, NSW – 26 May, 1917)

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## Penrith Soldiers' Comforts Club

The first annual report of the above club was read by Miss H. Stanton (Hon. sec), at the annual meeting held at the Council Chambers (Mrs W. M. Holliday presiding), on July 3.....

The girls also helped on Red Triangle Day, they had a stall in the street, and their exertions added £29 to the total. There are 75 members on the roll. The following goods have been sent away to the boys in parcels : Seven plum puddings 205 pairs socks. 43 washers, 10 scarves, 23 Balaclava caps, 81 pairs mittens, 10 pairs knee pads, 25 khaki handkerchiefs, 10 housewives ; also writing paper, envelopes, and cigarettes in pretty well every parcel, besides soap, chewing gum, tooth brushes, shaving soap, cocoa, tooth paste, towels, toffee, pencils.

Letters have been received from the following soldiers to say they have received parcels:- E. G. Field, G. R. E. Lucas, B. C. Field, John Newman, E. W. Denniss, Alan Easterbrook. R.. Taylor, F. E. Collum, C. F. Werner, L. Hughes, R. Colman, H. R. Greentree, W. H. A. Pye, V. Stuckey, W. F. Hollier, K. J. G. Smith, B. Hollier, H. Bailey, T. J. Mason, E. Harper, M. S. Mills, Roy Aynsley, A. J. Gardner (2), **R. H. Cheesman**, Bruce Clements (2), Percy Baker, Frank Smith, F. H. Woodriff, M. S. Kellett, Arthur Burns, T. T. Preston, V. Giles, A. J. M'Donald, L. A. Stuckey.

(*Nepean Times*, Penrith, NSW – 14 July, 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).

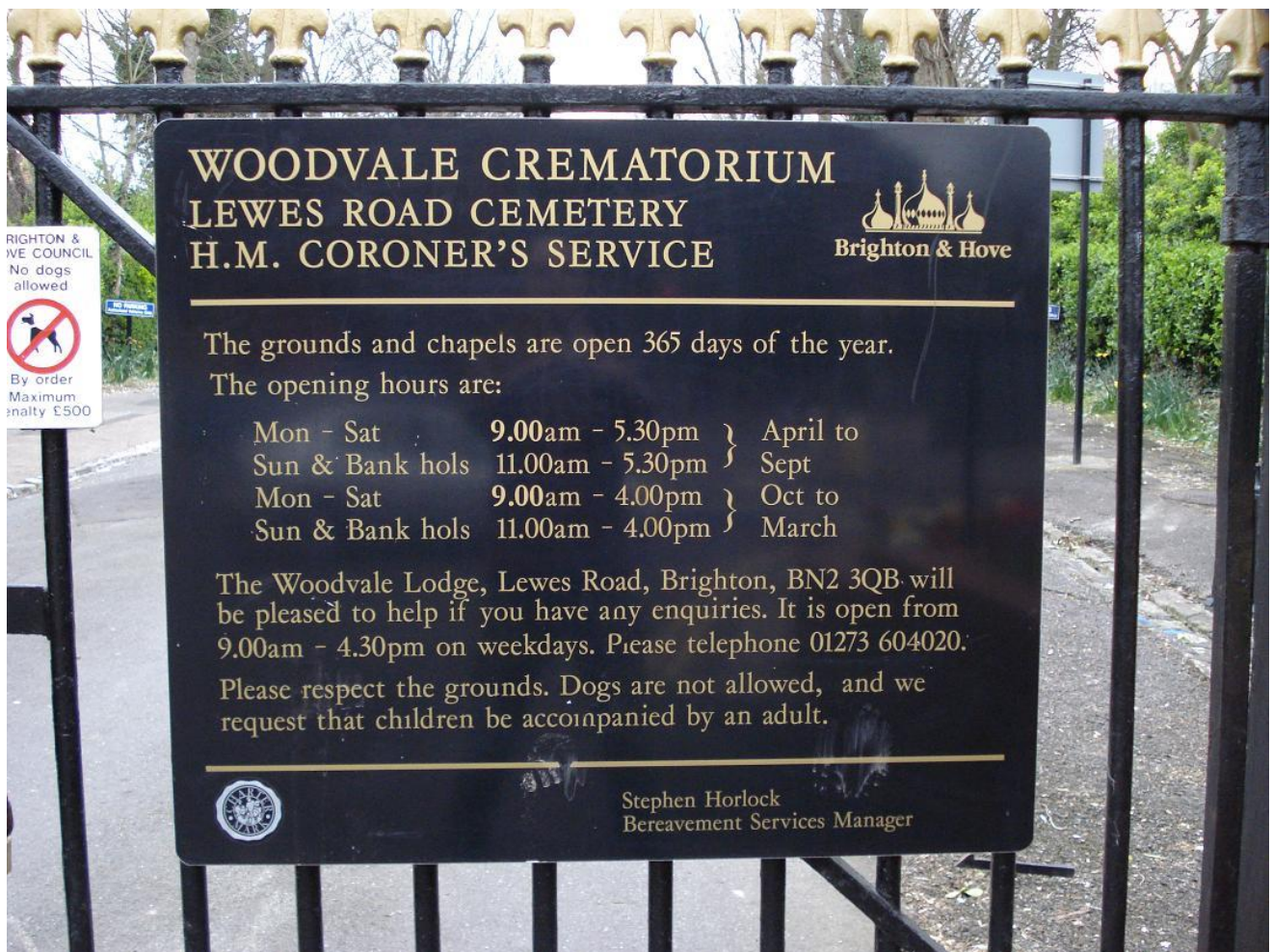
The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

*(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)*

Private R. H. Cheesman does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

## **Brighton (Lewes Road) Borough Cemetery, Brighton, East Sussex, England**

Lewes Road Cemetery – now known as Woodvale Cemetery and Crematorium, Brighton, East Sussex, England, contains 59 Commonwealth War Grave Commission burials – 54 from World War 1 & 5 from World War 2.



**Lewes Road Cemetery** (photo by julia&keld- Find a Grave)

Photo of Private R. H. Cheesman's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Brighton (Lewes Road) Borough Cemetery, Brighton, East Sussex, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)*



(Photo by The Voice of Hassocks)

Woodvale Cemetery & Extra-Mural Cemetery, Lewes Road, Brighton

