

**Hartshill Cemetery,  
Stoke-On-Trent, Staffordshire**

**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**51000 PRIVATE**

**A. CLUTTERBUCK**

**35TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**6TH JULY, 1919 Age 25**

*Gone But Not Forgotten*

## Alfred CLUTTERBUCK

Alfred Ernest Clutterbuck was born at Armidale, New South Wales on 25th October, 1892 to parents Richard & Catherine Clutterbuck (nee McShane). He was baptised at Saints Mary and Joseph Church, Armidale, New South Wales on 12th December, 1892.

Alfred Clutterbuck attended Roman Catholic School, Armidale, NSW.

Catherine Clutterbuck, mother of Alfred Clutterbuck, died at Armidale in 1906.

Alfred Clutterbuck was a 22 year old, single, Labourer from Armidale, NSW when he enlisted on 24th November, 1917 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 51000 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr R. Clutterbuck, Chapel Street, Armidale, NSW.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was posted to Recruits at Show Ground Camp, Sydney, NSW on 7th December, 1917. He was transferred to Recruit M. & D. Depot at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW from 10th December, 1917.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was admitted to Liverpool Field Hospital, while in Camp in NSW, from 28th December, 1917 to 29th December, 1917 due to a fractured Tarsal bone. He was transferred to Garrison Hospital, Victoria Barracks, NSW from 29th December, 1917 with an Injury to his left foot & discharged on 9th January, 1918.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was admitted to Liverpool Field Hospital, while in Camp in NSW, on 15th January & discharged on 16th January, 1918. Private Clutterbuck was re-admitted to Liverpool Field Hospital on 5th February, 1918 with Vaccinia & discharged on 7th February, 1918.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was posted to "D" Company, 1st Depot Battalion from 12th March, 1918. He was transferred to "B" Company from 8th April, 1917 then to "S.O.1" from 28th March, 1918. Private Clutterbuck was posted to "B" Company, 1st Infantry Battalion from 13th April, 1918 then transferred to "D" Company, 1st Infantry Battalion from 3rd May, 1918.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck embarked from Sydney, NSW on RMS *Osterley* on 8th May, 1918 with the 1st New South Wales Reinforcements & disembarked at Liverpool, England on 10th July, 1918.

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 Alfred Clutterbuck was marched in to 5th Training Battalion from Australia on 11th July, 1918. He was allotted to 20th Battalion Reinforcements on 11th July, 1918 whilst at 5th Training Battalion.

### 20th Battalion

The 20th Battalion was raised at Liverpool in New South Wales in March 1915 as part of the 5th Brigade.....

*(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)*

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was transferred to Reinforcements of 35th Battalion (9th Training Battalion, Fovant, Wiltshire) on 26th July, 1918. He was taken on strength of 35th Battalion from 20th Battalion Details ex 5th Training Battalion on 26th July, 1918 at No. 13 Camp.

Mrs M. A. House, Taylor Street, Armidale, NSW, wrote to Base Records on 30th August, 1918 enquiring about Private Alfred Clutterbuck "...he was to have sailed about three months ago, rumours have been circulated recently that he was removed from the boat at Melbourne very ill. I should like you to write & give me any information you can in respect of the above. I would also like his numbers and will you please let me know whom he has made his money payable to. I am his sister & should deem it a great favour if you will give the above your earliest consideration."

Base Records replied to Mrs House on 6th September, 1918 stating "... no official report of any description has been received concerning him. In the absence of same it can only be assumed he is with his Unit. Your brother's allottee is shown on the records here as, Mrs E. M. Beasley (sister), Petersham, NSW."

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was written up for an Offence on 10th September, 1918 while posted at 9th Training Battalion, Fovant – *“Conduct to the prejudice of good order & military discipline in that he failed to pick up empty shell cases when told to do so.”* He was awarded 10 days Field Punishment No. 2 by Major W. V. J. Blake & forfeited a total of 10 days’ pay.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was written up for an Offence on 11th September, 1918 while posted at 9th Training Battalion, Fovant – *“Conduct to the prejudice of good order & military discipline in that he said to Cpl Whip “One of these times you’ll have your stripes off & I’ll pull your head off your shoulders.”* He was awarded 19 days Field Punishment No. 2 by Major W. V. J. Blake & forfeited a total of 19 days’ pay.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was admitted to Group Hospital, Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 16th September, 1918 with Influenza. He was discharged on 24th September, 1918.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck proceeded overseas to France via Folkstone on 27th September, 1918 from No. 13 Camp at Fovant, Wiltshire. He was marched to A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) at Rouelles, France on 28th September, 1918 & marched out to the Front on 30th September, 1918. Private Clutterbuck was taken on strength of 35th Battalion in the Field on 1st October, 1918.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was admitted to 9th Australian Field Ambulance on 28th November, 1918 with Renal Calculus. He was transferred & admitted to 3rd Australian Stationary Hospital on 28th November, 1918 & discharged to duty on 30th December, 1918. Private Clutterbuck rejoined his Unit on 30th December, 1918.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was admitted to 3rd Australian General Hospital on 9th January, 1919. No disease was detected & he rejoined his Unit on 10th January, 1919.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was sent to D. A. P. M. (Deputy Assistant Provost Marshal) at Le Havre, France on 13th February, 1919.

Mrs K. Sweeney, Exchange Hotel, Parkes, NSW, wrote to Military Authorities in February, 1919 asking *“when 15000 Alfred Clutterbuck will be coming home or is there any word of him coming home yet as I am anxious about him.”* A reply was sent from Base Records on 26th February, 1919 stating *“...this branch is unable to inform you when No. 51000 Private A. Clutterbuck, 35th Battalion, will be returning to Australia. When such information is to hand it will be communicated to next-of-kin shown as father, and the soldier’s name will then be published in the New South Wales Press. It is noted you refer to Private Clutterbuck’s regimental number as “15000”, but it is recorded here as “51000.”*

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was marched in to A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) from A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) on 2nd March, 1919. He rejoined his Unit on 7th March, 1919.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was written up for an Offence while posted at Base Depot – (1) A.W.L. (Absent without Leave) on 6th March, 1919 to 21.00 on 7th March, 1919 (2) Out of bounds. He was awarded 14 days Field Punishment No. 2 & forfeited a total of 22 day’s pay by O.C. (Officer Commanding) A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot).

A B115 was declaring that Private Alfred Clutterbuck was an illegal absentee – this was cancelled on 7th March, 1919.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was written up for an Offence – A.W.L. (Absent without Leave) from 21.00 hrs on 24th March, 1919 to 16.00 hrs on 26th March, 1919. He was awarded 10 days Field Punishment No. 2 & forfeited a total of 12 day’s pay.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was marched out to UK for non military employment on 2nd April, 1919.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was transferred from A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) to 39th General Hospital & admitted with VD 20 on 14th April, 1919. He was transferred to Bulford on 18th April, 1919 & admitted to 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital at Bulford, Wiltshire, England on 19th April, 1919.

## 35th Battalion

The 35th Battalion was formed in December 1915 in Newcastle, New South Wales. The bulk of the battalion's recruits were drawn from the Newcastle region and thus it was dubbed "Newcastle's Own". Reflecting the demographics of the area, there were a high proportion of miners among the battalion's original members.

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Later in 1918, the 35th also played a role in the Allies' own offensive. It took part in the battle of Amiens on 8 August; fought several small battles during the rapid advance that followed; and at the end of September provided reserves for the joint Australian-American operation that breached the Hindenburg Line, thus sealing Germany's defeat. The 35th Battalion disbanded in March 1919.

*(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)*

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was marched in to Convalescent Training Depot at Parkhouse, Wiltshire on 27th May, 1919 from Bulford. Total VD period 44 days.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was marched out to Demobilisation Depot, London on 6th June, 1919.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was granted Leave from 6th June, 1919 to 31st October, 1919 with full military pay. "Reason: Axeman I.D. 3. Attending: Messrs S. Mear, Longton, Staffordshire". Private Alfred Clutterbuck was to attend a Course of Instruction as Axeman with Messrs Stephen Mear.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was admitted to Stoke on Trent Union Hospital, London Rd, Newcastle on 18th June, 1919 for an operation.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck died on evening of 6th July, 1919 at Stoke on Trent War Hospital, Staffordshire, England from Perforated Gastric Ulcer and Broncho Pneumonia. (Another entry on Casualty Form – Active Service recorded that Private Clutterbuck died at Union Infirmary, Newcastle, near Stoke on Trent. The Burial Report recorded he died at Spittal Workhouse Hospital, Newcastle, Staffs.)

A Telegram was sent from Stephen Mear on 7th July, 1919 to "DemobAust" London advising that "*Pte Clutterbuck 51000 died last night at Stoke War Hospital. Please telephone immediate instruction Stephen Mear Longton Staffs. Please Telegraph instructions direct.*"

Leave was cancelled on 6th July, 1919 as "*this man died at Stoke War Hospital.*"

A death for Alfred Clutterbuck, aged 24, was registered in the September quarter, 1919 in the district of Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire, England.

Mr F. M. Newton, Resident Medical Officer, Stoke-upon-Trent Union, Spittals Workhouse Hospital, Newcastle, Staffs, wrote to Base Records on 7th July, 1919 with the following: "*Private Alfred Clutterbuck Reg No. 51000 of the Australian Army, was admitted here with a Perforated Gastric Ulcer. An operation was performed by Mr Wheelton Hind, F.R.C.S. Later – Secondary Haemorrhage occurred which necessitated a further operation. Broncho-Pneumonia followed later. Yesterday the patient vomited & some gut was protruded. This was returned under anaesthetic. Last evening the patient died – Before death he expressed a wish to be taken to London. We are in possession of two finger rings belong to him.*"

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was buried on 10th July, 1919 in Hartshill Cemetery, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England – Section 39 Grave No. 15408. This is now recorded by CWGC as Grave Reference 15408 and he now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private Alfred Clutterbuck - *Coffin was Elm, brass fittings. 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 conveyed to the graveside, covered by beautiful flowers. The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside, and the burial service conducted by Chap. Jones, of Stoke-on-Trent. An oak cross will be erected by the A.I.F. Headquarters London, who were also represented at the funeral. Names of Relatives or Friends present at the Funeral – 8 Comrades of the A.I.F.*

Mrs K. Sweeney, 52 Douglas Street, Redfern, Sydney, NSW was advised by Base Records (in reply to a letter she had sent asking if her brother was dead) that her brother No. 51000 Private A. Clutterbuck had died on 6th July, 1919 at Lord Derby War Hospital, Warrington, England from perforated gastric ulcer and broncho pneumonia.

Mr R. Clutterbuck, father of the late Private Alfred Clutterbuck, was advised by letter from Base Records on 22nd September, 1919 that his son had died at Union Infirmary, Newcastle, near Stoke on Trent, England, along with details of the funeral.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck requested in his Will, dated 6th May, 1918, that in the event of his death he bequeathed the whole of his Estate (both real and personal) to his sister – Ellamary Mary Beasley, of 15 Chrystal St., Petersham, Sydney, NSW. His sister was appointed as Executor of the Will.

Mrs E. M. Beasley signed for receipt of a parcel on 4th December, 1919 - the personal effects of her late brother - Private Alfred Clutterbuck. The parcel contained "*Badges, 2 Rings (gold), Papers, Letters*".

Base Records wrote to "Civil Member" on 9th April, 1920: "*With reference to the two gold rings included in the personal belongings of the abovenamed late soldier, I have to advise that same have been returned to this office by Mrs F. M. Beasley, legatee under the late soldier's Will, and transmitted, this day, to Miss M. Clarke, 4 Railway Terrace, East Vale, Longton, Staffordshire, England & Miss B. Swetnam, 4 St. Anne Street, Stoke-on-Trent, England, respectively.*"

Mrs Beasley wrote to Base Records on 6th April, 1920 with the following "*I am sending the two gold rings which you have sent for which came through to me re No. 51000 Pte A. Clutterbuck 35th Battalion which I hope you will received safely.*"

Base Records replied to Mrs Beasley on 9th April, 1920 acknowledging receipt of her communication & also the two gold rings which had been forwarded to Miss B. Swetnam and Miss M. Clarke, respectively.

Base Records wrote to Miss M. Clarke, 4 Railway Terrace, East Vale, Longton, Staffordshire, England on 9th April, 1920 "*I have, this day, despatched to you per registered post a package containing a gold ring, claimed by you as your property, which has been returned to this office by the legatee under the Will of the late No. 51000 Private A. Clutterbuck, 35th Battalion, amongst whose personal effects the ring was sent to Australia. I shall be much obliged if you will kindly let me know whether the package comes safely to hand by signing and returning the enclosed receipt form.*"

Millicent Clarke signed, as receipt, for 1 package containing 1 gold ring, on 2nd June, 1920.

Base Records wrote to Miss B. Swetnam, 4 St. Anne Street, Stoke-on-Trent, England on 9th April, 1920 "*I have, this day, despatched to you per registered post a package containing a gold ring, claimed by you as your property, which has been returned to this office by the legatee under the Will of the late No. 51000 Private A. Clutterbuck, 35th Battalion, amongst whose personal effects the ring was sent to Australia. I shall be much obliged if you will kindly let me know whether the package comes safely to hand by signing and returning the enclosed printed receipt slip.*"

Beatrice Swetnam signed, as receipt, for 1 package containing 1 gold ring, on 4th June, 1920.

Private Alfred Clutterbuck was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Clutterbuck's father – Mr R. Clutterbuck, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque sent July, 1921).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Alfred Clutterbuck – service number 51000, aged 25, of 35th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Richard and Catherine Clutterbuck, of Armidale, New South Wales, Australia.

A. Clutterbuck is remembered on Armidale War Memorial Library - Roll of Honour, located in the foyer of the Library, 2/182 Rusden Street, Armidale, NSW.



Armidale War Memorial Library - Roll of Honour (Photos from War Memorials Register, NSW)





Private A. Clutterbuck is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 125.



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

(71 pages of Private Alfred Clutterbuck'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*



### **Connected to Private Alfred Clutterbuck:**

Older brother Charles Clutterbuck – Enlisted 3rd February, 1915 as a 21 year old, single, Labourer. Embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Seang Choon* on 11th February, 1915 as Private 1666 with 3rd Infantry Battalion, 3rd Reinforcements.

Awarded Military Medal (London Gazette – 16 November, 1916)

Awarded Distinguished Conduct Medal (London Gazette – 16 August, 1917)

Wounded in Action on 11th August, 1918.

Returned to Australia on 17th March, 1919.

Entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & Victory Medal.

Charles Clutterbuck died at Armidale, NSW on 19th April, 1966, aged 71.



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **Personal**

Pte. A. Clutterbuck, who has been on final leave for some few days, speaks in the highest terms of the treatment at the Liverpool camp, and states everything was what one could wish. He is a brother of Charles Clutterbuck, M.M., D.C.M., who is at present at the front, and a son of Mr. Richard Clutterbuck, of Armidale. He has also a cousin, Trooper W. J. Clutterbuck, on active service, son of Mr. J. Clutterbuck, of Armidale.

*(The Armidale and New England General Advertiser, NSW – 28 December, 1917)*

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### **SOLDIERS OF THE NORTH**

#### **At Home and Abroad**

News was received by cable on Saturday that Corporal Alfred Clutterbuck, son of Mr. Richard Clutterbuck, of Armidale, had died in hospital in England, from some cause so far unknown. The young soldier, who had seen 18 months' active service, and who had been wounded in France, was the third soldier son of Mr. Clutterbuck. His brother, who later returned home, was Sergeant Charles Clutterbuck, D.C.M., M.M., one of the most distinguished soldiers in the district.

*(Daily Observer, Tamworth, NSW – 15 July, 1919)*

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### **CASUALTY LIST**

#### **NEW SOUTH WALES**

##### **DIED**

Pte ALFRED CLUTTERBUCK, Armidale (Illness)

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 30 July, 1919)*

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### **Personal**

The 469th casualty list contains the name of Pte A. Clutterbuck, of Armidale, who died of illness.

*(Daily Observer, Tamworth, NSW – 30 July, 1919) & (The Armidale and New England General Advertiser, NSW – 1 August, 1919)*

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## ROLL OF HONOR

CLUTTERBUCK – In fond and loving memory of our dear son and our brother, Private A. Clutterbuck, 35th Battalion, who died of illness at Spittals Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England, on 6th July.

Gone is the boy we loved so dear,  
Silent his voice we loved to hear;  
Too far away for sight or speech,  
But not too far for our thoughts to reach;  
No matter how we call,  
There is nothing left to answer  
But your photo on the wall.

(Inserted by his loving father, sisters, and brothers)

*(The Armidale Chronicle, NSW 17 July, 1920)*

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## ROLL OF HONOR

CLUTTERBUCK – In sad, but loving memory of my dear brother, Alfred Ernest, who departed this life July 6th, 1919, on Active Service –

Two years have passed, dear brother,  
Since you were laid to rest;  
And those who think of you to-day,  
Are those you loved you best.

(Inserted by his loving brother, Richard Clutterbuck, jnr)

*(The Armidale Chronicle, NSW 6 July, 1921)*

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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 A. Clutterbuck does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*Gone But Not Forgotten*

## Hartshill Cemetery, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England

Hartshill Cemetery, Stoke-on-Trent contains 151 Commonwealth War Graves Commission War Graves – 91 from World War 1 & 60 from World War 2. There are 8 Australian WW1 Graves in this Cemetery.



### 8 Australian War Graves in Hartshill Cemetery, Stoke-on-Trent

*(Photo above by ken perkins 2017 – Find a Grave; below by Callan Chevin)*





Photo of Private A. Clutterbuck's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Hartshill Cemetery, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England.



*(Photo by Alf -28<sup>th</sup>61st)*