Brookwood Military Cemetery, Brookwood, Surrey, England

War Graves

Lest We Forget

World War 1

3783   PRIVATE

E. E. COGGER

23RD BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

22ND JULY, 1916

He Rests In Peace

His Duty Done

Emile Ernest COGGER

Emile Ernest Cogger was born at Upper Macedon, Victoria on 11th October, 1895 to parents Thomas & Evelyn Sophia Cogger (nee Cavalier).

Emile Ernest Cogger attended Green Hill State School & Kyneton High School.

Emile Ernest Cogger was a 20 year old, single, School Teacher from Green Hills, via Kyneton, Victoria when he enlisted in Melbourne, Victoria on 7th August, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 3783 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Thomas Cogger, of Green Hills, via Kyneton, Victoria. Emile Cogger stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served with Citizen Forces for 1 month.

As Emile Cogger 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. A letter was written on 10th August, 1915 to Recruiting Officer, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne which reads: "*Dear Sir, Our son E. E. Cogger has our permission to enlist for active services, your faithfully (signed) Thos. Cogger & Evelyn S. Cogger.*"

Private Emile Ernest Cogger was posted to 22nd Depot Battalion on 1st September, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to 9th Reinforcements of 23rd Battalion on 23rd December, 1915.

Private Emile Ernest Cogger embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Warilda (A69)* on 8th February, 1916 with the 6th Infantry Brigade, 23rd Infantry Battalion, 9th Reinforcements.

Private Emile Ernest Cogger embarked for Overseas per H. T. *Orana* from Alexandria on 21st March, 1916. He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 27th March, 1916.

Private Emile Ernest Cogger was admitted to 20th General Hospital at Camiers on 31st March, 1916 with Scabies from Australian Divisional Base Depot at Etaples. He was discharged to duty on 7th April, 1916 & rejoined 2nd Australian Divisional Base Depot on the same day. Private Cogger proceeded from 2nd Australian Divisional Base Depot on 15th June, 1916 & was taken on strength of 23rd Battalion in France the same day.

Private Emile Ernest Cogger reported sick on 8th July, 1916 & was admitted to 7th Field Ambulance on 9th July, 1916 with Septic Hand & Debility. He was transferred to No. 12 Casualty Clearing Station on 9th July, 1916 with "I C T Hand & Debility". Private Cogger was transferred to No. 1 Ambulance Train on 11th July, 1916 & was admitted to No. 3 Canadian Hospital at Boulogne, France on the same day with Tonsilitis. He was transferred to England on Hospital Ship *Cambria* on 13th July, 1916.

23rd Battalion

The 23rd Battalion was raised in Victoria in March 1915 as the third battalion of the 6th Brigade. After initial training, it left Australia in March and arrived in Egypt, where it would complete its advanced training, in June……

The battalion was next "in the line" on 10 April 1916, when it occupied forward trenches of the Armentieres sector in northern France. This relatively gentle introduction to the Western Front was followed in July by the horrific battles of Pozieres and Mouquet Farm, after which it was estimated that the Battalion lost almost 90 per cent of its original members.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Emile Ernest Cogger was admitted to Frensham Hill Military Hospital, England on 13th July, 1916. He was transferred to Connaught Hospital at Aldershot, Hampshire on 18th July, 1916.

Private Emile Ernest Cogger died "suddenly" at 8.30 am on 22nd July, 1916 at Connaught Hospital, Aldershot, Hampshire, England from Septic Tonsilitis. The Hospital Admissions form recorded "*Admitted with Tonsillitis, became suddenly ill with heart failure and died in a few hours. At autopsy nil alummal (?) other than granular degeneration of heart muscle found and death was evidently due to toxic myocarditis.*"

A death for Edward E. Cogger, aged 20, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of Hartley Wintney, Hampshire, England.

Private Emile Ernest Cogger was buried on 26th July, 1916 in Church of England Ground in Aldershot Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England – Grave No. 2004. His name was listed as Edward Ernest Cogger on the Burial Register.

Base Records wrote to Mr T. Cogger, Green Hill, via Kyneton, Victoria, on 19th April, 1920 with the following: "*With reference to my communication of the 5th March, 1917, regarding the regrettable loss of your son the late No. 3783 Private E. E. Cogger, 23rd Battalion, I am now in receipt of further advice which shows that his remains have been exhumed from grave No. 2004 Aldershot Cemetery, and re-interred in grave No. 320, Australian Section F, Brookwood Cemetery, Brookwood, England, This work is carried out with every measure of care and reverence in the presence of a Chaplain.*"

Private Emile Ernest Cogger's body was removed from Aldershot & re-interred in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England on 30th June, 1919.

Base Records wrote to Mr T. Cogger, Green Hill, via Kyneton, Victoria, on 23rd March, 1923 stating that the site the late No. 3783, Private E. E. Cogger's grave in Brookwood Military Cemetery had been officially registered as Plot 4 Row I Grave 1.

This is now recorded by CWGC as Memorial reference - IV. I. 1. Private E. E. Cogger now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Thomas Cogger, Green Hill, wrote to Base Records on 24th November, 1916 with the following: "*I wish you could give me particulars about my son No. 3783 Pte E E Cogger 9 Rfts 23rd Batt 6 Inf Brigade. He died in Connaught Hospital Aldershot England July 22nd 1916 cause not stated. I received a letter from him since date July 1st written in trenches in France. Also would like to get his personal effects returned. And would also like to know when his deferred pay will be remitted.*"

Base Records replied to Mr T. Cogger on 3rd December, 1916 stating "*With reference to your communication of the 24th ultimo, concerning the regrettable loss of your son, No. 3783 Private E. E. Cogger, 23rd Battalion, you will now have received, through the Military Commandant, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne, the news which has just come to hand that he died of septic tonsilitis. No personal effects have yet been received, but it is understood several shipments are now en route to Australia. Needless to say, anything coming to hand will be expeditiously dealt with. The Military Paymaster, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne, will communicate with you concerning the question of deceased's military financial affairs as soon as he is in a position to do so. Any further enquiries on this subject should be made to that officer direct to avoid unnecessary delay.*"

Private Emile Ernest Cogger was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Cogger's father – Mr T. Cogger, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent November, 1921 & Plaque sent May, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Emile Ernest Cogger – service number 3783, of 23rd Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Thomas & Evelyn Cogger, of Spring Hill, Victoria, Australia.

Private E. E. Cogger is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 98.

Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

E. Cogger is remembered on the Kyneton High School Honour Roll, located in Kyneton Secondary College, 11 Epping Street, Kyneton, Victoria.

Kyneton High School Honour Roll *(Photo from Monument Australia)*

E. Cogger is remembered on the Kyneton Honour Roll, located in Kyneton Town Hall, 129 Mollison Street, Kyneton, Victoria.

Kyneton Honour Roll *(Photos from Monument Australia – Chris McLaughlin)*

E. Cogger is remembered on the Kyneton War Memorial, located on Mollison Street, Kyneton, Victoria.

Kyneton War Memorial *(Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Henry Moulds)*

J.ALEXANDER	T.H.BLAIR	F.BROWN	W.J.CONNELLY	C.DICKENS
W.ARBLASTER	F.BLISS	G.BROWN	R.COOK	C.DINSDALE
D.J.ARMSTRONG	H.F.BODGER	A.BRUN	T.C.COOK	W.DOBELL
A.BAILEY	J.S.BODILLY	A.S.BURTON	E.J.CORBY	A.F.DOBINSON
F.BAILEY	R.BOWLES	L.BYRNE	M.J.CORBY	A.DON
W.H.BANCO	R.L.BOXSHALL	S.BYRNE	H.H.CORNEY	M.DONOVAN
A.S.BECK	M.BREHENEY	J.CANTWELL	J.H.CROFT	M.DORAN
S.J.BENNIE	P.BREHENEY	E.CATANI	C.L.DALE	J.A.DOUGLAS
SISTER.BICKNELL	C.BRERETON	H.H.CHAMBERS	J.G.DANIEL	E.J.DRYDEN
H.BERO	G.E.BRISTER	J.J.COADE	G.DARCY	W.J.DUNCAN
F.C.L.BIRKIN	I.C.BROMILOW	R.COCKS	W.H.DAWKINS	G.DUNLOP
R.J.L.BIRKIN	W.L.BROTHERTON	E.COGGER	R.DE.GROOT	J.H.DUNN
J.H.BIRRELL	C.BROWN	F.COMAN	C.DIAMOND	H.J.EASTHAM

E. Cogger is remembered on the Kyneton RSL Honour Roll, located in Kyneton RSL, 37 – 39 Mollison Street, Kyneton, Victoria.
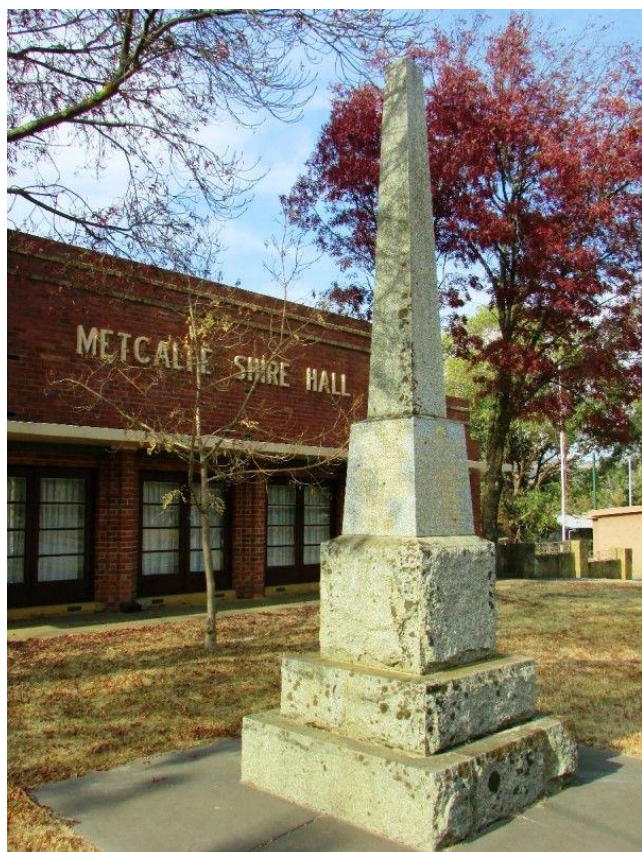

Kyneton RSL Honour Roll *(Photo from Monument Australia – Sandra Brown)*

According to Heritage Council Victoria – E. E. Coggan is remembered on the Edgecombe State School Honour Roll (First World War) – located at 37 – 39 Mollison Street (Kyneton RSL), Kyneton, Victoria.

Private E. E. Cogger is remembered on the Metcalfe War Memorial, located at Metcalfe Shire Hall, 5 Kyneton-Metcalfe Road, Metcalfe, Victoria.

Metcalfe War Memorial *(Photos from Monument Australia)*

(52 pages of Private Emile Ernest Cogger'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
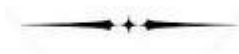
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL   P05248.028

Private Emile Ernest Cogger

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Newspaper Notices

DIED ON SERVICE

COGGER – On 22nd July, 1916, at Connaught Hospital, Aldershot, Private Emil E., dearly loved second son of Thomas and Evelyn Cogger, of Green Hill aged 20 years and 9 months.

        God bless our splendid men.

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 29 July, 1916) & (*The Australasian*, Melbourne, Victoria – 5 August, 1916)

AUSTRALIANS IN WAR

190th CASUALTY LIST

DIED – CAUSE NOT STATED

Pte E. E. COGGER, Kyneton

(*Hamilton Spectator*, Victoria – 5 August, 1916)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

COGGER – In sad and loving memory of Pte Emile Ernest, dearly loved second son of Thomas and Evelyn Cogger, Green Hill, died in England, July 22, 1916.

                Peace, perfect peace.

(Inserted by Emmie)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 23 July, 1917)

GREEN HILL HONOR ROLL

The handsome Honor Roll in the Greenhill State School attracts much attention from visitors to the school. The following names are on the roll…

State School, No. 277, Edgecombe (Greenhill)
…
Sgt C. R. Cogger
……
Cpl E. E. Cogger
….

(*Kyneton Guardian*, Victoria – 23 May, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

COGGER – In loving memory of Emile E. Cogger, who gave his life for his country July 22, 1916, aged 20 years 9 months.

    No loved ones stood around him
        To bid a fond farewell;
    No word of comfort could we give
        To him we loved so well.

    Not gone from memory, not gone from love,
    But gone to our Father's home above;
    Rest in the Saviour, sweetly rest,
    They miss you most who loved you best.

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> "To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die."

Also his school friend, Alex. Douglas, killed 19th July, 1916.

> "Never the lotus closes, never the wildfowl wake,
> But a soul goes out on the cast wind that died for Britain's sake."

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 25 July, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

COGGER – In loving memory of my dear brother, Emile, who died of wounds on 22nd July, 1916.

> Greater love hath no man than this,
> That he lay down his life for his friends.

-(Marjorie)

COGGER – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, who died of wounds 22nd July, 1916.

> Our boy.

-(Inserted by his parents, brothers, and sisters)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 23 July, 1921)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

COGGER – In loving memory of my dear brother, Emile E. Cogger, who died of wounds at Aldershot, England on 22nd July, 1916.

Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand,

And the sound of a voice that is still.

-(Inserted by his loving sister, Marjorie)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 21 July, 1923)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

COGGER – In ever loving memory of my our dear brother, Emile Ernest Cogger, who was wounded at Fleurbaix and died at Aldershot 22nd July, 1916, aged 20 years.

But oh !, for the touch of a vanished hand,

And the sound of a voice that is still.

-(Inserted by his loving sisters)

COGGER – In proud and loving memory of our dear son, Emile, E. Cogger, who died of wounds July 22, 1916, aged 20 years.

> Greater love hath no man than this,
>
> That he lay down his life for his friends.

(Inserted by his mother and father)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 23 July, 1924)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

COGGER – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Emile, E., who died of wounds 22nd July, 1916, aged 20 years 9 months.

> All he sought for, all he had he gave,
>
> To his country – himself he scorned to save.

-(Inserted by his sorrowing family)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 23 July, 1925)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

COGGER – In loving memory of my brother, Emile, who died of wounds on the 22nd July, 1916. (Inserted by his sister, Sybil)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 21 July, 1928)

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 E. E. Cogger does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

He Rests In Peace

His Duty Done

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Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England

Located 30 miles from London in Surrey, Brookwood Military Cemetery is the largest CWGC cemetery in the United Kingdom. The cemetery contains the graves of more than 1,600 servicemen of the British Empire in the First World War and over 3,470 from the Second World War.

Brookwood Military Cemetery lies adjacent to Brookwood Cemetery (The London Necropolis), a vast space which covers 500 acres. In 1917, an area to the north of the cemetery was set aside as Brookwood Military Cemetery for men and women of Commonwealth forces who died, many of battle wounds, in the London district. This site was further extended to accommodate Commonwealth casualties of the Second World War. *(Information from CWGC)*

There are 446 Australian War Graves in Brookwood Military Cemetery – 351 from World War 1 & 95 from World War 2.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL   D00185

A large crowd attends an A.I.F. military funeral at Brookwood Cemetery. In the foreground wooden crosses mark rows of graves. (Photo c1919)

Identified: Front row, left to right: Second Lieutenant Douglas Abbott Ferguson, Australian Flying Corps, died of accidental injuries 18 August 1918; Lieutenant (Lt) Francis John Smedley MC, 7th Battalion, died of wounds 20 August 1918.

Second row: 6860 Private (Pte) James Alexander McKeown, 21st Battalion, died of wounds 20 June 1918; 3622 Pte S T Wilson, 2nd Australian Pioneers, died of wounds 4 July 1918; 2390 Sergeant Frederick Charles Stronell, 21st Battalion, died of wounds 9 July 1918; Lt Arthur Melville Lilburne MC, 6th Brigade Australian Field Artillery, died of disease 11 July 1918.

Brookwood Military Cemetery *(Photo from CWGC)*

Brookwood Military Cemetery *(Photos by Magicfingers)*

Australian Graves in Brookwood Military Cemetery *(Photos by Magicfingers)*

(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher)

Australian War Graves *(Photo courtesy of Neil Bright 2020)*

Photo of Private E. E. Cogger's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England.

(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher)

(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher – Jan 2021)