

**Mount Jerome Cemetery,
Harold's Cross,
Dublin, Republic of Ireland
War Grave**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



6864 PRIVATE

P. D. DAVIS

12TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

2ND MAY, 1917 Age 19

Philip Douglas DAVIS

Philip Douglas Davis was born on 3rd July, 1897 at Sandy Bay, Tasmania to parents Arthur Henry Douglas Davis and Edith Ethel Davis (nee Canaway).

Philip Douglas Davis attended School at Launceston Church Grammar School, Tasmania.

According to information supplied for the Roll of Honour by his father, Philip Douglas Davis held the rank of Lieutenant in Tasmania's Citizens Force.

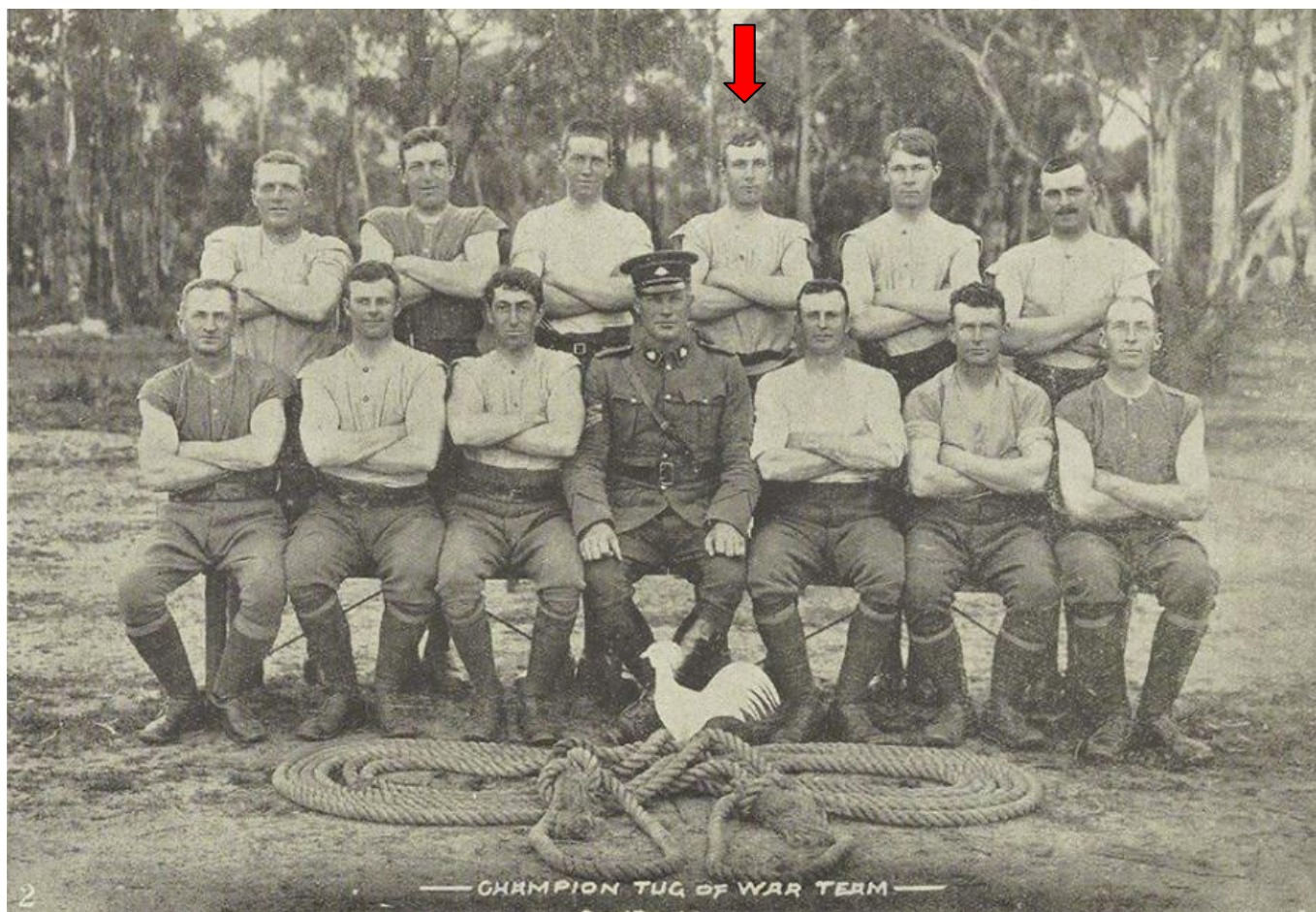
Newspaper Article – Examiner, Launceston, Tasmania – 23 June, 1916:

The Citizen Forces

Sergeant Philip Douglas Davis has been appointed a lieutenant (Provisionally) in the 91st Infantry (Tasmanian Rangers).

Philip Douglas Davis was a 19 year old, single, Clerk from Westbury, Tasmania when he enlisted at Claremont, Tasmania on 2nd August, 1916 with the 12th Infantry Battalion, 22nd Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 6864 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr A. Davis, of Franklin, Tasmania. As Philip Davis was under the age of 21 years, both parents needed to sign their consent for their son to enlist in the Australian Imperial Force for service abroad. A. H. Davis & E. E. Davis signed their consent at Franklin, Tasmania on 28th July, 1916.

Private Philip Douglas Davis was posted to 1st Depot Battalion at Claremont, Tasmania on 2nd August, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 22nd Reinforcements of 12th Battalion as Acting Sergeant on 16th October, 1916.



Championship Tug of War - Claremont Camp 1916

*Back Row: (left to right) C.S. Dalco, J.B. Sansom, L.M. Stevenson, **P.D. Davis**, J.W. Tribolet, C.H. Keen*

Front Row: E. B. Adams, F.W. Millar, C. Maddock, Staff S/ Major E. Anthony, E. A. Haigh, G. E. Carlile, F. A. Hazell



Private Philip Douglas Davis

Acting Sergeant (Embarkation Roll has the rank as Private) Philip Douglas Davis embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Ulysses* (A38) on 25th October, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, 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 Sergeant Philip Douglas Davis was marched in to 3rd Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire, England from Australia on 29th December, 1916. His rank reverted to that of Private on 29th December, 1916 but was then appointed as E.D.P. (Extra Duty Pay) Acting Corporal the same day.

Acting Corporal Philip Douglas Davis was sent to Parkhouse Hospital, Wiltshire from 3rd Training Battalion on 11th February, 1917 with Mumps. He was discharged to duty & was marched in to 3rd Training Battalion on 2nd March, 1917.

Acting Corporal Philip Douglas Davis was sent sick to Fargo Hospital, Wiltshire on 15th March, 1917. He was admitted with Scabies & his rank reverted to that of Private on 15th March, 1917. Private Philip Douglas Davis was discharged to duty on 5th April, 1917 & marched in to 3rd Training Battalion the same day.

Private Philip Douglas Davis was sent sick to Fargo Hospital on 24th April, 1917 with Influenza & was admitted seriously ill with Pneumonia on 26th April, 1917.

Private Philip Douglas Davis died at 4.55 am on 2nd May, 1917 at Military Hospital, Fargo, Wiltshire, England from Double Lobar Pneumonia.

A death for Phillip D. Davis, aged 19, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire, England.

Private Philip Douglas Davis's body was sent to his cousin Sir Lionel Carty for burial in the family plot in Mount Jerome Cemetery, Dublin. He was buried on 7th May, 1917 in Mount Jerome Cemetery, County Dublin, Ireland – Plot number 290. A8. and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

A War Pension was claimed by Arthur Henry Douglas Davis, father of the late Private Philip Douglas Davis, but the claim was rejected on the grounds he was not a dependant.

Private Philip Douglas Davis 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 Pte Davis' father - Mr A. Davis, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent December, 1921 & Plaque sent March, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Philip Douglas Davis – service number 6864, aged 19, of 12th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Arthur Henry Douglas and Edith Ethel Davis, of Penguin, Tasmania. Born at Westbury, Tasmania.

Private P. D. Davis is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 65.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

P. D. Davis is remembered on the Launceston Church Grammar School Roll of Honour, located in Launceston Church Grammar School Chapel, 36 Button Street, Mowbray, Tasmania.



Launceston Church Grammar School Roll of Honour (Photo from Monument Australia – Arthur Garland)

P. D. Davis is remembered on the Municipality of Westbury Roll of Honour which is located in RSL Club, 7 Lonsdale Promenade, Westbury, Tasmania.



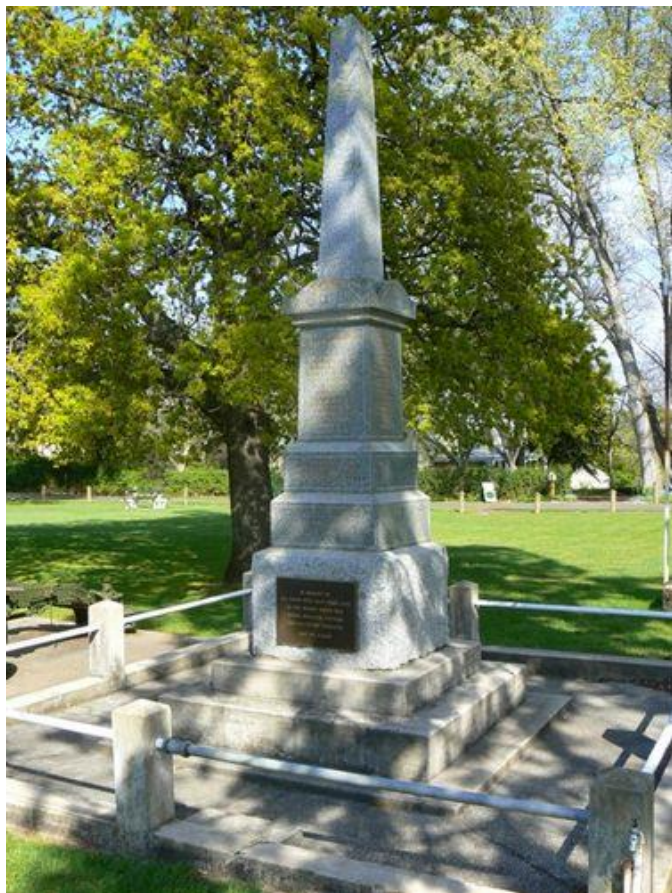
Westbury Roll of Honour (Photo from Monument Australia – John Huth)

Douglas Davis is remembered on the St. Andrew's Church Roll of Honour, located in St. Andrew's Anglican Church, 11 Lonsdale Promenade, Westbury, Tasmania.



St. Andrew's Church Roll of Honour (Photo from Monument Australia – Arthur Garland)

P. D. Davis is remembered on the Westbury War Memorial, located on the Village Green, Lonsdale Promenade, Westbury, Tasmania.



Westbury War Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson)



(53 pages of Pte Philip Douglas Davis' 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

ROLL OF HONOUR

DAVIS – On May 2, at Fargo Military Hospital, Philip Douglas, eldest son of Arthur H. Davis, Commercial Bank, Franklin, aged 19 years.

(The Mercury, Hobart, Tasmania – 9 May, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

298th AUSTRALIAN CASUALTY LIST

TASMANIAN CASUALTIES

DIED OF ILLNESS

Private P. D. Davis, Franklin, May 2

(Zeehan and Dundas Herald, Tasmania – 19 May, 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)

A letter from Base Records, dated 7th July, 1921, to Mr A. Davis advised that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of his son, the late Pte P. D. Davis, had not been answered & non-receipt of a reply within 21 days would have to be accepted as indicating that no further action was to be taken.

Mr A. H. Davis advised that his son was attended by his cousin, Dr F. L. Flood, who had his son's body buried in the family plot in Mt Jerome Cemetery, Dublin & he wished for the form to be forwarded to Dr Flood in case he had made any arrangements. Mr Davis was advised by Base Records in December, 1921 that the form sent to Dr Flood was returned from the Post Office with the information that the gentleman was deceased. Under the circumstances Base Records asked Mr Davis to complete the form attached & return it at the earliest possible date.

Private P. D. Davis does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Mount Jerome Cemetery, County Dublin, Ireland

Mount Jerome Cemetery is near the Grand Canal, facing Harold's Cross Park. It belonged to the General Cemetery company of Dublin from 1835 until 1984 and has now been taken over by a private company; it covers about 20 hectares.

There are 37 Commonwealth burials relating to World War 1 and 39 from World War 2 commemorated here.



Photo of Private P. D. Davis's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Mount Jerome Cemetery, Harold's Cross, County Dublin, Ireland.



(Photos courtesy of John O'Grady)



Private P. D. Davis's CWGC Headstone

