

**Netley Military Cemetery,
Hampshire, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



4165 PRIVATE

F. B. DOYLE

6TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

16TH DECEMBER, 1916 Age 19

*Great Love Hath No Man
That He Lay Down His Life
For His Friends*

Frank Bertram DOYLE

Francis Bertram Doyle was born at Elaine, Victoria on 11th January, 1896 to parents John William and Georgina Margaret Doyle (nee Kirk).

Frank Bertram Doyle attended Pakenham Upper School, Victoria.

Frank Bertram Doyle was a 19 year old, single, Packer from 118 Asling Street, Garden Vale, Victoria when he enlisted on 15th July, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 4165 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr John Doyle, of Nar-Nar-Goon, Victoria. Frank Doyle stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously been rejected from His Majesty's Service due to his teeth. He also stated he had served with Infantry 46 for 4 months. As Frank Doyle was under the age of 21, his parents needed to sign their consent for their son to enlist in the Australian Imperial Force for active service abroad. Georgina M. Doyle, mother of Frank Bertram Doyle, signed her consent on 24th June, 1915.

Private Frank Bertram Doyle was posted to "A" Company of 10th Battalion at Ascot Vale on 3rd November, 1915 then transferred to 13th Reinforcements of 6th Battalion on 26th November, 1915.

Private Frank Bertram Doyle embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Demosthenes (A64)* on 29th December, 1915 with the 13th Reinforcements of 6th Battalion.

Private Frank Bertram Doyle joined his Unit at Serapeum from Reinforcements on 17th March, 1916.

Private Frank Bertram Doyle proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) from Alexandria on Troopship *Briton* on 25th March, 1916 & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 30th March, 1916.

Private Frank Bertram Doyle was admitted to No. 3 Australian Field Ambulance on 13th July, 1916 with a blistered toe & then transferred to Casualty Clearing Station on 14th July, 1916.

Private Frank Bertram Doyle was wounded in action in France on 12th November, 1916. He was admitted to 1st Anzac M.D. Station on 13th November, 1916 with gunshot wounds to thigh then transferred to No. 36 Casualty Clearing Station. Pte Doyle was transferred to No. 1 Ambulance Train on 14th November, 1916 & admitted to No. 3 Stationary Hospital at Rouen on 14th November, 1916 with gunshot wounds to thigh.

Private Frank Bertram Doyle's condition was reported as dangerous on 17th & 19th November, 1916 with gunshot wounds to right thigh & compound fracture.

Private Frank Bertram Doyle was invalided to England from Rouen on 24th November, 1916 on Hospital Ship *Western Australia*.

6th Battalion

The 6th Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. Like the 5th, 7th and 8th Battalions, it was recruited from Victoria and, together with these battalions, formed the 2nd Brigade.

In March 1916, it sailed for France and the Western Front. From then until 1918 the battalion was heavily involved in operations against the German Army. The battalion's first major action in France was at Pozieres in the Somme valley in July 1916. After Pozieres the battalion fought near Ypres, in Flanders, returning to the Somme for winter.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 6th Battalion

Guedecourt – 12th November, 1916:

Battalion relieved by 12th Brigade, 4th Aust. Div. at night & moved back to BERNAFAY CAMP.

Apart from the combing attack mentioned above our casualties were light, but unfortunately we lost two company commanders seriously wounded:- Capt O. J. Thompson sniped through chest near HILT TR and Capt P. D. Moncur M.C. shell wounds in head & arm while being relieved from GREASE TR.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Frank Bertram Doyle was admitted to the Southampton War Hospital, Hampshire, England on 25th November, 1916 with guns shot wounds to thigh – amputated & in a severe condition.

Private Frank Bertram Doyle was listed as dangerously & seriously ill at University Hospital, Southampton, England (no date recorded).



University War Hospital, Southampton

Private Frank Bertram Doyle died at 4.45 am on 16th December, 1916 at University War Hospital, Southampton, England from wounds received in action in France – gunshot wounds to right thigh & compound fracture.

A death for Frank B. Doyle, aged 21, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Southampton, Hampshire, England.

Private Frank Bertram Doyle was buried at 2.30 pm on 18th December, 1916 in Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England – Plot number C.E. 1882 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

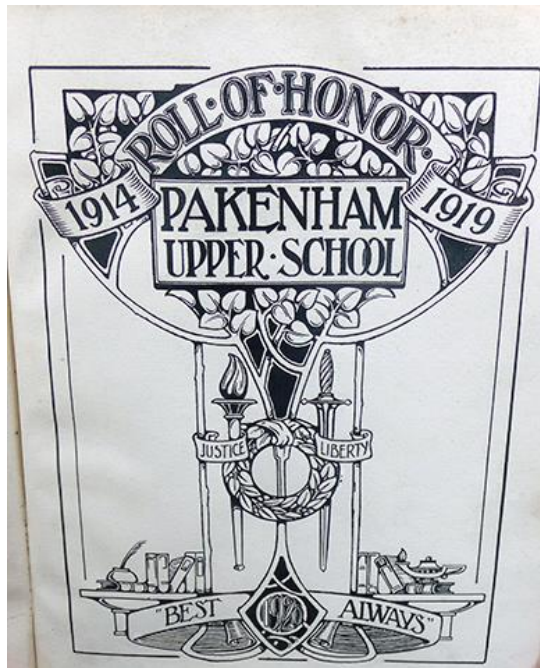
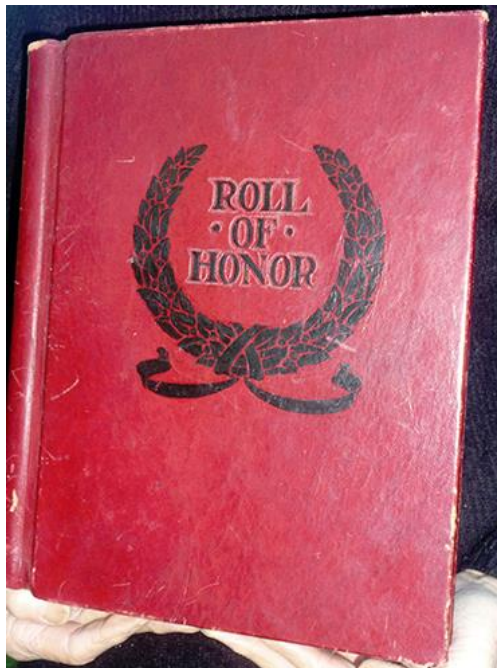
The personal effects of the late Private Frank Bertram Doyle from the University War Hospital, Southampton, England were sent to his father – Mr John Doyle of Nar Nar Goon, Victoria.

Private Frank Bertram Doyle was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. Mr John Doyle, father of the late Private Frank Bertram Doyle, stated in a letter to Base Records in March, 1922 that he had no objection to the Medals etc being handed over to his mother & waived any claim in her favour. The front page of Pte Doyle's Attestation Papers is marked with "*Father away from home for 10 years.*" & "*War Medals etc to Mother*". A Memorial

Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Doyle's mother – Mrs G. M. Doyle, as approved by his father , who was listed as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque sent June, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Frank Bertram Doyle – service number 4165, aged 19, of 6th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of John and Georgina Doyle, of 118 Asling St., Garden Vale, Victoria, Australia.

Francis Bertram Doyle is remembered in the Pakenham Upper School Roll of Honour Book.



Pakenham Upper School Roll of Honour Book (Photos from Casey Cardinia Remembers)

FRANCIS BERTRAM DOYLE

Son of John & Georgina Doyle.
Born at Elaine on January 11th 1896.
Leaving his employment, he joined the army
on July 14th 1915. Saw his first military service at
Broadmeadows & the Show Grounds. He was
then joined up with the 6th Batt. and sailed
from Port Melbourne on the Demosthenes on
Dec. 23rd 1915. Saw the severe fighting around
Pozières, and was in the advance on the
Somme 1916. Receiving a gunshot wound, he
was removed to England, and entered the
Lilly Hospital, Southampton. After
an operation he passed away on Dec. 16th 1916
and was buried in the grounds, close by the
hospital.

Transcript of Pakenham Upper School Roll of Honour Book page for Francis Bertram Doyle:

FRANCIS BERTRAM DOYLE

Son of John & Georgina Doyle.

Born at Elaine on January 11th 1896.

Leaving his employment, he joined the army on July 14th 1915. Saw his first military service at Broadmeadows @ the Show Grounds. He was then joined up with the 6th Batt. and sailed from Port Melbourne on the Demostheses on Dec. 29th 1915. Saw the severe fighting around Pozieres, and was in the advance on the Somme 1916. Receiving a gunshot wound, he was removed to England, and entered the Nelley Hospital, South Hampton. After an operation he passed away on Dec. 16th 1916 & was buried in the grounds, close by the hospital.

F. Doyle is remembered on the Pakenham Upper Honour Board, located in Pakenham Upper Hall, corner Bourke's Creek Road & Old Gembrook Road, Pakenham Upper, Victoria.



Pakenham Upper Honour Board

Private F. B. Doyle is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 46.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(35 pages of Private Frank Bertram Doyle'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



Private Frank Bertram Doyle

Newspaper Notices

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

WOUNDED

Pte F. B. Doyle, Nar-Nar-Goon

(Gippsland Mercury, Sale, Victoria – 12 December, 1916)

PERSONAL

Mrs Doyle, 118 Asling street, Gardenvale, has been notified that her youngest son, Private F. B. Doyle (who is badly wounded), is out of danger.

(The Prahran Telegraph, Victoria – 30 December, 1916)

DIED ON SERVICE

DOYLE – Died of wounds, 16th December, at University War Hospital, England, Private Frank B. Doyle, 6th Battalion, of 118 Asling street, Gardenvale, aged 20 years and 11 months.

Greater love hath no man than this - that he lay
down his life for his friends.

-(Inserted by mother, brother and sisters).

(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 2 January, 1917) & (The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 2 January, 1917)

& (The Australasian, Melbourne, Victoria – 6 January, 1917)

VICTORIAN CASUALTIES

KILLED IN ACTION

Pte F. B. Doyle, Nar-Nar-Goon

(Dandenong Advertiser and Cranbourne, Berwick and Oakleigh Advocate, Victoria – 4 January, 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)

Private F. B. Doyle does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Greater Love Hath No Man That He Lay Down His Life for His Friends

Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England

Netley Military Cemetery is a permanent military cemetery, the property of the Ministry of Defence. The cemetery was at the back of the Royal Victoria Military Hospital and was used during both wars for burials from the hospital. The cemetery contains 637 First World War burials but only 35 from the Second World War. In addition to the Commonwealth graves, there are a number of war graves of other nationalities including 69 German graves dating from the First World War.

(Information & photos from CWGC)



Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire





Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire (Photo above - Andrea Charlesworth; below - darealjolo)



Photo of Private F. B. Doyle's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England



(Photo by Andrea Charlesworth)



Original Cross markers – Netley Military Cemetery