

**Tidworth Military Cemetery,  
Tidworth, Wiltshire, England**

**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**2203 PRIVATE**

**J. DOYLE**

**28TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**25TH FEBRUARY, 1919**

## James DOYLE

James Doyle was born at Croydon, Queensland around 1892 to father Martin Doyle.

*[Note: A search of Queensland Births, Deaths & Marriages website for "James Doyle" born around 1892 with father's name of Martin did not result in any matches. A search was completed on Molly Doyle – sister of James Doyle & again no matches were received. There is no mention of their mother's name in the Attestation Papers.]*

James Doyle was a 23 year old, single, Miner from Finiston, Western Australia when he enlisted on 22nd March, 1915 at Kalgoorlie, Western Australia with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Roman Catholic & his next of kin was listed as his sister – Miss Molly Doyle, P.O., Boulder, Western Australia. James Doyle stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously served for 10 weeks with 11th Battalion at Blackboy Hill, Western Australia. He had been rejected due to sickness but had now recovered.

Private James Doyle was posted to 13th Depot Company on 22nd March, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to 14th Depot Company on 1st April, 1915 then on 16th April, 1916 he was transferred to 6th Reinforcements of 16th Battalion.

Private James Doyle, Service number 2203, embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Wandilla (A62)* on 25th June, 1915 with the 4th Infantry Brigade, 16th Infantry Battalion, 6th Reinforcements.

Private James Doyle was taken on strength of 16th Battalion at Gallipoli from 2nd August, 1915. He reported sick on 25th August, 1915 at Gallipoli & rejoined his Unit from Hospital on 30th August, 1915.

Private James Doyle was temporarily attached to Brigade Headquarters at Gallipoli from 11th September, 1915 "*for duty and Rations only*".

Private James Doyle disembarked at Alexandria on 1st January, 1916 from *Cardiganshire* ex Mudros (after the evacuation of Gallipoli).

### 16th Battalion

The 16th Battalion AIF was raised from 16 September 1914, six weeks after the outbreak of the First World War. Three-quarters of the battalion were recruited in Western Australia, and the rest in South Australia. With the 13th, 14th and 15th Battalions it formed the 4th Brigade commanded by Colonel John Monash.

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From May to August the battalion was heavily involved in establishing and defending the front line of the ANZAC beachhead, and in August the 4th Brigade attacked Hill 971. The hill was taken at great cost, although Turkish reinforcements forced the Australians to withdraw. The battalion served at ANZAC until the evacuation in December.

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli, the battalion returned to Egypt. While there the AIF expanded and was reorganised. The 16th Battalion was split and provided experienced soldiers for the 48th Battalion. The 4th Brigade was combined with the 12th and 13th Brigades to form the 4th Australian Division.....

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

Private James Doyle was transferred to 4th Brigade Headquarters at Serapeum on 30th March, 1916 from 16th Battalion.

Private James Doyle was admitted to 4th Australian Field Ambulance at Serapeum on 8th April, 1916 with V.D. & transferred the same day to 11th Casualty Clearing Station. Private Doyle was transferred to 1st Australian Stationary Hospital at Ismailia then transferred & admitted to 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital at Cairo on 9th April, 1916. He was discharged to duty on 14th April, 1916 & reported for duty at Base Depot at Tel-el-Kebir on 23rd April, 1916. Private Doyle rejoined his Unit at Serapeum on 25th April, 1916.

Private James Doyle was transferred to 4th Australian Divisional Mounted Police at Serapeum on 1st May, 1916. He was taken on strength on 2nd May, 1916 & was attached to Military Police at Alexandria for duty on 15th May, 1916.

Private James Doyle reported sick on 24th May, 1916. He was admitted to 4th Australian Field Ambulance at Serapeum on 25th May, 1916 then transferred to 54th Casualty Clearing Station. Private Doyle was transferred & admitted to No. 1 Australian Stationary Hospital at Ismailia on 27th May, 1916 then on 29th May, 1916 he was admitted to 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital at Abbassia with V.D. He was discharged to D.Q Depot on 17th June, 1916. Total V.D. period – 24 days.

Private James Doyle embarked from Alexandria on 6th August, 1916 per H. T. *Megantic* to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) (as listed on Casualty Form – Active Service).

Private James Doyle was admitted to Military Hospital at Fargo, Wiltshire, England on 23rd August, 1916 with Heart Strain from 4th Training Battalion.

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. Later Training & Convalescing Units were combined under the one Command Depot.

Private James Doyle was written up for an Offence at Rollestone while posted with 4th Training Battalion. “A.W.L. (*absent without Leave*) from 6 am on 13-9-16 to 11.30 am on 16.9.16”. He was awarded 96 hours detention by Captain H. Norton Russell & forfeited a total of 8 days pay.

Private James Doyle was admitted to Military Hospital at Bulford, Wiltshire on 28th September, 1916 with Venereal Disease which he had contracted at London. He was discharged from 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital at Bulford on 19th December, 1916. Total period of days (V.D.) – 83.

Private James Doyle was admitted to Tidworth Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 19th December, 1916 with Influenza & Debility.

Base Records advised Miss Molly Doyle, Post Office, Boulder, Western Australia on 10th January, 1917 that her brother Private James Doyle had been admitted to Tidworth Military Hospital, England & was seriously ill with Bronchitis on 19th December, 1916. A further update was sent on 20th January, 1917 advising that Private James Doyle's condition was improving.

Private James Doyle was written up for a Crime at Codford – Absent without Leave from 2 pm on 27th February, 1917 until 9 pm on 7th March, 1917. He was awarded 9 days Detention by Major E. Twynan on 10th March, 1917. He had been in custody awaiting trial for 2 days & had a total forfeiture of 20 days pay.

Private James Doyle reported sick to Group Hospital at Codford, Wiltshire on 27th March, 1917 with Bronchitis from 4th Training Battalion. He was marched in to 4th Training Battalion on 5th April, 1917 from Group Hospital.

Private James Doyle proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone of 10th April, 1917 from 4th Training Battalion at Codford, Wiltshire to reinforce 16th Battalion. He was marched in to 4th A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 11th April, 1917. Private Doyle proceeded from 4th A.D.B.D. on 30th April, 1917 to join his Unit & rejoined his Battalion in France on the same day.

### **16th Battalion**

....The battalion spent much of 1917 in Belgium advancing to the Hindenburg Line.....

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

Private James Doyle proceeded on Leave from 13th September, 1917.

A Court of Enquiry was held by 16th Battalion in the Field declaring that No. 2203 Private J. Doyl had “*illegally absented himself on 23.9.17 by overstaying Leave to UK & that he is still absent.*”

Private James Doyle was apprehended on 24th June, 1918. He was paraded before Officer Commanding, London Troops on 2nd July, 1918 for desertion & was remanded for D.C.M. (District Court Martial).

A District Court Martial was held on 8th July, 1918 at Warwick Square, London. Charge: "AWL in that he failed to report to the R.T.O. Victoria Station on 24.9.17. As it was his duty to do so & remained AWL until apprehended by the Civil Power at Islington 24.6.18. Pleading Guilty. Finding Guilty. Sentence I.H.L. for 15 months 8/7/18 confirmed but sentence commuted to detention by Brig. Gen T. Griffiths, Comdt A Hdqrs. 10.7.18. Period under charge 6 days. Total forfeiture 737 days pay."

Private James Doyle was admitted to Lewes Detention Barracks from London on 12th July, 1918. He was transferred to 28th Battalion Details at Tidworth from 16th Battalion on 29th July, 1918. Private Doyle was discharged from Lewes Detention Barracks on 6th October, 1918 & admitted to 2nd East General Hospital, Brighton with Jaundice. He was re-admitted to Lewes Detention Barracks on 13th October, 1918 from Hospital.

On 16th July, 1918 the details for the next-of-kin for Private James Doyle were changed from his Sister to his father – Mr Martin Doyle, Main St, Elphin Co, Roscommon, Ireland.

Remission of Sentence: Private James Doyle's Sentence of 15 months Detention. 248 days of above sentence now remitted as from 1st February, 1919.

Private James Doyle was discharged from Lewes Detention Barracks on 1st February, 1919 to Overseas Training Battalion.

Private James Doyle reported sick on 6th February, 1919 from Overseas Training Brigade at Longbridge Deverill, Wiltshire. He was admitted to 1st Australian General Hospital, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire, England on 6th February, 1919 from Overseas Training Brigade with Influenza. He was reported to be dangerously ill with Pneumonia on 12th February, 1919.

Base Records advised Miss Molly Doyle, Post Office, Boulder, Western Australia on 22nd February, 1919 that Private James Doyle had been admitted to First Australian General Hospital on 6th February with Pneumonia & was reported to be dangerously ill on 12th February, 1919. A further update was sent on 22nd February, 1919 advising that Private James Doyle was dangerously ill.

Private James Doyle died at 3.40 pm on 25th February, 1919 at 1st Australian General Hospital, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire, England from Broncho Pneumonia.

Private James Doyle was buried on 4th March, 1919 in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Plot number A. 77 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

From the burial report of Private James Doyle - *Coffin was Elm. Brass Mounts. Deceased was buried with full military honours the coffin draped with the Australian flag being borne to the graveside on a Gun-carriage preceded by a Firing Party from A.I.F. Depots in United Kingdom. Six Australians supported the Pall. Flowers were sent by "Gladys" and family. Headquarters A.I.F. Depots in U.K. were represented at the funeral.*

*Names of Relatives & Friends present at the Funeral: (Sister) Nurse M. Doyle, St Leonards Hospital, Shoreditch. (Friend) Chas. Wightman, 347 Kingsland Road, Dalston, London.*

Correspondence addressed to Miss M. Doyle, Post Office, Boulder, Western Australia, in July & September, 1919 from Department of Defence was returned as "Unclaimed".

Private James Doyle was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Doyle's father – Mr M. Doyle, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque issued in England in November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private James Doyle – service number 2203, of 28th Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private J. 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 112.



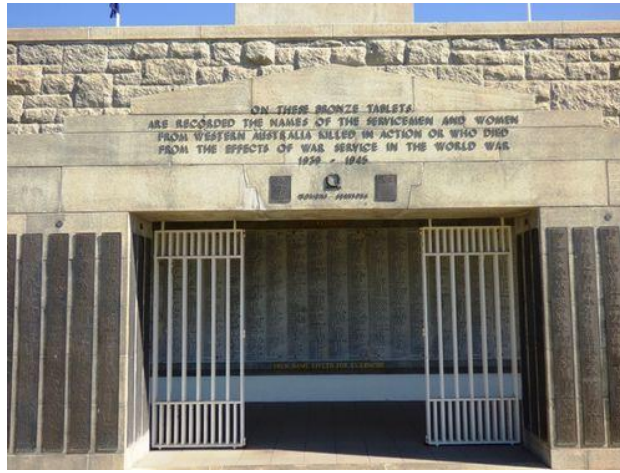
*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

J. Doyle is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.



**Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park**

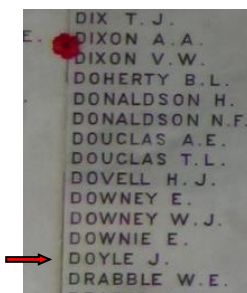


The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names

(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)



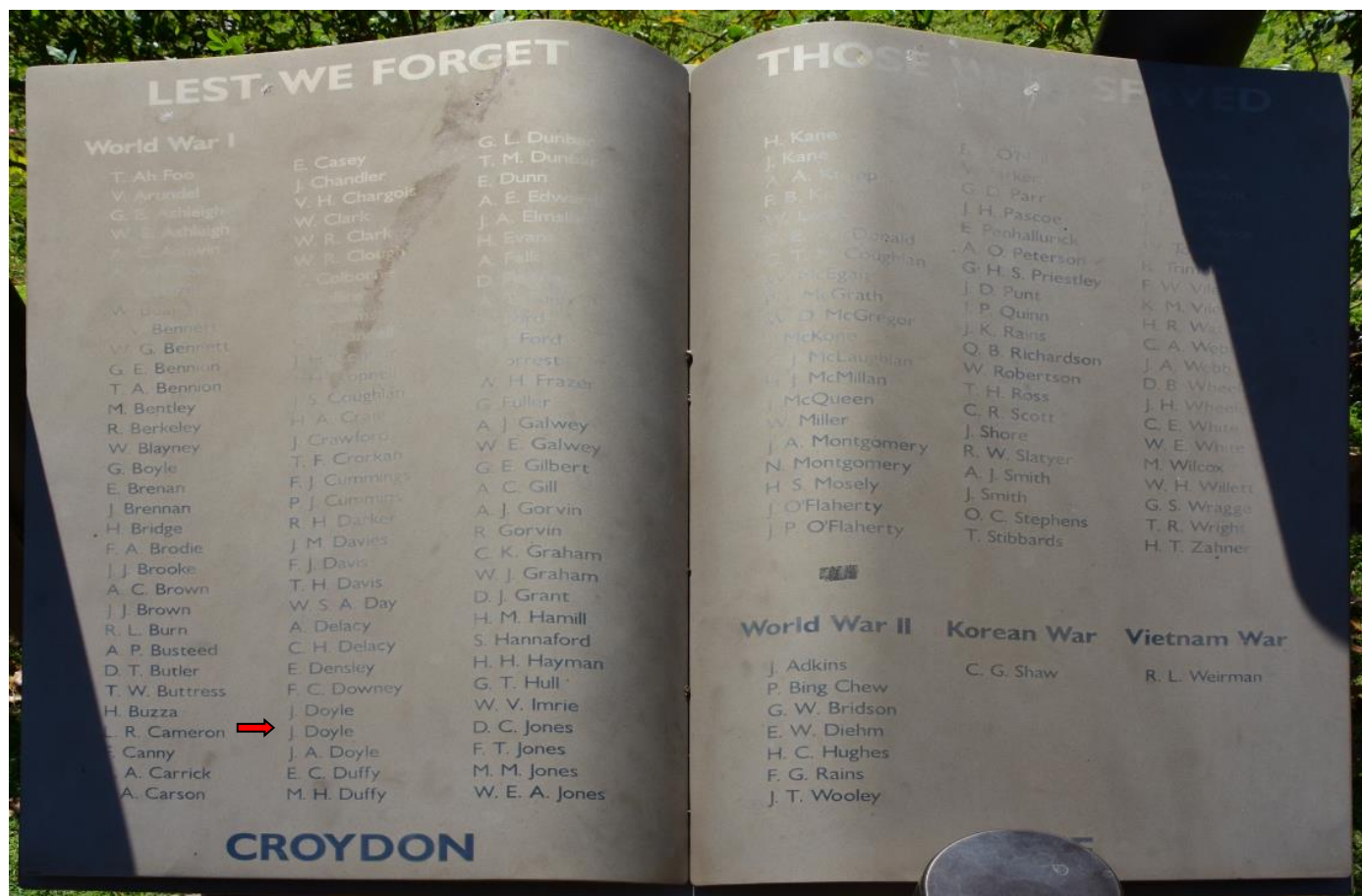
28th Battalion Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)



J. Doyle is remembered on the Croydon War Memorial, located in Federation Park, Gulf Developmental Road & Alldridge Street, Croydon, Queensland.

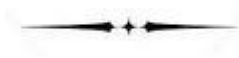


**Croydon War Memorial** (Photos from *AWM Places of Pride* – Henry Moulds)



(83 pages of Private James 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*



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

#### **THE ROLL OF HONOUR**

The 266th and 267th CASUALTY LISTS.....

##### **266th LIST**

ILL

J. Doyle (Boulder)

*(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 23 January, 1917)*

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#### **THE ROLL OF HONOUR**

##### **461st CASUALTY LIST**

ILL

Doyle, Jas. (Ireland), second occasion

*(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 26 March, 1919)*

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#### **THE ROLL OF HONOUR**

##### **462ND CASUALTY LIST**

DIED OTHER CAUSES

Doyle, Jas. (Ireland), illness, previously reported ill

*(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 9 April, 1919)*

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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 J. Doyle does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

### **Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England**

Tidworth Military Cemetery, which contains burials of both wars, was directly connected with training grounds on, or near, Salisbury Plain.

During the First World War, the cemetery was used for burials from Tidworth and Fargo Military Hospitals and the 417 graves, many of them of Australian or New Zealand servicemen, are scattered throughout the cemetery.

There are 106 Second World War graves in the cemetery, two substantial groups of which can be found in sections F and D. The rest are scattered.

The cemetery also contains 40 war graves of other nationalities, many of them Polish.

*(Information from CWGC)*



**Tidworth Military Cemetery** *(Photo by julia&keld – Find a Grave)*



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00327

*The AIF Tidworth cemetery under snow. – March 1919. Identified graves marked by a cross and headstone in the foreground*

*Front row: 50727 Private Rowland James Dickson, Australian Machine Gun Corps, died 14 October 1918.*

*Second row, left to right: 18282 Driver John Thalma Jackson, Details Australian Engineers, died 30 October 1917; 17445 Pte Roland Travers Woodville, Australian Army Medical Corps, died 13 September 1917; 31712 Gunner John Alexander McDonald, 15th Field Artillery Brigade, Australian Field Artillery, died 30 July 1917, aged 37, at Tidworth Military Hospital; 3062 Pte Even Thomas Kennedy, 3rd Australian Pioneers, died 7 August 1917.*



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00481

### **Tidworth Military Cemetery – 12 June, 1919**

*A corner of the Australian cemetery. Front row, left to right: 5840 Private F. W. Heede, 25th Battalion died 3 June 1917; 7350 Private A. E. Campbell, 8th Battalion, died 2 August 1917; 1824 Driver A. C. Jones, 4th Company, Australian Machine Gun Corps, AADC, died 8 August 1917; 8009 Corporal W. J. Giles, Australian Tunnelling Company, died 17 March 1918.*



**Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire** (Photo courtesy of John Prestidge)



**Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire** (Photo by Chris Talbot 2009)



(Photo courtesy of Portsmouth Remembers – Kevin)

Photo of Private J. Doyle's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Kevin – Portsmouth Remembers)*

