

**St. George's Churchyard,  
Fovant, Wiltshire  
War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**1733 DRIVER**

**P. J. DUGGAN**

**AUST. FIELD ARTILLERY**

**29TH JANUARY, 1919 Age 34**

*As He Lived, So He Died*

*Our Anzac Hero*

## Percy James DUGGAN

Percy James Duggan was born at Mathoura, near Deniliquin, NSW on 21st May, 1884 to parents Richard and Mary Emma Duggan (nee Rowe).

Percy James Duggan attended Mathoura State School, NSW.

The 1913 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Murray, subdivision of Mathoura, NSW listed Percy Duggan, Labourer, of Mathoura.

Percy James Duggan was a 30 year old, single, Labourer from Mathoura, NSW when he enlisted at Echuca, Victoria on 3rd December, 1914 with the 5th Infantry Battalion, 4th Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1733 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Elizabeth N. Duggan, of Mathoura, NSW.

Private Percy James Duggan was posted to Depot A.I.F. Camp on 3rd December, 1914. He was transferred to 4th Reinforcements of 5th Infantry Battalion on 12th February, 1915.

Private Percy James Duggan embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Wiltshire* (A18) on 14th April, 1915.

Private Percy James Duggan embarked for the Dardanelles on 22nd May, 1915 with 4th Reinforcements.

Private Percy James Duggan was taken on strength with 5th Battalion at Anzac on 27th May, 1915.

Private Percy James Duggan was admitted to No. 2 Field Ambulance on 17th September, 1915 due to his teeth & transferred to No. 3 Australian General Hospital at Mudros the same day.

Pte Duggan was admitted to Field Ambulance on 30th November, 1915 at Gallipoli Peninsula. He was transferred to 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station with synovitis of knee & then transferred to Hospital Ship *Dongola* on 1st December, 1915. Pte Duggan was admitted to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital, Heliopolis, Cairo on 9th December, 1915 with a septic knee. He was under treatment on 12th December, 1915 & transferred to Ras-el-tin Convalescent Hospital on 17th December, 1915. Pte Duggan was discharged to Australian Base at Mustopha on 30th December, 1915.

Private Percy James Duggan proceeded to join his Unit at Tel-el-Kebir on 19th January, 1916 & rejoined his Battalion on 19th January, 1916.

Private Percy James Duggan was transferred from 5th Battalion to 57th Battalion on 17th February, 1916 at Serapeum.

Private Percy James Duggan was transferred to 13th F.A.B. (Field Artillery Brigade), 5th Divisional Artillery as Gunner on 17th March, 1916 at Tel-el-Kebir.

Gunner Percy James Duggan was mustered as Driver on 14th April, 1916 at Ferry Post Camp.

Driver Percy James Duggan embarked from Alexandria on 16th June, 1916 on *Tunisian* & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 23rd June, 1916.

Driver Percy James Duggan was sent sick to Hospital in the field on 11th December, 1916. He was admitted to 1st New Zealand Stationary Hospital at Amiens on 12th December, 1916 with Influenza. Driver Duggan was transferred to 12th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 10th January, 1917 with broncho pneumonia. He was transferred to Hospital Ship *St. Patrick* & embarked for England from Rouen on 13th January, 1917 suffering from pneumonia & debility.

Driver Percy James Duggan was admitted to County of London War Hospital (Horton), England on 15th January, 1917 with bronchitis-pneumonia.

Driver Percy James Duggan was discharged to furlo from 5th March, 1917 to 20th March, 1917 & then to report to Perham Downs.

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.

Driver Percy James Duggan was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire, England on 21st March, 1917. He was medically classified as B1 A (B1 A1 - fit for light duty only – 4 weeks).

Driver Percy James Duggan was marched in to R.B.A.A. (Reserve Brigade Australian Artillery) at Larkhill, Wiltshire from No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs on 9th July, 1917.

Driver Percy James Duggan proceeded overseas to France from Larkhill, via Southampton on 4th October, 1917. He was marched in from England to A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) at Rouelles, France on 5th October, 1917. Driver Duggan was marched out from A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) at Rouelles on 9th October, 1917 for 5th Divisional Artillery.

Driver Percy James Duggan was transferred to the D.A.C. (Divisional Ammunition Column) & taken on strength on 11th October, 1917.

Driver Percy James Duggan was wounded in action in France on 21st October, 1917. He was admitted to 3rd Australian Field Ambulance with shrapnel wounds to lower jaw then transferred to 2nd Canadian Casualty Clearing Station. Driver Duggan was transferred from the Casualty Clearing Station to Ambulance Train 25 on 22nd October, 1918. Driver Duggan was transferred & admitted to 2nd Stationary Hospital at Abbeville, France on 24th October, 1917 with gunshot wounds to lower jaw. He was marked for transfer to England from 2nd Stationary Hospital at Abbeville, on 24th October, 1917 with a gunshot wound to jaw. Driver Duggan embarked for England on Hospital Ship *Carisbrook Castle* on 27th October, 1917.

Driver Percy James Duggan was admitted to Berrington War Hospital near Shrewsbury, England on 28th October, 1917. He was discharged to furlo from 23rd November, 1917 to 7th December, 1917 & was to then report to Training Depot at Sutton Veny.

Driver Percy James Duggan was marched in from Australian Headquarters, London from furlo to No. 1 Command Depot at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 8th December, 1917. He was medically classified as B1 A4 (Fit for Overseas Training Camp when passed dentally fit).

Driver Percy James Duggan was marched in to Overseas Training Brigade at Longbridge Deverill, Wiltshire on 15th December, 1917 from No. Command Depot at Sutton Veny.

Driver Percy James Duggan proceeded overseas to France from Heytesbury via Southampton on 9th January, 1918. He was marched in to A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) at Rouelles, France on 10th January, 1918 & marched out from Rouelles to 5th Divisional Artillery on 13th January, 1918. Driver Duggan was taken on strength of 13th F.A.B. (Field Artillery Brigade) in the field from A.G.B.D. on 15th January, 1918 & posted to 50th Battery.

Driver Percy James Duggan was struck off strength on proceeding on leave on 28th December, 1918. He was marched in from his Unit to A.G.B.D. on 31st December, 1918 & marched out ready for England on 2nd January, 1919.

Driver Percy James Duggan disembarked at Southampton, England from France & was to report to Hurdcott, Wiltshire as part of 1915 Personnel – ready for return to Australia.

Driver Percy James Duggan was admitted to No. 2 Group Hospital, Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 24th January, 1919 suffering from Bronchitis. He was transferred to Fovant Camp Military Hospital, Wiltshire, England on 26th January, 1919 with Pneumonia.

Driver Percy James Duggan was reported to be dangerously & seriously ill with Pneumonia on 26th January, 1919.

Driver Percy James Duggan died at 5.30 pm on 29th January, 1919 at Military Hospital, Fovant, Wiltshire, England from Broncho Pneumonia.

A death for Percy J. Duggan, aged 35, was registered in the March quarter, 1919 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire, England.

Driver Percy James Duggan was buried at 3 pm on 4th February, 1919 in St George's Churchyard, Fovant, Wiltshire, England – Plot number I. G. 5. and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Driver Duggan - *Coffin was Elm with brass mounts. Deceased was buried with full Military Honours, the body being conveyed to the graveside on a gun carriage preceded by a firing Party from No. 4 Command Depot, Hurdcott. Six of deceased's late unit comrades supported the pall. The "Last Post" was sounded and a volley fired over the grave. A number of N.C.O.'s and men were present at the graveside ceremony. Headquarters A.I.F. Depots in United Kingdom was represented at the funeral.*

Base Records contacted Mrs E. M. Duggan, noted as the next-of-kin, in March, 1920 asking if there were any nearer blood relatives than herself in respect of the War Medals awarded for the service of her son, the late Driver Percy James Duggan, due to the "Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918" which stated that the War Medals & Mementoes of a deceased soldier were to be handed in the following order of relationship – Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister etc. Mrs M. E. Duggan replied in April, 1920 stating that her husband, the father of Driver Percy James Duggan, was still alive & 75 years of age.

Driver Percy James Duggan was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Driver Duggan's father – Mr Duggan, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Driver Percy James Duggan – service number 1733, aged 34, of 13 Bde., Australian Field Artillery. He was the son of Richard and Mary Emma Duggan, of Mathoura, New South Wales.

Driver P. J. Duggan is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 17.



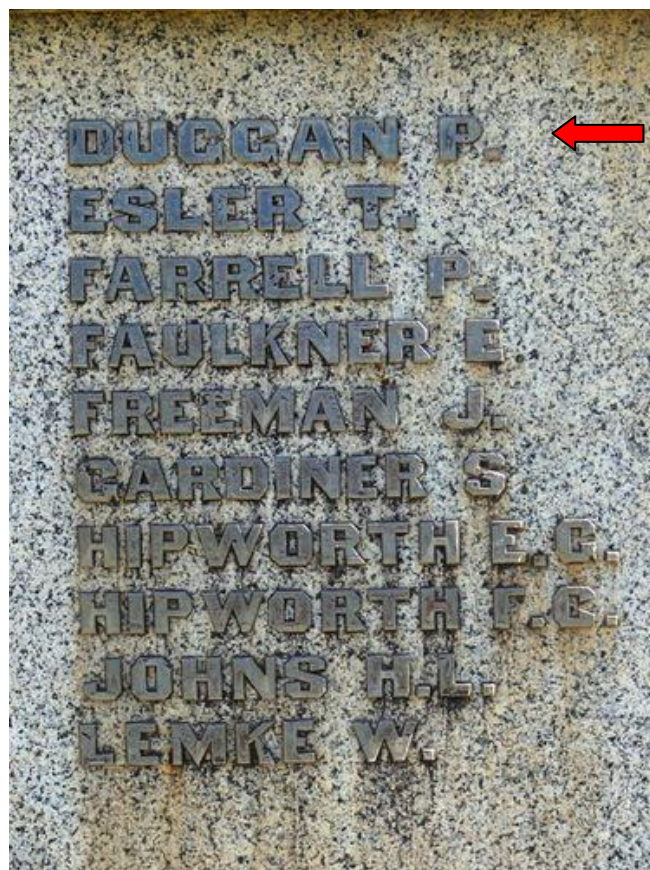
(Photos Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia



P. Duggan is remembered on the Mathoura War Memorial, located at Livingston & Lawrence Streets, Mathoura, NSW.

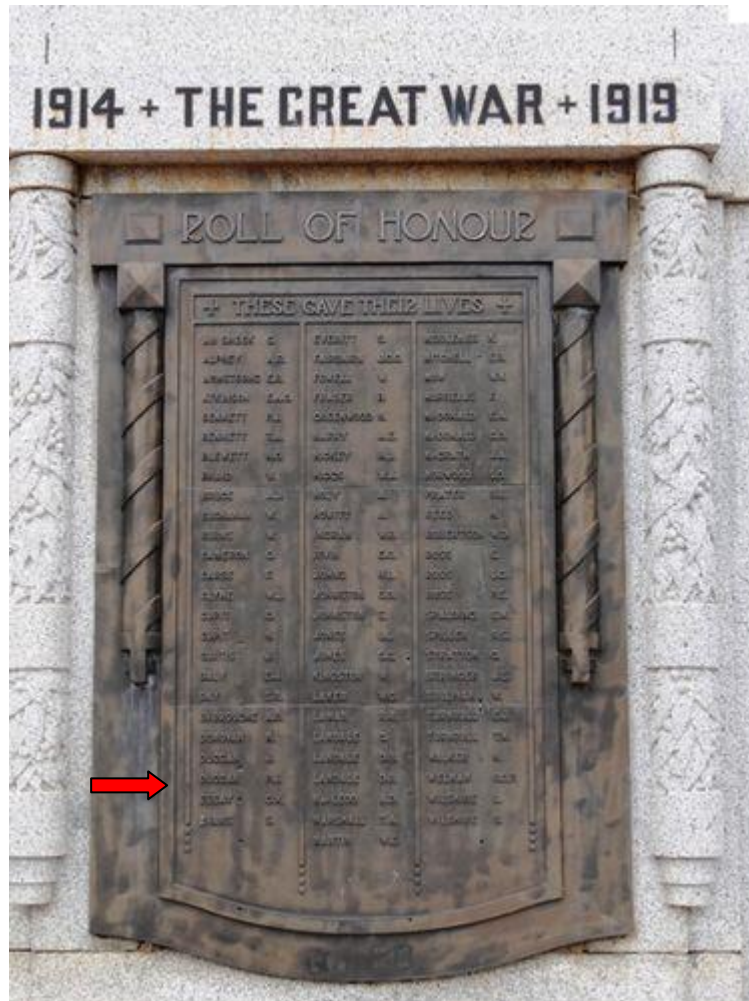


**Mathoura War Memorial** (Photos from Monument Australia – Graeme Saunders)

P. J. Duggan is remembered on the Deniliquin Cenotaph located at Cressy & Napier Streets, Deniliquin, NSW.



**Deniliquin Cenotaph** (Photos from Monument Australia – Graeme Saunders/Roger Johnson)



**Deniliquin Cenotaph**

(92 pages of Driver Percy James Duggan'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*



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **THE 262nd CASUALTY LIST**

ILL

Driver P. J. Duggan, Mathoura

*(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – 13 January, 1917)*

### **CASUALTIES**

#### **460th LIST**

Died of Illness: Driver P. Duggan, Mathoura

*(Daily Advertiser, Wagga Wagga, NSW – 6 March, 1919)*

## **DIED ON SERVICE**

DUGGAN – On 29th January, at Fovant Military Hospital, England of Broncho-pneumonia, after four years' service, Driver Percy James Duggan, dearly loved youngest son of Mr and Mrs R. Duggan "Studley Park", Mathoura, and dearly loved brother of Frank, Harry, Will, Bert, and Cissie (Mrs Gould), Ruby (Mrs Witteck), Bacchus Marsh, aged 34 years.

I picture your safe return,  
I longer for the clasp of your hand,  
But God has stopped our meeting,  
It will be in a Better Land.

-(Inserted by his sorrowing father and mother, brothers and sisters).

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 1 March, 1919)

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **On Active Service**

DUGGAN – In loving memory of our dear son , Driver Percy James Duggan, who died at Fovant Military Hospital, England , on the 29th January, 1919, after 4 ½ years' service.

"Our Anzac hero"

Sadly to-day I am thinking  
Of my soldier boy so brave:  
He fought for the cause of freedom,  
Now he lies in a soldier's grave.

He sailed away on a troopship,  
With a brave and gallant band,  
To face the sands of Egypt,  
And then on to France.

Now in a hero's grave he is sleeping,  
One of our dearest and best;  
In our hearts we shall miss him for ever,  
Though we know he is only at rest.

And when the bells of peace are ringing,  
And your hearts are filled with joy,  
Give one kind thought to the sorrowing ones  
Whose boys have fought and died.

-(Inserted by his sorrowing parents).

DUGGAN - In loving memory of my dear brother, who died of broncho-pneumonia on the 29th January, 1919, after four and a half years' active service. (Loved uncle of Gladys and Percy).

Though his dear face we cannot see,  
We hold him dear to memory;  
And leave him safely in the hands  
Of Him who understands.

-(Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, R. and J. Wittick).



DUGGAN - In loving memory of our dear uncle, Percy, who passed away on January 29, 1919, at Fargo Military Hospital, England.

Time cannot heal aching hearts,  
Nor from our memory tear  
The face and form we loved so well,  
'Twill dwell for ever there.

-(Inserted by his loving nieces, Alice and Emma Gould, Bacchus Marsh)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 29 January, 1920)

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **On Active Service**

DUGGAN – In loving memory of my dear son, Driver Percy James Duggan, who died at Fovant Military Hospital, England, on the 29th January, 1919, after 4 years' service.

Days of sadness still come o'er us,  
Silent tears they often flow;  
Memory keeps our loved one near us,  
Whom God claimed two years ago.

-(Inserted by his loving mother.)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 29 January, 1921)

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **On Active Service**

DUGGAN - In loving memory of our dear uncle, Driver P. J. Duggan, who died at Fervant Military Hospital, England, on 29th January, 1919.

Deep in our hearts there's a memory  
Of one who has passed away,  
Still through the long years to come  
That memory will ever stay.

-(Inserted by his loving nieces, Mrs Walker and Alice Gould.)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 31 January, 1921)

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **On Active Service**

DUGGAN - In loving memory of our dear uncle, Driver P. J. Duggan, died January 29, 1919, in Fovant Military Hospital, London.

Fondly remembered.

-(Inserted by his loving nieces, Alice and Emma)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 30 January, 1922)

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Percy James Duggan is named on his parents' headstone, which is located in Mathoura & District Pioneer Cemetery, NSW.



*(Photos with permission of Rebecca McIntosh)*

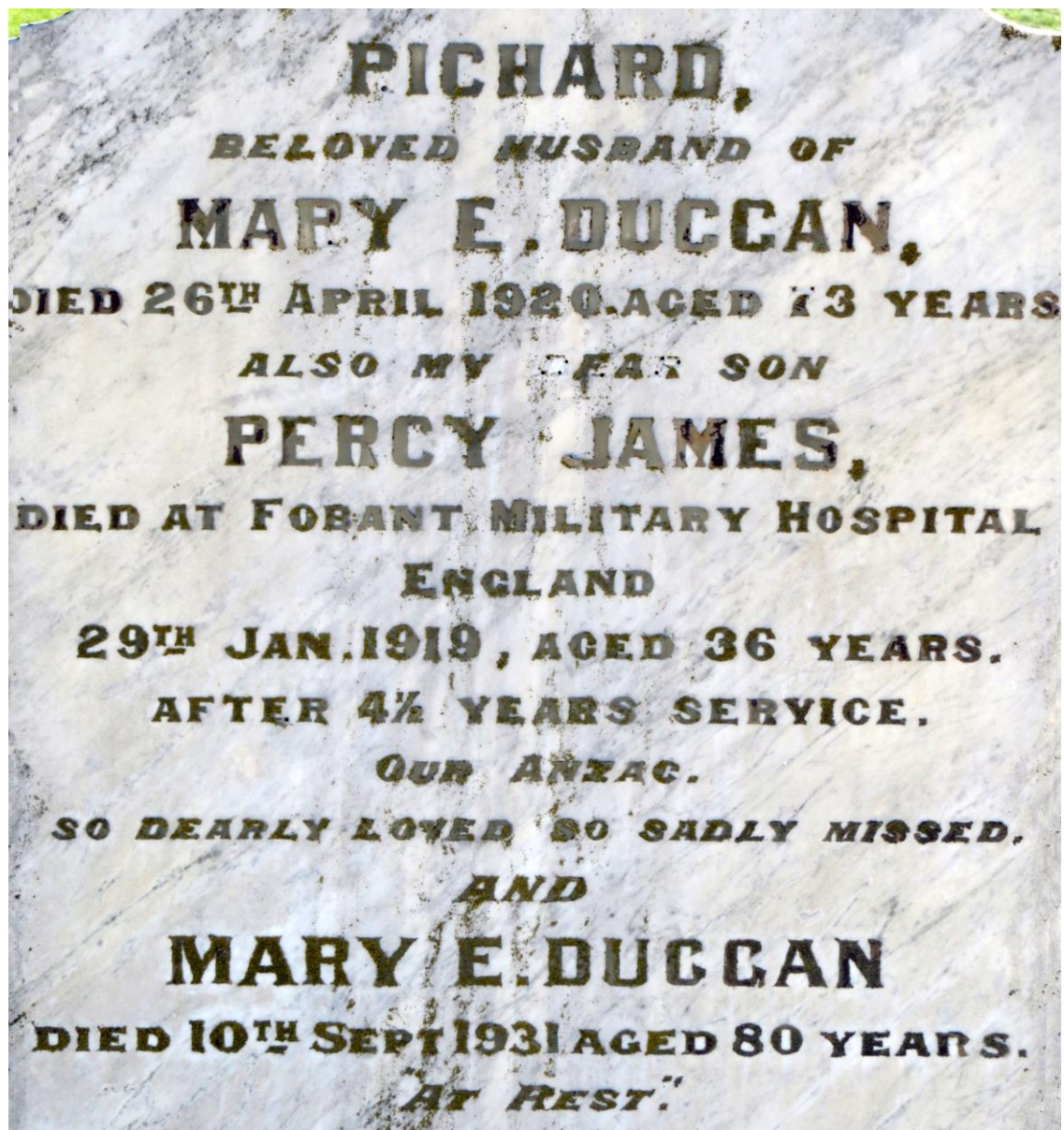


*In*  
*Loving Memory*  
*Of*  
**RICHARD**  
*Beloved Husband Of*  
**MARY E. DUGGAN,**  
*Died 26th April, 1920, Aged 73 Years.*

**Also my Dear Son**  
**PERCY JAMES,**  
**Died At Fobant Military Hospital**  
**England**  
**29th Jan. 1919, Aged 36 Years**  
**Our Anzac**  
**So Dearly Loved So Sadly Missed.**

*And*  
**MARY E. DUGGAN**  
*Died 10th Sept 1931 Aged 80 Years.*  
*"At Rest".*





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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)*

Driver P. J. Duggan does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*As He Lived, So He Died*

*Our Anzac Hero*



## St George's Churchyard, Fovant, Wiltshire, England

There was a 600 bed hutted military hospital at Fovant during the First World War, and the concentration of Australian depots and training camps in the area is reflected in the 63 First World War burials in this churchyard. The war graves form two groups, one west of the church and the other at the east end. There is also one burial of the Second World War. There are 44 War Graves belonging to those who served with the Australian Imperial Force in World War 1.

*(Information from CWGC)*



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00299

*(Photo c 1919)*







**St George's Churchyard, Fovant – War Graves at front & rear** (*Churchyard photos courtesy of Andrew Stacey*)





Photo of Driver P. J. Duggan's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St George's Churchyard, Fovant, Wiltshire, England.







**Cross of Sacrifice** (Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey)