

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

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



282 PRIVATE

JAMES RICHARD DUMMETT

MACHINE GUN TRAINING DEPOT

6TH AUGUST, 1916

A Good Comrade

James Richard (Jim) DUMMETT

James Richard Dummett was born at Smithfield, Sydney, New South Wales on 7th November, 1884 to parents Richard Henry Stokes Dummett and Mary Helena Dummett (nee Connery). He was baptised on 25th January, 1885 at St. John's Church, Parramatta, Sydney, New South Wales. His birth was registered in 1885 in the district of Liverpool, New South Wales.

James Richard Dummett stated he was a 29 year old, single, Store Manager from Fairfield Road, Smithfield, NSW when he enlisted on 6th April, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his father – Richard Henry Dummett, Fairfield Road, Smithfield, NSW. James Dummett stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously served with Levuka Rifle Corps. According to information provided by his father for the Roll of Honour – *“At the outbreak of this War, he was on the Volunteer Service at Levuka, Fiji.”*

Private James Richard Dummett was posted to Machine Gun Company on 6th April, 1916 for recruit training (date as per Statement of Service form). He was transferred to 3rd Reinforcements of 14th Machine Gun Company (no date)

Private James Richard Dummett, Service number 282, embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Benalla* (A24) on 1st May, 1916 with the 14th Machine Gun Company – 3rd Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 1st July, 1916.

14th Machine Gun Company (New South Wales)

*Formed in Egypt February 1916 and assigned to 14th Infantry Brigade. Assigned to 5th Machine Gun Battalion 2 March 1918. 2nd Reinforcements departed Sydney Hororata 2 May 1916, **3rd Reinforcements departed Sydney Benalla 1 May 1916**, 4th Reinforcements departed Melbourne Orontes 16 August 1916, 5th Reinforcements departed Melbourne Commonwealth 19 September 1916, 6th Reinforcements departed Melbourne Port Lincoln 20 October 1916, 7th Reinforcements departed Melbourne Ulysses 25 October 1916, 8th Reinforcements departed Melbourne Persic 22 December 1916, 9th Reinforcements departed Melbourne Orontes 23 December 1916, 10th Reinforcements departed Melbourne Osterley 14 February 1917, 11th Reinforcements departed Melbourne Ascanius 11 May 1917, 12th Reinforcements departed Melbourne Suevic 21 June 1917, 13th Reinforcements departed Melbourne Suevic 21 June 1917.*

Egypt, Sinai, Western Front

(Information from The AIF Project)

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.

Private James Richard Dummett died at 1.20 am on 6th August, 1916 at General Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire, England from Pneumonia & Abscess of Liver.

A death for James R. Dummett, aged 28, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of Andover, Hampshire / Wiltshire, England.

Private James Richard Dummett was buried in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Plot number C. 182 and has a Private Headstone. His death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

The Public Trust Office, Sydney, NSW wrote to Base Records on 10th October, 1916 & requested a certificate of death in duplicate for *“Richard Dummett, No. 282, 140th Machine Gun Company, A.I. Force.”*

Base Records replied to The Public Trustee on 23rd October, 1916 enclosing as requested certificate, in duplicate, of report of the late No. 282, Private J. R. Dummett, 14th Machine Gun Company.

Private James Richard Dummett 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 Private Dummett's father – Mr R. H. Dummett, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent February, 1922 & Plaque sent August, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private James Richard Dummett – service number 282, aged 29, of 14th Coy., Australian Machine Gun Corps. He was the son of Richard Henry Stokes Dummett and Mary Helena Dummett.

J. R. Dummett is remembered on the St. James Anglican Church Roll of Honour, located in St. James' Church, Justin Street, NSW.



St. James Anglican Church Roll of Honour (Photo AWM Places of Pride - Reverend Dr. Brian Bailey)

J. Dummett is remembered on the Smithfield War Memorial, McCarthy Memorial Park, Cumberland Highway, Smithfield, NSW.



McCarthy Memorial Park (Photos by Darren Ngo)

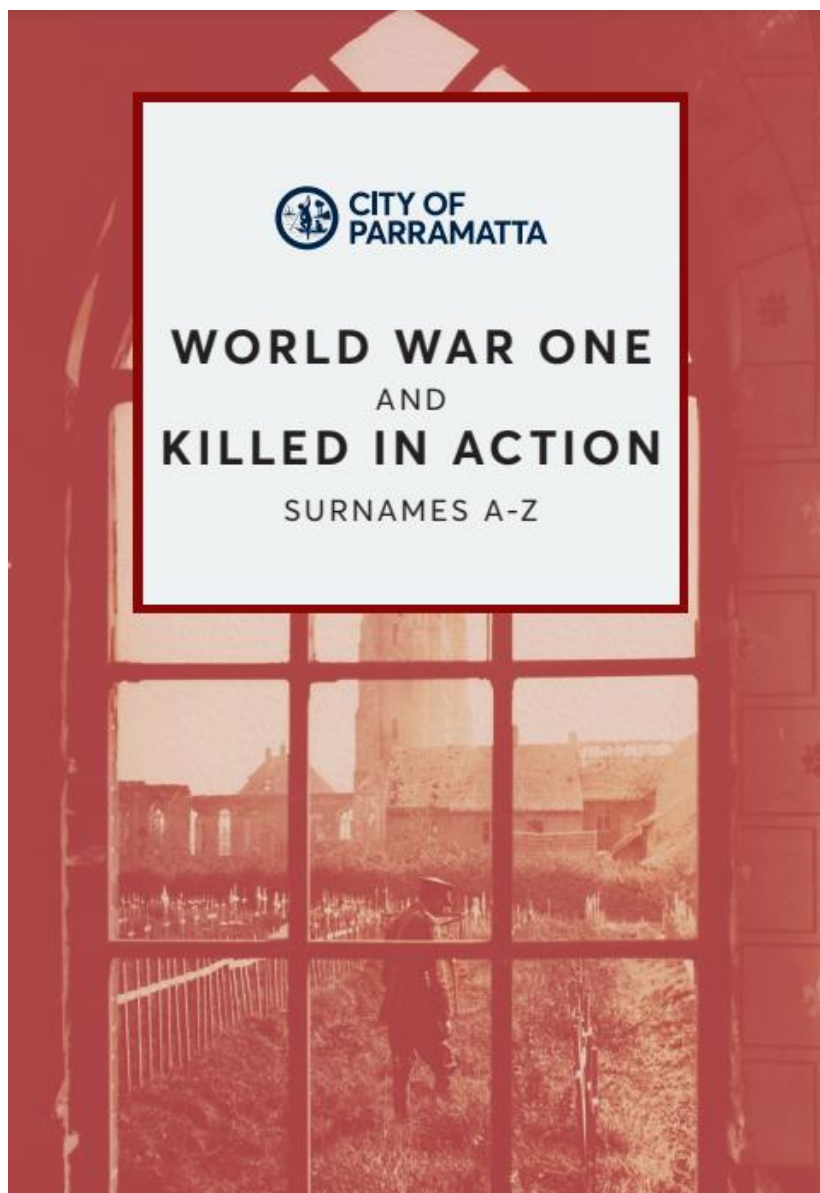




McCarthy Memorial Park – Roll of Honour Names



James Richard Dummett is remembered on the City of Parramatta World War One & Killed in Action Surnames A – Z document.



James Richard Dummett - Service Number - 282



James Richard Dummett was a store manager who lived in Smithfield, New South Wales when he enlisted on the 6 April 1916 with the rank of Private. He became part of the 14 Machine Gun Company, 3 Reinforcement and he embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT 'Benalla' on the 1 May 1916. Dummett passed away from an abscess of the liver on the 6 August 1916 and was buried at the Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.

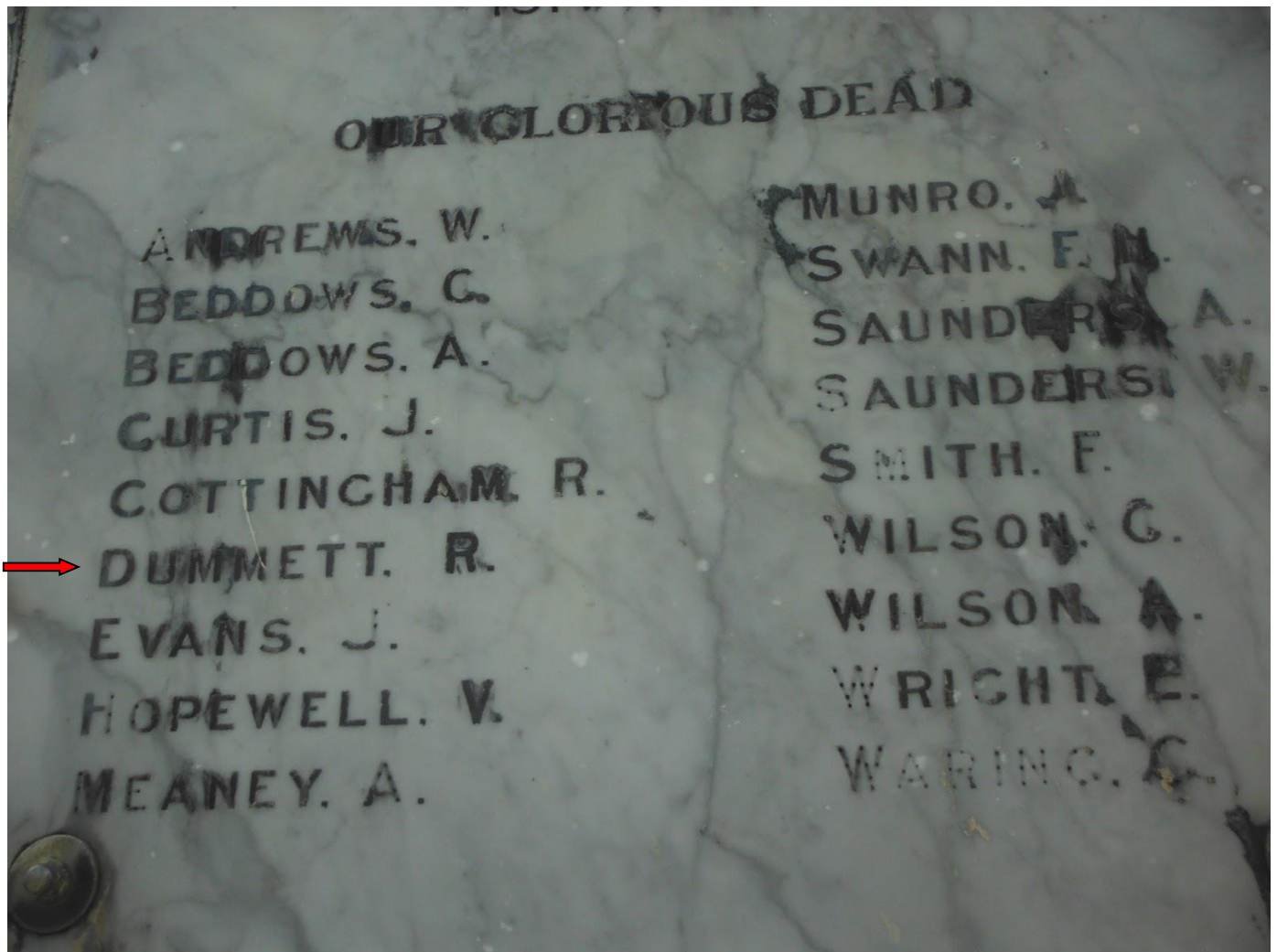
Private J. R. Dummett is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 177.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

R. Dummett is remembered on the Levuka European War Memorial, Fiji.

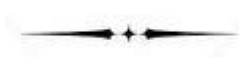


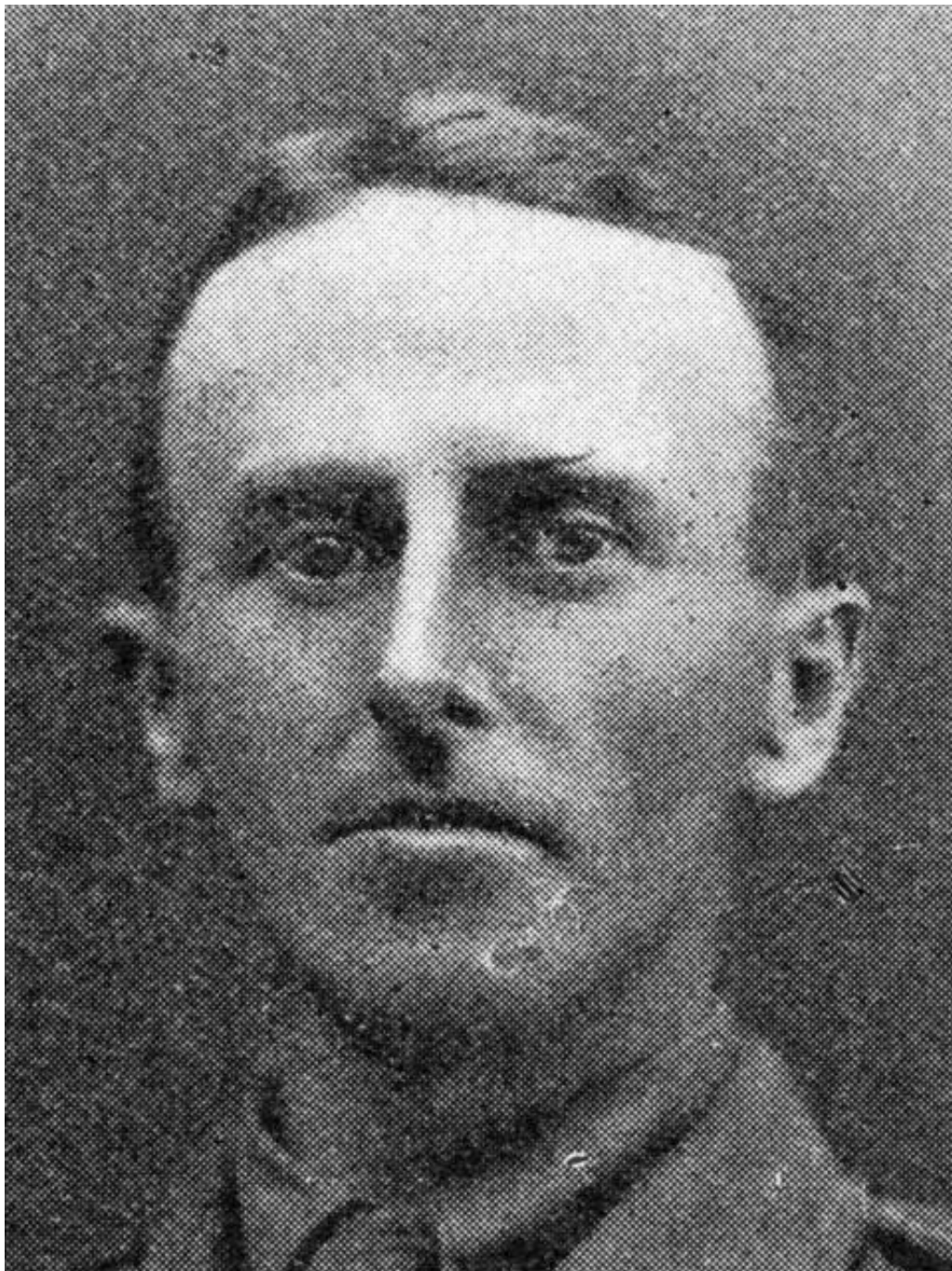


Levuka European War Memorial, Fiji

(30 pages of Private James Richard Dummett'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

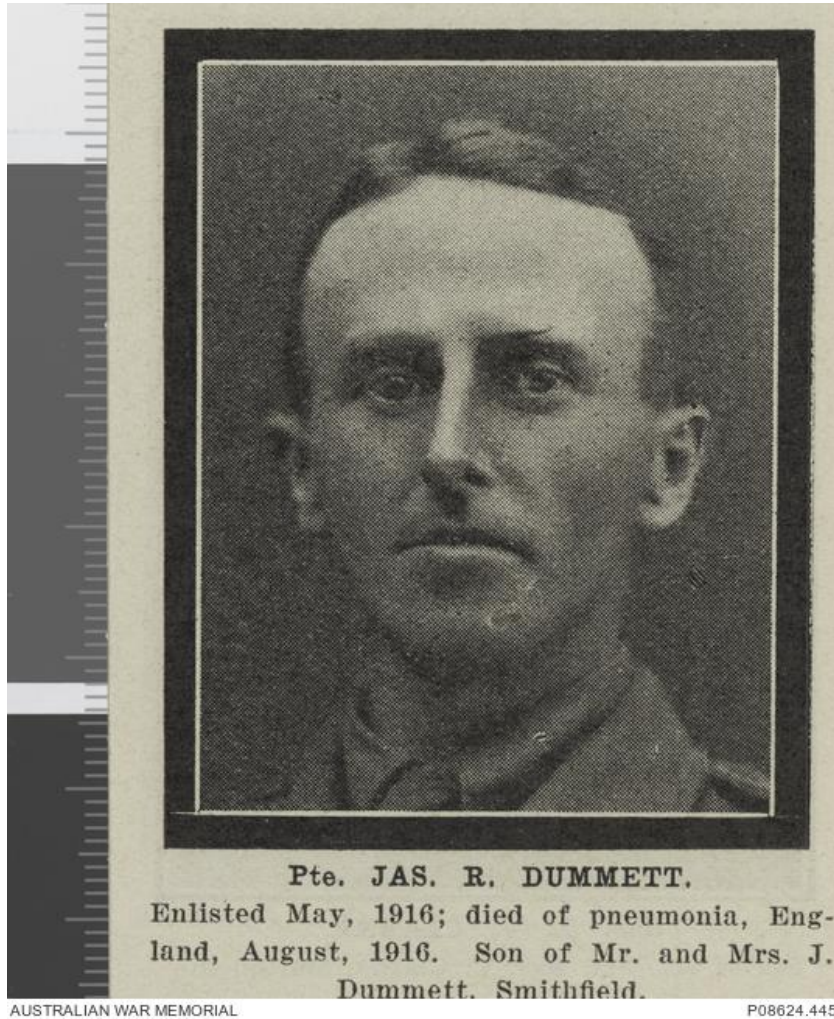




AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P08624.445

Studio portrait of 282 Private James Richard Dummett, 14th Company Australian Machine Gun Corps of Smithfield, NSW. A store manager prior to enlisting, he embarked from Sydney aboard HMAT Benalla (A24) on 1 May 1916. On 7 August 1916, he died in the General Hospital, Tidworth, United Kingdom, of an abscess of the liver, aged 29. He is buried in the Tidworth Military Cemetery, United Kingdom.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P08624.445



Newspaper Notices

Fighters of Parramatta and District

THE SAD ROLL CALL

“JIM” DUMMETT DEAD

Mr Dummett, ex-town clerk of Smithfield and Fairfield, received word on Thursday that his son, Pte Jim Dummett, well and popularly known throughout the district, and who was on active service, had succumbed to pneumonia in either France or England. He was about 25 years of age.

(The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Parramatta, NSW – 19 August, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOUR

DUMMETT – Died of pneumonia on August 6, 1916, at Tedworth General Hospital, England, Private James R. Dummett, on active service, late of Smithfield and Fiji. He died far from those who loved him best. Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Mr and Mrs James H. Ralph, Fijian, Levuka papers please copy.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 22 August, 1916)

A SOLDIER'S IMPRESSIONS

Writing from Perham Downs, England in June 15, to Mr W. H. Brown, of Smithfield, the late Private Dummett described the sight of Gibraltar as "beautiful – the lovely big mountain full of mysteries," and the trip from Plymouth to camp as "one of the prettiest sights I ever saw." The Mayoress of Exeter gave them tea and cakes. He wrote: "At Lugershall, close to camp, when you have a glass of beer you have to pay 3d deposit on the glass, and in another pub, you can't shout for your mate – everyone pays for his own. I met Harry Brodie at Lugershall, He looks well on it. This leaves me quite well. Remember me to the boys of old Smithfield."

(The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Parramatta, NSW – 23 August, 1916)

WAR CASUALTIES

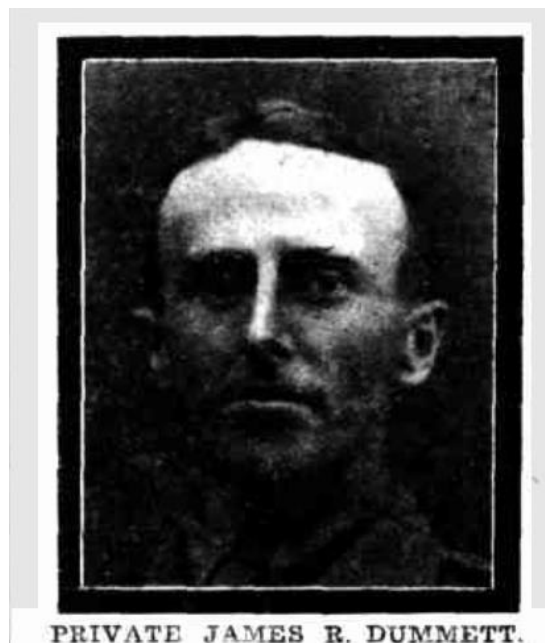
DIED OF ILLNESS

PRIVATE JAMES R. DUMMETT

Private James R. Dummett, late of Smithfield and Fiji, who died of pneumonia in England was the youngest son of the former town clerk of Smithfield.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 25 August, 1916)

Brave Boys Who Have Fought and Died



As announced last week, Mr. Jas. Dummett (ex-town clerk) and Mrs. Dummett, of Smithfield, were apprised of the sad news of the death of their third son, Private James R. Dummett, which took place in Tidsworth General Hospital, England, on 6th instant, from pneumonia and abscess on the liver. The late Private Jim Dummett was 30 years of age, and was one of the most popular young fellows in the district. He was in the employ, from boyhood, of Mr. Worters Carter, and became a department manager, and in that capacity worked for some years at Cowra and Fiji. He enlisted in May last, and sailed three weeks afterwards, going direct to Salisbury, England. He was at the Park House Camp at Salisbury when he contracted the complaints which ended in his death. His brother Ray, who is 21 years of age, and who enlisted on April 1 last, cabled "both well" on July 24.

(The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Parramatta, NSW – 26 August, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOUR

DUMMETT – Private James Dummett, late of Smithfield and Fiji, who died of pneumonia on August 6, 1916, at Tidworth General Hospital, England. He died far from those who loved him best.

Only those who have lost are able to tell,
The pain of the heart at not saying farewell.

Inserted by his sorrowing parents, sisters, and brothers, Lizzie, Victor, Percy, Claude, and Ray. Fijian papers please copy.

DUMMETT – Died of pneumonia, on August 6, 1916, at Tidworth General Hospital, England, Private James R. Dummett, on active service, late of Smithfield and Fiji.

He died as he lived,
Good, noble, and brave.
Loved by us all.

Inserted by his loving brother and sister-in-law, Mr and Mrs P. Dummett.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 26 August, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOUR

DUMMETT – Private James R. Dummett, late of Smithfield and Fiji, who died of pneumonia on August 6th, 1916, at Tidworth General Hospital, England.

He died far from those who loved him best.

Only those who have lost are able to tell,
The pain of the heart at not saying farewell.

Inserted by his sorrowing parents, sisters, and brothers, Lizzie, Victor, Percy, Claude, and Ray.

(The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Parramatta, NSW – 26 August, 1916)

CASUALTIES

DOUBLE LIST ISSUED

373 DEATHS

Two lists – the 200th and 201st- were issued yesterday afternoon....

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED OF ILLNESS

Pte J. R. DUMMETT, Smithfield

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 29 August, 1916)

DEATH AND FUNERAL OF "JIM" DUMMETT

Sympathetic Letter from his Mate

"Better Friend Man Never Had."

Mrs. Dummett of Smithfield, has received some particulars of the death of her son, Gunner J. R. Dummett. One of his mates, Private J. A. Anderson, writes to Mrs. Dummett from Salisbury, Eng., on August 13:

"It is in great sorrow that I have to write a letter of this description to you. Your son Jim was universally liked and respected by all the men here. He was thought a lot of, both by officers and men. He was the best liked man here in camp. Many of the men here, I believe, are writing to you, sympathising with you in your great sorrow. I and some more of his friends can hardly realise even yet that he is gone. He was a good man. Better friend and mate man never had than Jim. His many great qualities and never failing good humor were universally liked and admired. He died a brave death for his king and country. He had a cold for five or six weeks. Your other son, Raymond left for France a week before Jim's death. He died at twenty minutes past 1 Sunday morning. I do not think he realised that the end was so near, or else he would have given me some message for you. His death was caused by abscesses on the liver and spleen. The doctor said they had been forming for some time, his friends and the officers here bought wreaths for his funeral. He was buried on Wednesday at the Military Cemetery, Fedsworth. The funeral left the mortuary at 2 p.m. The men composed of our company. First the firing party, then the band, then the gun carriage with coffin and Union Jack over it, then Victor and myself, his company bringing up the rear. He was buried with full military honors. The firing party fired three volleys over his grave and a bugler played "The Last Post." The boys here are going to erect a tombstone to his memory. I will have that photoed and sent on to you. Corporal Fenwick has his people living not far from here. His people are going to look after his grave when we leave. It has been a great blow to us men. We miss Jim very much. If there is anything further you would like to know I would only be too pleased to write and tell you. Anything you wish done I or Jim's friends here would be only too pleased to be of service to you. I will now close. You have the full sympathy of us all here in your great sorrow. I don't think I will ever have another friend half as good as Jim. All Jim's private belonging, his watch, rings, etc, will be sent on to you."



1. Six Comrades bore the Coffin.
2. The Burial Service at the Graveside.

(The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Parramatta, NSW – 14 October, 1916)

IN MEMORIAM

DUMMETT – In sad but loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private James R. Dummett, aged 28 years, who died in Tidworth Hospital, England, with pneumonia.

When he wrote his last fond letter,
He was sure of victory.
When the war is over, mother,
I will then come back to thee.
But he is dead, the cable tells me.
No more his native land he will see,
But when the war is over,
Still I dream he will come to me.

Inserted by his dearly loved mother and father, brother and sisters, Victor, Percy, Claude, Lizzie, and Raymond (on active service abroad.)

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 7 August, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOR

DRUMMETT – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private J. R. Dummett, who died at Tidworth Hospital, England, on August 18th, 1916.

His welcome smile and friendly grasp
Are welcome to recall,
He had a kindly word for each,
And died beloved by all.

Inserted by his sorrowing parents, brothers and sister.

(The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Parramatta, NSW – 17 August, 1918)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Private James Richard Dummett has a Private 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)



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.

Note Gunner McDonald has a large headstone which reads in part 'erected by his sorrowing comrades of the Australian Field Artillery. His duty done.'



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 (Photo by julia&keld – Find a Grave)



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



(Photo courtesy of Portsmouth Remembers – Kevin)

Photo of Private James Richard Dummett's Private Headstone in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Selena Hardie)



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

