

**Brookwood Military Cemetery,
Brookwood, Surrey
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



L/9319 BOMBARDIER

J. FEENEY

ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY

2ND DECEMBER, 1918 Age 26

He Died That We Might Live

From His Wife & Child

John FEENEY

John Feeney was born on 11th January, 1893 at Blantyre, Lanarkshire, to parents Bartley & Catherine (Kate) Feeney (nee Wilson). He was baptised on 14th January, 1893 in St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Blantyre, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

[Note: UK Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914 – 1919 recorded Bombardier John Feeney, Service number L/9319, of Royal Horse Artillery and Royal Field Artillery who died of wounds on 2nd December, 1918 was born at Falkirk.]

John Feeney was a Farm Servant, aged 18 years & 4 months, when he enlisted on 4th January, 1911 at Falkirk with Royal Irish Rifles. His religion was listed as Roman Catholic & his next-of-kin was listed as his father – Bartley Feeney of Main Street, Bannockburn. His mother was listed as Catherine & his brothers – Martin E. James J., Andrew J & Bartley J. His sisters were listed as Elizabeth, Catherine, Mary & Bridget.

A Telegraph was sent on 4th January, 1916 from Glasgow to Recruiting with the following message "*Feeneys district sergt states character good not served before remit 2/ expense cycling. Sergt*".

An Army form was sent from Recruiting Officer, Stirling to The Rev. Father Flynn on 4th January, 1911 with questions regarding John Feeney. A stamped & directed envelope was enclosed for reply. Chas Flynn, Parish Priest at Killargue, Co. Leitrim stated he had known John Feeney for "a year or two" & he was sober & honest.

Rifleman John Feeney joined Royal Irish Rifles Depot at Belfast on 4th January, 1911 & was assigned a Service number of 9551. He was enlisted for a period of 7 years with Colours & 5 years with Reserves.

Rifleman John Feeney was written up on Regimental Conduct Sheet on 5th March, 1911 while posted at Belfast – Drunk in Barracks about 9.45 pm. He was awarded 5 days confined to Barracks as punishment.

Rifleman John Feeney was transferred from Belfast to Dover on 5th April, 1911.

Rifleman John Feeney was written up on Regimental Conduct Sheet on 9th June, 1911 while posted at Dover – Absent from Tattoo until apprehended by the Civil Police at Canterbury at 8.30 on 12th June. He was awarded 10 days confined to Barracks.

Rifleman John Feeney was written up on Squadron, Troop, Battery and Company Conduct Sheet on 30th June, 1911 while posted at Dover – Absent from Tattoo until 12.40 am & having a filthy dirty rifle. He was awarded 5 days confined to Barracks.

Rifleman John Feeney was written up on Squadron, Troop, Battery and Company Conduct Sheet on 20th July, 1911 while posted at Dover – not complying with an order when on bathing picquet. He was awarded 5 days confined to Barracks.

Rifleman John Feeney was written up on Regimental Conduct Sheet on 20th July, 1911 while posted at Dover - Drunk parading for Defaulters Roll Call at 8 pm. He was fined 2/6 & awarded 7 days confined to Barracks.

Rifleman John Feeney was written up on Regimental Conduct Sheet on 25th July, 1911 while posted at Dover – disobedience of Orders. He was awarded 168 hours Detention.

Rifleman John Feeney was written up on Regimental Conduct Sheet on 5th August, 1911 while posted at Dover – refusing to obey an Order. He was awarded 168 hours Detention.

Rifleman John Feeney was written up on Squadron, Troop, Battery and Company Conduct Sheet on 24th August, 1911 while posted at Dover – dirty rifle on Parade. He was awarded 2 days confined to Barracks.

Rifleman John Feeney was written up on Squadron, Troop, Battery and Company Conduct Sheet on 16th December, 1911 while posted at Dover – having a dirty rifle. He was awarded 2 days confined to Barracks.

Rifleman John Feeney was declared a Deserter on 8th February, 1912.

A Court of Enquiry was assembled at The Citadel, Dover on 1st March, 1912 by order of Lieut. Colonel Bell, Commanding 2nd Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles for the purpose of inquiring into and reporting upon the illegal absence and deficiency of kit if any of No. 9551 Rifleman J. Feeney, 2nd Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles.

The Court declared that No. 9551 Rifleman J. Feeney, 2nd Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles has been illegally absent from Dover since the 8th February, 1912 and that he is still so absent and that on the 9th February, 1912 he was deficient and that he still is deficient of the following articles:-

Arms – nil

Equipment – 1 waist belt

Public Clothing – 1 Great coat

Personal Clothing – (14 items listed)

Necessaries – (28 items listed – included Kit bag, cap badge, 3 shirts flannel, 3 pr socks, 2 towels etc...)

John Feeney married Lilian Suddick on 7th November, 1915 at St. Olaves, Bermondsey, Surrey, England.

John Feeney enlisted at Manchester, Lancashire, England with the British Army.

[It appears that John Feeney's World War 1 Service Record file cannot be located & may have been destroyed in 1940 during World War 2 as a result of enemy bombing.]

John Feeney was posted to Royal Field Artillery with a Service number of L/9319 & the rank of Gunner. His Medal Index Card states his rank as Acting Bombardier.

John & Lilian Feeney had a daughter – Kathleen Feeney born 19th June, 1918 in London, England.

Bombardier John Feeney was wounded in action in 1918.

Bombardier John Feeney died on 2nd December, 1918 at Endel Street Hospital, Woolwich, London, England from wounds received in action.

A death for John Feeney, aged 25, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of St. Giles, London, England.

Bombardier John Feeney was buried in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England – Australian Military Burial Ground.

This is now recorded by CWGC as Memorial reference – XII. C. 21A. Bombardier J. Feeney has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Bombardier John Feeney was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. His Medal Index card recorded "*Dead 2-12-16*" but the British War Medal & Victory Medal Award Rolls for the Royal Field Artillery recorded correctly "*Dead 2/12/18*".

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Bombardier J. Feeney – service number L/9319, aged 26, of "A" Bty., 161st Bde., Royal Field Artillery. He was the husband of Lilian Feeney, of 170 Forbes St., Darlinghurst, Sydney, New South Wales.

Bombardier John Feeney is remembered on the Commemorative Roll Book, located in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The Commemorative Roll records the names of those Australians who died during or as a result of wars in which Australians served, but who were not serving in the Australian Armed Forces and therefore not eligible for inclusion on the Roll of Honour.

(Note: It appears that Bombardier John Feeney's name on the Commemorative Roll was based on the information that his next-of-kin's address was listed as Australia & therefore the soldier concerned, it was assumed, would be Australian.)

Mrs Lilian Feeny, Housewife, aged 24 & her daughter Kathleen, aged 1, were passengers on Euripides which had departed from port of London, England on 31st March, 1920 bound for Australia, Mrs Feeny had stated that her country of intended future permanent residence would be Australia.

Kathleen Carroll (nee Feeney) died on 2nd March, 1973 in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. Mrs Lilian Fenney died on 5th January, 1985 at Mount Isa, Queensland, Australia.



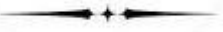
Commemorative Roll (Photo from AWM)



Commemorative Area of the Australian War Memorial (Capital Photographer)

(22 pages of Bombardier John Feeney's earlier 1911-1912 Service records are available for On Line viewing at UK National Archives).

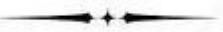
Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Commemorative Roll) & National Archives UK



John Feeney



Lillian & Kathleen Feeney



Newspaper Notices

War Office Daily List of Oct 8th.

WOUNDED

ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY

... Feeney, 9319 BDR. J. (Paddington, W.).....

(Weekly Casualty List (War Office & Air Ministry), London, England – 15 October, 1918)

War Office Daily List of Feb 9th.

Previously reported wounded, now reported

DIED OF WOUNDS

ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY

... Feeney, 9319 BDR. J. (Paddington, W.).....

(Weekly Casualty List (War Office & Air Ministry), London, England – 25 February, 1919)

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)

Bombardier J. Feeney does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

He Died That We Might Live From His Wife & Child

Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England

Located 30 miles from London in Surrey, Brookwood Military Cemetery is the largest CWGC cemetery in the United Kingdom. The cemetery contains the graves of more than 1,600 servicemen of the British Empire in the First World War and over 3,470 from the Second World War.

Brookwood Military Cemetery lies adjacent to Brookwood Cemetery (The London Necropolis), a vast space which covers 500 acres. In 1917, an area to the north of the cemetery was set aside as Brookwood Military Cemetery for men and women of Commonwealth forces who died, many of battle wounds, in the London district. This site was further extended to accommodate Commonwealth casualties of the Second World War. *(Information from CWGC)*

There are 446 Australian War Graves in Brookwood Military Cemetery – 351 from World War 1 & 95 from World War 2.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00185

A large crowd attends an A.I.F. military funeral at Brookwood Cemetery. In the foreground wooden crosses mark rows of graves. (Photo c1919)

Identified: Front row, left to right: Second Lieutenant Douglas Abbott Ferguson, Australian Flying Corps, died of accidental injuries 18 August 1918; Lieutenant (Lt) Francis John Smedley MC, 7th Battalion, died of wounds 20 August 1918.

Second row: 6860 Private (Pte) James Alexander McKeown, 21st Battalion, died of wounds 20 June 1918; 3622 Pte S T Wilson, 2nd Australian Pioneers, died of wounds 4 July 1918; 2390 Sergeant Frederick Charles Stronell, 21st Battalion, died of wounds 9 July 1918; Lt Arthur Melville Lilburne MC, 6th Brigade Australian Field Artillery, died of disease 11 July 1918.



Brookwood Military Cemetery (Photo from CWGC)



Brookwood Military Cemetery (Photos by Magicfingers)



Australian Graves in Brookwood Military Cemetery (Photos by Magicfingers)





(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher)



Australian War Graves *(Photo courtesy of Neil Bright 2020)*

Photo of Bombardier J. Feeney's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England.



(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher 2021)



(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher – Jan 2021)

