Durrington War Graves

World War 1

Lest We Forget

2567 PRIVATE

C. F. FENNER

40TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

14TH JANUARY, 1917   Age 22

Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte C. F. Fenner is located in Grave Plot # 154

of Durrington War Graves Cemetery

Clarence Floyd FENNER

Clarence Floyd Fenner was born at Richmond, Tasmania in 1895, to parents George and Hannah Fenner.

Clarence Floyd Fenner was a 21 year old, single, Labourer from Richmond, Tasmania when he enlisted on 2nd October, 1916 with the 40th Battalion of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 2567 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – George Fenner of Richmond, Tasmania.

Pte Clarence Floyd Fenner embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Ulysses (A38)* on 25th October, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 28th December, 1916. Pte Fenner had been admitted to Ship's Hospital on the journey to England for 3 days from 14th November, 1916.

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.

Pte Clarence Floyd Fenner was marched in to 10th Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire on 28th December, 1916.

Pte Clarence Floyd Fenner was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 10th January, 1917 – seriously ill.

Pte Clarence Floyd Fenner died at 7.30 a.m. on 14th January, 1917 at Fargo Military Hospital of pneumonia.

A death for Clarence F. Fenner, aged 20, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Pte Clarence Floyd Fenner was buried on 16th January, 1917 in Durrington Cemetery, Wilthsire – plot number 154.

A War Pension was granted to Hannah Fenner – mother of late Pte Clarence Floyd Fenner, in the sum of 20/- per fortnight from 19th March, 1917.

Private C. F. Fenner is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 132.
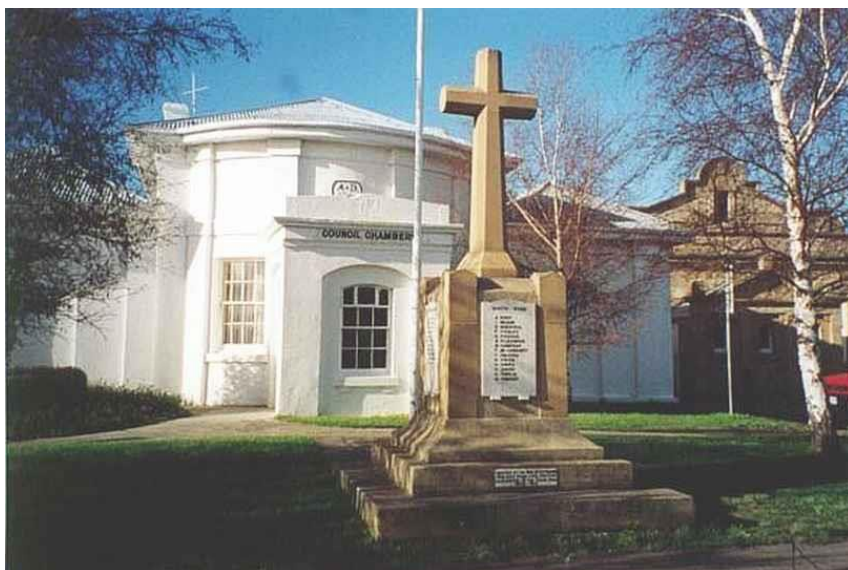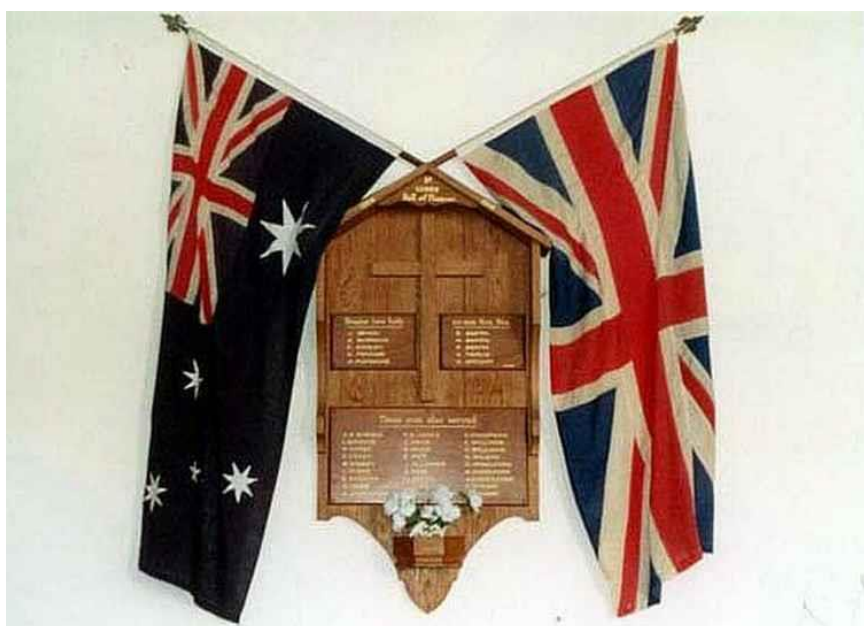

(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)

Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

C. Fenner is also remembered on the Richmond War Memorial located outside Old Town Hall, Highway C351 near Edward St, Richmond, Tasmania. (West Face of Memorial)

Richmond War Memorial *(Photo from War Memorials in Australia)*

C. Fenner is also remembered on the St. Lukes Richmond Roll of Honour located inside St. Luke the Physician Anglican Church – Edward, Tomans & Church Streets.

St. Lukes Roll of Honour, Richmond *(Photo from War Memorials in Australia)*

Pte Clarence Floyd Fenner was entitled to British War Medal only. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Fenner's father – Mr G. Fenner, Richmond, Tasmania (December, 1921 & July, 1922)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Clarence Floyd Fenner – service number 2567 as being 22 years old & served with 40th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of George and Hannah Fenner. Born at Richmond, Tasmania.

(50 pages of Pte Clarence Floyd Fenner's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives

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Private Clarence Floyd Fenner

(Photo from WW1 Pictorial Honour Roll of Tasmanians - Reg Watson)

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Newspaper Reports

ENTERED CAMP AT CLAREMONT

Fort-six men entered Claremont Camp on Tuesday, their names being:-

C. F. Fenner

(*The North Western Advocate and the Emu Bay Times*, Tasmania Friday 6 October, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOUR – 269th Casualty List

DIED OF ILLNESS

Private C. F. FENNER, Richmond, 14/1/17.

(*Examiner*, Launceston, Tasmania Tuesday 30 January, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

FENNER. -On January 14, 1917, at the Military Hospital, Fargo, Clarence Floyd, the

dearly loved youngest son of George and Hannah Fenner, of Richmond, Tasmania, in the 22nd year of his age.

Deeply mourned by father and mother, brothers and sisters.

The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh,

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

He died for the honour of his King and Country.

(*The Mercury, Hobart*, Tasmania Saturday 3 February, 1917)

BEREAVEMENT NOTICES

Mr. and Mrs. G. Fenner and family, of Richmond, desire to thank many kind relatives and friends for the numerous

letters, cards, and visits of sympathy in their sad bereavement in the death of their dear son and

brother, Clarence Floyd Fenner, aged 22, who died of pneumonia at the Fargo Military Hospital on January 14,

1917.Lamented by all who knew him.

(*The Mercury, Hobart*, Tasmania Saturday 12 May, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

FENNER.-In sad and loving memory of Private Clarence Fenner, who departed this life on January 14, 1917.

Sad and hard was the parting,

Cruel was the blow;

How we miss you darling Clarrie,

None on earth will ever know,

Safe in the arms of Jesus.

Inserted by his loving mother and father, sister and brother in-law, A. and A. O., and brother M. F., and M and J. F.

(*The Mercury, Hobart*, Tasmania Wednesday 15 January, 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 at Durrington War Graves Cemetery. 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)

Pte C. F. Fenner does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire *(Photo by Dave Healing 2013)*

Photo of Pte C. F. Fenner's Headstone at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire.

(Photo © Ian King - with permission)