

**New Brentford Cemetery,
Hounslow, Greater London**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1671 PRIVATE

WILLIAM JAMES FRY

AUSTRALIAN ARMY SERVICE CORPS

14TH SEPTEMBER, 1915 Age 25

Until The Easter Glory Fills The Sky

William James FRY

William James Fry was born at Brisbane, Queensland on 17th October, 1888 to parents Frank & Mary Ann Fry (nee Evan).

William James Fry attended Petrie Terrace State School, Queensland.

The 1913 & 1915 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Brisbane, subdivision of Toowong, Queensland, recorded William James Fry, Clerk, Heussler Terrace, Milton. His father - Frank Fry, Carter, was also listed at Heussler Terrace, Milton

William James Fry was a 25 year old, single, Customs Clerk when he enlisted on 5th October, 1914 in Brisbane, Queensland with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1671 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr Frank Fry, Milton, Heusseler Road, Brisbane, Queensland.

William James Fry was posted to D.A.P. (Divisional Ammunition Park) on 5th October, 1914 as a Cleaner.

Private William James Fry embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Ceramic (A40)* on 22nd December, 1914 with the 301st (M.T.) A.S.C. (17th Divisional Ammunition Park) (8th A.S.C.). (Place & date of disembarkation not recorded)

Private William James Fry was admitted to Red Cross Hospital, Winchester, England on 7th July, 1915 with Inflammation of Glands of Neck. He was transferred on 12th July, 1915 to Royal Hants County Hospital, Winchester with Epithelioma of Tongue. Private Fry was transferred on 11th August, 1915 according to Hospital Admissions form to "*Special Hospital & University College, London for further treatment.*"

Private William James Fry died on 14th September, 1915 at his Aunt's House – Miss Fry, "Cairo", Lansdowne Road, Hounslow, England from Cancer of Throat & Tongue.

A death for William J. Fry, aged 25, was registered in the September quarter, 1915 in the district of Brentford, Middlesex, England.

Private William James Fry was buried in New Brentford Cemetery, Hounslow, Greater London, England – Grave No. 20 Row "A" Block "B".

This is now recorded by CWGC as Plot number B. A. 20 & has a Private Headstone. His death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

A communication was sent to Mr F. Fry. "Milton", Heunler Rd, Brisbane, Queensland on 19th December with the following: "*Sir, No. 1671 Private W. J. Fry, wounds received in action at Gallipoli 14th Sept. 1915. New Brentford Cemetery, Hounslow. 20 A row B. block.*" (Note: Private Fry did not proceed to Gallipoli & did not enter a Theatre of War – as shown by the fact that he was not issued the British War Medal).

Newspaper item – *The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 13 November, 1916:

FUNERAL OF A YOUNG AUSTRALIAN

Full military honours were accorded at the funeral of a young Australian, which took place at the New Brentford Cemetery, Sutton-lane, on Saturday afternoon (says the "Middlesex Chronicle" of September 25). He was Private William James Fry, of the transport section of the 1st Australian Contingent, which volunteered for service with the British troops in the war. He was the son of Mr. Frank Fry, formerly of Surbiton, and now of Brisbane, and nephew of Miss E. Fry, of 27 Lansdowne-road, who has for many years held the position of head mistress at the Hounslow Town Girls School. He was born in Brisbane, and when the war broke out was one of the first to volunteer for service in the Imperial Forces. He came to England with his corps in February, and was stationed at Romsey, near Southampton. During the time that he was in training he caught a severe cold, and also met with an accident. A serious illness followed, for which he was successively treated in Winchester Hospital, a hospital in London, and

© Cathy Sedgwick 2022

finally at Harefield Hospital, near Uxbridge, but to no avail. Himself realising that his case had become hopeless, he came to stay with his friends at Hounslow on the 6th instant. He seemed to rally for a time, but his malady again asserted itself, he grew weaker, and passed away on September 14, at the age of 25 years. The Army Cyclist Corps, stationed in this town, furnished a firing party of 14 for the obsequies and this headed the cortege from No 27 Lansdowne-road. The coffin (covered with the Union Jack) was borne on a gun carriage, followed by Lieutenant-Colonel H. W. Lee (representing Sir George Reid, the High Commissioner for the Australian Commonwealth in England), Sergeant-major Coleman (of the Head-quarters Staff of the Australian Contingent, Victoria street), and two coaches conveying mourning relatives and Dr G. A. Mavor. On arriving at the cemetery the Rev L. B. Currie (the vicar of Holy Trinity parish) read the burial office in the chapel and then committed the body to the grave, the sad ceremony closing with the firing of three volleys by the Army Cyclists, and the sounding of the Last Post by buglers. Floral tokens were sent by "Dad" (Brisbane), "Flo" (Brisbane), "Aunt Lizzie," "Ria " "Uncle Jack" (London), "Alice, George, and the Girls" (Walton House), "Aunt Alice and Uncle Vic" (Sheerness), "Uncle George and Aunt Grace" (Manor Park) "Uncle Dan and Aunt Lizzie" (Lewisham), "Uncle Arthur and Aunt Susie" (Forest Gate), "Uncle George," "Bertha and Phoebe," "Uncle Walter and Aunt Flo" (Chatham), "Cousins Vi , Lily, and Ivy," Sister Goodall (Red Cross Hospital, Winchester), Mrs Godwin (Winchester), Dr and Mrs Mavor, Mr and Mrs Kelly, Mr and Mrs Weightman, "A Soldier's Mother," and Staff of Hounslow Town Girls' School.

Base Records contacted Mr F. Fry, Milton, Heussler Road, Brisbane, Queensland on 16th June, 1921 stating he was noted on the records of the late No. 1671 Private W. J. Fry, 8th A.S.C. as the registered next-of-kin but desired to know if there were any nearer blood relatives than himself & was specifically asked if Private Fry's father & mother were still living 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.

Mr F. Fry replied to Base Records on 24th July, 1921 with the following: *"In reply to yours of 16th June re 1671 late Private W. J. Fry, 8th A.S.C. relationship to above (Father) his nearest next of kin. His mother and his only sister being dead. As his father I claim to be his nearest next of kin. Trusting this is the information you require I remain.."*

Private William James Fry 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 Fry's father – Mr F. Fry, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent August, 1921 & Plaque sent August, 1922).

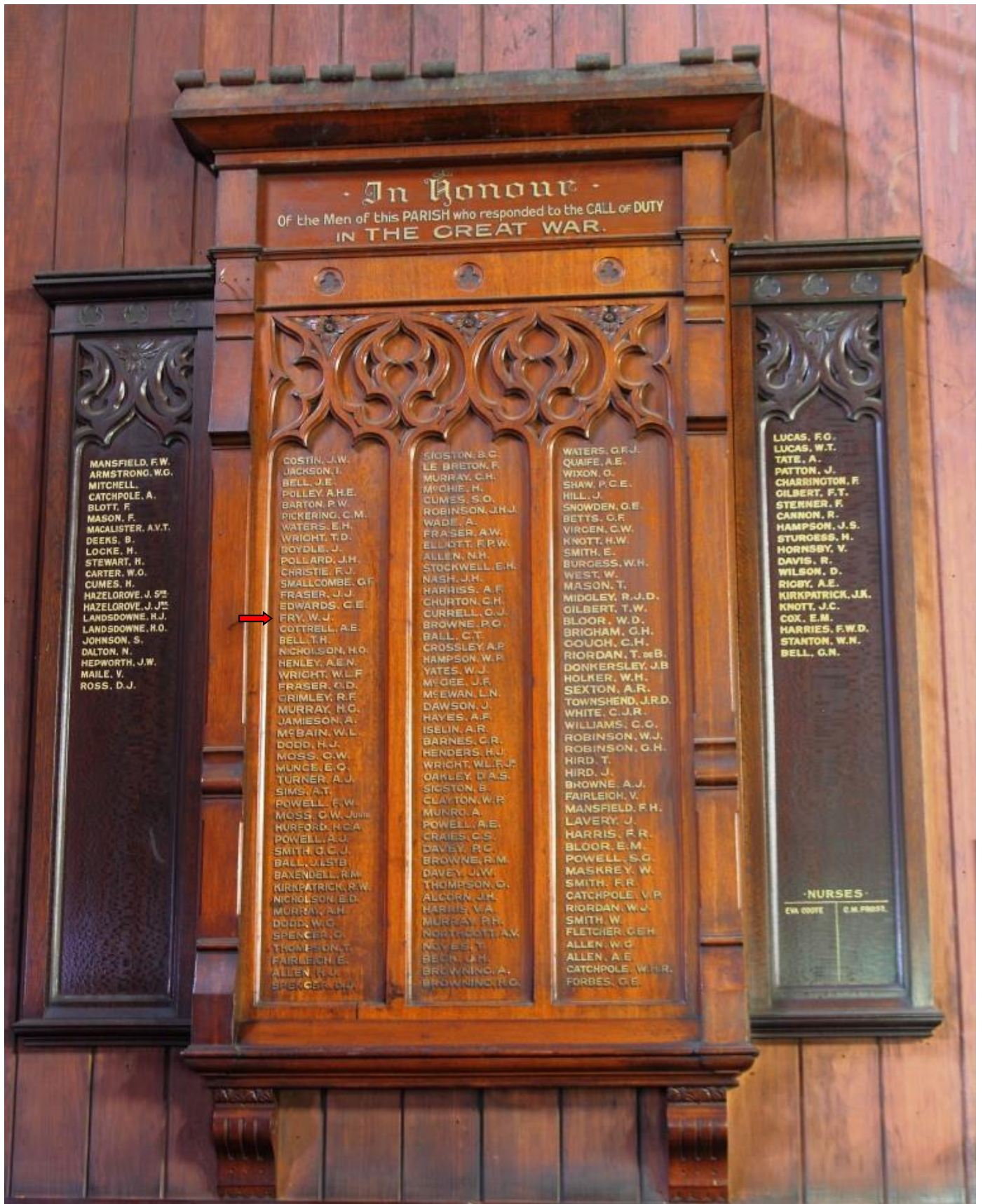
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private William James Fry – service number 1671, of Div. Ammunition Park, Australian Army Service Corps. He was the son of Frank and Mary Ann Fry, of Milton, Neusser Rd, Brisbane, Queensland.

Private W. J. Fry is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 181.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

W. J. Fry is remembered on the Christ Church Honour Roll, located in Christ Church Anglican, 9 Chippendall Street, Milton, Brisbane, Queensland.



Christ Church Honour Roll, Milton (Photo from AWM Places of Pride)

W. J. Fry is remembered on the Ithaca War Memorial, located at Enoggera Terrace, Paddington, Queensland.

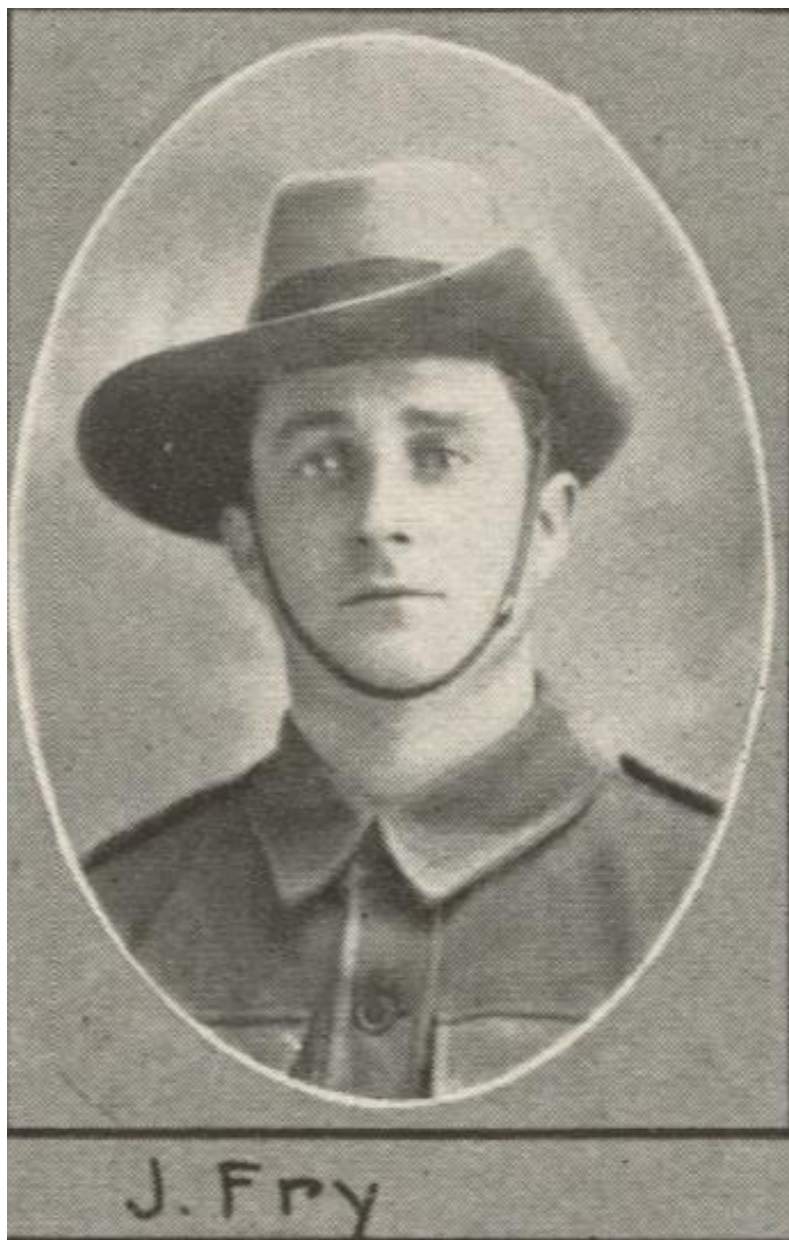


Ithaca War Memorial (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Brendan Downs)



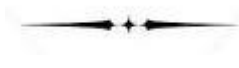
(39 pages of Private William James Fry's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives



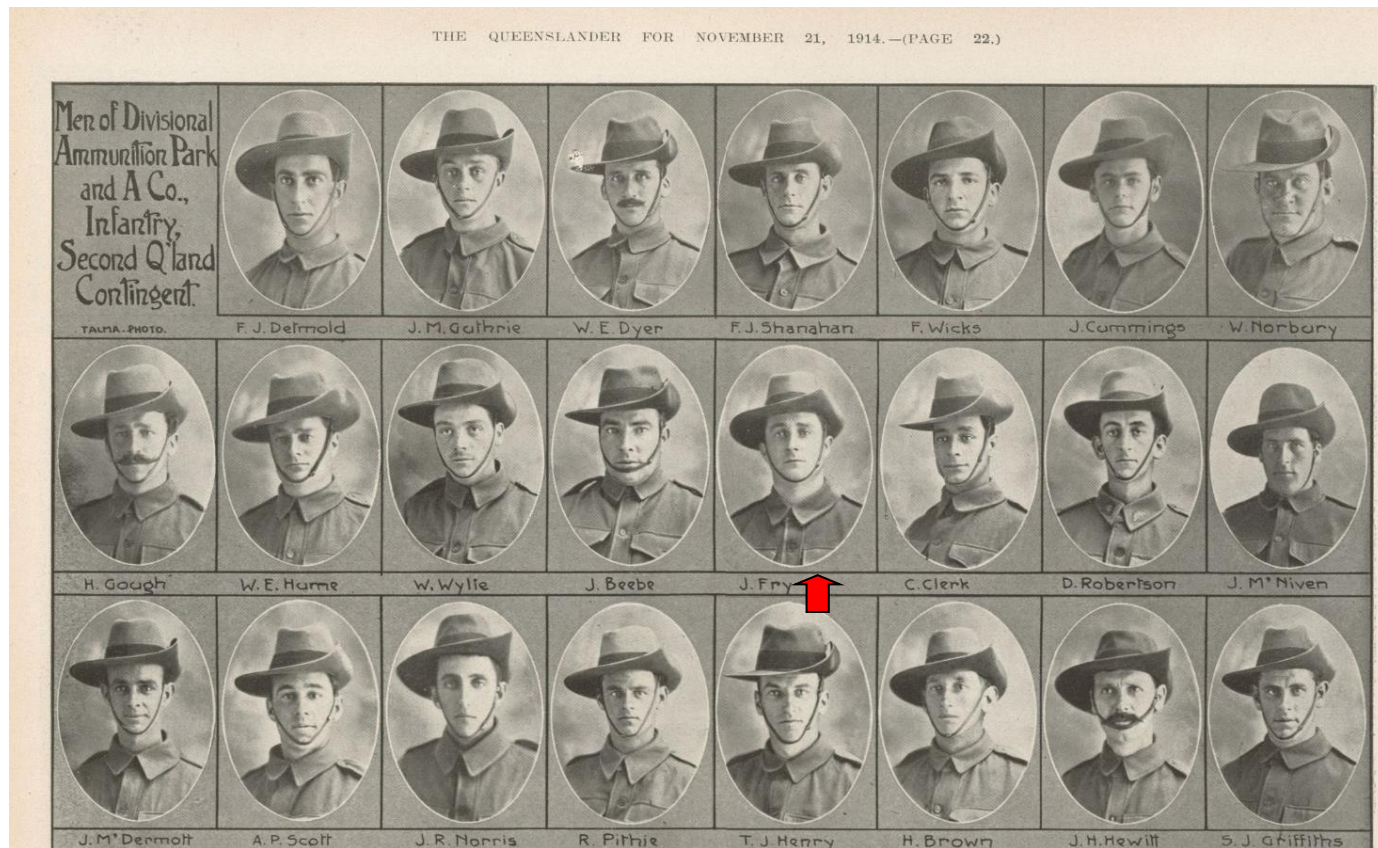
Private J. Fry

(State Library of Queensland – The Queenslander Pictorial 21 November, 1914)



Newspaper Notices

Men of Divisional Ammunition Park and A Co., Infantry, Second Q'land Contingent



(The Queenslander, Brisbane, Queensland – 21 November, 1914)

AUSTRALIANS IN ACTION

87th and 88th Casualty Lists

QUEENSLAND

CAUSE OF DEATH NOT KNOWN

Private W. J. Fry, Brisbane, died at Hounslow, England, September 14.

(Barrier Miner, Broken Hill, NSW – 8 October, 1915)

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 William James Fry has a Private Headstone.

New Brentford Cemetery, Hounslow, Greater London, England

New Brentford Cemetery, Hounslow, Greater London contains 56 Commonwealth War Graves – 54 relating to World War 1 & 2 relating to World War 2.



New Brentford Cemetery, Hounslow (Photo from CWGC)



New Brentford Cemetery, Hounslow (Photos from CWGC)



Photo of Private William James Fry's Private Headstone in New Brentford Cemetery, Hounslow, Greater London, England.



(Photo from Find a Grave – Emma Horrocks 2021)