

**Grantham Cemetery,
Grantham, Lincolnshire
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



550 PRIVATE

N. C. GALLAGHER

AUST. MACHINE GUN CORPS

26TH APRIL, 1917 Age 30

*The Lord Gave
And The Lord Hath Taken Away*

Norman Carrington GALLAGHER

Norman Carrington Gallagher was born at Delungra, near Inverell, NSW in 1886 to parents Joseph and Susan Louisa Gallagher (nee Palmer).

Norman Carrington Gallagher was a 28 year old, single, Bricklayer from 70 Liverpool Road, Paddington, Sydney, NSW when he enlisted at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW on 22nd June, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Susan Gallagher, of Oakwood, near Inverell, NSW.

Private Norman Carrington Gallagher, Service number 2588, embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT Runic (A54) on 9th August, 1915 with the 1st Infantry Battalion, 8th Reinforcements.

Private Norman Gallagher joined his Battalion at Gallipoli on 30th October, 1915 from 8th Reinforcements. He disembarked at Alexandria from H.M.T. *Huntsgreen* on 28th December, 1915 (after evacuation of Gallipoli).

Private Norman Gallagher reported sick at Tel-el-Kebir on 20th January, 1916. He was admitted to 2nd Field Ambulance – epileptic then transferred to 2nd Casualty Clearing Station on 21st January, 1916. Private Gallagher was transferred & admitted to 2nd Australian General Hospital, Ghezireh on 21st January, 1916 with Epilepsy.

A Medical Report was completed on Private Norman Gallagher on 15th February, 1916 while at 2nd Australian General Hospital regarding his disability – Jacksonian Epilepsy. The disability had originally occurred in March, 1915 at Inverell, NSW. He *“was taken with an Epileptic fit & admitted to Inverell Hospital suffering from frontal sinus where it was opened up. Stayed one month and was sent to Prince Alfred Hospital, where six operations were performed. Arrived Egypt 9th Sept. last. Was admitted to 2nd A.G.H. in an epileptic fit, Suffers constantly from headaches. Was injured by a fall against a post twelve months before his first fit.”* The Medical Board recommended that Private Norman Gallagher be discharged as permanently unfit.

Private Norman Gallagher was transferred to 2nd Auxiliary Hospital at Heliopolis on 17th February, 1916 with Epilepsy then transferred to 1st Auxiliary Hospital at Heliopolis on 13th March, 1916.

Private Norman Gallagher embarked from Suez on 12th April, 1916 for Australia on Hospital Ship *Karoola* for discharge due to Jacksonian Epilepsy.

Private Norman Gallagher was written up while on No. 1 Australian Hospital Ship *Karoola* on 23rd April, 1916 – Overstaying leave by 1 hour & 15 minutes. He was reprimanded.

Mrs S. Gallagher, mother of Private Norman Carrington Gallagher, was advised that her son was returning to Australia on Hospital Ship *Karoola* & was due in Melbourne on 5th May, 1916.

Private Norman Carrington Gallagher was discharged from the Australian Imperial Force in consequence of medical unfitness on 23rd June, 1916.

Norman Carrington Gallagher was a 29 year old, single, Bricklayer from “Oakwood” Inverell, NSW when he re-enlisted on 24th July, 1916 at Royal Agricultural Show Grounds, Moore Park, Sydney, NSW with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his father – Mr J. Gallagher, of “Oakwood” Inverell, NSW. Norman Gallagher stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously served with 8th Reinforcements of 1st Battalion, A.I.F. for 1 year but had been discharged medically unfit.

Private Norman Carrington Gallagher was posted to Machine Gun Company on 24th July, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to No. 13 Company. Private Gallagher was Absent without leave from 24th September, 1916 to 25th September, 1916 while posted at Addison R. Camp & also drunk. He was fined £1. Private Gallagher was transferred to Machine Gun Depot at Seymour on 26th September, 1916. He was transferred to 9th Reinforcements of 1st Machine Gun Company on 29th November, 1916.

Private Norman Carrington Gallagher, Service number 550, embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Orsova* (A67) on 6th December, 1916 with the 1st Machine Gun Company, 9th Reinforcements. Private Gallagher was written up for an Offence on 7th January, 1917 while at Sea – Absent without Leave from 11pm on 1st January, 1917 to 9.30 on 2nd January, 1917. He was awarded 24 hours detention & a total forfeiture of 3 days' pay. Private Gallagher disembarked at Plymouth, England on 17th February, 1917.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England.

Private Norman Carrington Gallagher was marched in to Australian Details - Camps No. 6 & 7 at Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 18th February, 1917.

Private Norman Gallagher was written up for an Offence on 18th February, 1917 while at Perham Downs – Disorderly Conduct. He was awarded 14 days Confined to Barracks from 19th February, 1917.

Private Norman Gallagher was marched out from Perham Downs on 23rd February, 1917 & marched in to Australian Machine Gun Training Depot at Belton Park, Grantham, Lincolnshire on 24th February, 1917.

Private Norman Gallagher was written up for an Offence while at Belton Park on 26th March, 1917 – Overstaying Leave pass from 2 am to 8.30 am on 26th March, 1917. He was awarded 3 days Confined to Barracks & a total forfeiture of 1 days' pay.

Private Norman Gallagher was sent sick to Belton Hospital, Grantham, Lincolnshire, England on 26th April, 1917 with Epilepsy.

Private Norman Carrington Gallagher died at 11 am on 26th April, 1917 at Belton Hospital, Grantham, Lincolnshire, England from Epilepsy. A telegram was sent on 4th May, 1917 to A.I.F. Depots in England, Tidworth stating Private N. C. Gallagher, Number 350 had died of Pneumonia. A telegram was sent from O/C Military Hospital, Grantham to Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F on 7th May, 1917 stating that Private N. C. Gallagher had died on 26th April of Epilepsy. (The summary page in Private N. C. Gallagher's Service Record file originally stated he had "*Died 26.4.17 Pneumonia at Belton Hospital, Grantham*" but a line added underneath "*now rept. cause of death from Epilepsy.*")

A death for Norman C. Gallagher, aged 26, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Grantham, Lincolnshire, England.

Private Norman Carrington Gallagher was buried on 28th April, 1917 in Grantham Cemetery, Grantham, Lincolnshire, England – Grave No. 32 Q Colour Blue Section 4 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private Norman Carrington Gallagher - *Coffin was polished Elm with brass fittings. He was given a Military Funeral with Honours.*

Base Records contacted Mrs S. Gallagher, c/o Mrs A. Gilligan, Delungra via Warialda, NSW, registered as the next-of-kin of the late Private N. C. Gallagher, in April, 1920 to advise that Private Gallagher's remains had been exhumed from Grave No. 32, Section 4 Blue & had been re-interred in Grave number 10B, Section 15 of the same Cemetery. Mr s Gallagher was advised that "*This work is carried out with every measure of care and reverence in the presence of a Chaplain.*"

Private Norman Carrington Gallagher was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Gallagher's mother – Mrs S. Gallagher, as the closest next-of-kin (father deceased January, 1917). (Scroll & Plaque sent June, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Norman Gallagher – service number 550, aged 30, of Australian Machine Gun Corps. He was the son of Joseph and Susan Louisa Gallagher, of Koloona, Warialda, New South Wales. Born at Inverell, New South Wales.

Private N. C. Gallagher is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 178.



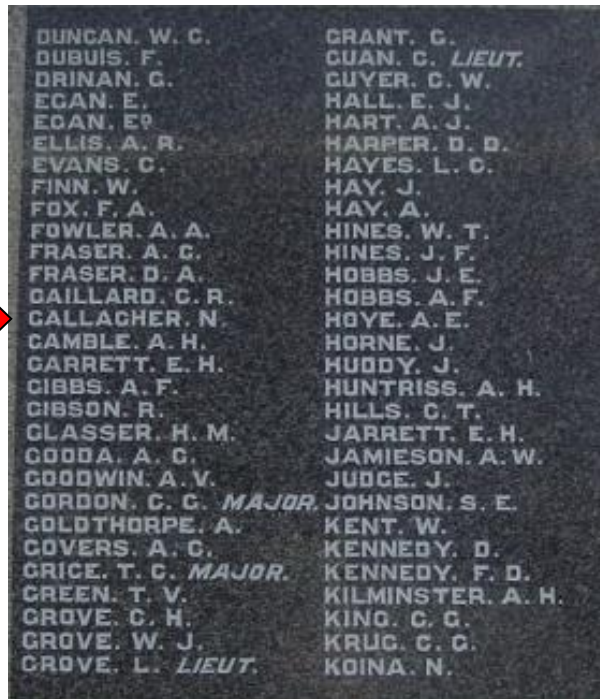
Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

N. Gallagher is remembered on the Oakwood & Cherry Tree Hill WW1 Honor Roll, located in Oakwood Hall, Inverell Pioneer Village, 64 Tingha Road, Inverell, NSW.



Oakwood & Cherry Tree Hill WW1 Honor Roll (Photo from Monument Australia – John Huth)

N. Gallagher is remembered on the Inverell War Memorial/Cenotaph located opposite the Inverell Returned Services Memorial Club, corner Lawrence & Evans Streets, Inverell, NSW.



Inverell War Memorial/Cenotaph

(100 pages of Private Norman Carrington Gallagher'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

PB0784

Members of the 9th Reinforcements, 1st Machine Gun Company,

(1MGC) grouped informally on the wharf, waiting to embark on the troopship HMAT Orsova (A67). Behind the group are three railway trucks. The bow of the troopship HMAT Vestalia (A44) can also be seen in the left background.

(6 December, 1916)

Identified, left to right: front row: 550 Private (Pte) Norman Carrington Gallagher, bricklayer of Inverell, NSW, smoking a cigarette and holding his white kitbag in one hand and a Gladstone bag in the other hand; 567 Pte Percy Frederick Whittaker, stockman of Erskinville, NSW; 560 Pte Hilton Claude Henry Stein, shop assistant of Fairfield, NSW, (behind and between Gallagher and Whittaker); 562 Pte Oscar Edwin Stonz, turner of St Peters, NSW, (slightly behind Whittaker); three unidentified; 559 Pte Horatio Scott, electrical mechanic of Camperdown, NSW; three unidentified; 556 Pte Cyril Charles Fetterplace, store assistant of Granville, NSW, (slightly to left of Scott).

Standing in the far back wearing a peaked cap is an unidentified corporal.

Pte Gallagher died of Pneumonia on 26 April 1917 at Belton Hospital, Grantham, England aged 30 years. Pte Scott who was born in Dundee, Scotland, was killed in action on 27 September 1917 aged 37, at Polygon Wood, Flanders, Belgium.



(Photo from VWMA – Michelle Herbert)



Newspaper Notices

CASUALTIES

141st LIST ISSUED

NEW SOUTH WALES

ILL IN HOSPITAL

AT GHEZIREH

Pte N. C. GALLAGHER, 1 B., 3 R, Oakwood

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 14 February, 1916)

POSTBAG OF THE WAR

Private Norman Gallagher, son of Mrs Gallagher, of Prairie Park, writes to his mother as follows:-

It is only now that I have the opportunity of writing again to you, to let you know where I am, and that I'm very well also. It is about three weeks since I wrote last, but I have been unable to write from that time till now. I am not fighting in trenches at the Peninsula. I expect that you have read of all our doings at Anzac, and have waited anxiously to hear from me. Well, mother, Xmas Day is over, and I had mine at sea. I hope that you had a merry one, and not like mine; but I will be on land for New Year's Day. I feel a great deal of difference in the weather to the snow at Anzac. I am wearing my short trousers again. We are not near any city here we are in the bush in fact, but there are plenty of plantations round here. We are right on an old battle field, and the old trenches are still here. There is a very large cemetery also, in which lie some fellow heroes of those days. We received our Xmas gifts a couple of days before Xmas at Mudros. My "billy" contained very many useful articles and everything was very acceptable to me, even the billy can. I am using it for everything. We also got a cake between two men. I must write to the senders to let them know how thankful I am for their kindness. This is the writing paper that was in it, on which I am writing to you. I have not sent you any curios yet; O have got some Turkish bullets, etc.. but I want to make sure of them going safely first. But, mother, I have a lot that I would like to write yet, but I will have to leave it for some other occasion. Let them know at Les. McGuffick's home that he is here and is quite well. I wrote and asked you to send me some things, but you need not send things at all now, as I have plenty of everything. I happened to meet Hughie Hines, of Oakwood, the day I left the trenches, for the first time since I came over. I will see him again here.

(The writer is now lying ill in the Australian hospital at Ghezareh, Egypt. – Ed.)

(*The Inverell Times*, NSW – 15 February, 1916)

DISTRICT NEWS

OAKWOOD

On Friday last a welcome home was given to Mr Norman Gallagher, son of Mrs Gallagher, of Prairie Park, who has been invalided home from the front. Mr Gallagher was at the evacuation of Gallipoli. About a hundred people assembled in the Oakwood Hall; dancing was freely indulged in, and this was interspersed with songs. A very enjoyable evening was spent. Mr A. H. Woods addressed those present, eulogising Mr Gallagher for the good work he had done over at Gallipoli. Mr Gallagher responded in a very able manner. Three cheers were given for "Norma Gallagher," and after the singing of the National Anthem the people wended their way home.

(*The Inverell Times*, NSW – 30 May, 1916)

DELUNGRA SOLDIER

SEND-OFF TO TPR W. GILHOLME

A very large gathering took place in the School of Arts Hall last Monday evening, to do honour to Trooper W. Gilholme, who was home on final leave.....

A presentation of socks was also made to Pte Norman Gallagher by Mr Arnold, who remarked that Pte Gallagher had practically been on active service, Owing to not being able to stand the booming of the cannons and the explosions of high pressure shells he has been invalided home. He has again been passed for active service and was leaving on Friday next. He, the speaker, had known him personally from a child, and had worked with him and knew him to be one of the right sort. He trusted that Pte Gallagher would have God-speed and a safe return.
(Applause)

The people then sang "They are jolly good fellows" and the soldiers then responded.
The singing of God Save the King brought the evening to a close.

(*The Inverell Times*, NSW – 15 September, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOUR

PRIVATE N. C. GALLAGHER

One of the saddest deaths on connection with the terrible war now raging was reported on Friday last when Mrs Gallagher, of Oakwood, received the distressing news that her son, Private N. C. Gallagher, of the 1st Machine Gun Company, had died on April 26th from pneumonia in Belton Hospital, Grantham. Private Norman Carrington Gallagher's death was indeed a noble one, for no man could have strived to serve his country better than he. In August 3, 1915, he left Sydney on a transport bound for Egypt. From the land of the Sphinx he went to Gallipoli, and fought for months in that campaign, until stricken down with illness. He never properly recovered from the malady, and was returned to Australia as medically unfit. On his arrival in Inverell, it will be remembered that he was accorded an enthusiastic welcome, and in the course of his reply the sick warrior announced that he would be off again as soon as he had his health restored. After having a few weeks' rest, the call to help his mates was irresistible, and he re-enlisted in Sydney in the artillery, and sailed from Victoria on December 5, 1916. He arrived in England in January, 1917, but was never well enough to leave that country, and eventually succumbed as above stated. The late Private Gallagher was the eldest son of Mrs Gallagher, of Prairie Park, and was 30 years of age. He was a splendid type of manhood, and the sympathy of the whole community will, we feel sure, be extended to his grief-stricken mother.

(The Inverell Times, NSW – 15 May, 1917)

LATEST CASUALTIES

329th LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED OF ILLNESS

Pte Norman Carrington Gallagher, Inverell.

(The Land, Sydney, NSW – 17 August, 1917)

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)

A letter from Base Records, dated 12th July, 1921, to Mrs S. Gallagher, c/o Mr S. Kennedy, Koloona, via Warialda, NSW, advised that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of her son, the late Private N. C. Gallagher, had not been answered & non-receipt of a reply within 21 days would have to be accepted as indicating that no further action was to be taken.

Private N. C. Gallagher does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

The Lord Gave And The Lord Hath Taken Away

Grantham Cemetery, Grantham, Lincolnshire, England

During the First World War there were machine gun camps and depots at Belton Park, on the Lincoln Road, and at Grantham a 620 bed military hospital. Most of the First World War burials are scattered throughout the cemetery but a number of Australian and New Zealand machine gunners are buried together in Section 15. During the Second World War there was a Royal Air Force station at Grantham and there is a small group of RAF graves in Section 17. Other Second World War graves are in a small war graves plot in Section 19, opposite the town's memorial to the civilian war dead, and the remainder are in various other parts of the cemetery. The Cross of Sacrifice is near the eastern side of the cemetery, between sections 2 and 3 and serves as a central memorial to the service men of both wars buried here. Grantham Cemetery contains 55 Commonwealth burials of the First World War and 58 from the Second. There is also one Dutch war grave.

(Information from CWGC)



Grantham Cemetery *(Photo by Roger Sayer)*



Grantham Cemetery – Australian Plot *(Photo courtesy of Stephen Stapleton)*



(Photo by Roger Sayer)

Photo of Private N. C. Gallagher's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Grantham Cemetery, Grantham, Lincolnshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Adam Gadd)

GRANTHAM CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM

WARRAWBY ROAD NG31 9DT

