

Durrington War Graves

World War 1



Lest We Forget



LIEUTENANT

E. L. GOODWIN

19TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

10TH MARCH, 1917 Age 32

*The Lord Gave
& The Lord Hath Taken Away*

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Lieutenant E. L. Goodwin is located in
Grave Plot # 219 of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

Ernest Leslie GOODWIN

Ernest Leslie Goodwin was born on 16th February, 1885 in Kingsland, Herefordshire, England. His birth was registered in March quarter, 1885 in the district of Leominster, Herefordshire.

The 1891 England Census listed Ernest Goodwin as a 6 year old living at Lawton Cobnash, Kingsland with his grandparents – James Goodwin (aged 59, Labourer) & Jemima Goodwin (aged 50). Four of James & Jemima's children were also recorded – Thomas Goodwin (aged 18, Mason's Labourer), Kate Goodwin (aged 26), John W. Goodwin (aged 11, Scholar) & Benjamin Goodwin (aged 7, Scholar). Alice Goodwin (aged 9), granddaughter of James & Jemima was also recorded.

The 1901 England Census recorded Ernest Goodwin as a 16 year old Draper's Assistant living at 422 Wandsworth Road, Clapham, London living with Sylvina Goodwin (aged 40, Draper, Shopkeeper), Emily Daw (aged 29, Milliner) & Annie Sproules (aged 21, General Servant). No relationship is recorded between Sylvina & Ernest (possibly his mother – refer to CWGC details below).

Mr Ernest Goodwin, Draper, aged 25, was a passenger on the *Runic*, which departed Liverpool, England on 12th February, 1910 & was bound for Australia. The *Runic* arrived in the port of Sydney, Australia on 26th March, 1910. (Information from the Roll of Honour (which was completed by family members of deceased soldiers) completed by Ernest's mother states that Ernest came to Australia at the age of 25 & his occupation was a Draper).

Ernest Leslie Goodwin was a 30 year old, single, Designer & Salesman for David Jones Ltd from "Marathon" 145 Queen St, Woollahra, Sydney, New South Wales when he enlisted on 5th August, 1915 with the 5th Infantry Brigade, 19th Infantry Battalion, 6th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs J. Goodwin of Kingsland, Hereford, England

On the application form for a Commission in the A.I.F., Ernest Leslie Goodwin stated he had 6 months Rifle Club experience. Ernest Leslie Goodwin was appointed 2nd Lieutenant on 16th September, 1915 & gazetted.

Lieutenant Ernest Leslie Goodwin embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Euripides (A14)* on 2nd November, 1915.

On 19th November, 1916 Second Lieutenant Ernest Leslie Goodwin was one of three officers to be recommended for Mentions in Despatches. On 10th December, 1916 Second Lieutenant Ernest Leslie Goodwin of 19th Battalion was one of three officers to be mentioned in Despatches – *"These Officers have served as Q.M.'s of Training Battalions in Egypt and since arrival in England in June last. They have all done excellent work in a department which necessitates the greatest efficiency to prevent losses. They have successfully equipped over 10,000 reinforcements from this Group since June and done all work very efficiently. They are now detailed to remain with the Training Battalions for a further term and thus prevented from going overseas."* On 24th February, 1917, 2nd Lieutenant was mentioned for valuable services rendered in connection with the War.

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. Second Lieutenant Ernest Leslie Goodwin was appointed to 5th Infantry Training Battalion, Staff, Camp 7, Rollestone, Wiltshire.

Second Lieutenant Ernest Leslie Goodwin was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital on 20th February, 1917 with Bronchitis. He was transferred to the Isolation Hospital at Tidworth on 25th February, 1917.

Second Lieutenant Ernest Leslie Goodwin died at 9.15 p.m. on 10th March, 1917 at Lucknow Isolation Hospital, Tidworth of Bronchitis.

A death for Ernest L. Goodwin, aged 32, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Pewsey, Wiltshire.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing File for Lieutenant Ernest Leslie Goodwin contains 3 letters:

- *“Information – Admitted Fargo Military Hospital 20.2.17. Bronchitis. Trans. Isolation Hospital Tidworth 25.2.17. Died at Isolation Hospital Tidworth 10.3.17.*
- *Died 1917 – Buried at Durrington Cemetery – consecrated portion – grave No. 219 by Capt. K. Single. Died of Bronchitis 10-3-17 – Isolation Hpl. Tidworth – Buried at Durrington Cem. 13-3-17 – Consecrated portion – grave No. 219 by Capt. Single.*
- Letter dated 23rd June, 1917 to Miss Henley, Australian Comforts Fund, 66 Victoria Street, S.W.1. : *Dear Madam, We very much regret to inform you that Lieut. E. L. Goodwin, 19th Battn. A.I.F., died of Bronchitis on the 10th March, 1917, at the Isolation Hospital, Tidworth, and was buried on the 13th March in Grave No. 219, in the consecrated portion of the Durrington Cemetery. Regretting the distressing character of this news, Yours faithfully, Secretary.”*

Second Lieutenant Ernest Leslie Goodwin was buried at Durrington Cemetery – plot number 219 on 13th March, 1917.

In reply to a letter from Mrs R. Macalpine, dated 8th July, 1917, (whose address was “Marathon” 145 Queen St, Woollahra, Sydney, New South Wales – the same address as listed for Lieutenant Goodwin when he enlisted) who was enquiring into Lieutenant Goodwin’s death – part of the reply given was – *“The deceased soldier was accorded a Military Funeral, and his numerous friends in the 5th Battalion, intend to erect a memorial.”*

A letter was sent to Mrs J. Goodwin of Kingsland, Hereford, England, dated 20th July, 1917 from Major, Base Records A.I.F. stating:

“I have much pleasure in forwarding hereunder copy of extract from a War Office Document, dated 24th February, 1917, relating to the conspicuous services rendered by your son, the late Second Lieutenant E. L. Goodwin, 19th Battalion.

X X X X X
HONOURS AND REWARDS

The name of the undermentioned officer of the Australian Imperial Force has been brought to the Notice of the Secretary of State for War for valuable services rendered in connexion with the War, and where applicable, an entry will be made in records of service accordingly:-

Second Lieutenant ERNEST LESLIE GOODWIN
X X X X X

The above has been promulgated in Military order, No. 290 of 14th July, 1917.

Lieutenant Ernest Leslie Goodwin was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Lieut. Goodwin’s brother – Arthur Benjamin Goodwin of Kingsland, Herefordshire, England (both sent December, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Lieutenant Ernest Leslie Goodwin as being 32 years old & served with 19th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Mrs S. E. Knill, of Upper House, Cholstrey, Leominster, Herefordshire, England. Born at Kingsland, Herefordshire.

Lieutenant E. L. Goodwin is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 88.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Ernest Goodwin is also remembered on the Kingsland War Memorial located in Churchyard of St Michael, Kingsland, Herefordshire, England.



Kingsland War Memorial (Photo by Penny Gardner – 2007)



Churchyard of St Michael, Kingsland, Herefordshire, England (Photo from CWGC)

(45 pages of Lieutenant Ernest Leslie Goodwin'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



Newspaper Reports

ROLL OF HONOUR – 282nd CASUALTY LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

Second-Lieutenant E. L. Goodwin, England, illness, 10/3/17

(*The Mercury*, Hobart, Tasmania Wednesday 28 March, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

GOODWIN.- Died of illness, in English hospital, Lieut. E. L. Goodwin, late of Drummoyne, after serving his King and country for two years. Inserted by his sincere friend, Mrs. Manson.

(*The Sydney Morning Herald*, NSW Friday 27 April, 1917)

AUSTRALIANS HONOURED

The names of the following officers and non-commissioned officers of the A.I.F. who have rendered valuable services have been entered in the records of service:-

2nd Lieutenant E. L. Goodwin, 19th Battalion;

(*The Sydney Morning Herald*, NSW Wednesday 18 July, 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 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*)

Lieutenant E. L. Goodwin does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

The Lord Gave & The Lord Hath Taken Away



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

Photo of Lieutenant E. L. Goodwin's Headstone at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)