

Durrington War Graves

World War 1



Lest We Forget



2577 PRIVATE

G. I. GREENFIELD

41ST BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

2ND AUGUST, 1917

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte G. I. Greenfield is located in Grave Plot # 253
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

Gordon Ivo GREENFIELD

Gordon Ivo Greenfield was born at Gatton, Queensland. A birth was registered in 1889 for Gordon Ivo Greenfield to parents Henry Harry & Alicia Greenfield (nee Mahaffey).

Gordon Ivo Greenfield was a 23 year old, single, Buttermaker when he enlisted on 19th August, 1914 with the 9th Battalion, 11th Infantry of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 193 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Harry Greenfield of Gatton, Queensland. Gordon stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously served with Senior Cadets Rifle Club at Gatton.

Gordon Ivo Greenfield was discharged on 10th September, 1914 on the grounds he was “not likely to become an efficient soldier.”

Gordon Ivo Greenfield stated he was a 23* year old, single, Railway Porter from Roma, Queensland when he re-enlisted on 25th January, 1916 with the 41st Infantry Battalion, 5th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 2577 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Harry Greenfield of Gatton, Queensland. (*Age discrepancy – Gordon did not change his age when he re-enlisted). Gordon stated on his Attestation Papers that he had not been previously rejected as unfit to serve.

Pte Gordon Ivo Greenfield embarked from Brisbane on HMAT *Kyarra (A55)* on 17th November, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 30th January, 1917.

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 Gordon Ivo Greenfield was marched in to 11th Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire on 17th February, 1917.

Pte Gordon Ivo Greenfield was admitted to Hospital for 19 days suffering from Mumps - from 23rd February until 13th March, 1917.

Pte Gordon Ivo Greenfield was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital for 46 days suffering from Influenza & later Bronchitis – from 31st March, 1917 until 15th May, 1917.

Pte Gordon Ivo Greenfield was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital on 16th July suffering from Tubercular Peritonitis.

Pte Gordon Ivo Greenfield died at 1.35 p.m. on 2nd August, 1917 in Fargo Military Hospital of Tubercular Peritonitis.

A death for Gordon I. Greenfield, aged 25, was registered in the September quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Pte Gordon Ivo Greenfield was buried on 6th August, 1917 in Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – plot number 253 & given a Military Funeral.

Pte G. I. Greenfield was entitled to British War Medal only. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Greenfield's father – Mr H. Greenfield (both sent September, 1922)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Gordon Ivo Greenfield – service number 2577 as being 24 years old & served with 41st Battalion Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private G. I. Greenfield is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 134.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

G. I. Greenfield is also remembered on the Gatton Weeping Mother War Memorial located at Littleton Park, Old College Road & Park Lane, Gatton, Queensland.



Weeping Mother War Memorial, Gatton



(Photos from Queensland War Memorial Register – Shirley & Trevor McIvor)

(39 pages of Pte Gordon Ivo Greenfield'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) & National Archives



Newspaper Reports

PERSONAL NOTES

Mr and Mrs Harry Greenfield, Gatton have been advised of the death of their son Private Gordon Ivo Greenfield in the Fargo Military Hospital on August 2.

(*The Brisbane Courier*, Queensland Saturday 11 August, 1917)

PERSONAL NOTES

Mrs. Greenfield, of Gatton, has received word that her son Gordon has died in hospital in England. Another son, Nelson, is at present in hospital, and a third son, Garnet, has returned from the Front badly wounded. He has been in hospital in Brisbane for some months.

(*The Queenslander*, Brisbane Saturday 18 August, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

GREENFIELD.—In loving memory of my sincere friend, Private Gordon Ivo Greenfield, who died in the Fargo Military Hospital, England August 2nd, 1917.

He gave his life, his best, his all.

Inserted by his sincere friend, D. Lowry, Guthrie-street, Paddington.

(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland Tuesday 14 August, 1917) &

(The Queenslander, Brisbane Saturday 18 August, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

DIED OF ILLNESS

Pte G. I. Greenfield, Gatton, 2nd August.

(Queensland Times, Ipswich Tuesday 28 August, 1917)

THE ROLL OF HONOUR



PRIVATE GORDON IVO GREENFIELD,
Died on August 2, in Fargo Military Hospital.
Son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Greenfield, Gatton.

(The Queenslander, Brisbane Saturday 8 September, 1917)

TOWN & COUNTRY

Mrs. Greenfield, of Gatton, has received word from the Base Records Office that her son, Private Nelson Greenfield, has been wounded while fighting in France. His brother, the late Private Gordon Greenfield, has paid the supreme sacrifice, and a second brother. Private Garnet Greenfield, has returned, badly wounded, and is at present in the Kangaroo Point Hospital.

(*Cairns Post*, Queensland Thursday 18 October, 1917)

NEXT-OF-KIN WANTED

DISTRIBUTION OF WAR MEDALS

The next-of-kin or persons knowing the whereabouts of the next-of-kin of the undermentioned deceased ex-members of the Australian Imperial Force; are requested to communicate with the Officer-in-Charge, Medals Branch, Victoria Barracks, Brisbane, as early as possible, giving full, regimental particulars of the deceased soldier in such communication.

....No. 25577, G. I. Greenfield, 41st Battalion.....

(*Cairns Post*, Queensland Saturday 2 February, 1924)

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)

A letter from Base Records, dated 13th July, 1921, to Mr H. Greenfield of Gatton, Queensland advises that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription of the late Pte G. I. Greenfield's headstone 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.

Pte G. I. Greenfield does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Photo of Pte G. I. Greenfield's Headstone at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)



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