

**St. Lawrence Churchyard,
Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



4429 PRIVATE

H. GREENSLADE

17TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

20TH MARCH, 1917 Age 32

Harold GREENSLADE

Harold Greenslade was born on 10th April, 1886 at Townsville, Queensland to parents George James & Johannah Greenslade (nee Imbergh).

George James Greenslade, father of Harold Greenslade, died in 1910.

Harold Greenslade was a 30 year old, single, Boot & Harness Repairer from Macrossan Street, West End, Townsville, Queensland when he enlisted in Sydney, New South Wales on 6th March, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). Harold Greenslade listed his address as 199 Hargrave Street, Paddington, Sydney, NSW. His service number was 4429 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs J. Greenslade, Macrossan Street, West End, Townsville, Queensland. Harold Greenslade stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served with No. 1 Garrison Artillery in Auckland & the Fijian Volunteer Forces. He was discharged on 2nd February, 1916 on leaving Fiji.

Private Harold Greenslade was posted to 11th Reinforcements of 17th Battalion on 8th March, 1916 for recruit training.

Private Harold Greenslade embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Nestor (A71)* on 9th April, 1916 with the 17th Infantry Battalion, 11th Reinforcements. He embarked from Alexandria on 28th May, 1916 on H.M.T. *Megantic* & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 7th June, 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.

Private Harold Greenslade proceeded overseas to France on 5th September, 1916 from 5th Training Battalion in England. He was taken on strength of 2nd A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 6th September, 1916 & joined his Unit on 10th September, 1916.

Private Harold Greenslade was admitted to 5th Field Ambulance in Belgium on 20th September, 1916 with Scabies. He was transferred & admitted to 2nd ADRS (Australian Dressing Station) on 20th September, 1916 then transferred on 21st September, 1916 to 50th Casualty Clearing Station with Scabies. Private Greenslade was discharged to duty on 24th September, 1916 & was taken on strength of 17th Battalion on 28th September, 1916.

Private Harold Greenslade was reported to be with his Unit in France on 3rd November, 1916.

Private Harold Greenslade was sent to Hospital on 11th November, 1916. He was admitted to 5th Australian Field Ambulance on 11th November, 1916 then transferred & admitted to 2nd Canadian General Hospital at Treport on 13th November, 1916 with sore feet. Private Greenslade was invalided to England from Havre, France on 19th November, 1916 on Hospital Ship *Carisbrook Castle*.

17th Battalion

The 17th Battalion was raised at Liverpool in New South Wales in March 1915 as part of the 5th Brigade.....

After a spell in a quieter sector of the front in Belgium, the 2nd Division, which included the 5th Brigade, came south again in October. The 17th Battalion was spared from having to mount an attack across the quagmire the Somme battlefield had become, but did have to continue manning the front through a very bleak winter.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Harold Greenslade was admitted to 1st Southern General Hospital, England on 20th November, 1916 with Trench Feet.

Mrs J. Greenslade, Macrossan Street, West End, Townsville, Queensland was advised by Base Records on 5th December, 1916 that Private H. Greenslade had been admitted to 1st Southern General Hospital suffering from Trench Feet.

Private Harold Greenslade was discharged from 1st Southern General Hospital, England to furlo on 30th January, 1917 & was then to report to Perham Downs.

Private Harold Greenslade was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire, England on 15th February, 1917 from furlo & was medically classified as B1 A.

Private Harold Greenslade was marched out from No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 15th February, 1917 & marched in to No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham, Dorset, England on 16th February, 1917.

Private Harold Greenslade was marched out to No. 3 Command Depot at Hurdcott, Wiltshire, England on 13th February, 1917. (Date should possibly read 13th March, 1917?)

Private Harold Greenslade died on 20th March, 1917 at Isolation Hospital, Salisbury, Wiltshire, England from Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.

A death for Harold Greenslade, aged 30, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Salisbury, Wiltshire, England.

Private Harold Greenslade was buried on 24th March, 1917 in St Lawrence's Churchyard, Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire, England – Plot number 113 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private Harold Greenslade - Coffin was polished Elm with brass fittings. He was given a Military Funeral with the Rev. H. W. Cook, Stratford Sub Castle, Salisbury, officiating.

The following is an extract of a letter (a typed copy was located in the Service Record file) written by Private Harold Greenslade to his sister & reads: *"Dear Sister Re that money of mine I think it would be best if you paid a deposit on a house with it & with the quid a week allotment you would be paying it off Then you could have Bill's money to work on of course I am only suggesting it but you have my full permission I think it would be best. I have made my Will in favour of you so it would not matter then if Fritz did get me There would be no rangling about my money amongst my relatives My Will is in the back of my Pay Book.....Harold."*

Johanna Greenslade wrote to Base Records on 5th August, 1918: *"Major J. M. Lean Dear Sir, I thank you sincerely for the photo of my son's (No 4429 Private H. Greenslade) grave which arrived safely. It is a great comfort to me to see that although so far away from his home loving hands are caring & tending to his last resting place on earth. The photo will be treasured by me & I cannot tell you how grateful I am for the thoughtful kindness which prompted the sending of it to me Believe Me Gratefully yours Johanna Greenslade."*

Base Records contacted Mrs J. Greenslade, Macrossan Street, West End, Townsville, Queensland, on 9th December, 1921 stating she was noted as the registered next-of-kin on the records of the late Private H. Greenslade, but desired to know if there were any nearer blood relatives than herself & specifically asked if his father was still alive 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. Mrs Johannah Greenslade replied to Base Records on 5th January, 1922 stating *"You ask for the nearest relative of deceased. I am the mother of the late Harold Greenslade Private."*


Private Harold Greenslade was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Greenslade's widowed mother – Mrs J. Greenslade, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent March, 1922 & Plaque sent April, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Harold Greenslade – service number 4429, aged 32, of 17th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of George James and Johannah Greenslade, of Greenslade St., Townsville, Queensland.

H. Greenslade is remembered on the Soldiers Memorial Gate of Honour which commemorates students and teachers from the former Townsville West State School who served in World War 1. It is located at the former TAFE College, 29 Ingham Road, Townsville, Queensland.



Soldiers Memorial Gate of Honour (Photos from Monument Australia – Diane Watson)

HONOUR ROLL		
TOWNSVILLE WEST STATE SCHOOL		
ALLAN A.	GRIPPS B.	GREENLEES W.
ALLAN W.D.G.	DAY H.	GREENSLADE C.
ALLEN A.	DAY P.E.	GREENSLADE H. 
ALLEN J.D.	DAY R.	HANLON C.
ALLEN W.	DAVIES S.	HANSFORD E.
ANDERSON A.	DODD H.	HANSFORD G.
APJOHN R.	DOSS H.	HARPER B.J.
ASHTON W.	DOWNIE F.	HEATLEY G.
BASKERVILLE H.	DOWNIE J.	HELY H.
BAXTER J.	DOWNIE P.	HIDES J.D.
BENNETTO S.G.	DOYLE M.	HILL G.
BOHRDT L.W.	DRAPER W.	HILL W.
BRAD A.	DUFFIELD A.	HOCARTH J.E.
BRADSHAW T.	EDWARDS H.	HONE C.H.
BRADY F.W.	EDWARDS V.	HONE W.C.
BREEZE J.	ENGLAND H.	HULBERT G.
BROWN E.T.	ENGLAND J.	HUNTLEY R.
BROWN S.J.	ESSERY F.	JEMPSON F.
BUTTERWORTH G.	FAIRBROTHER M.	JOHNS J.
CALDWELL R.	FAIRLEY N.	JOHNSON J.
CALDWELL W.A.	FERGUSON W.	JOHNSTON G.
CAMPBELL A.	FEWTRELL G.	JOHNSTON G.S.
CAMPBELL P.	FEWTRELL P.	JORGENSEN A.
CARTER H.	FLOWERS W.H.	KEANE P. J.
CAVEN C.	FORMAN G.	KEANE J.
CHANDLER E. J.	FRASER D.	KEANE M.H.
COCHRANE E.	FRASER J.	KENNEDY R.
COCHRANE G.	FRY F.	LAND J.N.
COLE J.	FULLER G.C.	LOWE F.W.
COOK D.	GOLDRING A.	LOWTH R.
COTTRELL H.	GORDON G.	MACDONALD G.W.O.
COX F.V.	GRAHAM A.	MACDONALD P.
GREELMAN J.	GREENLEES R.	MACPHERSON W.M.C.D.

H. Greenslade is remembered on the Townsville Cenotaph/War Memorial located in ANZAC Memorial Park, The Strand, Townsville, Queensland.



Townsville Cenotaph/War Memorial (Photo from Monument Australia)



Private H. Greenslade is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 82.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(40 pages of Private Harold Greenslade'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



Newspaper Notices

CASUALTIES

250th LIST

ILL

Pte H. Greenslade, Townsville

(Daily Standard, Brisbane, Queensland – 14 December, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOR

GREENSLADE – Died of meningitis at Salisbury Plain, England, March 20th, 1917, Private Harold Greenslade, aged 31 years, second youngest son of Mrs Greenslade, Macrossan-street, West End, and brother to Mrs W. Oliver, Morris-street, West End.

The best that Australia could offer
Now sleeps in a soldier's grave.

GREENSLADE – At Salisbury Plains, Isolation Hospital, England, on March 20, Private Harold Greenslade, brother of Sydney and Clarence Greenslade, and Mrs L. Hilton, of Ayr. Died of meningitis whilst on service.

(*Townsville Daily Bulletin*, Queensland – 30 March, 1917)

THE ROLL OF HONOR

GREENSLADE – At Salisbury Plains, Isolation Hospital, England, on March 20, 1917, Private Harold Greenslade, brother of Mrs T. Odgers, Westonia, W.A. Died of meningitis while on active service.

(*Townsville Daily Bulletin*, Queensland – 2 April, 1917)



PRIVATE H. GREENSLADE

Brother of S. Greenslade, of Brisbane, and C. Greenslade of Townsville who died of illness whilst on active service.

(*The Week*, Brisbane, Queensland – 11 May, 1917)

QUEENSLAND HEROES



PRIVATE H. GREENSLADE,
Brother of S. Greenslade, of Brisbane, and C. Greenslade, of Townsville; died of illness whilst on active service.

(*The Telegraph*, Brisbane, Queensland – 12 May, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOR

GREENSLADE – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Harold Greenslade, who died Salisbury Plains, England on March 20, 1917 of meningitis, after recovering from wounds and trench fever.

His heart was good, his spirit brave,
His resting place a soldier's grave,
But the hardest blow is yet to come,
When the warriors return
And we miss amongst the cheering crowd
The face of our dear one.

(Inserted by his loving mother, sisters and brothers, Mr and Mrs W. Oliver, of Townsville, Mr and Mrs L. Odgers, of Westonia, W.A., Mr and Mrs L. Hilton, of Ayr, and Mr Sydney Greenslade, of Brisbane, also Mr Clarence Greenslade, on active service.)

(*Townsville Daily Bulletin*, Queensland – 20 March, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOR

GREENSLADE – In loving memory of our dear brother, Private Harold Greenslade, who died on March 20, 1917.

When we think of all the sorrow Brother,
The last few years have brought,
We are glad the world that holds you
Is the world that changes not.

(Inserted by his sisters and brothers-in-law, Mr and Mrs W. Oliver, Townsville, Mr and Mrs T. Odgers, Westonia, W.A.)

(*Townsville Daily Bulletin*, Queensland – 20 March, 1919)

ROLL OF HONOR

GREENSLADE – In loving memory of our dear brother, Private Harold Greenslade, No. 4429, who died on 20th of March, 1917.

Some day, some time, our eyes shall see,
The dear face we hold in memory.

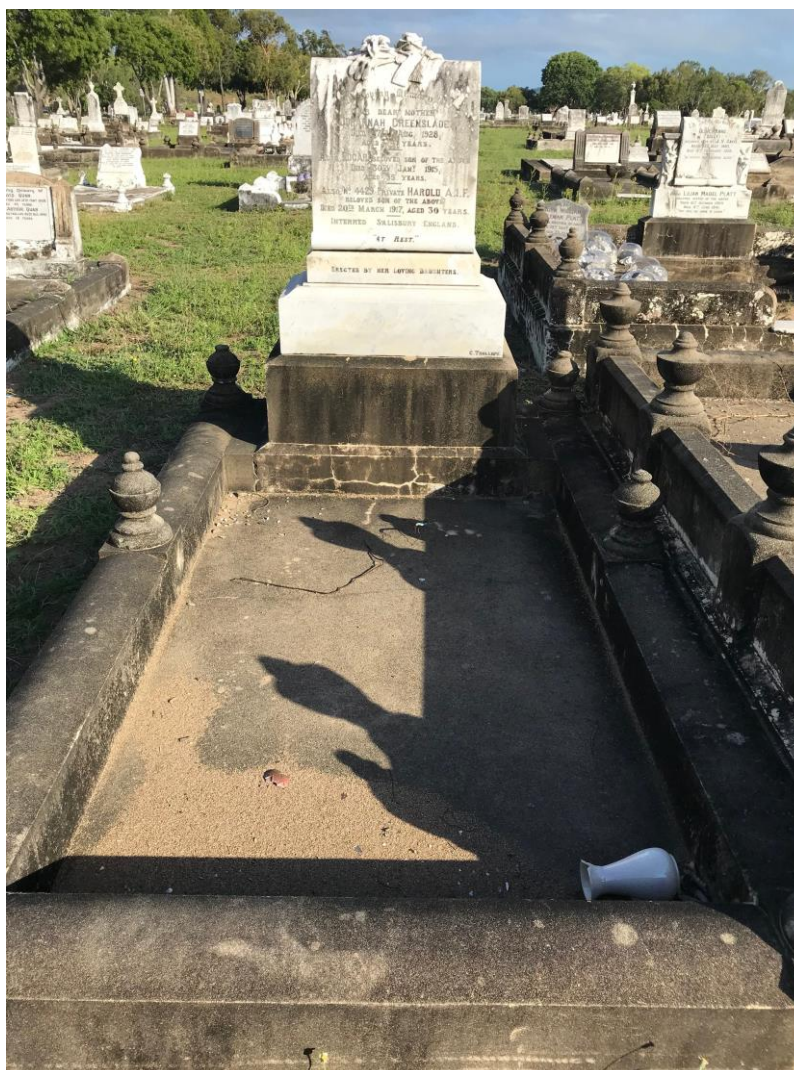
(Inserted by his sisters and brothers)

(*Townsville Daily Bulletin*, Queensland – 20 March, 1920)

Private Harold Greenslade is remembered on his mother's headstone located in Belgian Gardens Cemetery, Townsville, Queensland.



(Photo by T Rhodes – Find a Grave)



(Headstone photos by Maria Hill – Find a Grave)



Also No. 4429 Private HAROLD A.I.F.

Beloved Son of The Above

Died 20TH March 1917, Aged 30 Years.

Interred Salisbury England

"At Rest"

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.

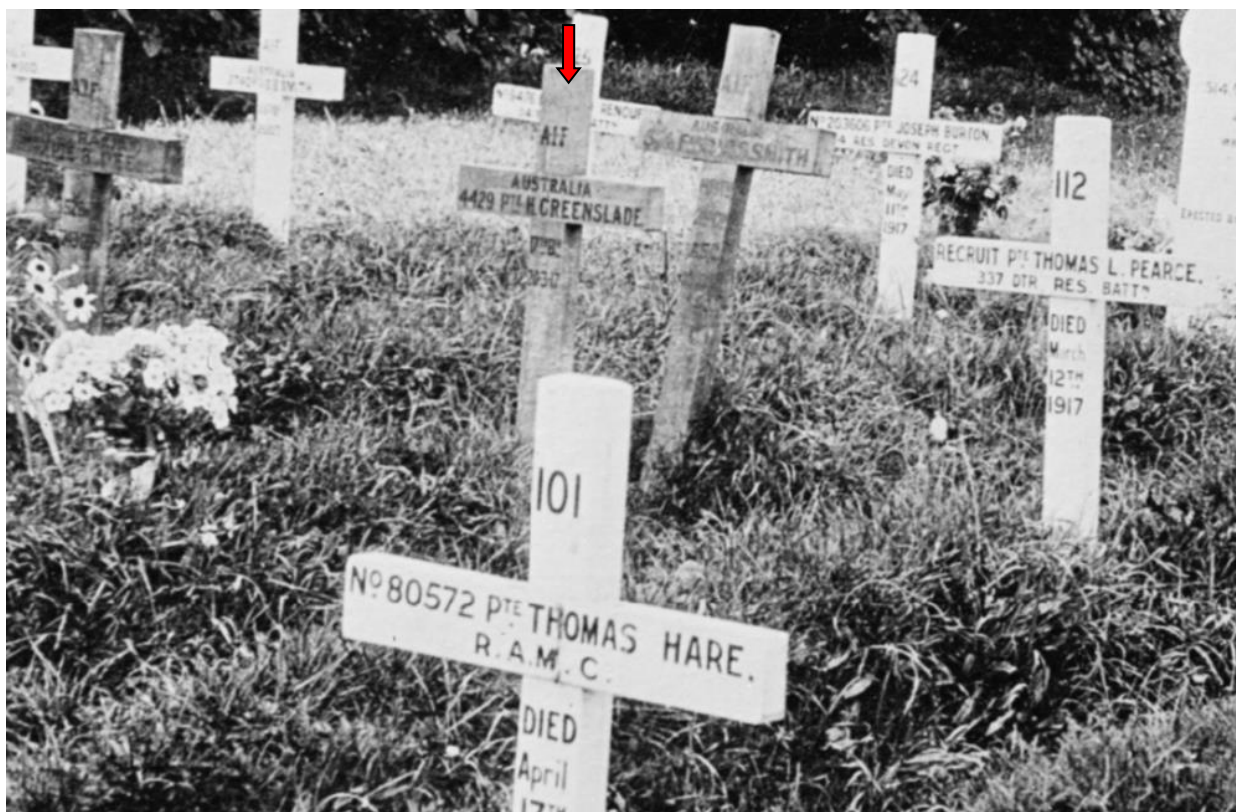
(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

A letter from Base Records, dated 13th July, 1921, to Mrs J. Greenslade, Macrosan Street, West End, Townsville, Queensland, advised that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of her son, the late No. 4429 Private H. Greenslade, 17th Battalion, 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 H. Greenslade does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.



Original Grave Markers – Private H. Greenslade (red arrow)



St Lawrence's Churchyard, Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire, England

During the two world wars, the United Kingdom became an island fortress used for training troops and launching land, sea and air operations around the globe. There are more than 170,000 Commonwealth war graves in the United Kingdom, many being those of servicemen and women killed on active service, or who later succumbed to wounds. Others died in training accidents, or because of sickness or disease. The graves, many of them privately owned and marked by private memorials, will be found in more than 12,000 cemeteries and churchyards. Most of the 47 First World War burials in Stratford-sub-Castle (St Lawrence) Churchyard were made from the local hospital and more than half of them are of Australian servicemen who were based at the many Australian depots and training camps in the area. There are also two burials of the Second World War in the cemetery. (*Information from CWGC*)



St. Lawrence Church, Stratford-sub-Castle



Churchyard of St. Lawrence, Stratford-sub-Castle with CWGC Cross of Sacrifice



(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)



(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)



(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)

Photo of Private H. Greenslade's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St Lawrence's Churchyard, Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)

Stratford-sub-Castle War Graves

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
A	RAF	British Army			NZ	NZ	Rogers 3 AIF		Robson Nurse	NZ	
B			Nicol AFC	Mason 5 Aus Pioneer	Dundas 29 AIF	Thorsby 20 AIF	Walpole (Wilson) 3 AIF	O'Grady 10 AIF	Kubank 40 AIF	NZ	
C	NZ	Jacob 31 AIF	Wood 9 AIF	Smith 55 AIF	British Army	British Army	Smith Aus ASC	O'Donnell 16 AIF	Knight 52 AIF	Lawrence 54 AIF	Edmonds 48 AIF
D		Lewis 30 AIF	British Army	Whitchurch 51 AIF	British Army	Dee 52 AIF	Greenslade 17 AIF	British Army	Thorburn 13 AIF	Knight 13 AIF	Hannabry 16 AIF
E					Adams 13 AIF	Crow Aus FA	British Army	Bolton 40 AIF	British Army	British Army	
F		British Army		British Army	British Army	British Army		Canada		British Army	

(Information for layout of graves – courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)