

**Arnos Vale Cemetery,
Bristol, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



54198 PRIVATE

W. A. GREETHEAD

33RD BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

16TH OCTOBER, 1918 Age 32

William Arthur GREETHEAD

William Arthur Greethead was born at Neutral Bay, North Sydney, NSW on 18th August, 1886 to parents Arthur Edward & Martha G. Greethead (nee Gibbons).

William Arthur Greethead married Bessie Annie Hutton at St. Leonards, NSW in 1907.

William & Bessie Greethead had the following children: Arthur John Greethead (born 25th May, 1908); Shirley Greethead (born 26th May, 1913, died 28th May, 1913); Gladys Joy Greethead (born 30th October, 1914) & William Edward Greethead (born on 26th April, 1917).

William Arthur Greethead stated he was a 26 year old*, married, Carpenter from Naremburn, NSW when he enlisted in Sydney, NSW on 29th April, 1918 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 54198 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs B. A. Greethead, "Shirley", Glenmore Street, Naremburn, NSW.

Private William Arthur Greethead was posted to Recruit M. & D. Depot at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW on 29th April, 1918 for recruit training. He was transferred to 1st Infantry Depot Battalion at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW on 29th May, 1918.

Private William Arthur Greethead embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT SS *Field Marshal* on 19th June, 1918 with the 6th NSW General Service Reinforcements & disembarked at London, England on 26th August, 1918.

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 William Arthur Greethead was marched in to 9th Training Battalion at Fovant, Wiltshire on 26th August, 1918.

Private William Arthur Greethead was allotted to Reinforcements of 33rd Battalion on 26th August, 1918 whilst at 9th Training Battalion.

Private William Arthur Greethead was sent sick to Hospital at Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 5th October, 1918 with Influenza. He was transferred & admitted to Fovant Military Hospital on 10th October, 1918 seriously ill with Pneumonia.

Private William Arthur Greethead died at 10.30 am on 16th October, 1918 at Fovant Military Hospital, Wiltshire, England from Pneumonia.

A death for William Greethead, aged 35, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire, England.

The body of the late Private William Arthur Greethead was claimed by his Aunt, Mrs Scourse, 61 Leighton Road, Bristol & removed for private burial on 21st October, 1918. Private William Arthur Greethead was buried on 23rd October, 1918 in Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England. His name is remembered on the CWGC Screen Wall & he has a flat Memorial Stone. Cemetery/Memorial reference Screen Wall 7.712. From the burial report of Private William Arthur Greethead - *Coffin was good polished. The deceased soldier was buried privately by his Aunt Mrs Scourse. He was interred in the Soldiers' Corner adjoining those of other Australians.*

Names of Relatives & Friends present at the funeral – Mr W. Scourse, 61 Leighton Road, Bristol, Miss Gibbon, Mrs E, Ginnons, Miss G. R. Richard.

Base Records forwarded on to Mrs E. A. Greethead, "Shirley", Glenmore Street, Naremburn, NSW, widow of the late Private William Arthur Greethead, on 21st July, 1923 a Memorial card & photograph depicting the Cross erected in the soldiers' corner of the Arnos Vale Cemetery, where her late husband was interred A copy of the "Western Daily News" describing the recent pilgrimage had also been sent under separate cover. The items had been sent from Mr Robert Bush, Bishop's Knoll, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, England. (see photos below).

Base Records forwarded on to Mrs E. A. Greethead, "Shirley", Glenmore Street, Naremburn, NSW, widow of the late Private William Arthur Greethead, on 22nd September, 1924, a photograph depicting the Cross erected in the soldiers' corner of the Arnos Vale Cemetery, where her late husband was interred, along with a Memorial Card & press cutting of the ceremony. The items had been sent from Mr Robert Bush, Bishop's Knoll, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, England.

Base Records forwarded on to Mrs E. A. Greethead, "Shirley", Glenmore Street, Naremburn, NSW, widow of the late Private William Arthur Greethead, on 25th July, 1925, a photograph depicting the Cross erected in the soldiers' corner of the Arnos Vale Cemetery, where her late husband was interred, along with a Memorial Card & press cutting of the ceremony. The items had been sent from Mr Robert Bush, Bishop's Knoll, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, England. The envelope addressed to Mrs Greethead had been returned to Base Records marked "Unclaimed".

Private William Arthur Greethead 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 Greethead's widow - Mrs E. A. Greethead, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private William Arthur Greethead – service number 54198, aged 32, of 33rd Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Arthur Edward & Martha G. Greethead; husband of B. A. Greethead, of "Shirley", Glenmore St., Naremburn, Sydney, New South Wales.

Private W. A. Greethead is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 122.



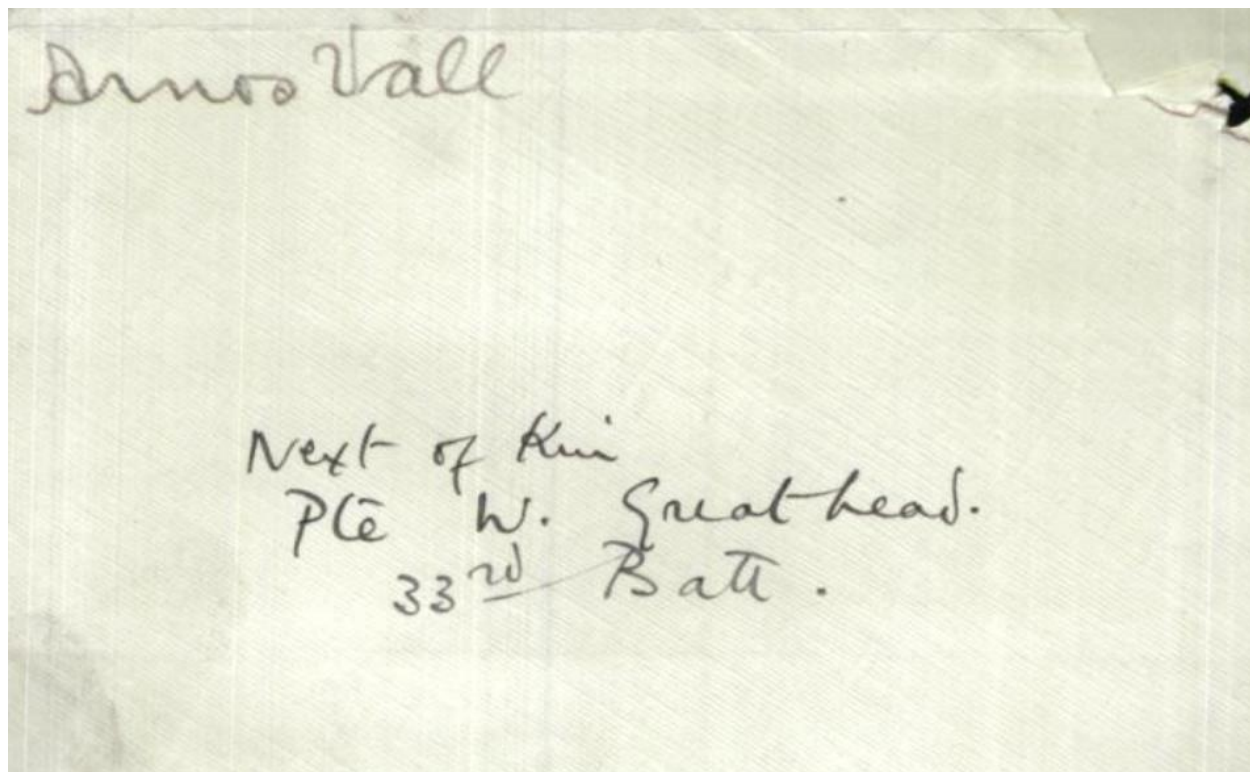
Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(80 pages of Private William Arthur Greethead'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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



The following photographs of items were located in the Service Record file of the late Private William Arthur Greethad (see above for reference).



June 24th

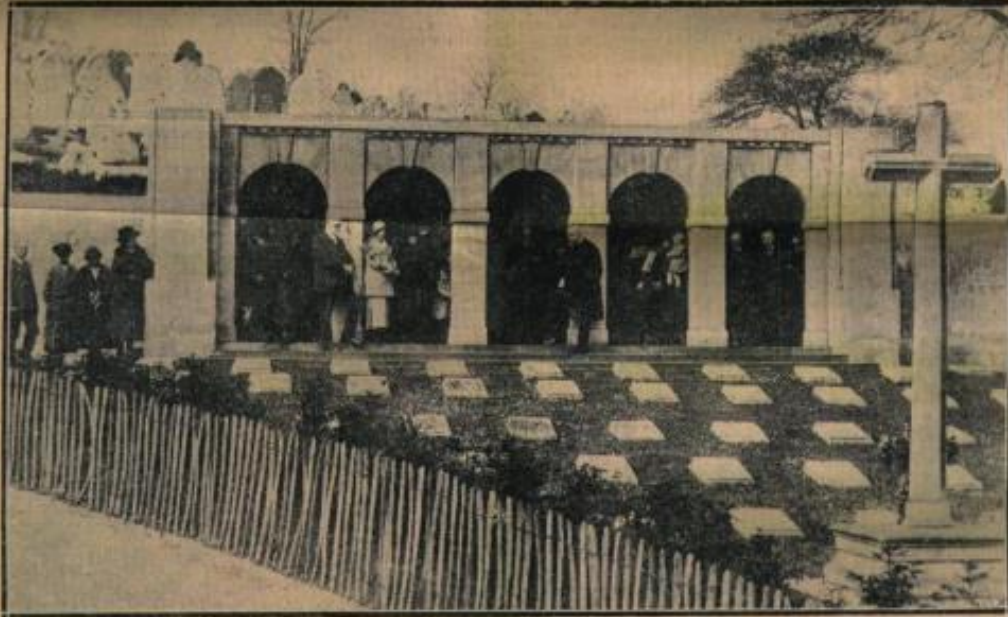
BISHOP'S KNOLL,
STOKE BISHOP,

BRISTOL.

With Mr. E. Bush's kind
regards. Under separate cover
I am sending you a newspaper
giving a short account
of the Anzac Memorial
Service in Bristol, also a
photograph taken in a
very bad light.



GALLIPOLI DAY COMMEMORATION



THE SOLDIERS' CORNER, ARNO'S VALE.

Each year, on the 25th of April, a service of remembrance is held for those who died in Bristol of war wounds, and are buried in Soldiers' Corner, Arno's Vale. On Saturday, in the beautiful sunshine of a typical English spring morning, there assembled many who were associated with hospital work in Bristol for overseas troops. Bishop's Knoll, which, as most people know, was given over as a war hospital from 1914 to 1919, was represented by Mr R. E. Bush (Commandant), Mr and Miss Philp, Mrs Horapath, the Misses Nora and Doris Burt, Miss Vera Savile, Miss Goldsmith, Miss Stafford Jones, Miss Ennis, the Misses Spafforth, Miss Thornleigh, Mr E. C. Philp, and Mr A. G. Powell. Mrs R. E. Bush was away from Bristol, and Miss Hall-Houghton and others were unavoidably absent. Miss Laing, another devoted worker at Bishop's Knoll, took a wreath to the one Australian soldier who was buried at Greenbank Cemetery.

Most of those present brought flowers. Mr R. E. Bush placed a very beautiful emblem—the work of one of the Bishop's Knoll sisters—at the foot of the cross in the "Corner," and Mr Philp contributed a wreath of daffodils. Spring flowers there were in plenty, a postman in uniform contributing a bunch of wallflowers, and other sympathetic folk adding their tender tribute.

Bishop Clifford, in his short address, said: We are gathered here on this 10th anniversary of Gallipoli day to reverently and affectionately commemorate our brethren from various parts of the British Empire who, after having valiantly fought and honourably suffered in the Great War, were brought to this city of Bristol and here breathed their last breath. We laid their bodies in the earth at this spot, and here they rest in hope till the Day of Resurrection. We gratefully cherish their memory. We renew it to-day, and will never allow it to pass from our mind and heart. God's mercy and peace be with them, as is our affectionate regard, and may that great cause for which they gave their lives be ever upheld and prosper and ever honoured among men of goodwill.

Prayer was said, and this simple service which will so greatly comfort the relatives



MR. E. C. PHILP AND MR. R. E. BUSH PLACING WREATHS ON THE CROSS.

With Mr. P. S. Bush's Compliments.

Bishop's Union.

Stoke Bishop

Poristal.

Pte W. Greathead. 33rd Batt,

Anzac Day

APRIL 25TH, 1925.



ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE

TO

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND SOLDIERS' AND
SAILORS' GRAVES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED KINGDOM

In grateful remembrance
of the brave sons of Australia and New Zealand who fought
and suffered, died and conquered, on many battlefields.



This is their epitaph. "Traveller south or west
Go, say at home we heard the trumpet call,
And answered. Now in the 'Old Home' we rest.
Our end was happy if our country thrives.
Much was demanded. Lo! our store was small—
That which we had, we gave—it was our lives."

L.L.

Newspaper Notices

ROLL OF HONOUR

GREETHEAD – October 16, Fovant Camp Hospital, England, Private W. A. Greethead, Car.'s Thousand, aged 32 years, pneumonia, dearly beloved husband of Bessie Greethead, Shirley, Glenmore-st, Naremburn.

GREETHEAD – October 16, Private W. A. Greethead, dearly beloved eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. E. Greethead, and only brother of H. F. Greethead, of Bristol, Helen-street, Artarmon.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 2 November, 1918)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

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.

Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England

The cemetery was established in 1837. During both wars, there were a number of military hospitals at Bristol and the city was the depot of the Gloucestershire Regiment. During the Second World War there were also a number of Royal Air Force stations and prisoner of war camps in the area. ARNOS VALE CEMETERY contains burials of both wars. Most of the 356 First World War burials were of men who died at the local hospitals, particularly the 2nd Southern General and the Beaufort, many of whom were landed at Avonmouth from hospital ships from the Mediterranean. Their graves can be found in the 'Soldiers Corner', a plot established by the British Red Cross, near the main entrance. The 238 casualties buried here are commemorated on a memorial at the rear of the plot. The rest of the graves are scattered throughout the cemetery. There are also special memorials to one casualty buried in the cemetery whose grave could not be located and another commemorating a casualty buried in Bedminster Church Cemetery whose grave could not be maintained. There are 149 burials from the Second World War, some forming a small plot in an area in the upper part of the cemetery set aside for burials from the Naval Hospital at Barrow Gurney; the rest are scattered. Those whose graves are not marked by headstones are named on a Screen Wall Memorial. BRISTOL (ARNOS VALE) CREMATORIUM stands within the cemetery. A memorial in front of the crematorium commemorates 68 servicemen and women of the Second World War whose remains were cremated there.

(Information from CWGC)



Arnos Vale Cemetery - Main Entrance on Bath Road (Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave)



(Photo from CWGC)



Soldiers' Corner – Arnos Vale Cemetery (Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave April, 2017)



New Memorial Stones (Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave November, 2018)

Photo of Private William Greethad's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Screen Wall in Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England & his Memorial Stone in Soldiers' Corner.

(Note: Private Greethad's name has been engraved incorrectly as "Greathead" on the Screen Wall)

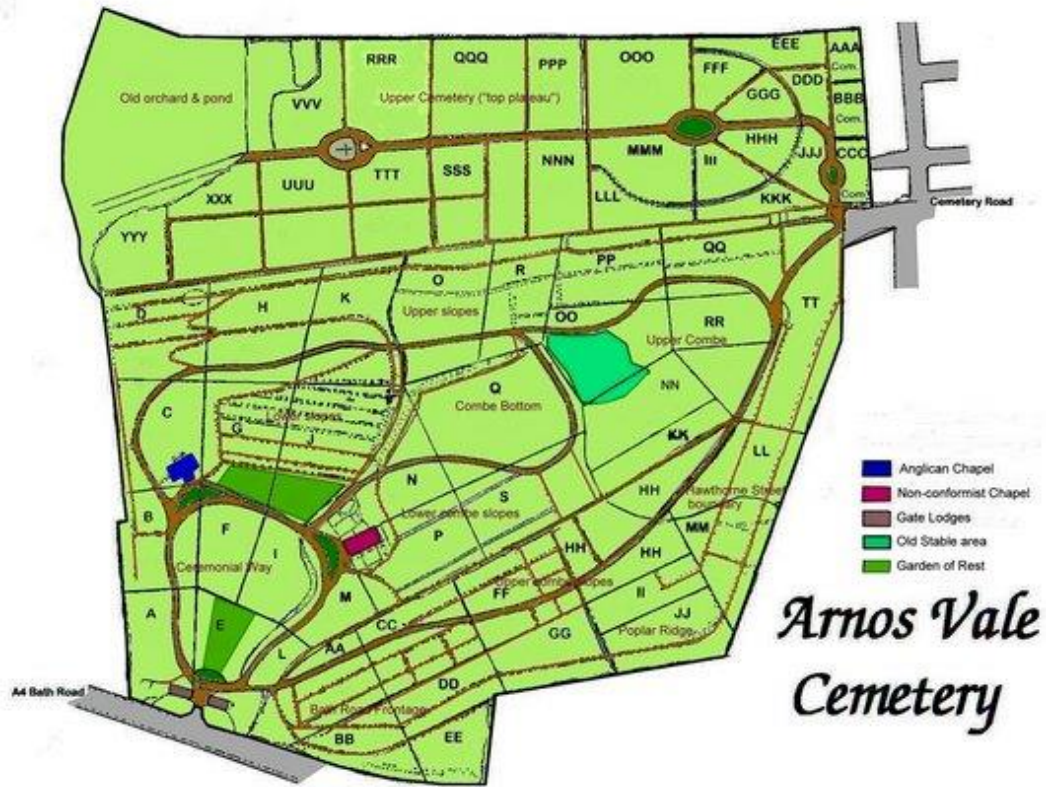


(Photos by JohnM – Find a Grave April, 2019)

PTE. HENRY FULLECK
PTE. RICHARD GOSSAGE
PTE. WILLIAM GREATHEAD
PTE. WILLIAM FRANCIS HAM
PTE. STANLEY L. JENKINS
PTE. THOMAS H. JACKSON
CPL. WILLIAM THORNTON JOHNSON

3RD M.C.BN.
40TH BATTN.
33RD BATTN.
22ND BATTN.
11TH BATTN.
26TH BATTN.
25TH BATTN.





Arnos Vale Cemetery

(Photo by Debra Polly – Find a Grave)