

**St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard,  
Harefield, Middlesex, England**

**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**2606 T. SGT**

**CHARLES SAMUEL HALL**

**14TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**22ND JUNE, 1917 Age 23**

*Of Whom*

*The World Was Not Worthy*

## Charles Samuel HALL

Charles Samuel Hall was born at Vermont, Victoria on 17th November, 1892 to parents Charles Dawes/Daws Hall & Jane Hall (nee Scammel). His birth was registered in 1893 in the district of Mitcham, Victoria.

Charles Samuel Hall attended State School at Vermont, Victoria.

The 1915 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Kooyong, subdivision of Mitcham, Victoria recorded Charles Samuel Hall, Market Gardener, of Vermont.

Charles Samuel Hall was a 22 year old, single, Market Gardener from Vermont, Victoria when he enlisted on 28th June, 1915 in Melbourne, Victoria with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2606 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr Charles Hall, Canterbury Road, Vermont, Victoria. Charles Hall stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service due to his Teeth.

Private Charles Samuel Hall was posted to Depot on 30th June, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to 8th Reinforcements of 14th Battalion on 19th July, 1915.

Private Charles Samuel Hall embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on SS *Makarini* on 15th September, 1915 with the 4th Infantry Brigade, 14th Infantry Battalion, 8th Reinforcements (as per Embarkation Roll). (Note: the War Gratuity Schedule in the Service Record file shows Private Hall embarked on 2nd August, 1915 on HMAT A23 *Suffolk*.)

Private Charles Samuel Hall proceeded to join his Unit with Draft from Zeitoun on 27th October, 1915. He joined 14th Battalion at Gallipoli on 13th November, 1915.

Private Charles Samuel Hall disembarked at Alexandria on 1st January, 1916 per *Cardiganshire* ex Mudros (after the evacuation of Gallipoli).

Private Charles Samuel Hall was admitted to 4th Australian Field Ambulance at Tel-el-Kebir on 8th March, 1916. He was transferred the same day & was admitted to 2nd Australian Stationary Hospital at Tel-el-Kebir on 8th March, 1916 – cause N.Y.D. (not yet determined). Private Hall was discharged on 18th March, 1916 & rejoined his Unit at Tel-el-Kebir the same day.

Private Charles Samuel Hall proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) at Alexandria on 1st June, 1916 & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 8th June, 1916.

Private Charles Samuel Hall was appointed Lance Corporal from 1st September, 1916 to complete Establishment.

Lance Corporal Charles Samuel Hall was attached for duty at 1st Anzac Corps School from 14th Battalion on 30th December, 1916. He was promoted to Temporary Sergeant from 12th February, 1917 whilst employed at 1st Anzac Corps School.

Temporary Sergeant Charles Samuel Hall was admitted to 4th Australian Field Ambulance on 11th May, 1917 then transferred to 9th Casualty Clearing Station with Phthisis on 12th May, 1917. Temporary Sergeant Hall was transferred to Ambulance Train 28 on 14th May, 1917 (an entry on Casualty Form – Active Service recorded that he was admitted "*P.U.O. (Trench Fever)*" (Pyrexia (fever) of unknown origin) & admitted to 32nd Stationary Hospital at Wimereux on 15th May, 1917 with Phthisis. He was diagnosed with Pulmonary Tuberculosis & was invalided to England on Hospital Ship *St. Dennis* on 19th May, 1917.

### 14th Battalion

The Headquarters of the 14th Battalion opened at an office at 178 Collins Street, Melbourne in the last week of September 1914. On 1 October it relocated to Broadmeadows Camp where the battalion's recruits, principally from Melbourne and its suburbs, were taken on strength and trained. With the 13th, 15th and 16th Battalions, the 14th formed the 4th Brigade commanded by Colonel John Monash. It embarked for overseas on 22 December and, after a brief stop in Albany, Western Australia, arrived in Egypt on 31 January 1915. In Egypt, the 4th Brigade became part of the New Zealand and Australian Division with which it would serve at Gallipoli.....

The battalion served at ANZAC until the evacuation in December.

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli, the battalion returned to Egypt. While there, the AIF expanded and was reorganised. The 14th Battalion was split and provided experienced soldiers for the 46th Battalion. The 4th Brigade was combined with the 12th and 13th Brigades to form the 4th Australian Division.

In June 1916 they sailed for France and the Western Front. From then until 1918, the battalion took part in bloody trench warfare. Its first major action in France was at Pozieres in August 1916. Along with most of the 4th Brigade, the battalion suffered heavy losses at Bullecourt in April 1917 when the brigade attacked strong German positions without the promised tank support. It spent much of the remainder of 1917 in Belgium, advancing to the Hindenburg Line....

*(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)*

Temporary Sergeant Charles Samuel Hall was admitted to War Hospital at Croydon, England on 19th May, 1917 with Tubercule of Lung. He was transferred to 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield on 1st June, 1917. Temporary Sergeant Hall was reported to be dangerously ill on 15th June, 1917.

A Medical Report was completed on Temporary Sergeant Charles Samuel Hall on 6th June, 1917 at 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield. His disability was listed as Tuberculosis which had originated in France in April, 1917. *"Had pleurisy in Egypt in March 1916. No previous lung trouble. No chest trouble in family. First felt ill in April 1917. Has been in hospital one month."* The Medical Officer in charge of Temporary Sergeant Hall's case stated that he had contracted Tuberculosis from an infection due to climate & that Temporary Sergeant Hall had lost over 2 stone in weight. He recommended that Temporary Sergeant Hall be discharged as permanently unfit. The Medical Board agreed on 12th June, 1917 that Temporary Sergeant Charles Samuel Hall was permanently unfit for all military Service.

Mr C. D. Hall, Canterbury Road, Vermont, Victoria, was advised by Base Records on 7th June, 1917 that Sergeant C, Hall had been admitted to Croydon War Hospital, England on 19th May, 1917 suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

Sergeant Charles Samuel Hall died at 1.30 am on 22nd June, 1917 at 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield Park, Harefield, Middlesex, England from Tuberculosis of Lungs.

A death for Charles S. Hall, aged 24, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Uxbridge, Middlesex, England.

Sergeant Charles Samuel Hall was buried at 2 pm on 24th June, 1917 in St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England – Plot number Aust 24 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Sergeant Charles Samuel Hall - *Coffin was good, polished Elm with brass fittings. The deceased soldier was buried with full Military Honours. Gun Carriage (provided by the A.S.C.) stated at Hounslow Barracks, London, conveyed the remains of the late Sgt Hall to the Cemetery. Band, Bugler, Staff and patients of the 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield, under the command of Major Dennis marched in the funeral procession. Firing Party furnished by the Administrative Headquarters A.I.F. London, were in attendance. The coffin was draped with the "Union Jack". The remains of the deceased soldier were borne to the graveside by four Sergeants attached to the 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield. Prior to the interment a service was held in the Parish Church, Harefield, by Chaplain Gregg Macgregor of the A.I.F. A member of the A.I.F. officiated at the Church organ. The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside. No relatives were present at the funeral. Memorial is to be erected by the Authorities of the 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield.*

Private (at the time of making his Will) Charles Samuel Hall requested in his Will, dated 11th November, 1915, that in the event of his death the whole of his property & effects be given to Mrs C. D. Hall, Vermont, Victoria, Australia.

A request for a War Pension for Jane Hall, Canterbury Rd, Vermont, mother of the late "Private" Charles Samuel Hall, 2606, was rejected on 8th March, 1918 as "*dependence not proved*". A War Pension was granted to Charles Daw Hall, Canterbury Rd, Vermont, father of the "Private" Charles Samuel Hall, in the sum of 30/- per fortnight from 26th August, 1917.

A request was made on 15th April, 1918 for a certificate of death for Sergeant C. S. Hall by his mother. Base Records replied to Mrs Hall, Canterbury Rd, Vermont, Victoria on 17th April, 1918 enclosing a certificate of death of her son, the late No. 2606T/Sgt C. S. Hall, 14th Battalion.

Mr C. D. Hall, Vermont, wrote to Base Records on 1st June, 1920 with the following letter: "*I am not clear whether the fact of my son dying at Harefield Hospital does not deprive him to some extent of the credit due for his service at the front. Therefor I mention here that he was first at Gallipoli and spent some time in Egypt before going to France where he was in the trenches on the Somme and was through the offensive pf Pozieres and following actions. He was afterwards appointed instructor of Lewis Machine gun. It was at tis time he complained of a heavy cold which led to the more severe illness and death. I have mentioned the above because I desire that the inscription on his tomb should be exactly the same as that on those who are buried at the site of war.*"

Base Records replied to Mr C. D. Hall, Canterbury Road, Vermont, Victoria, on 8th July, 1920 with the following: "*I have to acknowledge receipt of your communication of 1st June, relative to your son, the late No. 2606 Sergeant C. S. Hall, 14th Battalion, and to state a design has been prepared of a headstone suitably inscribed and uniform in character for all ranks. In addition to the particulars of name, rank, unit and date of death which will be inscribed at the expense of the Government, space is reserved for a personal inscription of 66 letters (each space between words counting as an additional letter). Will you please advise whether you desire to have a personal inscription on the headstone of the late soldier and if so, what wording you require for same. I am returning the former portion of the Circular and shall be obliged if you will furnish your signature and address where required and return the form to this office.*"

Sergeant Charles Samuel Hall was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Sergeant Hall's father - Mr C. D. Hall, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent September, 1921 & Plaque sent August, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Sergeant Charles Samuel Hall – service number 2606, aged 24, of 14th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Charles Dawes Hall & Jane Hall, of Canterbury Rd., Vermont, Victoria, Australia.

Sergeant C. S. Hall is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 72.

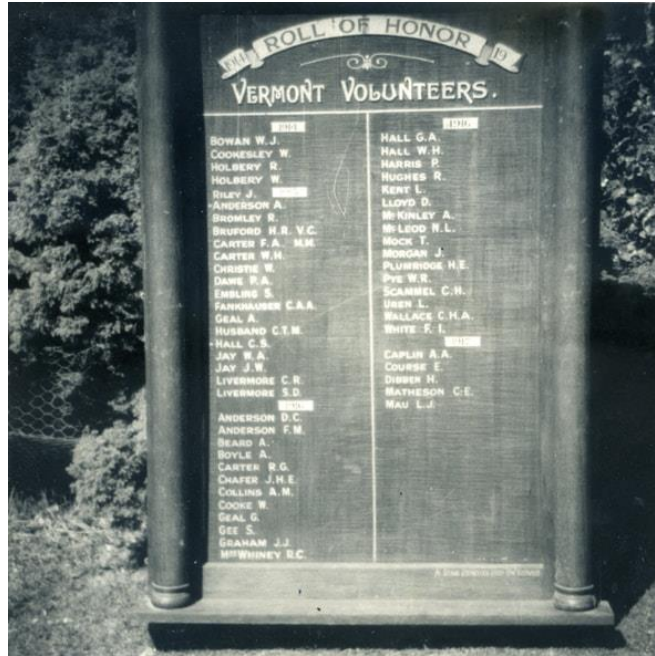


Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia



C. S. Hall is remembered on the Vermont Volunteers Roll of Honour. The original Honour Board was initially exhibited in the former Mechanics' Institute Hall located on the site now occupied by the Vermont Scout Hall (see Black & white photo below). By the time the Mechanics' Institute Hall was pulled down, the sign was in poor condition & was later lost but the photograph, taken in 1920, still remains in the collection of the Whitehorse Historical Society.

A replica Honour Board made with a timber frame and veneer was commissioned in a similar style to that of the original, is currently displayed inside St. Luke's Pioneer Church in Vermont, Victoria.

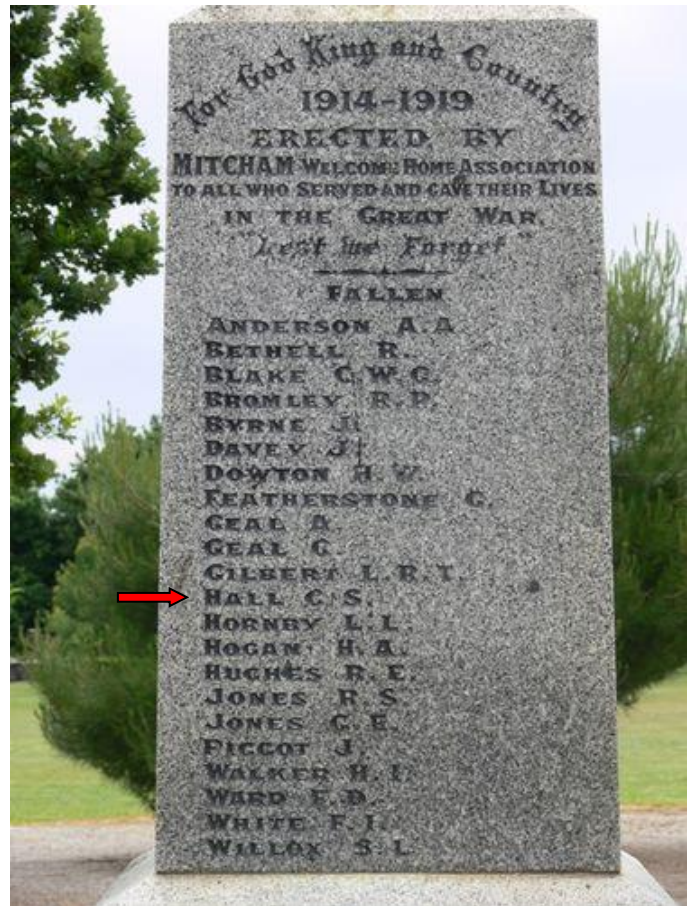


(Photos from Vermont History- with permission)





C. S. Hall is remembered on the Mitcham War Memorial, located in Halliday Park, Mitcham Road, Mitcham, Victoria.



**Mitcham War Memorial** (Photos from Monument Australia)

C. S. Hall is remembered on the Vermont State School, Honour Roll, now located in Light Horse & Field Artillery Museum, 200 Bessie Creek Rd, Nar Nar Goon, Victoria.



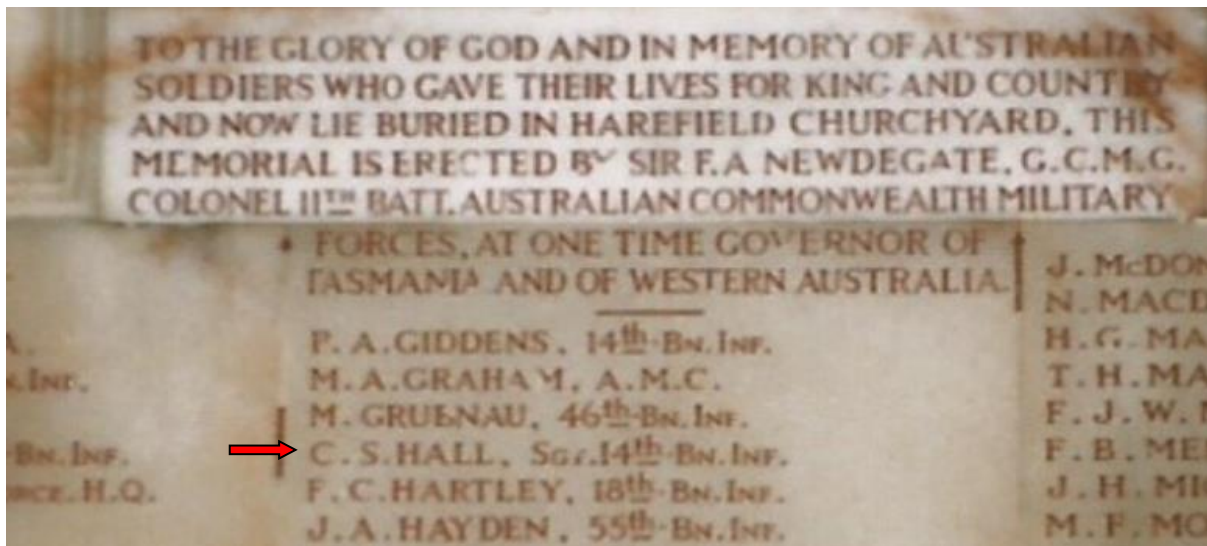
**Light Horse & Field Artillery Museum**



C. S. Hall is remembered on the Australian Soldiers' Memorial in St. Mary the Virgin Church, Church Hill, Harefield, Middlesex, England.



Australian Soldiers' Memorial, Harefield (Photo from War Memorials Online – B. Wood)



(71 pages of Sergeant Charles Samuel Hall's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

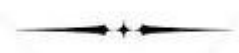
Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

DA09967

**Sergeant Charles Samuel Hall**





## **Newspaper Notices**

### **ROLL OF HONOR**

### **VICTORIAN LIST**

### **DIED OF ILLNESS**

T.-Sgt C. S. HALL, Vermont, 22/6/17

*(Weekly Times, Melbourne, Victoria – 21 July, 1917)*

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### **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 14th July, 1921, to Mr C. D. Hall, Canterbury Road, Vermont, Victoria, advised that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of his son, the late No. 2606 Sergeant C. S. Hall, 14th 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.

T. Sergeant C. S. Hall does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*Of Whom The World Was Not Worthy*

### **St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England**

St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield contains 126 Commonwealth War Graves.

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.

Harefield (St. Mary) Churchyard contains war graves from both world wars. There are 120 First World War graves, mostly those of Australians who died in No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield Park. Uniquely, their graves are marked by scroll shaped headstones, chosen by the staff and patients at the hospital. In the centre of the Australian plot stands a memorial obelisk which was erected by Sir Francis Newdegate, late Governor of Tasmania and of Western Australia, and Mr. C.A.M. Billyard-Leake, of Harefield Park. The churchyard also contains six graves of the Second World War.

*(Information & photos from CWGC)*



**St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield**







St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield





Photo of Sergeant Charles Samuel Hall's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)*





**St Mary the Virgin Church, Harefield** (Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)



**St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield** (Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)





St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield (Photos courtesy of Peter Bennett)

