

**Lambhill Cemetery,  
Glasgow, Scotland  
War Grave**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**7662 DRIVER**

**O. HAMILTON**

**AUST. FIELD ARTILLERY**

**18TH MARCH, 1919 Age 24**

*On Hasty Wings*

*Thy Youth Is Flown*

*(Note: CWGC & the Australian War Memorial have the date of death as 18<sup>th</sup> March, 1919. All forms in the Service Record file of Driver Oswald Hamilton all have the date of death as the 18<sup>th</sup> March, 1919 however the death certificate records that he died on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1919.)*

## Oswald HAMILTON

Oswald Hamilton was born at Goulburn, New South Wales in 1894 to parents William and Alice Hamilton (nee Armstrong).

The 1917 & 1919 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Oxley, subdivision of Balmoral, Queensland listed Oswald Hamilton, Motor Salesman, of Hawthorn Road, Galloway's Hill, Bulimba.

Oswald Hamilton was aged 20 years & 1 month, single & an Engineer's Apprentice from Hawthorn Road, Galloway's Hill, Bulimba, Brisbane, Queensland when he enlisted on 7th July, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 7662 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr W. Hamilton, of Hawthorn Road, Galloway's Hill, Bulimba, Brisbane, Queensland. Oswald Hamilton stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously served with R.A.N.R. (Royal Australian Naval Reserve) in New Guinea Expedition. Oswald Hamilton also stated that he had previously been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service due to his teeth.

As Oswald Hamilton was under the age of 21 years he needed his parents' consent for their son to enlist in the Australian Imperial Force for active service abroad. Mr William Hamilton, father of Oswald Hamilton, signed his consent on 7th July, 1915 for his son to join the A.I.F. Mrs Alice Hamilton, mother of Oswald Hamilton, signed her consent on 14th July, 1915 for her son to join the A.I.F.

Gunner Oswald Hamilton was posted to 5th Field Artillery Queensland Quota on 12th July, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to 14th Battery on 1st October, 1915.

Gunner Oswald Hamilton embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Persic (A34)* on 18th November, 1915 with the 5th Field Artillery Brigade, 14th Battery & disembarked at Suez on 21st December, 1915.

Gunner Oswald Hamilton was transferred to 22nd Howitzer Brigade on 10th March, 1916 & posted to 106th Battery at Zeitoun.

Gunner Oswald Hamilton proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) from Alexandria on 18th March, 1916 & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 25th March, 1916.

Gunner Oswald Hamilton was transferred to 6th Field Artillery Brigade on 13th May, 1916.

Gunner Oswald Hamilton was mustered as Driver on 1st August, 1916 with 6th Field Artillery Brigade.

Driver Oswald Hamilton was on leave from France from 27th September, 1917 & rejoined from leave on 7th October, 1917.

Driver Oswald Hamilton was wounded in action in France on 18th September, 1918. He was admitted to 4th Australian Field Ambulance with shrapnel wounds to right elbow then transferred to 48th Casualty Clearing Station. Driver Hamilton was admitted to 12th General Hospital at Rouen on 19th September, 1918 then transferred to 2nd Convalescent Depot at Rouen on 20th September, 1918. He was discharged to A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) on 21st September, 1918 & was marched in to A.G.B.D. at Havre, France on 22nd September, 1918.

Driver Oswald Hamilton was sent to Hospital sick from A.G.B. Depot on 5th October, 1918. He was admitted to 2nd General Hospital at Havre, France with Tonsillitis then transferred to 1st Australian Convalescent Depot on 27th October, 1918. Driver Hamilton was marched out to his Unit on 10th November, 1918.

Driver Oswald Hamilton was transferred to 3rd Field Artillery Brigade on 15th November, 1918.

Driver Oswald Hamilton was on leave to UK from 15th November, 1918 & returned from leave on 29th November, 1918.

Driver Oswald Hamilton was transferred to 6th Army Brigade, Australian Field Artillery on 14th January, 1919 & posted to 106th Battery.

Driver Oswald Hamilton was marched out from A.G.B.D. on 17th February, 1919 & proceeded to England from Havre, France on 26th February, 1919 for Return to Australia.

Driver Oswald Hamilton died on 18th March, 1919\* at 98 Gourley Street, Springburn, Glasgow, Scotland. (\*Note: CWGC & the Australian War Memorial have the date of death as 18th March, 1919. All forms in the Service Record file of Driver Oswald Hamilton all have the date of death as the 18th March, 1919 however the death certificate records that he died on 16th March, 1919.)

The Death Certificate for Oswald Hamilton, aged 24, Driver 106th Howitzer Battery, A.I.F., records that he died at 6.10 pm on 16th March, 1919 at 98 Gourley Street, Glasgow, Usual Residence Queensland, Australia. His parents was listed as William Baird Hamilton, Marine Engineer & Alice Hamilton. Oswald Hamilton died from acute Influenza & double Pneumonia (10 days). His Uncle – J. M. Hamilton was present at the death. Oswald Hamilton's death was registered at Glasgow on 17th March, 1919.

Driver Oswald Hamilton was buried on 19th March, 1919 in Lambhill Cemetery, Glasgow, Scotland – Plot number N. 128 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Driver Oswald Hamilton – Private Funeral - *The deceased soldier was interred in a private family grave in Lambhill Cemetery, Glasgow, by friends residing locally. The coffin was conveyed to the graveside, surmounted by many beautiful flowers sent from:- Mr & Mrs Mackinnon Hamilton, Neighbours in Gourday Street, Glasgow and many others . Many were in attendance, and the burial service was conducted by Chap. Duncan, of Mansfield Terrace, Balgravy Hill, Springburn. A.I.F. Headquarters were represented at the funeral.*

Names of Relatives and Friends present at the Funeral – Peter Boyd, George Graham, W. Watson, Jas Dumphther, John Hamilton, Dick Hamilton.

Oswald Hamilton requested in his Will, dated 2nd August, 1917 that his personal estate be bequeathed to his mother Alice Hamilton, & his father William Hamilton to be appointed Executor of the Will.

Driver Oswald Hamilton was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Driver Hamilton's father - Mr W. Hamilton, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent October, 1921 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Driver Oswald Hamilton – service number 7662, aged 24, of 6th Bde., Australian Field Artillery. He was the son of William and Alice Hamilton, of Hawthorne Rd., Hawthorne, Brisbane, Queensland. Born at Goulburn, New South Wales.

Driver O. Hamilton is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 14.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Oswald Hamilton is remembered with a tree in the Avenue of Honour, Bulimba Memorial Park, Oxford, Goodwin & Stuart Streets, Bulimba, Queensland. The trees in this avenue were planted as a living tribute to the servicemen and women from Balmoral Shire who sacrificed their lives during the World War One. The park was officially opened on 1 November 1919.



**Bulimba Memorial Park & Avenue of Honour**



Newspaper article - *The Telegraph*, Brisbane, Queensland – 29 September, 1919:

**SOLDIERS FROM BALMORAL**

**HONOUR AVENUE**

**TREE PLANTING CEREMONY**

*The planting of trees' ceremony in Honour Avenue, Balmoral Park, Morningside, was witnessed by a gathering of 600 persons, on Saturday afternoon....*

*The chairman announced that Miss Thynne had donated 14 trees for the ceremony. (Applause).*

Hon. W. H. Barnes officially dedicated the park to the public, "The planting of evergreen trees," said the member for Bulimba, "to perpetuate the memory of the boys who so nobly laid down their lives for their country, is a most fitting tribute, as it should always be a living reminder of their great self-sacrifice. And in years to come, future generations will be reminded continually of those sacrifices."

Mr Winstanley congratulated Balmoral upon the movement to keep green the memory of the soldiers who had made the supreme sacrifice.

Mr Bennett state that 499 men had enlisted from Balmoral, 300 had returned, and 67 had paid the great sacrifice.

.... Trees were planted for the following soldiers, all the plants being weeping figs, against which was a metal nameplate, bearing the words "In memory of -----, to honour his name, from Balmoral Shire":- .....Oswald Hamilton.....

(58 pages of Driver Oswald Hamilton'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**

### **PERSONAL NOTES**

Mr and Mrs Hamilton, Hawthorne-road, Hawthorne, have been notified by the military authorities that their son, Driver Oswald Hamilton, late 5th Field Artillery Brigade, died at Glasgow on March 18. Cause of death was not stated.

(*The Queenslander*, Brisbane, Queensland – 5 April, 1919)

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### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

#### **CASUALTY LIST No. 464**

#### **DIED OTHER CAUSES**

Dvr. Oswald Hamilton, Bulimba, 18/3/19, illness.

(*The Telegraph*, Brisbane, Queensland – 10 May, 1919)

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### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

HAMILTON – In loving memory of our dear son, Dvr. Oswald Hamilton, who died in Glasgow, March 16th, 1919.

W. and A. Hamilton, Hawthorne-road, Hawthorne.

HAMILTON – In loving memory of (Driver) Oswald Hamilton, late 106th Howitzer Battery, who died on active service, 16th March, 1919.

Inserted by his cobber, Alec.

(*The Brisbane Courier*, Queensland – 16 March, 1920)

## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

HAMILTON – In loving memory of Oswald Hamilton (106th Howitzer Battery), who died in Scotland on 16th March, 1919.

Inserted by his pal, J.A.H.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 16 March, 1921)*

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## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

HAMILTON – In loving memory of (Driver) Oswald Hamilton, late 106th Howitzer Battery, A.I.F., who died on active service, 16th March, 1919.

Inserted by his friend, Alec.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 16 March, 1922)*

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## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

HAMILTON – In loving memory of Driver Oswald Hamilton, who died on active service, 16th March, 1919.

Inserted by his friend, Alec.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 16 March, 1923)*

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## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

HAMILTON – In loving memory of Driver Oswald Hamilton, 106th Howitzer Battery, 6th F.A.B., who died on active service, 16th March, 1919.

Inserted by his friend, Alec.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 15 March, 1924)*

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## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

HAMILTON – In loving memory of Driver Oswald Hamilton, 106th Howitzer Battery, 6th F.A.B., who died on active service, 16th March, 1919.

Inserted by his friend, Alec.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 16 March, 1925)*

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## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

HAMILTON – In loving memory of Oswald Hamilton, late driver, 106th Howitzer Battery, died on active service, 16th March, 1919.

Inserted by his friend, Alec.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 16 March, 1926)*

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## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

HAMILTON – In loving memory of Oswald Hamilton, (106th Howitzer Battery, A.I.F.), who died on active service, 16th March, 1919.

Inserted by his friend, Alec.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 16 March, 1927)*

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## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

HAMILTON – In loving memory of (Driver) Oswald Hamilton, late 6th F.A.B., who died on active service, 16th March, 1919.

Inserted by his pal, Alec.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 16 March, 1928)*

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## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

HAMILTON – In memory of (Driver) Oswald Hamilton, late 106th Howitzer Battery (6th F.A.B.), who died on active service 16th March, 1919.

Inserted by his friend, Alec.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 16 March, 1929)*

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## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

HAMILTON – In loving memory of Oswald Hamilton, (6th F.A.B.,) who died on active service, 16th March, 1919.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 15 March, 1930)*

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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)*

Driver O. Hamilton does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*On Hasty Wings Thy Youth Has Flown*

## **Lambhill Cemetery, Glasgow, Scotland**

Lambhill Cemetery, Glasgow is part of a large cemetery complex north of Glasgow City Centre. Adjoining this site are the following large cemeteries Glasgow Western Necropolis and St Kentigerns Cemetery, all three are separate but adjoin each other. Glasgow Garnet Hill Hebrew Burial Ground and Glasgow Crematorium Memorial are also at this site.

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.

Glasgow was one of the ports of embarkation for the British Expeditionary Force in 1914 and several military hospitals opened in the city during the First World War, including the 3rd and 4th Scottish General (1,200 beds each), and the Merryflats War Hospital (500 beds). Battalions of a number of Scottish regiments had their headquarters at Glasgow during both wars, most notably the Highland Light Infantry. The Clydeside shipyards were targeted by German bombers during the Blitz, and Glasgow suffered a particularly ferocious attack on the night of 13/14 March 1941 when many civilians and servicemen were killed.

Glasgow (Lambhill) Cemetery contains 112 scattered burials of the First World War, 123 from the Second World War and one Norwegian war grave.

*(Information from CWGC)*



**Cross of Sacrifice, Lambhill Cemetery, Glasgow** *(Photo by Chris Upson)*



Photo of Driver O. Hamilton's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Lambhill Cemetery, Glasgow, Scotland.



*(Photo courtesy of Thomas Cook)*



Some CWGC Headstones in Lambhill Cemetery, Glasgow (Photo from CWGC)

