

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

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2163 PRIVATE

JOHN ARTHUR HAYDEN

55TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

3RD APRIL, 1917 Age 37

Though Lost To Sight

To Memory Dear

John Arthur (Jack) HAYDEN

John Arthur Hayden was born at Delegate, New South Wales on 9th July, 1880 to parents James & Elizabeth Hayden (nee Hyland).

James Hayden, father of John Arthur Hayden, died on 25th March, 1896 at Stockyard Flat, New South Wales.

John Arthur Hayden was a 36 year old, single, Labourer from Kirkinong, Delegate, NSW when he enlisted on 6th January, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Roman Catholic & his next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Elizabeth Hayden, Kirkinong, Delegate, NSW.

Private John Arthur Hayden was posted to Depot on 6th January, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to "D" Company, Depot Battalion at Goulburn Camp (Regimental number No. 13494) on 28th January, 1916 then transferred to "E" Company on 17th April, 1916. Private Hayden was transferred to "B" Company, 55th Battalion on 16th May, 1916 then transferred on 24th June, 1916 to 4th Reinforcements of 55th Battalion (Regimental No. 2163).

(Note: Private John Arthur Hayden's Service number on his Attestation Papers was recorded as 1154 which was crossed out then N13494 was also crossed out & 2163 written.)

Private John Arthur Hayden, Service number 2163, embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Port Sydney (A15)* on 4th September, 1916 with the 55th Infantry Battalion, 4th Reinforcements. He was admitted to Ship's Hospital on 26th September, 1916 with Mumps & was discharged on 9th October, 1916. Private Hayden disembarked at Plymouth, England on 29th October, 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 John Arthur Hayden proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone on 14th December, 1916 on *Princess Henrietta* from 14th Training Battalion. He was marched in to 5th D.B.D. (Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 15th December, 1916, Private Hayden was marched out to his Unit on 23rd December, 1916 & was taken on strength of 55th Battalion in the Field on 24th December, 1916 from Reinforcements.

Private John Arthur Hayden reported sick on 7th February, 1917. He was admitted to 1st S.M.D. on 7th February, 1917 with Otitis Media then transferred to Casualty Clearing Station. Private Hayden was transferred to Ambulance Train on 9th February, 1917 & was admitted to 11th Stationary Hospital at Rouen, France on 10th February, 1917 with a middle ear infection in right ear. He was transferred to England on Hospital Ship *Aberdonian* on 17th February, 1917.

55th Battalion

The 55th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 12 February 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. Half of its recruits were Gallipoli veterans from the 3rd Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 3rd, the 55th was predominantly composed of men from New South Wales. The battalion became part of the 14th Brigade of the 5th Australian Division.

Arriving in France on 30 June 1916, the battalion entered the frontline trenches for the first time on 12 July and fought its first major battle at Fromelles a week later. The battle was a disaster, resulting in heavy casualties across the division. Although in reserve, the 55th was quickly committed to the attack and eventually played a critical role, forming the rearguard for the 14th Brigade's withdrawal. Despite its grievous losses the 5th Division continued to man the front in the Fromelles sector for a further two months.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private John Arthur Hayden was admitted to 5th London General Hospital, Westminster, England on 19th February, 1917 with Deafness. He was transferred to 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield on 2nd March, 1917.

Private John Arthur Hayden died at 2.10 am on 3rd April, 1917 at 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield Park, Harefield, Middlesex, England from suspected Cerebro Spinal Fever (as per Field Service form, Casualty Form – Active Service & Statement of Service form.).

A Telegram was sent to Commandant, Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London, from 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield on 3rd April, 1917 advising “No. 2163 Pte John Hayden 55th Battalion died this Hospital early this morning 3rd April. Suspected Cerebro Spinal Fever, Post-mortem proceeding.” The Report of Death of a Soldier (Army Form B. 2090) recorded the cause of death as “Primary: Otorrhoea. Secondary: Pneumococcal meningitis.”

A death for John Hayden, aged 36, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Uxbridge, Middlesex, England.

Private John Arthur Hayden was buried at 2.30 pm on 5th April, 1917 in St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England – Plot number Aust. 19 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

From the burial report of Private John Arthur Hayden – Burial – Grave No. 18. (Note The Casualty Form – Active Service recorded the Grave no. as 18. This was crossed out & written in red is 19). *The deceased soldier was buried with full Military honors. The Staff Band of the 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield was in attendance. Gun carriage provided by the London Command and Firing Party (Royal Fusiliers) were present. The “Last Post” was sounded by a bugler of the A.I.F., at the graveside. Members of the Staff and patients of the 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield under the Command of Captain McWilliam, M.O., marched in the funeral procession. Floral tributes were sent by the High Commissioner for Australia, Patients and Nursing Staff of the 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield. No relatives were present at the funeral. Erection of a Memorial to be carried out by the Commonwealth Military Authorities. Father Octavien officiated at the graveside.*

A War Pension was granted to Elizabeth Hayden, Delegate, widowed mother of the late Private John Arthur Hayden, 2163, 55th Battalion, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 11th June, 1917.

F. C. Boys, Solicitor, Bombala, NSW wrote to Base Records on 12th June, 1917 requesting the Certificate of Death, in duplicate, so that Probate of the Will could be applied for.

Base Records relied to F. C. Boys, Esq., on 23rd June, 1917 enclosing, in duplicate, the certificate of report of death of the late No. 2163 Private J. A. Hayden, 55th Battalion.

A report from Base Records on 23rd June, 1917 to Mrs E. Hayden, Kirkinong, Delegate, NSW advised that her son, the late No. 2163 Private J. A. Hayden, 55th Battalion had died on 3rd April, 1917 of suspected cerebro spinal fever & was buried on 5th April, 1917 in Grave No. 18, Australian Military Ground, Parish Churchyard, Harefield. The report continued with details of the burial (as listed above in Burial Report).

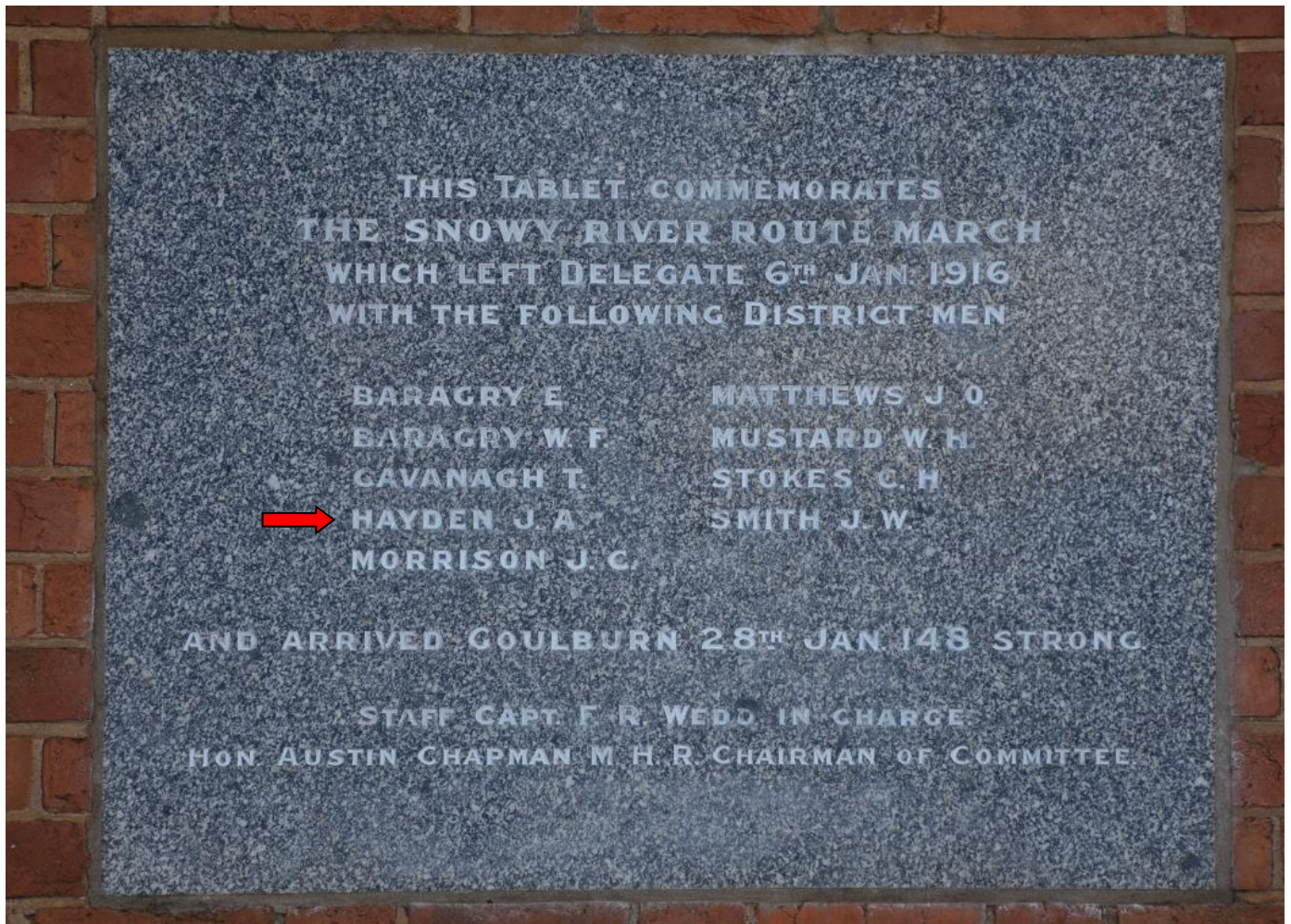
Private John Arthur Hayden was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Hayden’s mother – Mrs E. Hayden, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private John Arthur Hayden – service number 2163, of 55th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of James & Elizabeth Hayden, of Delegate, New South Wales.

J. A. Hayden is remembered on The Snowy River Route March Plaque, located on the outside wall of Delegate School of Arts, 38 Bombala Road, Delegate, NSW.



The Snowy River Route March Plaque (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Henry Moulds)



J. Haydon is remembered on the Men from Snowy River War Memorial / Delegate and District Honour Roll, located at Bombala Street & Victoria Parade, Delegate, NSW.



The Men from Snowy River War Memorial (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Henry Moulds)

DELEGATE AND DISTRICT HONOUR ROLL					
BOER WAR 1899-1901					
ARMSTRONG		W.J.			
WORLD WAR I 1914-1918					
ACKEROYD	J.	HAYSE	E.	OSLINGTON	C.
ARMSTRONG	A.	HELMERS	H.	PETTITT	H.
ARMSTRONG	A.E.	HEYDE	W.J.	PLEYDELL	B.
ARMSTRONG	C.	HUTCHINSON	C.	PLEYDELL	BUN
ARMSTRONG	J.S.	HUTCHINSON	R.	PLEYDELL	G.
BARAGRY	E.	HUTCHINSON	T.	PLEYDELL	H.
BARAGRY	W.	INGRAM	O.R.	PONSFORD	Dr
BARNES	T.E.(M.L.D.)	INGRAM	W.J.	RAHILLY	R.
BARTLEY	H.H.	JONES	E.S.	RANKIN	A.
BRILL	J.	KELLY	E.	READING	E.R.
CALLAUGHAN	G.	KELLY	F.	REED	D.H.
CAMPBELL	G.	KELLY	R.	REED	E.
CHOPPING	D.	KIMBER	L.	REYNOLDS	G.A.
CLARKE	A.	LEWIS	H.	RICHARDSON	E.
COMMONS	L.	LEWIS	R.	RICHARDSON	J.
CRAWFORD	A.E.	MAHANEY	J.	RICHARDSON	L.
CRAWFORD	BILLY	MARKLEY	W.	RICHMOND	A.H.
CRAWFORD	D.J.	MARRIOTT	H.C.	RICHMOND	P.H.
CROSS	J.	MARTIN	E.	RUSSELL	W.H.
DEENEY	J.	MARTIN	H.	SCOTT	R.J.
DENEHY	C.	MARTIN	T.	SHANNON	R.
DONELY	T.	MATTHEWS	H.	SHAW	A.
DUDLEY	W.H.	MAY	E.	SHIELDS	V.
DUFFELL	A.	McDONALD	A.	SMITH	D.C.
DUFFELL	T.	McLEAN	H.	SMITH	J.
DUPAS	A.	McLEOD	J.	STAGG	B.
ELTON	A.	McNICOL	W.	STEVENS	R.
FARMER	H.	MEAD	S.H.M.	STORMONT	F.C.L.
FELTIS	A.	MONAGHAN	R.	SWITZER	J.
FELTIS	E.	MORRISON	E.J.F.	TOOTH	A.G.
FILMER	H.	MORRISON	J.W.	WALCOTT	G.D.
FRUSHER	C.	NIXON	J.H.	WALCOTT	R.M.
GARDNER	E.	O'HARE	C.E.	WALCOTT	T.M.
GOSDEN	C.	O'HARE	S.J.	WRIGHT	A.E.
GRANT	R.	OLIVER	H.	WRIGHT	E.
HANSCOMBE	N.	OSLINGTON	A.	WRIGHT	E.P.
HAYDON	J.			WRIGHT	T.G.

The Men from Snowy River Memorial Plaque next to Delegate War Memorial.



The Men from Snowy River Memorial Plaque (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Henry Moulds)



J. Hayden is remembered on the Delegate District Roll of Honour, located in Delegate School of Arts, 38 Bombala Road, Delegate, NSW.

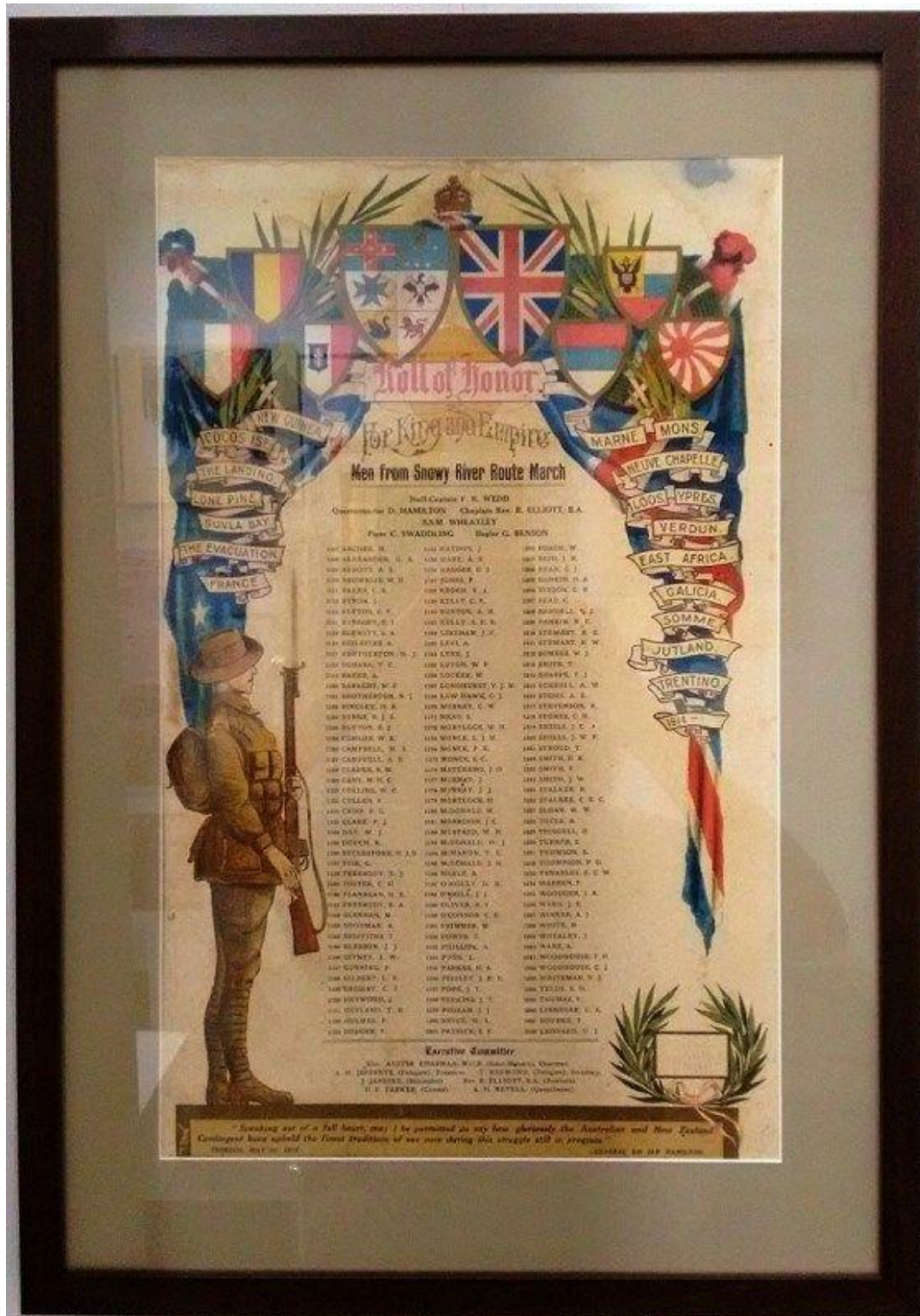


Delegate District Roll of Honour (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Henry Moulds)

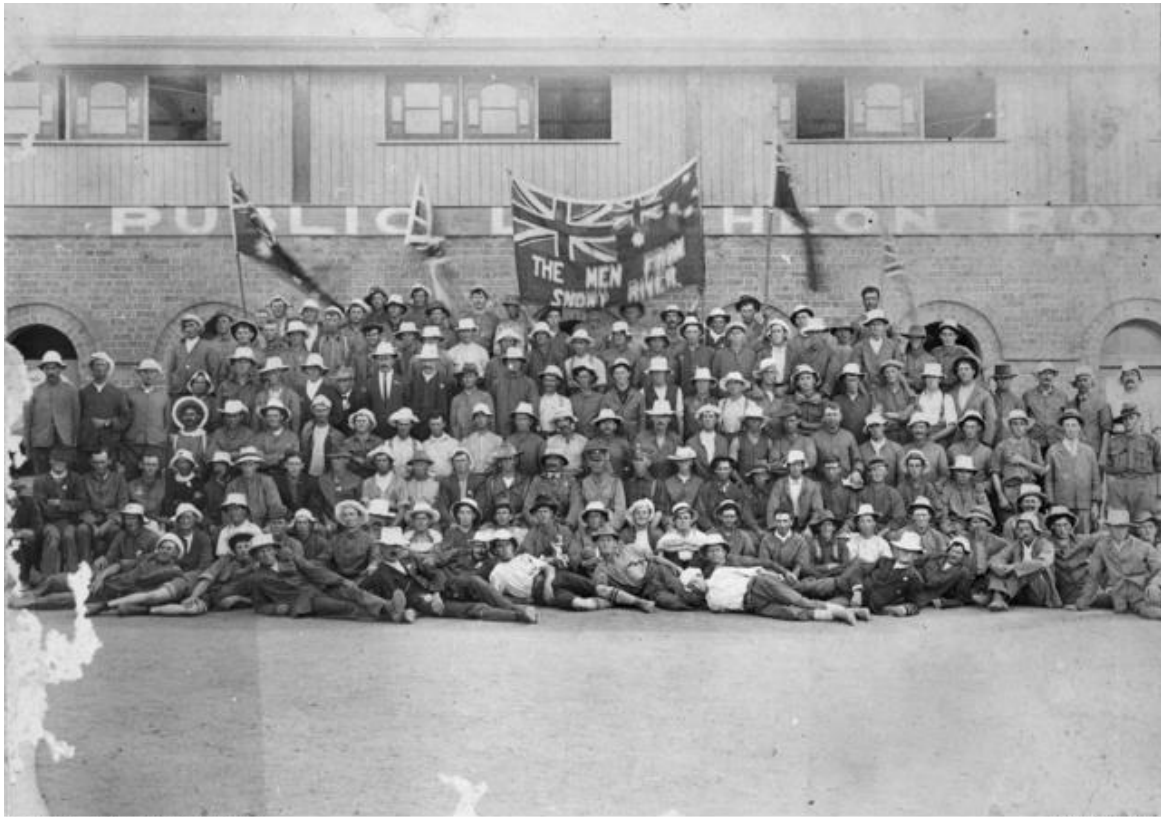


J. Haydon is remembered on the Men from Snowy River Route March Roll of Honor, located in Bega Pioneers Museum, Bega & Auckland Streets, Bega, NSW.

The same framed paper honour roll is also located in Coffs Ex-Services Club (RSL), 1 – 3 Vernon Street, Coffs Harbour, NSW.



Men from Snowy River Route March Roll of Honor (Photo from Monument Australia – Sandra Brown)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P00121.006

**Group portrait of the 'Men from Snowy River' route march for recruitment
outside the public luncheon rooms, Goulburn NSW.**

The march started on 6 January 1916 at Delegate, NSW, and took a route through Craigie, Mila, Bombala, Bibbenluke, Holt's Flat, Nimitybelle (Nimmitabel), Summer Hill, Rock's Flat, Cooma, Bunyan, Umeralla, Billylingera, Bredbo, Colinton, Michelago, Williamsdale, Queanbeyan, Bungendore, Deep Creek, Tarago, Inveralochy, and Tiranna, finishing up at Goulburn on 28 January 1916. The recruiting march (actually mostly by car and truck) was repeated early in the Second World War. There were re-enactments of the original march in 1988 and 2006.

Private J. A. Hayden is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 160.

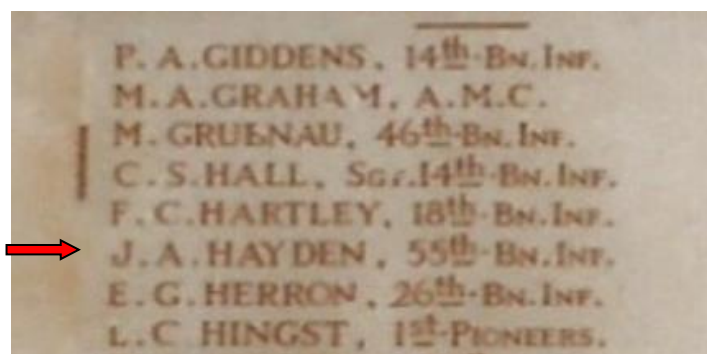


Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

J. A. Hayden 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)



(45 pages of Private John Arthur Hayden's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

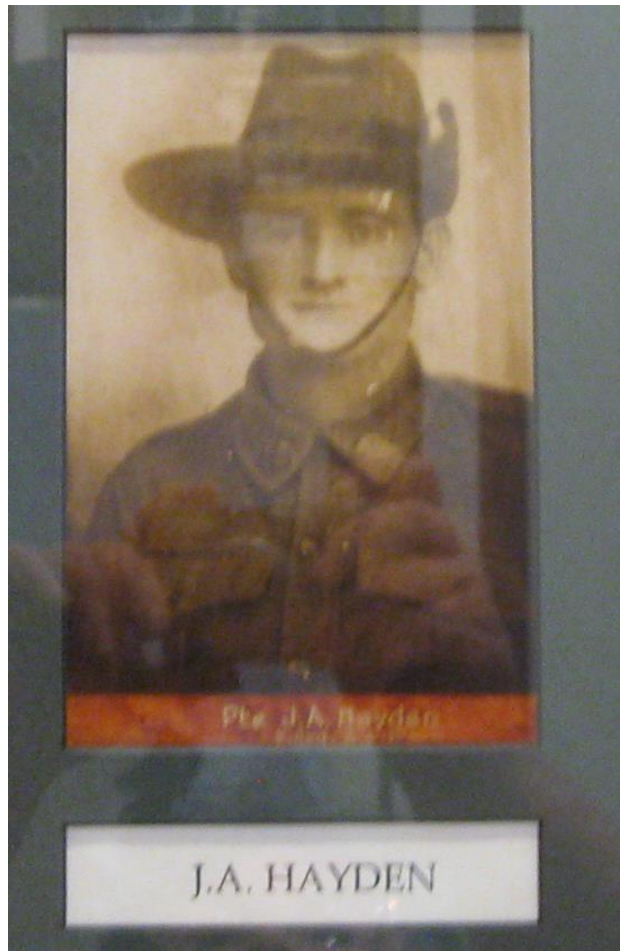
Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



Private J. A. Hayden

(Photos courtesy of Sharon Buckman, Delegate Progress Association. Photos from War Room of Delegate School of Arts)





Private J. A. Hayden

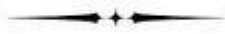
(Photos courtesy of Sharon Buckman, Delegate Progress Association. Photos from War Room of Delegate School of Arts)





FIG 18 – John Arthur Hayden

(Photo from VWMA)



Newspaper Notices

Delegate

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

MR G. A. Reed has received a letter from Private Jack Hayden, who wrote from Salisbury Plain. He expected to leave for France shortly after writing and is doubtless there now.

(The Bombala Times, NSW – 26 January, 1917)

Soldiers' Letters

Appended are a few extracts from a letter written by Private 'Jim' Brill to his people at Craigie, and dated France, 29th December :-

"We are at present out of the trenches for a month's spell. We had a very quiet Christmas. I met a lot of the Snowy River boys here the other day, they having joined up a few days before Xmas, **Jack Hayden**, Hughie Rankin, and all the other boys were there, but none of the Smiths are here yet. I received a parcel from the Delegate Xmas Comforts Fund to-night, for which I was very thankful, and pleased to think the people of Delegate had not forgotten us. You cannot think how cheering it is for us to receive anything like this in the trenches.....

(Delegate Argus, NSW – 8 March, 1917)

Death of Private J. Hayden

The sad intelligence was received by Rev. Father Roche, on Tuesday, that Private John Hayden had died on April 3rd, in the First Auxiliary Hospital, France, from spinal fever, the military authorities asking the rev. gentleman to convey to the young soldier's mother, Mrs. E. Hayden, of Kirkenong, and other relatives the deepest sympathy of their Majesties the King and Queen and the Commonwealth Government in the loss they and the army have sustained.

The news caused a general wave of regret, for "Jack" was deservedly popular and one of the finest of the many fine lads that have left this district to fight for home and country. He was a native of the district, and was favorably known in all parts of it. When the "Men from Snowy River" route march was mooted he was one of the first to undertake it, and assisted largely in swelling its numbers by inducing many others to accompany him. He was a busy recruiting agent for many weeks before the march started. The possessor of a pleasing voice, and a cheery and witty style, he was always in much request at district functions, and was highly esteemed by all classes. In camp he was equally popular with all his mates, his cheery disposition and sterling nature winning for him a high place in their regard, in fact, most of the local lads looked to him as a sort of leader. He is the second of the boys who set out from Delegate in the wet on their memorable march to answer the last roll-call, both of them strange to say, dying of illness, Private W. F. Baragry passing away at Goulburn just prior to the time his comrades sailed. Private Hayden had, with the rest of the "Snowies," been in the firing line since December last. By his death Mrs. Hayden has lost a splendid son, the district a fine young citizen, and the Empire another gallant soldier, who heard the call when it came and, like so many more of our brave lads, has laid down his life for his friends. The whole district will mourn his death, and, if whole-hearted and general sympathy can in any assuage the grief of his sorrowing mother and other relatives, they have it in full measure. — R.I.P. Jack Hayden.

(Delegate Argus, NSW – 12 April, 1917)

Our Corrowong correspondent writes:-

....The news of Private Jack Hayden's death cast quite a gloom over this locality. He was a universal favourite.

(*Delegate Argus*, NSW – 19 April, 1917)

Late War News

287th LIST

Died of Illness

Pte J. A. Hayden, Delegate, 3/4/17

(*The Land*, Sydney, NSW – 20 April, 1917)

A "Snowy" Man Back Home

Private "Jack" Matthews, of Delegate River, who went away with the Snowy River Men on the day they marched out from Delegate, returned on Tuesday, having been invalided home. He had only been in France five days when he contracted pneumonia, and consequently was unable to join his comrades in the firing line. **He saw the late Private Jack Hayden just before he left England. Jack was then in hospital, and looking forward to returning on the next hospital ship after Private Matthews.** A brother of the latter, Private Hugh Matthews, is also being sent home. He had a foot shot off in the fighting on the Somme. We understand that Private Matthews is to be accorded an official welcome home. As the first "Snowy" back he certainly deserves it.

(*Delegate Argus*, NSW – 14 June, 1917)

Heroes All

Private Eddie Baragry, who we reported last week as killed in France, was a son of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Baragry, of the Adaminaby "Post." Although his parents reside at Adaminaby, this district is proud to claim "Peg" as one of its own, for it was here he was born and grew up to manhood, and it was from here he stepped out with the rest of the little band who comprised the original "Men from Snowy River." It wasn't "Peg's" fault he wasn't at the front prior to this, for, from the commencement of the war, he was continually trying to pass the enlisting officer, only to be just as continually turned down because of defective eyesight. **When his brother Willie, and his brother-in-law (Jack Hayden), who were really the pioneers of the march (but sad to say, both of whom have since paid the supreme penalty)** let it be known they were going "Peg" said he was going too—and he surmounted all obstacles and did so. He was the life of the march and the life of his mates right through. No one will be more missed from the ranks of the Snowy River Men than E. J. Baragry. To Mr. and Mrs. Baragry, who have now lost both their eldest boys, the sincerest sympathy of the whole community will go out.

(*Delegate Argus*, NSW – 14 June, 1917)

THE GALLANT DEAD

TRIBUTE TO THE FALLEN

The framed enlargements of photos of district soldiers who gave their lives for their country in the war and which have been donated by Messrs. McKay Bros. were hung in the School of Arts on Saturday last by Messrs. D. H. and A. E. McKay, members of the School of Arts Committee and others. The photos are all good and are well shown up by the massive oak frames and maple mounts. The hanging of these photos in the School of Arts, which is really our town hall, appears to us a kindly tribute to the men who have given their lives for us, and a fitting way of perpetuating their memory. There are fifteen frames, two of them holding two photos each, viz, the brothers W. and E. Baragry and the brothers D. and W. Smith — seventeen heroes in all.

The names are : —

Pte. D. C. Smith, killed 27/5/15

Q.M. Sgt.- H. H. Bartley, killed 19/7/16.

Pte. John Jones, killed 5/8/16.

Ptc. W. F. Baragry, died 22/8/16.

Pte. C. J. Brill, killed 14/3/17.

Pte. H. S. Campbell, killed 2/4/17.

Pte. J. A. Hayden, killed 3/4/17.

Pte. W. H. Russell, killed 11/4/17.

Pte. E. J. Baragry, killed 9/5/17.

Pte. F. G. Le Poer Stormont, killed 22/5/17.

Pte S. O'Hare, killed 7/6/17.

Sgt. D. Chopping, died of wounds 25/9/17

Corp. H. Matthews, killed 8/1/18.

Corp. W. Smith, killed 12/3/18.

Corp. W. R. Oliver, killed 17/4/18.

Pte. R. Sweet, killed 1/9/18.

Pte. J.S. Armstrong, killed 20/9/18.

(Delegate Argus, NSW – 23 January, 1919)

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)

Private John Arthur Hayden does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Though Lost To Sight

To Memory Dear

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)





Photo of Private John Arthur Hayden'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)



