

**Colchester Cemetery,
Colchester, Essex
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1100 DRIVER

R. C. HENDY

AUST. FIELD ARTILLERY

9TH AUGUST, 1918 Age 25

*Until The Day Breaks
And The Shadows Flee Away*

Raymond Charles HENDY

Raymond Charles Hendy was born on 20th September, 1892 in Sydney, NSW to parents Henry Stephen and Maria Hendy (nee Bisiker).

Raymond Charles Hendy attended Cleveland Street Public School. Sydney, NSW.

Henry Stephen Hendy, father of Raymond Charles Hendy, died on 21st February, 1915 in the district of Redfern, NSW.

Raymond Charles Hendy was a 22 year old, single, Carter (listed as a Tinsmith by his mother for the Roll of Honour) from 15 Elizabeth Street, Redfern, NSW when he enlisted on 13th April, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1100 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Maria Hendy, 15 Elizabeth Street, Redfern, NSW.

Private Raymond Charles Hendy was posted to 7th Light Horse on 2nd May, 1915 for recruit training.

Private Raymond Charles Hendy embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Chilka (A51)* on 7th June, 1915 with the 2nd Light Horse Brigade, 7th Light Horse Regiment, 7th Reinforcements.

Private Raymond Charles Hendy joined & was taken on strength of 7th Light Horse Regiment at Gallipoli Peninsula on 2nd October, 1915.

7th Light Horse Regiment

The 7th Light Horse Regiment was raised in Sydney in October 1914 from men who had enlisted in New South Wales, and became part of the 2nd Light Horse Brigade.

The light horse were considered unsuitable for the initial operations at Gallipoli, but were subsequently deployed without their horses to reinforce the infantry. The 2nd Light Horse Brigade landed in late May 1915 and was attached to the 1st Australian Division. The 7th Light Horse became responsible for a sector on the far right of the ANZAC line, and played a defensive role until it finally left the peninsula on 20 December 1915.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Raymond Charles Hendy was sent sick to Hospital at Gallipoli Peninsula on 17th October, 1915. He was admitted to 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station on 17th October, 1915 with Acute Parotitis. Private Hendy was transferred to Hospital Ship *Soudan* & disembarked at Malta on 23rd October, 1915. He was admitted to Military Hospital at Floriana on 24th October, 1915.

Private Raymond Charles Hendy was transferred to St. Barnabas Camp at Ghain Tufficha on 6th November, 1915 then transferred to Egypt on 11th February, 1916 on *Bovriu*. He disembarked at Alexandria from Malta on 17th February, 1916. Private Hendy was taken on strength of Overseas Base at Cairo on 18th February, 1916. He was discharged to duty at Cairo on 26th February, 1916 from Australian Overseas Base.

Private Raymond Charles Hendy was taken on strength of 2nd Reserve Light Horse Regiment at Maadi on 1st March, 1916.

Private Raymond Charles Hendy was sent sick to Hospital at Maadi on 1st March, 1916 & rejoined his Unit on 4th March, 1916.

Private Raymond Charles Hendy was taken on strength of 10th F.A.B. (Field Artillery Brigade) at Tel-el-Kebir on 26th March, 1916 & posted to 38th Battery as Gunner.

Gunner Raymond Charles Hendy was mustered as Driver on 1st June, 1916.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) from Alexandria on 5th June, 1916 & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 13th June, 1916.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was admitted to 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital at Bulford, Wiltshire on 21st January, 1917 with V.D. He was discharged on 6th April, 1917 – total period of V.D. – 76 days.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire from Bulford on 9th April, 1917 & medically classified as B1 A (unfit for active service for several weeks).

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training & convalescing was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was marched in to R.B.A.A. (Reserve Brigade Australian Artillery) at Larkhill, Wiltshire on 21st May, 1917 from No. 1 Command Depot. He proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone from R.B.A.A. on 2nd July, 1917 & was marched in to A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) at Rouelles, France on 3rd July, 1917. Driver Hendy was marched out from A.G.B.D. on 6th July, 1917 & was taken on strength of 4th D.A.C. (Divisional Artillery Column) in the Field on 7th July, 1917.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was transferred to 10th F.A.B. (Field Artillery Brigade) on 11th July, 1917 & rejoined 4th D.A.C. from Hospital on 12th July, 1917.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was injured on 19th August, 1917 when kicked in the abdomen by a horse. He was sent to Rest Camp on 21st August, 1917.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was sent sick to N.Z. Stationary Hospital at Hazebrouck on 7th November, 1917 with headache. He was discharged to duty on 9th November, 1917 & rejoined his Unit from Hospital the same day,

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was sent sick to Hospital on 23rd November, 1917. He was admitted to 3rd Australian General Hospital at Abbeville on 23rd November, 1917 with Trench Fever. Driver Hendy was transferred to Ambulance Train No. 32 on 14th December, 1917 then invalided to England the same day on Hospital Ship *St. Patrick*.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was admitted to 1st Southern General Hospital at Stourbridge, England on 15th December, 1917 with Trench Fever – severe. He was discharged on 28th December, 1917 to No. 3 Command Depot at Hurdcott, Wiltshire, England.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was marched in to No. 3 Command Depot at Hurdcott, Wiltshire, England on 31st December, 1917 from 1st Southern General Hospital. The Hospital Admissions form records “*Evacuated 22/11/17 from Ypres with Trench Fever...complains of pain in shin & headaches which occur about once weekly last four of five days.*” He was medically classified on 2nd January, 1918 as B1 A (fit for active service in a few weeks). Driver Hendy was medically classified as B1A1 (fit for light duty only – 4 weeks) on 11th January, 1918 & improving. He was medically classified as B1 A2 on 4th February (fit for overseas training camp in three to four weeks). Driver Hendy was medically classified as B1 A3 (fit for overseas training camp in two to three weeks) on 11th February, 1918 & classified as B1 A4 (fit for overseas training camp when passed dentally fit) on 15th February, 1918.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was marched in to Overseas Training Brigade at Longbridge Deverill, Wiltshire on 28th February, 1918 from No. 3 Command Depot at Hurdcott.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was marched in to R.B.A.A. (Reserve Brigade Australian Artillery) at Heytesbury Wiltshire on 15th March, 1918 from Overseas Training Brigade at Longbridge Deverill.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy proceeded overseas to France via Southampton from Heytesbury on 27th March, 1918. He was marched in to A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) at Rouelles, France on 28th March, 1918. Driver Hendy was marched out from A.G.B.D. on 6th April, 1918 & rejoined 38th Battery in France from England on 9th April, 1918.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was sent sick to Hospital on 5th May, 1918. He was admitted to 12th Australian Field Ambulance on 5th May, 1918 with D.A.H. (disorderly action of the heart) & P.U.O. (Pyrexia (fever) of unknown origin) then transferred to 4th Casualty Clearing Station on the same day. Driver Hendy was transferred on 5th May, 1918 to No. 28 Ambulance Train & admitted to 16th U.S.A. Hospital at Le Treport, France on 5th May, 1918 with D.A.H. (disorderly action of the heart). Driver Hendy was transferred to England from 16th U.S.A. Hospital on 24th May, 1918.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was admitted to Military Heart Hospital at Colchester Essex, England on 29th May, 1918.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was transferred from Military Heart Hospital to General Military Hospital, Colchester, Essex, England on 16th July, 1918.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy died on 9th August, 1918 at General Military Hospital, Colchester, Essex, England. A Post Mortem was held where a Tumour in right lobe of cerebellum was found, which was breaking down & there had been haemorrhage. Cause of death - Cerebral Tumour. (Hospital Admissions form has date of death as 11th August, 1918, however a Telegram to Administrative Headquarters A.I.F. was sent from Military Hospital, Colchester on 9th August, 1918, advising of the death of Driver Hendy.)

A death for Raymond C. Hendy, aged 25, was registered in the September quarter, 1918 in the district of Colchester, Essex, England.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was buried on 13th August, 1918 in Colchester Cemetery, Colchester, Essex, England – Grave 34 Section S. From the burial report of Driver Raymond Charles Hendy - *Coffin was good, brass mounts. The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military funeral. The coffin was draped with the "Union Jack" and surmounted by beautiful wreaths sent by the following:- Mother, Staff, Patients "D" Block, Red Cross Society, Miss Walsh, From Comrades. Firing Party, Bearers, Band & Buglers were in attendance. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Names of relatives and friends present at the Funeral – Fiancée Miss Nellie Turner, Mrs Paton, Miss Wallace and Mourners from Military Hospital, Colchester.

Base Records contacted Mrs Hendy, 15 Elizabeth Street, Redfern, NSW, mother of the late Driver Raymond Charles Hendy, in April, 1920 to advise that information had been received that the remains of her son had *"been exhumed from the former site & re-interred in Grave No. 73 Section T. 5 in Colchester Cemetery. This work is carried out with every measure of care and reverence in the presence of a Chaplain."*

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Driver Raymond Charles Hendy a letter from the O.C. General Military Hospital, Colchester wrote giving details into his death: *"The above named soldier was under my care for 2 days when he suddenly died. On the same morning his case was under investigation and thought to be suffering from a tumour in the Brain. The post mortem examination revealed a deep seated tumour in the cerebellum which made the case more difficult to diagnose. Prior to his admission under my care I understand he had been under treatment in various places. In conclusion I may state that the disease was of such a nature that treatment of any kind would have been of no avail. Operation was entirely out of the question as the post mortem revealed its deep seated situation. He died suddenly and peacefully and from my observation of 2 days he had no great suffering beyond persistent headaches. The disease was not caused through his own negligence."*

Raymond Charles Hendy requested in his Will, dated 4th June, 1915, that his mother be appointed as Executrix & all of his real and personal estate be bequeathed to his mother – Maria Hendy.

Base Records contacted Mrs Hendy, 15 Elizabeth Street, Redfern, NSW, mother of the late Driver Raymond Charles Hendy, in September, 1920 stating that she was noted as the registered next-of-kin but desired to know if there were any nearer blood relatives than herself 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 Maria Hendy replied that she was the nearest blood relation. Base Records replied to Mrs Hendy stating that the information she had supplied was *"hardly sufficient to dispose of you son's 1914/15 Star and other war medals....."*

Will you kindly favour me with definite information as to whether deceased's father is living...." Mrs Hendy replied that she was the nearest blood relation to Driver Raymond Charles Hendy as his father had been dead six years.

Driver Raymond Charles Hendy was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Driver Hendy's widowed mother – Mrs M. Hendy, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent August, 1921 & Plaque sent January, 1923).

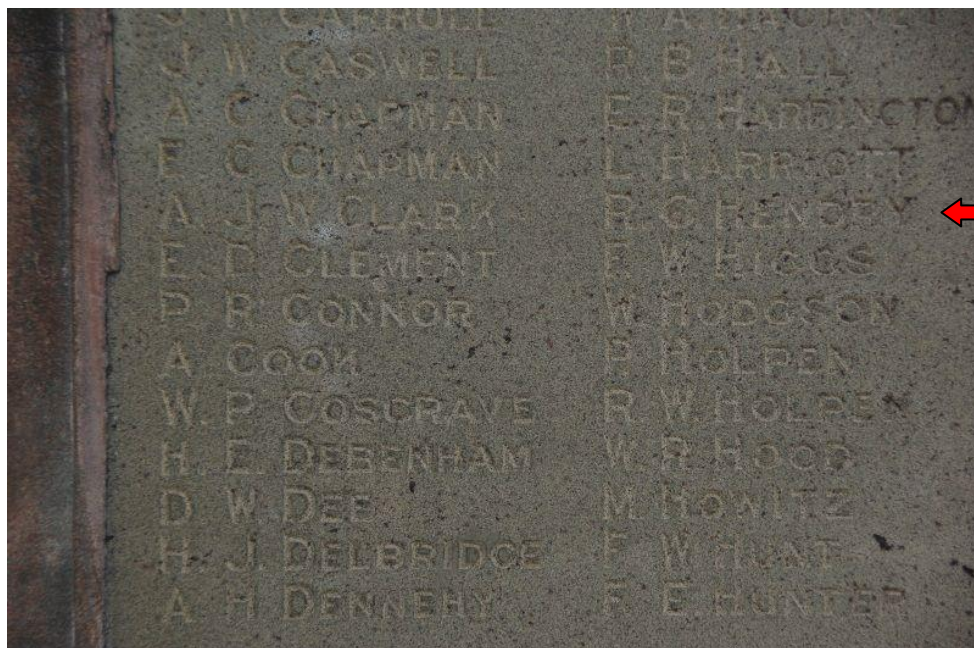
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Driver Raymond Charles Hendy – service number 1100, aged 25, of 10th Bde., Australian Field Artillery. He was the son of Henry Stephen and Maria Hendy, of 15 Elizabeth Street, Redfern, New South Wales.

R. C. Hendy is remembered on the Memorial Gates at the entrance of the former St. Paul's Anglican Church – now Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 242 Cleveland Street, Redfern, Sydney, NSW.



Memorial Gates at the entrance of the former St. Paul's Anglican Church, Redfern

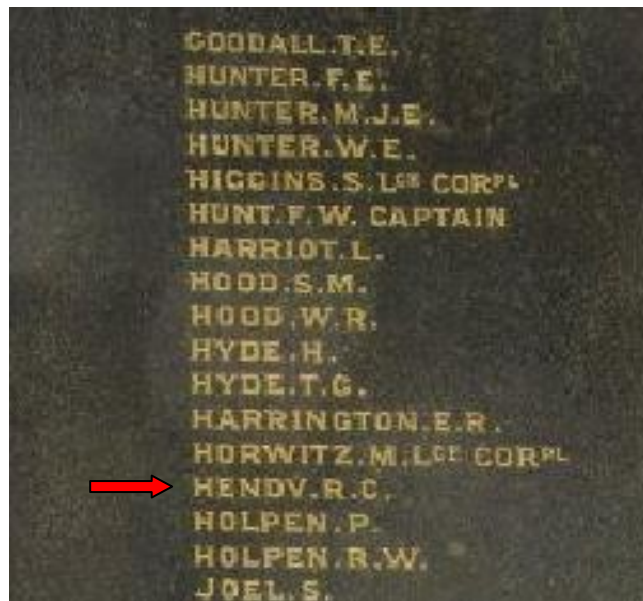
(Photos from Monument Australia – Peter F. Williams)



R. C. Hendy is remembered on the Redfern War Memorial, located in Redfern Park, 51 Elizabeth Street, Redfern, Sydney, NSW.



Redfern War Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia)



Driver R. C. Hendy is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 16.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(99 pages of Driver Raymond Charles Hendy'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



Newspaper Notices

CASUALTIES

127th LIST

REPORTED IN HOSPITALS

Pte R. C. HENDY, 7 L.H., 7 R., Redfern (Malta).

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 25 December, 1915)

MORE CASUALTIES

161st LIST

Returned to Duty

Pte R. C. HENDY (Redfern)

(Evening News, Sydney, NSW – 8 April, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOUR

HENDY – Died in Colchester Hospital, England, August 1, 1918, Driver Raymond Charles Hendy, aged 26 years, late 10th Field Artillery Brigade, beloved son of the late H. S. Hendy and Mrs Hendy, of 15 Elizabeth-street, Redfern.

His duty nobly done.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 30 August, 1918)

Personal Paragraphs

Mrs Hendy, of Elizabeth-street, Redfern, has received advice that her youngest son, Private Raymond Hendy, has died as the result of wounds received in France. He had served with the A.I.F. since 1914, and had on several occasions been in hospital as the result of wounds received in action.

(The Sun, Sydney, NSW – 11 October, 1918)

On Active Service

HENDY – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Driver Raymond Charles Hendy, 10th Field Artillery Brigade, aged 26 years, died in Colchester Hospital, England, August 9, 1918. Thy will be done. Inserted by his loving mother, brother and sister.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 9 August, 1919)

On Active Service

HENDY – In loving memory of our dear son and our dear brother, Driver R. C. Hendy (Anzac), who died of illness at Colchester Hospital, England, August 9, 1918. Until the day breaks. Inserted by his loving mother, brother and sister.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 9 August, 1920)

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT COLCHESTER

GRAVES CAREFULLY TENDED

Prominent Englishmen and women were quick to spring to the defence of Australian soldiers when they were libelled recently in one of the flood of belated war books on the market. The abiding sense of gratitude felt by the English people towards the men from overseas who rallied to the defence of the Empire, is typified in the action of the members of the women's section of the British Legion at Colchester. Mrs. Florence T. Towsey, chairman of the Colchester section, has sent a message to the Australian relatives of the men of the A.I.F. who were laid to rest in the cemetery at Colchester, the quaint old Essex town, which was established in the time of the Saxons, and was once a stronghold of the Danes in the days when they ravaged the coasts of England. It was strongly fortified by the Romans, and the great Roman walls remain almost entire to this day. The countryside must have seen much fighting, and the frowning Norman keep is one of the largest in England, and there is something singularly touching in the fact that the soldiers of the younger countries rest here, amid the brotherhood of warriors of long ago.

Impressive Ceremony

Mrs. Towsey says on Anzac Day, 1929, the members of the British Legion (Women's Section), Colchester Branch, assembled at the cemetery to pay a tribute to the memory of the men of the overseas Dominions, who came to fight

for the British Empire in the Great War, and who lie buried there. A simple but impressive little service was held, and then flowers were placed on each grave. It is proposed to hold this service annually. The graves are carefully tended. The following are the names of the Australians who rest in Colchester Cemetery, and the simple inscriptions on their graves: —

38 651. Gunner C. C. Willcock, Field Artillery. Dec. 25, 1918. Age 38. 'Happy in my lot.'

2 182. Corporal J. P. Byrne, 58th B.N., Australian T.N.F. Jan. 5, 1918. Age 29.

3370. Private H. M. C. D. McIntosh, 3rd B.N., Australian I.N.F. July 12, 1916. Age 18. 'My son, your memory we will cherish, until we follow you.'

1100. Driver R. C. Hendry, Australian Field Artillery. August 9, 1918. Age 25. 'Until the day breaks and the shadows flee away.'

6035. Private J. Hought, 6th Bn., Australian Infantry. Nov. 17, 1917. Age 31. 'Thy purpose, Lord, we cannot see; He gave his life that we might live.'

1384. Private W. I. Mackenzie, 51st Bn., Australian Infantry, Aug. 5, 1916. Age 27. 'Gone, but not forgotten.'

10973. Driver W. R. Bennett. Australian Engineers, Nov. 23, 1918.

1906. Private S. E. Barclay, 45th Bn., Australian Inf. April 11, 1918. Age 24.

493. Private F. R. Rankin, 21st Bn. Australian Inf., Sept. 10, 1916. Age 21 'God has saved from weary strife, In its dawn this young, fresh life.'

2413. Driver C. S. McKellar, Australian Engineers, June 18, 1918. Age 25. The dearly-loved son of Mr. and Mrs. McKellar, of Sydney, late of Glasgow.

19477. Sapper H. F. Smith, Australian Engineers, Nov. 5, 1918. Age 31.

Getting in Touch with Relatives

Mrs. Towsey asked Mrs. Florence Muriel Paxman, a member of the Colchester branch, who is visiting Sydney on a holiday trip, to try and get in touch with the Australian relatives of any of these men. In a letter to 'The Chronicle,' Mrs. Paxman says— 'I visited all the graves the day before I left England, and I shall be most happy to give any relatives any further information, or to get them photographs of any particular grave if they will write to me at my address, Winton, New South Head-road, Rose Bay, Sydney.'

Mrs. Towsey's address is Tollgate House, Shrub End, Colchester, and many Australians will remember with gratitude the hospitality that was extended to them there during the war.

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 13 March, 1930)

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 R. C. Hendy does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Until The Day Breaks And The Shadows Flee Away

Colchester Cemetery, Colchester, Essex, England

Colchester Cemetery was opened in 1856 and now belongs to the Corporation. It originally covered about 30 acres, but was enlarged in 1940 to 67 acres. The newer part is on the western side of the original burial ground, and behind it is the site of a Roman Way. There are 267 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war, 1 being unidentified, of which 50 are in the War Plot, while 11 Australian graves are together in a group nearby, the remainder being scattered. After the war a Cross of Sacrifice was erected on a site overlooking both the plot and the group of war graves, in honour of all the servicemen buried here. There are also 114 Commonwealth burials of the 1939-1945 war here, 1 of which is unidentified. In the early months of the 1939-1945 War, shortly after the enlargement of the cemetery, land was set aside in the newer part for service war burials. This is now the War Graves Plot. Among these casualties are men who were killed at sea after being evacuated from Dunkirk. The non-war graves are those of a man of the Merchant Navy and two ex-servicemen who were buried in the War Graves Plot although their deaths were not due to war service. There are also 7 Foreign National burials. The plot is enclosed by a hedge of cotoneaster frigida and a Cross of Sacrifice stands on the western side. The graves are set in level mown turf, with continuous flower borders along the rows of headstones in which are polyantha roses and other seasonal flowers.

(Information from CWGC)



Colchester Cemetery Entrance (Photo by Iain MacFarlane – Find a Grave)



Cross of Sacrifice, Colchester Cemetery (Photo from CWGC)



Australian Plot of World War 1 War Graves, Colchester Cemetery (Photo from CWGC)

Driver R. C. Hendy's CWGC Headstone (marked with red arrow)

Photo of Driver R. C, Hendy's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Colchester Cemetery, Colchester, Essex, England



(Photo by Andrea Charlesworth)



(Photo by Andrea Charlesworth – Find a Grave)