

**Avon View Cemetery,
Bristol, Gloucestershire, England**

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



4849 PRIVATE

H. HERBERT

1ST AUSTRALIAN PIONEERS

23RD OCTOBER, 1918 Age 32

At Duty's Call

His Life He Gave

May God's White Angels

Guard His Grave

Herbert HERBERT

Herbert Herbert was born on 21st April, 1886 at Dowlais, Glamorgan, Wales to parents John Samuel and Mary Ann Herbert (nee Griffiths).

The 1891 Wales Census recorded Herbert Herbert as a 5 year old Scholar, living with his family at 6 Pleasant Street, Ystradyfodwg, Glamorgan, Wales. His parents were listed as John S. Herbert (Boiler Maker, aged 29, born Glamorgan) & Mary Ann Herbert (aged 27, born Merthyr, Glamorgan). Herbert was one of three children listed on this Census – Morgan Joseph Herbert (Scholar, aged 7, born Merthyr, Glamorgan) then Herbert & Edward S. Herbert (aged 8 months, born Ystradyfodwg, Glamorgan).

Herbert Herbert attended school at Mary St., Barton Hill, Bristol, England.

The 1911 England Census recorded Herbert Herbert as a 24 year old Boiler Maker lodging at 26 Virgil St., Liverpool, Lancashire along with his father – John S. Herbert (Boiler Maker, aged 49). They were lodging with John Burns (Postman, aged 35), his wife Mary Burns (aged 35) & their 4 children as well as 2 other Lodgers.

According to information provided by his mother for the Roll of Honour – Herbert Herbert came to Australia when he was 23 years old.

Herbert Herbert was a 29 year old Labourer when he enlisted at Holsworthy, Sydney, NSW on 9th November, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Mary Herbert, 31 Deacon St., Bristol, England. He was posted to “B” Company, 19th Battalion.

(Note: there is no further information regarding this enlistment)

Herbert Herbert was a 31 year old, single, Boilermaker from 333 Sussex Street, Sydney, NSW when he re-enlisted at East Sydney Recruiting Depot, William St, Darlinghurst, Sydney, NSW on 23rd June, 1917 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 4849 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Mary Herbert, 32 Deacon St., Lawrence Hill, Bristol, England.

Private Herbert Herbert was posted to Show Ground Camp, Sydney, NSW on 25th June, 1917 for recruit training. He was transferred to Recruits Depot at Liverpool, Sydney on 27th June, 1917 then transferred to 1st Battalion Pioneers on 11th July, 1917. Private Herbert was transferred to “B” Company Tech Battalion on 31st October, 1917 then transferred to 14th Reinforcements of 1st Battalion Pioneers on 20th November, 1917.

Private Herbert Herbert embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Ulysses* (A38) on 19th December, 1917 with the 1st Pioneer Battalion, 14th Reinforcements & disembarked at Suez on 16th January, 1918.

1st Australian Pioneer Battalion

The 1st Pioneer Battalion was an Australian infantry and light engineer unit raised for service during the First World War as part of the all-volunteer Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). The 1st Pioneers were raised in Egypt, on 10 March 1916, from volunteers drawn from New South Wales who were subsequently assigned to the 1st Division. Trained as infantrymen, the pioneers were tasked with light combat engineer functions in the field, with a large number of personnel possessing trades from civilian life. The concept had existed within the British Indian Army before the war, but was adopted by the Australian Army in early 1916 to meet a need for troops with construction and engineering skills to assist with digging trenches, labouring, constructing strong points and undertaking battlefield clearance. At the same time, they could be pressed into the line to fight alongside regular infantry where required.

(Information from Wikipedia)

Private Herbert Herbert embarked on H.M.T. *Leasowe Castle* from Port Said on 24th January, 1918 & detrained at Port Said the same day. He disembarked at Taranto, Italy on 2nd February, 1918 then entrained at Taranto on 5th

February, 1918. He detrained at Cherbourg on 12th February, 1918 then embarked on HMT *Antrim* on 12th February, 1918. Private Herbert disembarked at Southampton, England on 13th February, 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 Herbert Herbert was marched in to Pioneer Training Battalion at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire, England on 13th February, 1918.

Private Herbert Herbert was sent sick to Sutton Veny Hospital on 26th February, 1918 & admitted to Sutton Veny Military Hospital on 27th February, 1918 with Bronchitis. The Hospital Admissions form recorded he had Tuberculosis of Lung. He was discharged to No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth, Dorset, England on 25th May, 1918.

A Medical Report had been completed on Private Herbert Herbert on 15th May, 1918 at Sutton Veny. His disability was listed as Tuberculosis of Lung which had been crossed out & rewritten in red as Fibrosis of lung. The disability was recorded as originating on 2nd February, 1918 at Sutton Veny. "*Had a cough for 5 weeks before entering hospital suffering from acute Bronchitis...extensive involvement both lungs*" and was attributable to service during present war. The Medical Officer in charge of Private Herbert's case recommended that he would "*probably not be fit for service for 6 months.*" The Medical Board found that Private Herbert was temporarily unfit for General Service for more than 6 months & was unfit for Home Service.

The address of the next-of-kin (mother – Mrs Mary Ann Herbert) for Private Herbert Herbert was changed on 8th March, 1918 to 67 Church Road, Redfield, Bristol, England.

Private Herbert Herbert was written up for an Offence on 26th June, 1918 while posted at Monte Video – A.W.L. (absent without leave) from 4 pm on 18th June, 1918 until 7.45 pm on 25th June, 1918. He was awarded a total forfeiture of 15 days' pay.

Private Herbert Herbert was admitted to Camp Hospital at Weymouth, Dorset on 1st August, 1918 seriously ill.

Private Herbert Herbert died at 6.30 am on 23rd October, 1918 at Monte Video Hospital, Weymouth, Dorset, England from positive T.B. (Tuberculosis of Lung). (Note: Report of Death of a Soldier – Army Form B. 2090 records that Private Herbert died at "A" Sub Depot (Monte Video), No. 2 Australian Command Depot.)

A death for Herbert Herbert, aged 32, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Weymouth, Dorset, England.

Private Herbert Herbert was buried on 2nd November, 1918 in Avonview Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England – Plot number PT. 318 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private Herbert Herbert - *Coffin was good polished Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler and Pallbearers being in attendance. Coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and conveyed to the graveside on a gun carriage. Many beautiful wreaths were sent from: Mrs Herbert, Mrs Rowlands, Mrs Bray. A service was held at the church and later at the graveside where there were about 100 spectators; and the "Last Post" was sounded. Rev Harper officiated at the graveside and a large number were in attendance. An oak cross will be erected by the A.I.F. London. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Names of Relatives and Friends present at the Funeral – Mother- Mary Ann Herbert. Sister – Mary Ann Herbert. Father- John Samuel Herbert. Sister – Mrs Eliza Patten. Mrs Davis, Mrs Bray (Aunts).

Private Herbert Herbert requested in his Will dated 11th October, 1918 that all his real estate & personal estate be bequeathed to his mother – Mary Ann Herbert, 67 Church Road, Redfield, Bristol, England. AN earlier Will dated 20th November, 1917 bequeathed everything to his mother also.

Private Herbert Herbert 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 Herbert's mother –Mrs M. A. Herbert (Scroll & Plaque issued in England November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Herbert Herbert – service number 4849, aged 32, of 1st Australian Pioneers. He was the son of John Samuel and Mary Ann Herbert, of 67 Church Rd., Redfield, Bristol, England.

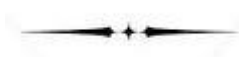
Private H. Herbert is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 171.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(61 pages of Private Herbert Herbert'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

CASUALTY LIST

The following were included in the 392nd official casualty list:-

NEW SOUTH WALES

ILL

Pte HERBERT HERBERT, England.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 25 April, 1918)

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 H. Herbert does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

At Duty's Call His Life He Gave

May God's White Angels Guard His Grave

Avonview Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England

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. Bristol (Avonview) Cemetery contains 85 First World War burials and 53 from the Second World War, all scattered throughout the cemetery.

(Information from CWGC)



Avon View Cemetery, Bristol *(Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave)*



Avon View Cemetery, Bristol (Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave)



Cross of Sacrifice Avon View Cemetery, Bristol (Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave)

Photo of Private H. Herbert's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Avonview Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England.

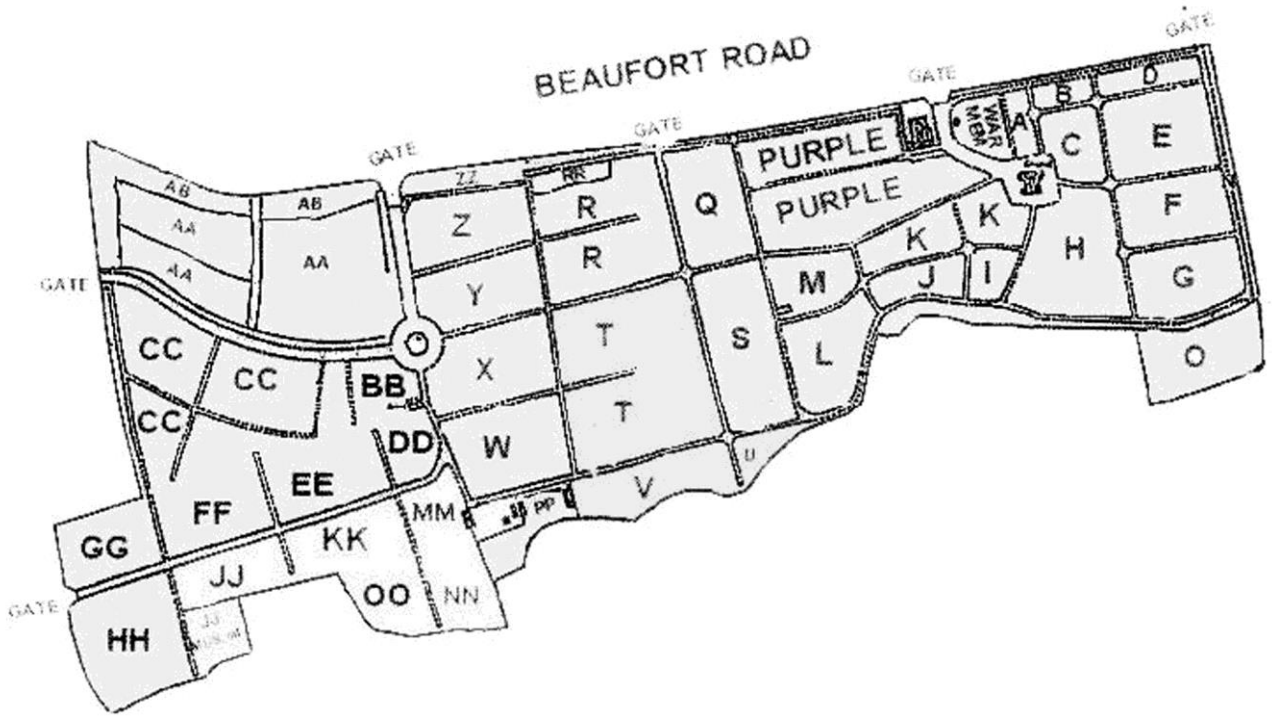


(Photo courtesy of Helen Roberts)



(Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave)

AVONVIEW CEMETERY



(Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave)