

**Tidworth Military Cemetery,
Tidworth, Wiltshire, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2791 DRIVER

C. HODGE

AUST. FIELD ARTILLERY

30TH JANUARY, 1919

Charles HODGE

Charles Hodge was born at Walkerville, North Adelaide, South Australia on 25th July, 1886 to parents Charles & Mary Agnes Hodge (nee Mead).

Charles Hodge was a 29 year old, single, Labourer from Harvey Street, Prospect, South Australia when he enlisted at Keswick, South Australia on 14th June, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2791 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Mary Agnes Hodge, Harvey Street, Prospect, South Australia. Charles Hodge stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously been convicted by a Civil Power- Assault & was fined £2 /5 /-.

Private Charles Hodge was posted to H Group - Base Infantry on 14th June, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to 9th Reinforcements of 12th Battalion on 1st July, 1915.

Private Charles Hodge embarked from Adelaide, South Australia on HMAT *Star of England (A15)* on 21st September, 1915 with the 12th Infantry Battalion, 9th Reinforcements.

Private Charles Hodge was taken on strength of 12th Battalion at Mudros on 27th November, 1915. He disembarked at Alexandria on 6th January, 1916 from H.M.T. *Lake Michigan* (after the evacuation of Gallipoli).

12th Battalion

The 12th Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. Half of the battalion was recruited in Tasmania, a quarter was recruited in South Australia, and a quarter from Western Australia. With the 9th, 10th and 11th Battalions it formed the 3rd Brigade.

..... The 12th served at ANZAC until the evacuation in December.

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli, the 12th Battalion returned to Egypt and, in March 1916, sailed for France and the Western Front.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Charles Hodge was transferred from 12th Battalion at Railhead to 52nd Battalion on 1st March, 1916. He was taken on strength of 52nd Battalion at Tel-el-Kebir on 1st March, 1916.

52nd Battalion

The 52nd Battalion was raised at Tel el Kebir in Egypt on 1 March 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. Approximately half of its recruits were veterans from the 12th Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 12th, the 52nd was originally a mix of men from South and Western Australia and Tasmania. From March 1916, the battalion's reinforcement groups mainly comprised men from Queensland. The 52nd became part of the 13th Brigade of the 4th Australian Division.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Charles Hodge was transferred to 4th Divisional Artillery at Tel-el-Kebir on 13th March, 1916. He was taken on strength of 24th Howitzer Brigade on 13th March, 1916 & was posted to 111th Battery.

Private Charles Hodge was appointed Temporary Driver at Serapeum on 18th May, 1916.

Temporary Driver Charles Hodge proceeded to join B.E.F. from Alexandria on 3rd June, 1916 on H.M.T. *Elele*. He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 13th June, 1916.

Temporary Driver Charles Hodge was appointed Driver on 1st July, 1916 while posted in France.

Driver Charles Hodge was transferred to 11th F. A. B. (Field Artillery Brigade) on 25th January, 1917. He was taken on strength of 11th F.A.B. & posted to 41st Battery.

Driver Charles Hodge was with 11th Field Artillery Brigade on 2nd March, 1918. (This entry was usually posted on the Casualty Form- Active Service when no other entries had been made for a period of time).

Driver Charles Hodge was On Leave to UK from France from 24th July, 1918 & he rejoined his Unit on 9th August, 1918.

Driver Charles Hodge was transferred from 11th F.A.B. to A.I.F. Headquarters – 1915 Draft to Australia on 16th January, 1919.

Driver Charles Hodge reported sick on 26th January, 1919. He was transferred from No. 4 Command Depot at Hurdcott & admitted to No. 2 Group Clearing Hospital at Hurdcott, Wiltshire, England on 26th January, 1919 with Influenza (as per Casualty form – Active Service, however the Hospital Admissions form recorded he was suffering from Bronchitis). Driver Hodge was transferred to Military Hospital at Fovant, Wiltshire on 27th January, 1919 with Influenza (as per Hospital Admissions form, Casualty Form – Active Service recorded he had Broncho Pneumonia). He was reported to be seriously ill with Broncho Pneumonia on 28th January, 1919.

Driver Charles Hodge died at 09.30 hrs on 30th January, 1919 at Military Hospital, Fovant, Wiltshire, England from Influenza & Broncho Pneumonia. (Note: Purport form (page 2) has date of death as 29th January, 1919 & "Burial Report regarding Funeral" form has date of death as 31st January, 1919. All other forms have date as 30th January, 1919)

A death for Charles Hodge, aged 32, was registered in the March quarter, 1919 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire, England.

Driver Charles Hodge was buried on 7th February, 1919 in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Plot number A. 73 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

From the burial report of Driver Charles Hodge - Coffin was Elm. Brass mounts. Deceased was buried with full Military honors the coffin draped with the Australian flag being borne to the graveside on a Gun-carriage preceded by a Firing Party from the Australian Machine Gun Training Depot. The "Last Post" was sounded and volleys fired over the grave. Headquarters, A.I.F. Depots in UK were represented at the funeral.

Base Records contacted Mrs M. A. Hodge, Harvey Street, Prospect, South Australia, on 5th July, 1920 stating she was noted on the records of the late No. 2791 Driver C. Hodge, 11th Field Artillery Brigade, as the next of kin but in order that the file may be brought up to date asked if there were any nearer blood relations than herself & specifically asked if his father was still alive & if so his name & address.

Mrs M. A. Hodge replied to Base Records on 9th July, 1920 stating that the late No. 2791 Driver C. Hodge's father was still alive – Mr Charles Hodge, Harvey Street, Prospect, S.A.

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

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Driver Charles Hodge – service number 2791, of 11th Bde., Australian Field Artillery. He was the son of Mrs A. Hodge, of Harvey St., Prospect, South Australia.

C. Hodge is remembered on the Prospect Roll of Honour, located in Prospect RSL Hall of Memory, Wilcox & Menzies Crescent, Prospect, South Australia.



Prospect RSL Hall of Memory (Photo from Monument Australia – Stephen Warren)



Prospect Roll of Honour

(Photo above: State Library of South Australia – PRG -280-1-18-10; below: VWMA)



The Prospect War Memorial, located at Menzies Crescent, Prospect, South Australia does not list individual names.



Prospect War Memorial (Photo from Monument Australia)

C. Hodge is remembered on the National Soldiers Memorial in Adelaide. The Adelaide National War Memorial commemorates those from South Australia that served in the First World War. The names of those that died are listed inside the Memorial, which is located on the corner of North Terrace & Kintore Avenue, Adelaide.



National War Memorial – Adelaide (Photos by Bilby)

Driver C. Hodge 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

(44 pages of Driver Charles Hodge'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

THE ROLL OF HONOR

460th CASUALTY LIST SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Died Other Causes

2791 Dvr C. HODGE, Prospect, 30/1/19 (illness)

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia – 7 March, 1919) & (*Observer*, Adelaide, South Australia – 8 March, 1919)

DEATHS

HODGE – On the 11th February, accidentally drowned in the Murrumbidgee River, NSW, Thomas Francis, dearly beloved fifth son of Mr and Mrs Charles Hodge, of Harvey-street, Prospect, aged 16 years 9 months. Rest in peace.

(*The Express and Telegraph*, Adelaide, South Australia – 10 March, 1919)

DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

HODGE – On the 30th January, of illness, in Europe, No. 2791, Driver Charley, 12th Batt., dearly beloved second son of Mr and Mrs Charles Hodge, Harvey-street, Prospect, in his 32nd year.

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 15 March, 1919)

HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR

HODGE – In memory of our dear son and brother, who departed this life on January 30. 1919, while on active service.

He wore no shining medals

Could not himself V.C.;

But he died a dinkum hero,

Just to keep the shirkers free.

R.I.P.

-Inserted by his loving father, mother, sisters and brothers.

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia – 31 January, 1920)

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 Charles Hodge does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England

Tidworth Military Cemetery, which contains burials of both wars, was directly connected with training grounds on, or near, Salisbury Plain.

During the First World War, the cemetery was used for burials from Tidworth and Fargo Military Hospitals and the 417 graves, many of them of Australian or New Zealand servicemen, are scattered throughout the cemetery.

There are 106 Second World War graves in the cemetery, two substantial groups of which can be found in sections F and D. The rest are scattered.

The cemetery also contains 40 war graves of other nationalities, many of them Polish.

(Information from CWGC)



Tidworth Military Cemetery *(Photo by julia&keld – Find a Grave)*



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00327

The AIF Tidworth cemetery under snow. – March 1919.

Identified graves marked by a cross and headstone in the foreground

Front row: 50727 Private Rowland James Dickson, Australian Machine Gun Corps, died 14 October 1918.

Second row, left to right: 18282 Driver John Thalma Jackson, Details Australian Engineers, died 30 October 1917; 17445 Pte Roland Travers Woodville, Australian Army Medical Corps, died 13 September 1917; 31712 Gunner John Alexander McDonald, 15th Field Artillery Brigade, Australian Field Artillery, died 30 July 1917, aged 37, at Tidworth Military Hospital; 3062 Pte Even Thomas Kennedy, 3rd Australian Pioneers, died 7 August 1917.

Note Gunner McDonald has a large headstone which reads in part 'erected by his sorrowing comrades of the Australian Field Artillery. His duty done.'



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00481

Tidworth Military Cemetery – 12 June, 1919

A corner of the Australian cemetery. Front row, left to right: 5840 Private F. W. Heede, 25th Battalion died 3 June 1917; 7350 Private A. E. Campbell, 8th Battalion, died 2 August 1917; 1824 Driver A. C. Jones, 4th Company, Australian Machine Gun Corps, AADC, died 8 August 1917; 8009 Corporal W. J. Giles, Australian Tunnelling Company, died 17 March 1918.



Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire (Photo courtesy of John Prestidge)



Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire *(Photo by Chris Talbot 2009)*



(Photo courtesy of Portsmouth Remembers – Kevin)

Photo of Driver C. Hodge's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Kevin – Portsmouth Remembers)

