

**Upperby Cemetery,
Carlisle, Cumberland**

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



6282 PRIVATE

W. J. HODGKINSON

5TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

10TH DECEMBER, 1919 Age 24

He Died

For Freedom And Honour

William James HODGKINSON

William James Hodgkinson was born in 1895 at Workington, Cumberland, England to parents Thomas and Tamar Hodgkinson (nee Haig).

Thomas Hodgkinson, father of William James Hodgkinson, died on 29th January, 1896 at Harrington, West Cumberland, England.

Tamar Hodgkinson, widowed mother of William James Hodgkinson, married John James Wilkinson Crosthwaite in 1899 at Harrington, West Cumberland, England.

The 1901 England Census recorded William J. Hodgkinson as a 5 year old living with his stepfather & remarried mother in a 4 roomed dwelling at Botchergate, Cumberland, England. His stepfather & mother were listed as John J. W. Crosthwaite (Plumber & Engineers Clerk, aged 44, born Harrington, Cumberland) & Tamar Crosthwaite (aged 34, born Upperby, Cumberland). Also listed was William's older sister – Elizabeth Hodgkinson (aged 9, born Workington, Cumberland) & William's half-sister – Barbara Crosthwaite (aged 1 month, born Carlisle, Cumberland).

The 1911 England Census recorded William Jas. Hodgkinson as a 15 year old inmate of a Reformatory School at Aston and Erdington Warwickshire, England. The Superintendent of The Reformatory, The Norton Boys Home, Saltey, Birmingham, England was Stephen Arnold.

William James Hodgkinson was a 20 year old, single, Farmer from (care of Mr E. Halliday), Poowong, Victoria when he enlisted at Leongatha on 1st May, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 6282 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Crosthwaite, 8 Douglas Road, Workington, Cumberland, England.

Private William James Hodgkinson was posted to 20th Depot Battalion at Castlemaine for recruit training on 1st May, 1916. He was transferred to Broadmeadows on 1st June, 1916 then transferred to 20th Reinforcements of 5th Battalion on 21st July, 1916.

Private William James Hodgkinson embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Euripides (A14)* on 11th September, 1916 with the 5th Infantry Battalion, 20th Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 26th 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 William James Hodgkinson proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone per S.S. *Arundell* on 13th December, 1916 from 2nd Training Battalion, England. He was marched in to 1st Australian Divisional Base Depot at Etaples, France on 14th December, 1916 & was marched out to his Unit on 17th December, 1916. Private Hodgkinson was taken on strength of 5th Battalion in France on 22nd December, 1916.

Private William James Hodgkinson was wounded in action in France on 10th February, 1917. He was admitted to 1st Australian Field Ambulance on 11th February, 1917 with gunshot wounds to right arm. Private Hodgkinson was transferred to 1st S.M.D. Casualty Clearing Station on 11th February, 1917 then transferred & admitted to 12th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 13th February, 1917. He embarked for England on Hospital Ship *Aberdonian* on 17th February, 1917.

War Diary – 5th Battalion

10th February, 1917:

2 OR returned from Lewis Gun School LE TOQUET. 3 OR to Lewis Gun Course, 1 OR to Stokes Mortar Course 1st Anzac School.

67 OR reinforcements reported for duty.

Battalion carried out a raid on BAYONET TRENCH with 4 Officers & 103 OR (Officers Lieut H. M. GRIFFITHS (O/C RAID), 2/ Lieuts F. LANGFOR, H. C. MORRISON, W. M. TAYLOR) Sector of trench assaulted M 18 D 60 05 to M 18 D 85 15 (map France 57c S.W. 1/10000) Raiding party held up by enemy wire and only 1 party under 2/Lt LANGFORD succeeded in entering enemy trenches.

Our casualties 2 Officers (2 Lt MORRISON & 2/Lt LANGFRD (remained on duty) wounded; OR 8 killed, 40 wounded, 3 missing. Capt H. CARLILE (AAOIC) also wounded.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private William James Hodgkinson was admitted to 5th London General Hospital on 19th February, 1917 with gunshot wounds to right arm. A query was made as to Hospital discharge date.

Private William James Hodgkinson was transferred to 67th Battalion while posted at No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham on 27th April, 1917 & was taken on strength of 67th Battalion at Windmill Hill the same day from 5th Battalion.

Private William James Hodgkinson was transferred to 5th Battalion on 19th September, 1917 & was marched out the same day to 63rd Draft Battalion.

Private William James Hodgkinson proceeded overseas to France via Southampton on 9th October, 1917 from Hurdcott, Wiltshire, England. He joined 1st A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Havre, France on 10th October, 1917. He was marched out from 1st A.D.B.D. on 13th October, 1917 & rejoined 5th Battalion in the Field on 16th October, 1917.

Private William James Hodgkinson was sent to Hospital sick on 22nd December, 1917. He was admitted to 2nd Australian Field Ambulance on 22nd December, 1917 with Otitis Media then transferred the same day to 1st Australian Divisional Rest Station. From there he was transferred on 3rd January, 1918 to 20th Casualty Clearing Station. Private Hodgkinson was transferred to No. 20 Ambulance Train on 4th January, 1918 & admitted to 7th Stationary Hospital at Boulogne, France with Otitis Media. He was transferred on 21st January, 1918 to 20th Convalescent Depot then transferred on 27th February, 1918 to 3rd Rest Camp. Private Hodgkinson was marched in to A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) at Havre, France on 3rd March, 1918. He rejoined his Battalion in the field on 12th March, 1918.

Private William James Hodgkinson was wounded (gas) (2nd occasion) on 24th August, 1918. He was admitted to 2nd Australian Field Ambulance on 24th August, 1918 then transferred to 20th Casualty Clearing Station the same day. Private Hodgkinson was transferred & admitted to 3rd Stationary Hospital at Rouen on 25th August, 1918 suffering effects of Gas shell mustard. He embarked for England on 26th August, 1918 on Hospital Ship *Gloucester Castle*.

War Diary – 5th Battalion

24th August, 1918:

Battalion in front line. Casualties were 4 O.R. Wounded and 4 O.R. Wounded (gas). Lt C. CAMERON evacuated to Hospital

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

5th Battalion

In 1917, the battalion participated in the operations that followed-up the German withdrawal to the Hindenburg Line, and then returned to Belgium to join the great offensive launched to the east of Ypres. In March and April 1918, the battalion helped to stop the German spring offensive. It subsequently participated in the great Allied offensive launched near Amiens on 8 August 1918. The advance by British and empire troops was the greatest success in a single day on the Western Front, one that German General Erich Ludendorff described as "the black day of the German Army in this war".

The battalion continued operations until late September 1918. At 11 am on 11 November 1918, the guns fell silent. The November armistice was followed by the peace treaty of Versailles signed on 28 June 1919.

In November 1918 members of the AIF began to return to Australia for demobilisation and discharge. In April, the battalion was so reduced that it and the 8th Battalion were amalgamated to form a composite battalion. In turn, this battalion was amalgamated with another, formed from the 6th and 7th Battalions, to form the 2nd Brigade Battalion.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private William James Hodgkinson was admitted to 2nd Southern General Hospital at Birmingham, England on 27th August, 1918 having been gassed. He was transferred to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital on 27th August, 1918 with gas shell poisoning & burns. Private Hodgkinson was discharged to furlo on 16th August, 1918. He was then to report to No. 4 Command Depot.

Private William James Hodgkinson was marched in to No. 4 Command Depot from furlo on 30th October, 1918.

Private William James Hodgkinson was reported A.W.L. (Absent without leave) on 13th November, 1918.

Private William James Hodgkinson was written up for a crime while posted at Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 21st November, 1918 – AWL from 21.30 on 14th November, 1918 to 12.00 on 15th November, 1918. This was dismissed by Lt. C. H. Brown on 21st November, 1918.

Private William James Hodgkinson was declared as an illegal absenter by a Court of Inquiry on 19th November, 1918 from No. 4 Command Depot, Hurdcott.

Tamar Crosthwaite, formerly Hodgkinson, mother of William James Hodgkinson, died in 1918 in the registration district of Cockermouth, Cumberland, aged 50.

Private William James Hodgkinson was apprehended on 23rd February, 1919 & marched in from Warwick Square to No. 4 Command Depot, Hurdcott on 26th February, 1919.

Private William James Hodgkinson was declared as an illegally absent from 3rd March, 1919 by a Court of Inquiry held on 7th April, 1919 at Hurdcott.

Private William James Hodgkinson was apprehended by Australian Military Police in London on 14th June, 1919. He was marched in from Warwick Square, London (under escort) to No. 4 Group at Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 19th June, 1919.

Private William James Hodgkinson was declared as an illegally absent from 26th June, 1919 by a Court of inquiry held at No. 4 Group, Hurdcott on 24th July, 1919 & was declared to be still absent. His last payment was 12th November, 1918.

Private William James Hodgkinson was reported as illegally absent from 26th September, 1919. He was later traced in Hospital & was reported to be seriously ill (undated) in St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Smithfield, London, England.

Private William James Hodgkinson died on 10th December, 1919 at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, England from Phthisis & Emphyema.

A death for William J. Hodgkinson, aged 24, was registered in the December quarter, 1919 in the district of London City, London, England.

Private William James Hodgkinson was buried on 13th December, 1919 in Upperby Cemetery, Carlisle, Cumberland, England – Plot number 1.M.10. and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private William James Hodgkinson - *Coffin was Elm with brass mountings. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military Funeral. The funeral left the residence of the deceased's sister, 17 Grey Street, London Road, Carlisle at 2 pm. The coffin was draped with the Australian Flag and was surmounted by wreaths sent from his*

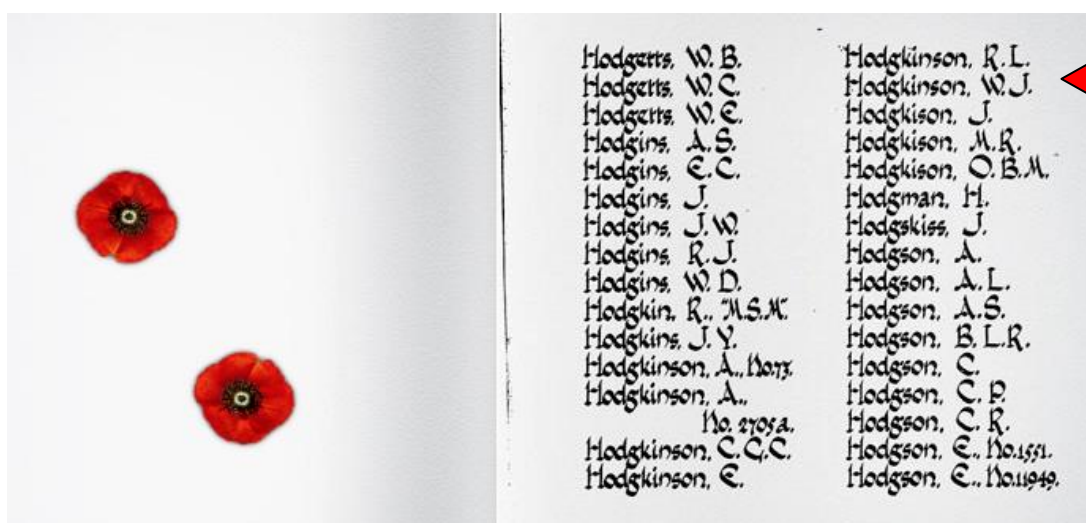
relations. A firing party, pall bearers and bugler supplied by the Border Regiment stationed in Carlisle was in attendance. Three volleys were fired over the grave and the Last Post was sounded.

Names and addresses of relatives present at the funeral: Brother-in-law & sister – Mr & Mrs Davidson, 17 Grey St. London Rd, Carlisle; Step Sister – Miss B. Crosthwaite, 17 Grey St. London Rd, Carlisle; Uncles & Aunts – Miss Haig, Mrs Moffat, Mrs Haig, Mrs Crosbie, Mrs Bishop, Mr & Mrs Purvis – all from Carlisle.

Private William James Hodgkinson was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also to be sent to Pte Hodgkinson's next of kin as both parents were deceased. The Plaque was sent to Mrs E. Davidson, 17 Grey Street, London Road, Carlisle. The Scroll was marked "see references.....1/9/21."

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private William James Hodgkinson – service number 6282, aged 24, of 5th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Thomas and Tamar Hodgkinson, of Harrington, Cumberland.

W. J. Hodgkinson is remembered in the Book of Remembrance at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne, Victoria.



Book of Remembrance at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne

W. Hodgkinson is remembered on the Poowong Honour Roll, located in Poowong Community Hall, Nyora & Drouin Roads, Poowong, Victoria.



Poowong Honour Roll (Photo from Monument Australia – Greg Gordon)

W. Hodgkinson is remembered on the Poowong War Memorial, located at Junction of Loch- Poowong Road & Nyora Road, Poowong, Victoria.



Poowong War Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia)

Private W. J. Hodgkinson is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 44.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Pte W. J. Hodgkinson is remembered on the St John the Evangelist Church, Carlisle WW1 Roll of Honour (Column 5).



(38 pages of Pte William James Hodgkinson'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





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

DA1 5969

Private William James Hodgkinson



Newspaper Notices

THE 279th CASUALTY LIST

WOUNDED

Private W. J. Hodgkinson, Eng.

(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – 17 March, 1917)

VICTORIAN CASUALTIES

LIST No. 437

WOUNDED

W. J. Hodgkinson, England (2nd occ,; gas)

(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 28 October, 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 W. J. Hodgkinson does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

He Died For Freedom And Honour

Upperby Cemetery, Carlisle, Cumberland, England

Upperby Cemetery, Carlisle contains 25 Commonwealth War Graves – 9 from World War 1 and 16 from World War 2.



Upperby Cemetery, Carlisle (Photo by Rose and Trev Clough)



St John the Baptist Church and Upperby Cemetery (Photo by Rose and Trev Clough)

Photo of Private W. J. Hodgkinson's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Upperby Cemetery, Carlisle, Cumberland, England.



(Photo by David Cross – Find a Grave)

Pte W. J. Hodgkinson is remembered on the First World War Memorial, located in Dalston Road Cemetery, Carlisle in the north east corner of Ward 11. The Memorial records the names of Officers and Men of the Navy and Army who were buried in Carlisle Cemeteries. (Face 6).



First World War Memorial, located in Dalston Road Cemetery, Carlisle *(Photo from CWGC)*



First World War Memorial to all Men & Officers buried in Carlisle Cemeteries

– located in Dalston Road Cemetery, Carlisle

