

**St. Mary's Churchyard,
Widford, Essex
War Grave**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2825 PRIVATE

L. HOPP

42ND BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

23RD JANUARY, 1918 Age 26

Louis Carl Albert HOPP

Louis Carl Albert Hopp was born in Brisbane, Queensland on 18th February, 1892 to parents William (Wilhelm Carl Ludwig Hopp) and Amelia (Emilie Wilhelmine Henriette) Hopp (nee Stegemann).

Louis Hopp was a 25 year old, single, Labourer from Musgrave Street, Paddington, Brisbane, Queensland when he enlisted on 13th October, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his father – Mr William Hopp of Musgrave Street, Paddington, Brisbane, Queensland.

Louis Hopp was posted to 11th Depot Battalion with the rank of Private on 31st October, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 6th Reinforcements of 42nd Battalion on 26th November, 1916.

Private Louis Hopp, Service number 2825, embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Demosthenes (A64)* on 23rd December, 1916 with the 42nd Infantry Battalion, 6th Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 3rd March, 1917.

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 Louis Hopp was marched in to 11th Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire from Australia on 6th March, 1917.

Private Louis Hopp was sent sick to Hospital on 29th March, 1917. He was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital with Influenza & discharged to duty on 5th April, 1917.

Private Louis Hopp was marched in to 11th Training Battalion at Durrington from Hospital on 5th April, 1917.

Private Louis Hopp was sent sick to Hospital on 8th May, 1917 – cause N.Y.D. (Not yet determined). A medical report was completed on Private L. Hopp regarding an injury to his left eye. It was described as being “*of a trivial nature*”. He was discharged to duty on 15th May, 1917. The Hospital Admission form listed the injury as “*Contusion of Face.*”

Private Louis Hopp was written up for an offence while at Durrington on 20th May, 1917 – “*neglecting to stop talking after lights out when ordered by L/Cpl. Austin to do so.*” He was awarded 7 days C.B. (Confined to Barracks)

Private Louis Hopp proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone on 2nd July, 1917. He was marched in to A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Rouelles, France on 3rd July, 1917 & marched out on 16th July to join his Unit. Private Hopp was taken on strength of 42nd Battalion in France on 18th July, 1917.

Private Louis Hopp was sent sick to Hospital on 27th July, 1917. He was admitted to 11th Australian Field Ambulance on 27th July, 1917 with Scabies then transferred the same day & admitted to 50th Casualty Clearing Station. Private Hopp was discharged to duty on 19th August, 1917 & rejoined his Battalion on 21st August, 1917.

Private Louis Hopp was wounded in action in France on 4th October, 1917. He was admitted to 44th Casualty Clearing Station on 4th October, 1917 then transferred to Ambulance Train 29. Private Hopp was admitted to St. John's Ambulance at Etaples, France on 5th October, 1917 with gunshot wounds to head. He embarked for England on Hospital Ship *Stad Antwerpen* on 11th October, 1917.

42nd Battalion

The 42nd Battalion was raised at Enoggera, on the outskirts of Brisbane, in December 1915 and became part of the 11th Brigade of the 3rd Australian Division. Due to sharing its numeric title with the famous Scottish regiment the Black Watch, the battalion became known as the "Australian Black Watch". This association was recognised with a bagpipe band.

In 1917, the operations of the 3rd Division were focussed on the Ypres sector of Belgium. The 42nd participated in major battles at Messines on 7 June, Warneton on 31 July, Broodseinde on 4 October.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 42nd Battalion:

Zonnebeke 4/10/17

During night 3/4th Btn did approach march from YPRES to Assembly position near Zonnebeke. At 6 am attack began and objective taken (Red Line) by 8 am. 100 prisoners and 9 machine guns were captured. {Full details of the operation see Appendix I.

Casualties Officers 3 killed 2 died of wounds 6 wounded.

O.R. 220 killed and wounded.

(Extract of War Diary information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Louis Hopp was admitted to Middlesex War Hospital at Clacton on Sea (affiliated with Colchester Military Hospital), England on 11th October, 1917 with gunshot wounds to scalp. Private Hopp was suffering from a fractured frontal bone. He was transferred on 16th October, 1917 to Hylands Auxiliary Military Hospital, Chelmsford, Essex.

Private Louis Hopp died at 11 pm on 23rd January, 1918 at Hylands Auxiliary Military Hospital, Chelmsford, Essex, England from Wounds received - gunshot wound to head. (The death certificate has the cause of death as Pneumonia & Cardiac Arrest).

A death for Louis Hopp, aged 26, was registered in the March quarter, 1918 in the district of Chelmsford, Essex, England.

Private Louis Hopp was buried at 11 am on 26th January, 1918 in St. Mary's Churchyard, Widford, Essex, England (South-east corner) and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

From the burial report of Private Louis Hopp - The deceased soldier was accorded a Military Funeral, Band, Firing Party and Pallbearers being supplied by the 52nd Graduating Bn. Warwickshire Regt, and the Gun Carriage by 32nd Coy, A.S.C. stationed at Chelmsford. A service was conducted in the Church and at the graveside by Chaplain the Rev. E. Langdon (C. of E.) Warwicks. (Notwithstanding the fact that the Attestation Paper showed the that religion of deceased was Roman Catholic, he was buried according to the rites of the Church of England, as his identification disc showed him to be of this religion and he was, at his own request, attended by a Chaplain of the Church of England.)

The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside by one of the Bandsmen. Wreaths were sent by the following persons and placed on the grave:- Sir Daniel and Lady Gooch., Staff, Hylands Aux. Mil. Hpl., Patients of the Hospital, Mr & Mrs Dorkin, Widford and "Doris & Cls."

All the patients who were able to walk followed the remains of the deceased to the graveside. Sir Daniel and Lady Gooch and the Nurses of the Hospital also attended the funeral. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral. An oak cross will be erected by the A.I.F.

William (Wilhelm Carl Ludwig) Hopp, father of Louis Hopp died 8th November, 1918.

Private Louis Hopp requested in his Will, dated 19th December, 1916, that all he possessed be bequeathed to Mrs Amelia Hopp (mother) & in the event of her dying to Mr W. C. L. Hopp (father) & in the event of them both dying to his sister – Mrs E. Dean, Armstrong Terrace, Paddington, Queensland.

Private Louis Hopp was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Hopp's father - Mr W. Hopp, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent December, 1922 & Plaque sent October, 1922). Amelia Hopp had signed for the Memorial Scroll & Victory Medal as her husband was deceased. Mr W. Hopp had signed for a package containing the personal effects of his son on 28th September, 1918.

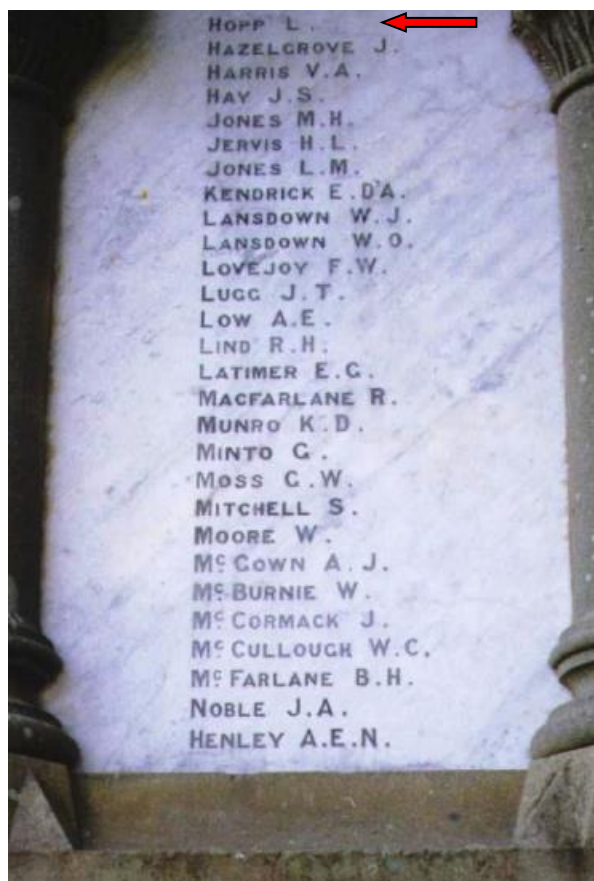
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Louis Hopp – service number 2825, aged 26, of 42nd Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of William and Amelia Hopp, of Musgrove St., Paddington, Queensland, Australia. Born at Brisbane, Queensland.

Private L. Hopp is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 135.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

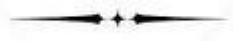
L. Hopp is remembered on the Ithaca War Memorial, located at Ithaca War Memorial Park, Enoggera Terrace, Paddington, Queensland.



Ithaca War Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia)

(61 pages of Private Louis Hopp'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 Louis Hopp



Newspaper Notices

PERSONAL NOTES

Mr and Mrs W. Hopp, of Musgrave street, Paddington, have received word from base records that their only son, Private Louis Hopp has been wounded in France. He is suffering from a gunshot scalp wound received on 11th October, and was admitted to Middlesex war hospital, England.

(The Telegraph, Brisbane, Queensland – 12 November, 1917) & (The Week, Brisbane, Queensland – 16 November, 1917)

PERSONAL NOTES

Mr and Mrs W. Hopp, Musgrave street, Paddington, have received word that their only son, Pte Louis Hopp, died on 23rd January, in Hyland's Hospital, England, after three months' suffering. He had been wounded in the head with shrapnel on 4th October. He had been on active services one year and three months.

(The Telegraph, Brisbane, Queensland – 9 February, 1918) & (The Northern Herald, Cairns, Queensland – 21 February, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

HOPP – Died of wounds, in Hylands Hospital, England, on the 23rd January, Pte Louis Hopp, only son of Mr and Mrs W. Hopp, Musgrave street, Paddington, aged 25 years 11 months.

The shock was sudden, the blow severe,

We little thought his end was near.

Only those who have lost are able to tell

The pain that is felt at not saying farewell.

Inserted by his loving father and mother.

HOPP – Died of wounds, in Hylands Hospital, England, on the 23rd January, Pte Louis Hopp, only brother and brother-in-law of Mr and Mrs E. Dean, Armstrong terrace, Paddington, aged 25 years 11 months.

He answered the call.

Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law

(The Telegraph, Brisbane, Queensland – 16 February, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

HOPP – Died of wounds, in Hylands Hospital, England, on the 23rd January, Pte Louis Hopp, only son of Mr and Mrs W. Hopp, Musgrave street, Paddington, aged 25 years 11 months.

The shock was sudden, the blow severe,

We little thought his end was near.

Only those who have lost are able to tell

The pain that is felt at not saying farewell.

Inserted by his loving father and mother.

(Daily Standard, Brisbane, Queensland – 16 February, 1918)

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

CASUALTY LIST No. 385

72 QUEENSLANDERS INCLUDED

DIED OF WOUNDS

Louis Hopp, Paddington, 23/1/18 (prev. rep. died, 23/1/18, cause not stated)

(*The Brisbane Courier*, Queensland – 11 March, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

HOPP – In loving memory of my dear son, also brother and brother-in-law, Private Louis Hopp, 42nd Battalion, died of wounds, 23rd January, 1918.

Silently a mother weeping,
Death has claimed her darling only son;
No one on earth can fill his place;
He died a hero, loved by all,
And proudly we will cherish, Lou,
Your photo on the wall,
Though you are far away, dear brother,
From those who loved you well,
Never to return again,
Just a year ago to-day.

(*The Telegraph*, Brisbane, Queensland – 23 January, 1919) & (*The Week*, Brisbane, Queensland – 31 January, 1919)

ROLL OF HONOUR

HOPP – In loving memory of my dear and only son, Pte Louis Hopp, who died of wounds, Chelmsford, England, 23rd January, 1918.

He suffered pain, he bore it well,
But what he suffered none can tell;
Peacefully sleeping, resting at last,
Life's troubles ended, his suffering past.

Inserted by his loving mother.

(*The Telegraph*, Brisbane, Queensland – 23 January, 1920) & (*The Week*, Brisbane, Queensland – 23 January, 1920)

ROLL OF HONOUR

HOPP – In loving memory of my dear son, Private Louis Hopp, who died of wounds received at Passhendale, January 23, 1918.

The world may change from year to year,
And friends from day to day;
But never will the one I love
From memory fade away.

Inserted by his loving mother, E. Hopp.

(The Telegraph, Brisbane, Queensland – 23 January, 1928)

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).

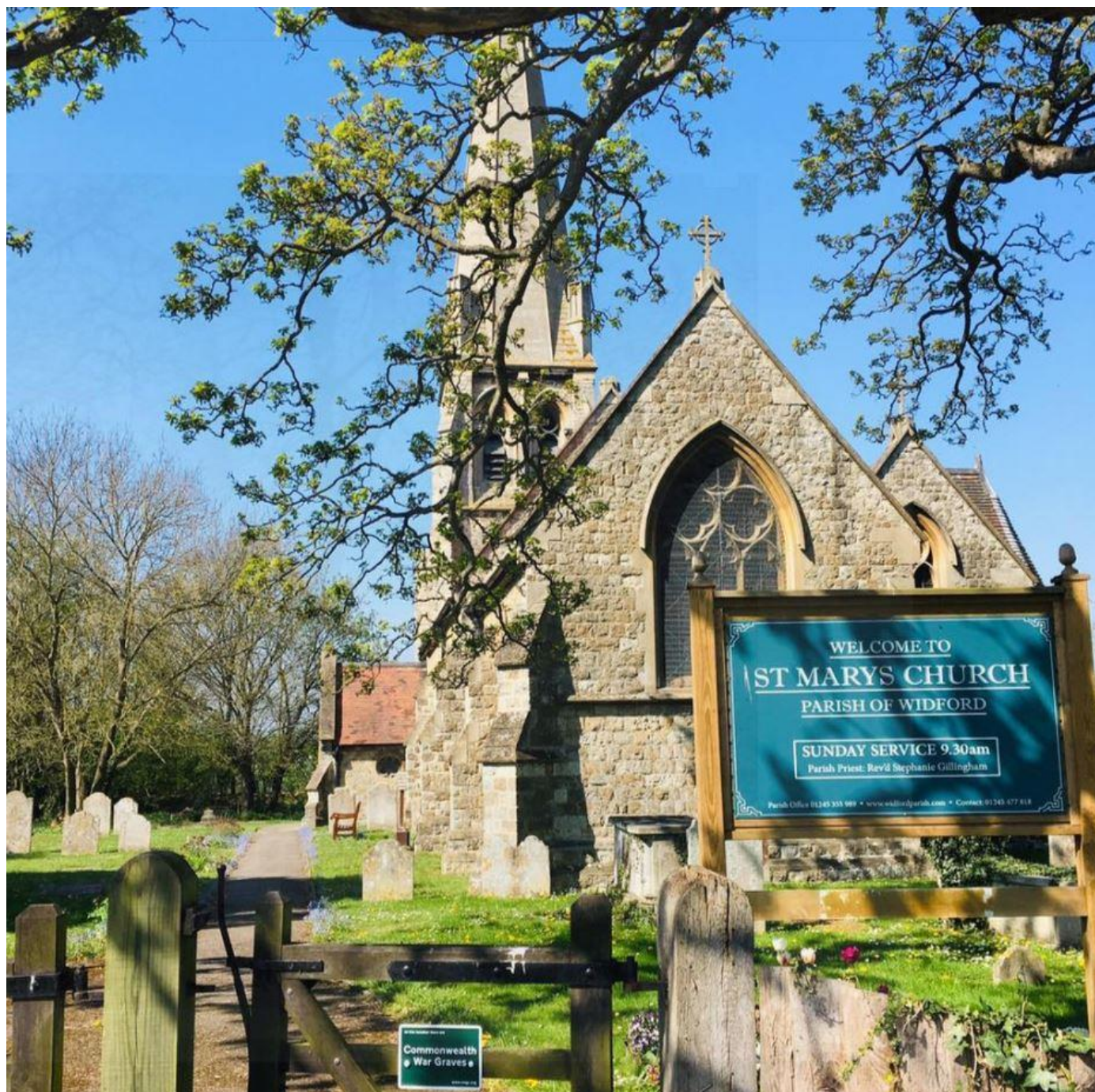
The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

Private L. Hopp does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

St. Mary's Churchyard, Widford, Essex, England

St. Mary's Churchyard, Widford contains 6 Commonwealth War Graves – 5 from World War 1 & 1 relating to World War 2.



(Photo by Geoffrey Gillon)



St. Mary's Churchyard, Widford (Photo above by *buttershap* – *Find a Grave*; below by *Ibrahim Gm*)



Photo of Private L. Hopp's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Mary's Churchyard, Widford, Essex, England. (see new headstone next page)



(Photo courtesy of Geoffrey Gillon)



(Photo courtesy of Andy Clark – Nov 2023)