

St. Mary's Churchyard
Acton, Cheshire
War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1352/A PRIVATE

W. I. HORNBY

32ND BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

5TH NOVEMBER, 1918

Walter Ingram HORNBY

Walter Ingram Hornby was born on 30th July, 1878 at Church Minshull, Cheshire (however according to Attestation papers, Walter stated he was born at Blackpool, Lancashire) to parents Albert Neilson Hornby & Ada Sarah Hornby (nee Ingram). His birth was registered in the September quarter, 1878 in the district of Nantwich, Cheshire. Walter Ingram Hornby was baptised on 12th October, 1878 at St. Mary's Church, Oatlands, Surrey. Walter's father's occupation was listed as Gentleman & the address was listed as Church Minshull, Cheshire.

Walter Ingram Hornby's father - Albert Neilson Hornby, nicknamed Monkey Hornby, was one of the best known sportsmen in England during the nineteenth century excelling in both rugby and cricket. He was the first of only two men to captain the country at both rugby and cricket but is also remembered as the England cricket captain whose side lost the Test match which gave rise to the Ashes, at home against the Australians in 1882.

Walter Ingram Hornby attended Harrow School.

The 1881 England Census recorded Walter I. Hornby as a 2 year old living with his family in the Village at Bridge House, Church Minshull. His parents were listed as Albert N. Hornby (Captain, 1st Royal Cheshire Militia, aged 34, born Blackburn, Lancashire) & Ada S. Hornby (aged 27, born Rickmansworth, Herts). Walter was one of four children listed on this Census (all born at Church Minshull, Cheshire) – Albert H. Hornby (aged 3), then Walter, then George V. Hornby (aged 1) & John Hornby (aged 6 months). The family had 5 servants listed – Annie Wiley (Nurse, aged 32), Maria Wormleighton (Nurse, aged 24), Laura Snow (Housemaid, aged 21), Maria Rose (Cook, aged 37) & Thomas Halsey (Butler, aged 53).

The 1891 England Census recorded Walter I. Hornby as a 12 year old Scholar, living with his parents at Park Field, Wellington Road, Nantwich, Cheshire. His parents were listed as Albert N. Hornby (Living on own means, aged 44) & Ada Sarah Hornby (aged 36). Walter was one of four children listed on this Census – Albert H. Hornby (Scholar, aged 13), then Walter, then George V. Hornby (Scholar, aged 11) & John Hornby (Scholar, aged 10). Also listed was a nephew – John H. Armistead (aged 22). The family had 6 servants listed – Elizabeth Knight (Parlourmaid, aged 26), Maria Platt (Cook, aged 26), Mary Wright (Housemaid, aged 21), Annie Gill (Kitchenmaid, aged 15), Horatio Henshall (Coachman, aged 21) & Arnold Henshall (Indoor Domestic servant, aged 17).

Walter Ingram Hornby served in the Boer War with Somerset Light Infantry from 1899 – 1902.

From *The London Gazette* – 22 May, 1900:

4th Battalion, the Prince Albert's (Somersetshire Light Infantry). The undermentioned Gentleman to be Second Lieutenants:-

Walter Ingram Hornby. Dated 10th May, 1900.

Walter Ingram Hornby received The Queen's South Africa (QSA) Medal & clasp – Cape Colony.

[The 1901 England Census listed Albert N. Hornby (Living on own means, aged 54) & Ada S. Hornby (Living on own means, aged 47) living at Parkfields, Wellington Road, Nantwich, Cheshire. Also listed were 2 sons – Albert H. Hornby (Living on own means, aged 23) & John Hornby (Living on own means, aged 20). The family had 4 servants listed.]

George Vernon Hornby, brother of Walter Ingram Hornby, died on 3rd December, 1905.

[The 1911 England Census listed Albert Neilson Hornby (Private means, aged 64) & Ada Sarah Hornby (aged 57) living at Parkfield, , Nantwich, Cheshire, which was a 16 roomed dwelling. Also listed was their eldest son – Albert H. Hornby (aged 33). The family had 4 servants listed.]

Walter Ingram Hornby was a 37 year old, single, Labourer from People's Palace, Sydney, NSW when he enlisted at Cootamundra, NSW, on 4th August, 1915 with the 8th Infantry Brigade, 30th Infantry Battalion "A" Company of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1352 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin

was listed as his father – Albert N. Hornby, of Parkfield, Nantwich, Cheshire, England. Walter Hornby stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously served with Somerset Light Infantry in Africa as Lieutenant – 1899 – 1902.

Private Walter Ingram Hornby embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Beltana* (A72) on 9th November, 1915 & disembarked at Suez, Egypt on 11th December, 1915.

Private Walter Ingram Hornby was transferred to Machine Gun Section on 19th March, 1916 while at Ferry Post, Egypt.

Private Hornby was written up for an Offence on 7th May, 1916 at Ferry Post – Absent without leave from 22.00 hours on 4th May, 1916 to 13.45 hrs on 6th May, 1916. He was awarded 6 days Field Punishment No. 2 & forfeited 3 days' pay.

Private Walter Ingram Hornby was promoted to the rank of Driver on 19th May, 1916 but reverted back to the rank of Private on 25th May, 1916.

Private Hornby was written up for an Offence on 27th May, 1916 at Ferry Post – Improper language to N.C.O. on 26th May, 1916. He was awarded 7 days Field Punishment No. 2.

Private Hornby was taken on strength with the 32nd Battalion at Moascar on 14th June, 1916.

Private Hornby embarked from Alexandria on 17th June, 1916 to join the B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked from *Transylvania* at Marseilles, France on 23rd June, 1916.

Private Hornby was written up for an Offence on 27th June, 1916 at Corlucque, France – Conduct of the prejudice of good order and military discipline. He was awarded 28 days Field Punishment No. 2.

Private Hornby was transferred to L.T.M. Bty (Light Trench Mortar Battery) Bde from 32nd Battalion in the field on 25th July, 1916. He was taken on strength with 8th L.T.M. Bty on 1st August, 1916.

Private Hornby was awarded 2 days confined to Billets on 8th August, 1916 at Fleurbaix for absenting himself without leave from Tattoo roll call 9pm on 7th August to 6 am on 8th August, 1916. He forfeited 1 day's pay.

Private Hornby was returned to his previous Unit – 32nd Battalion on 10th August, 1916, while in France.

A Field Court Martial was held at Fleurbaix on 17th August, 1916 – Private Hornby was charged with Drunkenness while on Active Service. The finding was Guilty & he was sentenced to 60 days Field Punishment No. 2.

Private Hornby was found drunk in the field on 17th October, 1916 & awarded 14 days Field Punishment No. 2.

Private Walter Ingram Hornby was wounded in action on 1st December, 1916. He was admitted to 38th Casualty Clearing Station with a gunshot wound to right shoulder. He was transferred to 1st General Hospital at Etaples on 2nd December, 1916 with a gunshot wound to right shoulder – severe. Private Hornby was transferred from Calais on the Hospital Ship "*Cambria*" to England on 14th December, 1916 & admitted to War Hospital at Norfolk. Private Hornby was transferred to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital on 21st December, 1916 & discharged the same day on furlo & to report to Perham Downs at conclusion of furlo.

Private Hornby was given an extension of furlo from 5th January, 1917 to 19th January, 1917 & to report to Headquarters, London.

Private Hornby was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 21st March, 1917 & medically classified as B.1.A.3. (Fit for Overseas Training Camp in 2 to 3 weeks) on 23rd March, 1917.

Private Hornby was written up for an Offence at Perham Downs on 21st March, 1917 – Absent without leave from 3.30 pm on 15th March, 1917 till 9 pm on 17th March, 1917. He was to forfeit 3 days' pay.

Private Hornby was marched out to Windmill Hill Camp from Perham Downs on 25th April, 1917 as he had been transferred from 32nd Battalion to 62nd Battalion.

Private Hornby was marched out to Fovant, Wiltshire on 21st September, 1917 as he had been transferred from 62nd Battalion to 17th Battalion – 61st Draft Battalion.

Private Hornby was written up for an Offence at Tidworth, Wiltshire on 24th September, 1917 – (1.) Neglected to obey A.I.F. Deps order of 22nd June, 1917 re bounds, being on Tidworth Railway Stn without a pass on 21st September, 1917. (2.) Attempting to travel by train without a pass. He was awarded 4 days Field Punishment No. 2.

Private Hornby was written up for an Offence at Fovant on 26th September, 1917 – Failing to answer defaulters Roll Calls from 20.00 hrs until 21.00 hrs, He was awarded 1 day C.B. (Confined to Barracks) 26th September, 1917.

Private Hornby proceeded overseas from Overseas Training Battalion at Longbridge Deverill, Wiltshire on 24th October, 1917, leaving from Southampton to join reinforcements 32nd Battalion.

Private Hornby was marched in to 5th A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Havre on 25th October, 1917. He was marched out from Havre on 27th October, 1917 to join his Unit. Pte Hornby was taken on strength in the field with 32nd Battalion on 1st November, 1917.

Private Walter Ingram Hornby was wounded in action, 2nd occasion, on 23rd June, 1918. He was taken to 15th Australian Field Ambulance then transferred & admitted to 61st Casualty Clearing Station on 23rd July, 1918 with shrapnel wound to left hand. Private Hornby was discharged to duty on 29th July, 1918 & rejoined his Unit the same day.

Private Walter Ingram Hornby was wounded in action, 3rd occasion, on 27th August, 1918. He was taken to 15th Australian Field Ambulance then transferred & admitted to 61st Casualty Clearing Station on 28th August, 1918 with a shrapnel wound to scalp. Private Hornby was transferred to 1st Australian General Hospital, at Rouen on 29th August, 1918.

Private Hornby was invalided to England & embarked on Hospital Ship St. Patrick from Rouen on 2nd September, 1918. He was admitted to Southern General Hospital, Oxford on 3rd September, 1918 with a gunshot wound to scalp, puncture wound to skull – severe.

Private Walter Ingram Hornby died at 4.50 pm on 5th November, 1918 at 3rd Southern General Hospital, Oxford. He died of wounds received in action (gunshot wound to skull).

A death for Walter Hornby, aged 42, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Oxford, Oxfordshire.

Private Walter Ingram Hornby was buried in St. Mary's Churchyard, Acton, Cheshire, England – near east wall of Churchyard on 8th November, 1918. Private Walter Ingram Hornby was included on the family headstone. From the burial report of Pte Walter Ingram Hornby – *Coffin was elm with Brass fittings. The deceased soldier was interred privately in Acton Parish Church, by relatives residing in Nantwich, Cheshire. Administrative Headquarters A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral. Relatives present at the Funeral – Father & Mother, Brother, Capt. Hornby, Wife (circled with a question mark on the report), Brother, Mrs G. Hornby.*

Probate details for Walter Ingram Hornby of Parkfield, Nantwich, Cheshire died 5th November, 1918 at Oxford. Administration London 4th May to Albert Neilson Hornby, Gentleman. Effects £47 10s.

Private Walter Ingram Hornby was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Hornby's father – Mr A. N. Hornby in England (Both Scroll & Plaque sent November, 1922).

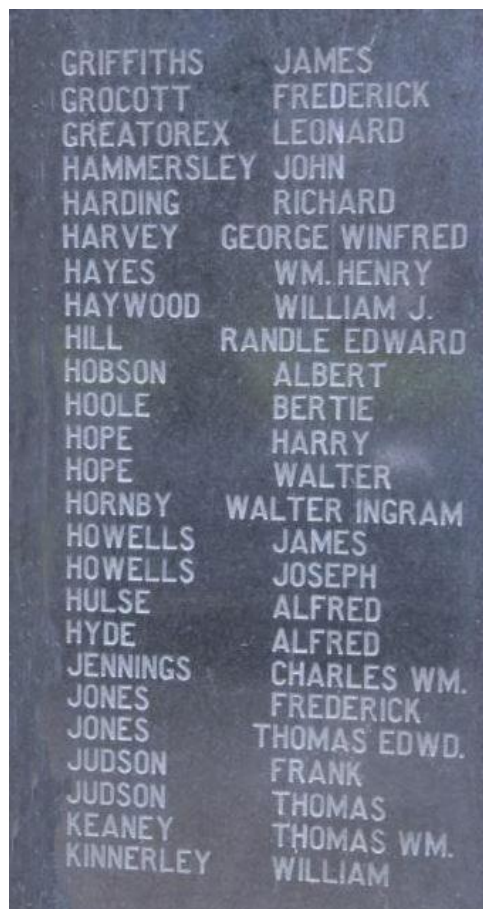
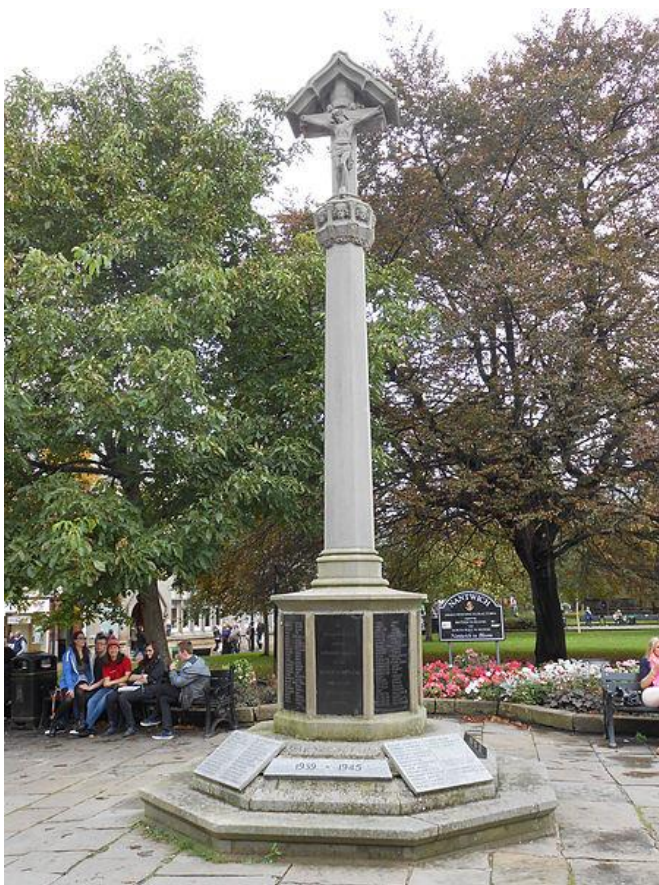
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private W. I. Hornby – service number 1352/A of 32nd Battalion Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private W. I. Hornby is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 120.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Walter Ingram Hornby is remembered on the Nantwich War Memorial, located on The Square, Nantwich, Cheshire.



Nantwich War Memorial (Photo by Rept0n1x – 2013)

(52 pages of Private Walter Ingram Hornby'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

LIEUT. WALTER HORNBY WOUNDED

News has reached Mr A. N. Hornby, of Parkfield, Nantwich, that his son, Lieut. Walter Hornby has been seriously wounded. Lieut. Hornby, who is the second son of Mr and Mrs A. N. Hornby, has been at the front for some months past. He had been for some years in Australia and came over with one of the colonial divisions. Since the cablegram was received at Parkfield conveying the announcement that he had been wounded Lieut. Hornby has arrived at a hospital in this country, and on Monday Mrs Hornby left Nantwich to see him. Another son of Mr and Mrs Hornby, Lieut. Jack Hornby, who enlisted as a trooper in a Canadian cavalry regiment, and who was afterwards given a commission in the South Lancashire Regiment, was wounded some time ago. He was invalided home, and is still suffering the effects of his wounds.

(Chester Chronicle, Cheshire, England– 23 December, 1916)

FOR AUSTRALIA

CASUALTY LIST No. 417

WOUNDED

W. I. HORNBY, England (2nd occ.)

(The Sun, Sydney, NSW , Australia– 15 July 1918)

SON OF MR A. N. HORNBY DIES OF WOUNDS

Pte Walter Hornby, second son of Mr and Mrs A. Hornby, of Parkfield, Nantwich, died on Tuesday, of wound received during the great German advance. He was 39 years of age. He was sheep farming in Australia when war broke out, but immediately sold out, and was with the first Australian contingent which landed in France. He had been previously wounded.

(Chester Chronicle, Cheshire, England– 9 November, 1918)

ALL SORTS OF SPORT

Private Walter Hornby, second son of Mr A. N. Hornby, the Lancashire cricketer, is reported to have died from wounds received in action.

(Evening Dispatch, Birmingham, West Midlands, England – 13th November, 1918)

DOUBLE CASUALTY LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED OF WOUNDS

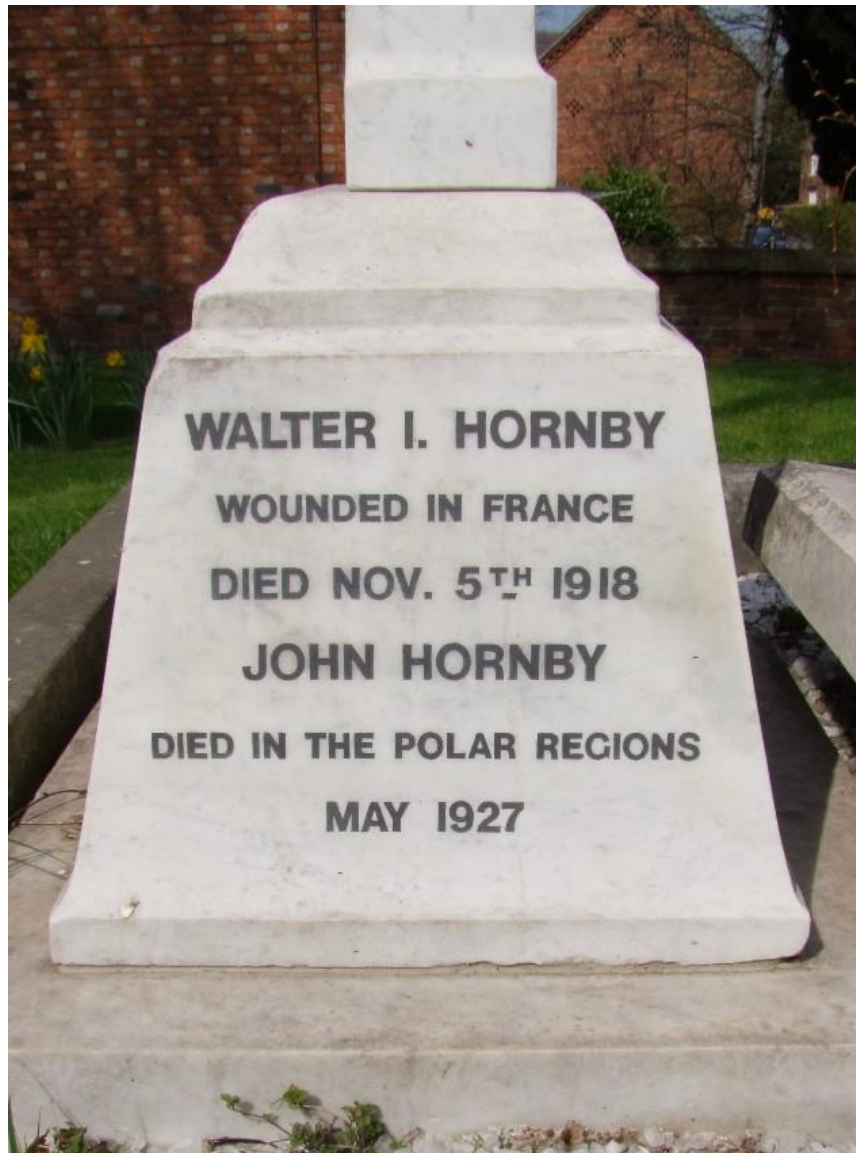
Pte WALTER INGRAM HORNBY, England

(*The Sydney Morning Herald*, NSW, Australia – 2 December, 1918)

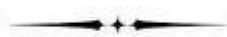
Private Walter Ingram Hornby was buried in the family grave in St. Mary's Churchyard, Acton, Cheshire, England.



Hornby Family Private Headstone with arrow indicating Walter I. Hornby's name (Photos by Alf)



Walter I. Hornby & his brother John Hornby



Albert Neilson Hornby (father of Walter Ingram Hornby)

Albert Neilson Hornby was born on 10th February, 1847 in Blackburn, Lancashire. He was the sixth son of William Henry Hornby, a cotton mill proprietor and director of the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway who was Member of Parliament (MP) for Blackburn from 1857 to 1865. His brothers, Edward and Harry, were also MPs for Blackburn from 1869 to 1874, and from 1886 to 1910 respectively. Edward and another brother Cecil also played first-class cricket. Albert attended Harrow School and from there returned to Lancashire to join the family business. He was known as "Monkey Hornby due to his small stature.

Hornby played for England with all the legendary cricketers of the day, including W.G.Grace who considered himself fortunate to be amongst his friends and said of him "that he was equally in his element at cricket and football, with the gun and in the saddle."

In 1881 he led Lancashire to the County Championship and the following year as captain of England he opened the batting with Grace against Australia in an encounter dubbed "The greatest Test match ever".

The result was a sound thrashing for England and the following week an obituary notice appeared in the Sporting Times, "In affectionate Remembrance of English cricket which died at The Oval on 29th August 1882." to which a

note had been added, “the body will be cremated and the Ashes taken to Australia”.

The following year an England team sailed to Australia to recover the “Ashes” and England won the series. It was in Melbourne that some ladies burnt a bail used in the final game and gave the ashes to the England captain, Ivo Bligh, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Hornby played his last match at Leicester in 1899, but his interest in the game lasted throughout his life. He was became president of Lancashire and captain and president of Nantwich Cricket Club. On many occasions he brought the Lancashire team to play in Cheshire.

Hornby also played soccer for Nantwich. He was by profession a schoolteacher and was married to Ada Sarah Ingram, the daughter of Herbert Ingram who founded “The Illustrated London News”. The couple lived at Bridge House, Church Minshull and, later, at Parkfield, in Wellington Road, Nantwich.

Albert & Ada Hornby had four sons all of whom went to Harrow. George Vernon (1879–1905) died in South Africa, having served in the Boer War whilst Walter Ingram (1878–1918) died of wounds received in France. The youngest, John (1880–1927) was also wounded during the First World War and was awarded the Military Cross and later died when exploring in the north of Canada. The eldest son, Albert Henry (1877–1952) went on to Trinity College, Cambridge and like his father played and captained Lancashire. Between 1899–1914 he played 283 matches – only nine matches less than his father.

Hornby died, aged seventy-eight, on December 17th, 1925. He was buried in the Churchyard of St. Mary’s, Acton & his grave is carved in marble, with wicket, bat and ball.

(Wikipedia & Cheshire Magazine)



Albert Neilson Hornby’s Grave in St. Mary’s Churchyard, Acton, Cheshire. *(Photo by Alf)*