

**Bulford Church Cemetery,
Wiltshire, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2122 GUNNER

W. J. HOY

AUST. FIELD ARTILLERY

13TH OCTOBER, 1916 AGE 35

*In Everlasting Memory
Of Our Dear Father*

William John HOY

William John Alexander Hoy was born at Glanville, near Port Adelaide, South Australia on 1st February, 1881 to parents William Hoy & Jane Calder Hoy (nee Dodgson).

William John Hoy married Gertrude Shelton in the district of Port Adelaide in 1903. A birth was registered in 1902 (born 7th December), in the district of Adelaide, for Clive Carrington Hoy. A birth was registered in the district of Clare in 1905 (born 2nd August) for William Elliot Oswald Hoy. A death was registered in 1909, in the district of Clare, Sth Australia, for Gertrude Hoy, wife of William John Hoy.

William John Hoy was a 34 year old, widower with 2 children & a Master Mariner from Adelaide, South Australia when he enlisted at Adelaide on 15th January, 1916 with the 3rd Light Horse Brigade, 9th Light Horse Regiment, 15th Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2122 & his religion was Church of England (One of the Attestation Papers lists Methodist as the religion, another Attestation Paper lists C. of E.). His next of kin was listed as his son – Master Clive Carrington Hoy, care of Miss Minnie Davies, Collingwood P.O., Melbourne, Victoria. William Hoy stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service due to his teeth.

Private William John Hoy embarked from Adelaide on HMAT *Anchises (A68)* on 16 March, 1916 & disembarked at Egypt (date not recorded). Pte Private Hoy reported for duty at Tel-el-Kebir with the Training Regiment on 15th April, 1916.

Private Hoy was transferred to Artillery Details at Tel-el-Kebir on 14th May, 1916 & his rank was changed to Gunner as a result of joining 4th Division Artillery.

Gunner Hoy embarked from Alexandria on H.M.T. Corsican on 28th May, 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.

Gunner Hoy was marched in to A. A. T. D. at Parkhouse, Wiltshire, England on 28th September, 1916 (date as listed on several forms in Service Record file).

Gunner William John Hoy was admitted to Tidworth General Hospital on 15th July, 1916 with Cerebro-spinal Fever.

Gunner William John Hoy died on 13th October, 1916 at Lucknow Isolation Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire from Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.

A death for William J. Hoy, aged 33, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Pewsey, Wiltshire.

Gunner William John Hoy was buried on 17th October, 1916 in Bulford Church Cemetery, Wiltshire - Grave No. 13, Row 2 Australian Reserve Section (CWGC Plot number 4. 2. 14.) and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Gunner William John Hoy 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 Gunner Hoy's son – Clive. C. Hoy of Truro, South Australia (Scroll sent October, 1922 & Plaque sent September, 1922).

A letter was written by Clive Hoy, dated 17th September, 1922 asking if he may apply for the Victory Medal on account of the service of his father – Gunner William John Hoy. A reply was sent by Base Records, dated 10th October, 1922, advising Mr C. Hoy that the Victory Medal would not be issued as Gunner W. J. Hoy "*did not serve on the establishment of a unit in a theatre of war.*" A memo located in the Service Record file of Gunner William John Hoy reads in part: "*re 2122 Gnr. W. J. Hoy . The War Gratuity in this case was halved between Mrs Jane C. Fairy (Mother) Truro, S.A., as guardian of the Son W. O. E. Hoy, aged 14 & Mr Clive C. Hoy (son), aged 17, Truro, S.A.*"

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Gunner William John Hoy – service number 2122 as being 35 years old & served with 2nd Bde., Australian Field Artillery. He was the son of William and Jane Hoy.

Gunner W. J. Hoy is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 12.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

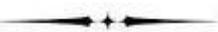
W. J. Hoy is remembered on the National Soldiers Memorial in Adelaide. The Adelaide National War Memorial commemorates those from South Australia that served in the First World War. The names of those that died are listed inside the Memorial, which is located on the corner of North Terrace & Kintore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



National War Memorial – Adelaide (Photos by Bilby)

(48 pages of Gunner William John Hoy'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





Gunner William John Hoy



Newspaper Notices

DEATHS

HOY – AT Port Pirie, on November 20, Gertrude, beloved wife of William John Hoy, after a short and painful illness. Aged 25 years. Leaving two children, Clive and Willie, and a husband to mourn their sad loss.

(Port Pirie Recorder and North Western Mail, SA – Wednesday 24 November 1909)

THE AUSTRALIANS

238TH CASUALTY LIST

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Died of Illness

Pte W. J. Hoy, Collingwood (Oct. 13)

(The Journal, Adelaide, SA – Thursday 26 October 1916)

LATE GUNNER W. J. HOY

Truro, November 20 - Mrs J. H. Fairey, of Truro, recently received the sad intelligence that her eldest son, Gnr. W. J. Hoy, had died of cerebro-spinal meningitis at Tidworth Hospital, England. Gnr. Hoy left Adelaide last March, and was at the Bulford Training School, England, when he was suddenly seized with meningitis. He died on October 13. He was born at Exeter, and was a son of the late Captain Hoy, the well-known harbour master of Port Germein. He was well known at Port Pirie and on the west coast. He spent most of his life at sea, and previous to enlisting he was in charge of the steamtug Reliance, at Port Pirie, where he was liked and respected by all with whom he came in contact. He has left a wife and two sons in Victoria. Mr J. E. Hoy, of Port Augusta is a brother, and Mrs G. Sandery (Alberton) and Mrs R. Jesser (Burra) are sisters.



The Late GNR W. J. HOY

(Observer, Adelaide, SA – Saturday 2 December 1916)

IN MEMORY OF THE BRAVE

HOY – In loving memory of our dear brother, Gunner W. J. Hoy, who died on the 13th October, 1916, in Tidworth Hospital, England.

He left his home in health and strength
To answer his country's call;
He gave his life, he gave his best
For you, for me, for all

- Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, J. and D. Jesser.

(The Journal, Adelaide, SA – Saturday 13 October 1917)

IN MEMORY OF THE BRAVE

HOY – In loving memory of my dear nephew, Gunner W. J. Hoy, who died in Tidworth Hospital, England, on the 13th October, 1916.

Lord, take this soul into Thy keeping,
And stay the mourners' bitter weeping.
He freely offered life and all,
In answer to his country's call.

- Inserted by his loving aunt, I. R. Windsor.

(*The Register*, Adelaide, SA – Monday 15 October 1917) & (*The Journal*, Adelaide, SA – Monday 15 October 1917)

HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR

HOY – In loving memory of Gunner W. J. Hoy, who made the supreme sacrifice, October 13, 1916, at the Military Hospital, England. One of Australia's bravest and best. – Inserted by his loving wife and sons, Victoria.

(*The Express and Telegraph*, Adelaide, SA – Monday 15 October 1917)

HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR

HOY – In loving memory of Gunner W. J. Hoy, who died on active service October 13, 1916, in England.

Missed, oh, sadly missed.
One the home so ill could spare;
But when the roll is called up yonder,
Tell mother I'll be there.

- Inserted by his loving mother and two little boys, Mrs J. H. Fairey and Clive and Willie Hoy.

HOY – In loving memory of our dear brother, Gunner W. J. Hoy, who died on active service in England, October 13, 1916.

When the heroes are all returning,
Our hearts will be sadly yearning.

- Inserted by his loving brother and sisters, J. E. Hoy.

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, SA – Saturday 19 October 1918)

HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR

HOY – In sad and loving memory of our dear father, Gunner William John Hoy, who died of cerebro-spinal meningitis, in England, 13th October, 1916.

'Tis nine years ago to-day
Since our dear father passed away.
He was so patient, good and true,
With all the suffering he went through,
But God alone, who thought it best,
Did ease his pain and give him rest.

-Inserted by his loving mother and sons, Clive and Will.

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, SA – Saturday 19 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 in Bulford Church Cemetery. 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)

A letter from Base Records, dated 18th July, 1921, to Mr. C. C. Hoy, advises that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of his father, the late Gunner William John Hoy, had not been answered & non-receipt of a reply within 21 days would have to be accepted as indicating that no further action was to be taken.

Gunner W. J. Hoy does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

In Everlasting Memory

Of Our Dear Father

Bulford Church Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.

Many of the 71 First World War burials in Bulford Church Cemetery were made from Bulford Camp, one of the military training grounds directly associated with Salisbury Plain. The cemetery also contains three Second World War burials.

(Information from CWGC)



Bulford Church Cemetery *(Photo courtesy of Andrea Charlesworth 2012)*

Photo of Gunner W. J. Hoy's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone at Bulford Church Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Andrea Charlesworth 2012)



Cross of Sacrifice in Bulford Church Cemetery (Photo from CWGC)



Bulford Church Cemetery (Photo courtesy of Andrea Charlesworth 2012)