

**Wareham Cemetery,
Wareham, Dorset
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1657 PRIVATE

C. E. HUMPHRY

44TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

5TH DECEMBER, 1916 Age 22

For Freedom's Cause

He Left His Home

And Native Land

Far Across The Seas

Cecil Edward HUMPHRY

Cecil Edward Humphry was born at Cannington, Western Australia in 1893 to parents Edward Ernest and Elizabeth Humphry (nee White).

Cecil Edward Humphry attended State School at Cannington, Western Australia.

The 1916 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Fremantle, subdivision of Canning, Western Australia recorded Cecil Edward Humphry, Dairyman, Albany Road, Cannington.

Cecil Edward Humphry was a 22 year old, single, Dairyman from Albany Road, Cannington, Western Australia when he enlisted in Perth, Western Australia on 22nd January, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1657 & his religion was Congregational. His next of kin was listed as his father – Edward Ernest Humphry, of "Delamere", Goldsmith Road, Claremont, Western Australia.

Private Cecil Edward Humphry was posted to Area 1 on 15th February, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 1st reinforcements of 44th Battalion on 1st March, 1916.

Private Cecil Edward Humphry embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Suevic* (A29) on 6th June, 1916 with the 44th Infantry Battalion, 1st Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 21st July, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England.

Private Cecil Edward Humphry was marched out to 11th Training Battalion from 13th Training Battalion & taken on strength on 22nd October, 1916.

Private Cecil Edward Humphry proceeded to join 44th Battalion from Divisional Amal. Infantry Battalion on 11th November, 1916.

44th Battalion

The 44th Battalion was raised at Claremont, Western Australia in February 1916. It formed part of the 11th Brigade of the 3rd Australian Division, and soon became known as "Old Bill's Thousand" after its first commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel William Mansbridge. The battalion left Australia on 6 June and proceeded to Britain for further training. It arrived in France on 27 November and entered the front line trenches of the Western Front for the first time on 29 December.....

(Extract of Battalion information from The Australian War Memorial)

Private Cecil Edward Humphry died on 5th December, 1916 at No. 3 Command Depot, Wareham, and Dorset, England from Pneumonia.

A death for Cecil E. Humphrey, aged 23, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Wareham, Dorset, England.

Private Cecil Edward Humphry was buried on 8th December, 1916 in Wareham Cemetery, Wareham, Dorset, England – Plot number B. C. 13 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private Cecil Edward Humphry 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 Private Humphry's father - Mr E. E. Humphry, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent May, 1922 & Plaque sent July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Cecil Edward Humphry – service number 1657, aged 22, of 44th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Edward Ernest and Elizabeth Humphry, of Albany Rd., Cannington, Western Australia.

C. E. Humphry is remembered on the Cannington War Memorial, located in the War Memorial Park, Albany Highway & Manning Road, Cannington, Western Australia.



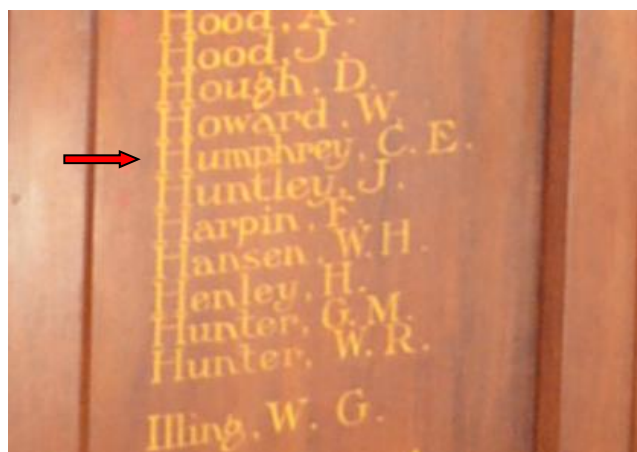
Cannington War Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia – Brian Hardy)



C. E. Humphry is remembered on the Canning Honour Roll. It was originally located in the District Hall but moved to the Canning RSL Club when the Hall was renovated in the early 2000's.



Canning Roll of Honour (Photo by Linton)



C. E. Humphry is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

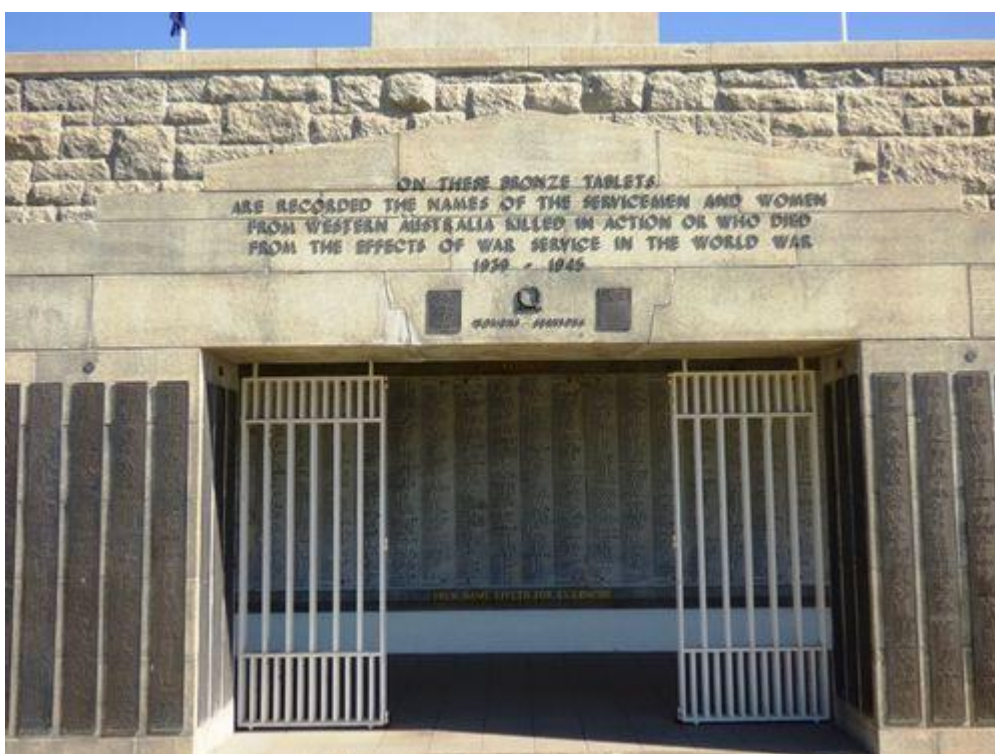
The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.



Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park (above)

& (below) The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names

(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)





44th Battalion Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)

Private C. E. Humphry is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 138.



Roll of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(47 pages of Private Cecil Edward Humphry'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



In Loving Memory of
**Pte. CECIL EDWARD HUMPHRY,
No. 1657, of the 44th Batt.**

Is the son of Mr. Edward E. Humphry and Mrs. Elizabeth Humphry, of Albany Road, Queens Park. The above hero enlisted for active service abroad, with the A.I.F., in February, 1916, and, after completing four months training at Blackboy Camp, sailed for England on the 6th June, 1916. Unfortunately he got a chill and developed pneumonia, from which he died on the 5th December, 1916, at the Command Depot, Wareham. The above hero was 23½ years of age and was a lad highly respected by all who came in contact with him.

“In Memoriam” Card for Private Cecil Humphry

(Photo courtesy of State Library of Western Australia)

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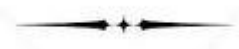


PTE. C. E. HUMPHRY, 44th Bat.
(Died in hospital London. Parents
reside at Queens Park.)





Private Cecil Edward Humphry (bottom right)



Newspaper Notices

DEATHS

HUMPHRY – On December 5, 1916, died of pneumonia in hospital, Wareham, England, Private Cecil E. Humphry, 1st Reinforcements, 44th Battalion, the beloved eldest son of Mr and Mrs E. E. Humphry, Albany-road, Cannington, and dearly beloved brother of Bertha, Amy, Mena, Phyllis, Doris, Jean and Alfred, aged 23 years and six months. Deeply mourned.

Gone is the pride of his youth and his glory,
Far from his home and the land of his birth,
He lay down his life like a hero,
In response to his country's call;
There are some who'll remember and miss him,
Though he was only a private, that all.
In a soldier's grave he is sleeping,
Our loved one, the dearest and best;

In our hearts we will miss him for ever,
 Though we know he is only at rest.

(Western Australian, Perth, Western Australia –15 December, 1916) &

(*Western Mail*, Perth, Western Australia –22 December, 1916) &

BEREAVEMENT NOTICES

Mr and Mrs E. E. Humphry and Family, of Cannington, wish to tender their sincere THANKS to all their friends and relatives for letters, cards and personal visits of sympathy on the death of their dear son and brother, Private Cecil, who died in Wareham, England, December 5, 1916.

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 21 December, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOUR

DIED OF ILLNESS

C. E. Humphry (Cannington)

(*Sunday Times*, Perth, Western Australia – 24 December, 1916)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

HUMPHRY – In sad and ever-loving memory of our darling son and brother, Private Cecil, 44th Battalion, who died in hospital, Wareham, England, December 5, 1916. Aged 23 years 6 months.

 So dearly loved, so sadly missed,
Far away from those who loved him,
 Comrades laid him down to rest
In a hero's grave he is sleeping,
 Our loved one, the dearest and best.
The saddest blow is yet to come,
 When the warriors all return,
And we will look for our darling Cecil,
 Who never will return.
A better son and brother never lived,
 Nor one more true and kind
His equal in this weary world
 We very rarely find.
Oh how we miss your smiling face,
 None but ourselves can tell.
Oh, how our hearts with grief bow down
 As our memory on you dwells.

Inserted by his sorrowing mother and father, sisters, Bertha, Amy, Mina, Phyllis, Doris, Jean and brother Alf.

HUMPHRY - In loving memory of our nephew and cousin, Private Cecil E. Humphry, 1st Reinforcements, 44th Battalion, of Cannington, who died of pneumonia in Wareham Military Hospital, England.

 Not one he loved was buy his side

To hear his last faint sigh,
Or whisper just one loving word
Before he closed his eyes.

-Inserted by his loving uncle and aunt, and cousins, Privates Harold and Charlie (on active service).

HUMPHRY – In memory of Private Cecil Humphry, late of the 44th Battalion, who died of pneumonia in Wareham Hospital, England, December 5, 1916.

-Inserted by his comrade, Private J. Walton, (on active service, wounded).

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 5 December, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

HUMPHRY – In sad and ever loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Cecil, late of the 44th Battalion, who died of pneumonia in hospital, Wareham, England on December 5, 1916, aged 23 years and six months.

Alone in my grief the bitter tears flow,
There cometh a face of the sweet long ago;
Unknown to the world he stands by my side,
And whispers, Dear mother, death cannot divide.
The midnight stars are gleaming
On his face so pure and bright
Far away where comrades laid him,
Dead for honour's sake to-night.

Farewell to you, dear Cecil,
Sweet thoughts of you we keep;
Although two years have passed away,
Our grief is just as deep.

How many wear a smile upon their face,
Although their hearts may hold an empty place.
None knows the heights or depths of their regrets,
But God remembers when the world forgets,
While you lie, dear Cecil in peaceful sleep,
Your memory, we will always keep.

Ever remembered by his loving mother and father, sisters, Bertha, Amy, Mena, Phyllis, Doris and Jean and brother, Alf.

HUMPHRY – In loving memory of Private Cecil C. Humphry, died of pneumonia in Wareham Hospital, England, December 5, 1916, beloved nephew and cousin of Mr and Mrs Arthur McIntosh and family, of Albany-road, Cannington also cousin of Signaller H. E. and Private C. J. McIntosh, both of 44th Battalion (on active service.)

Gone, but not forgotten.

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 5 December, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

HUMPHRY – In sad and ever loving memory of our dear son and brother Private Cecil, late of the 44th Battalion, who died of pneumonia in hospital, Wareham, England, December 5, 1916, aged 23 years and 6 months.

No loved one stood around him,
To bid a fond farewell.

No word of comfort could we give
To him we loved so well.

Our Cecil.

Dear brother of ours you sleep with the brave
Where no tear of a sister can drop on your grave,
To king and country your duty done.

We honour the memory of you dear one.

Sleep on dear Cecil, sleep and take thy rest,

They miss you most who loved you best.

Inserted by his loving mother and father, sisters Bertha. Amy. Mena, Phyllis, Doris. Jean and brother Alf.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 5 December, 1919)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

HUMPHRY – In sad and ever loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Cecil E. Humphry, late 44th Battalion, died of pneumonia, in hospital, Wareham, England, December 5, 1916. Aged 23 years 6 months.

Though his eyes were dimmed with sorrow,
Yet his smiles were sweet but sad,

As he whispered when he left me,
Dear one, don't be sad.

How we prayed and wept with longing,
Waiting for the news of joy,

That would speed the ship to harbour,
Bring home to us our boy.

Now cares are drawn upon our foreheads,
Grief has overmastered joy,

For our hearts are ever mourning
For our absent soldier boy.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 4 December, 1920)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

HUMPHRY – In sad and ever loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Cecil E. Humphry, late 44th Battalion, died of pneumonia, in hospital, Wareham, England, December 5, 1916. Aged 23 years 6 months.

The sun when it sets on Australia to-day,
May it shed its bright beams on his grave far away
O, may it convey to that dear mound of earth
The incense of flowers from the land of his birth.

Fold him in Thine arms, dear Father,

And let our dear boy be

A messenger of love between

Our broken hearts and Thee.

Saviour, in Thy gracious keeping

We leave our soldier brother sleeping.

Inserted by his loving mother and father, sisters, Bertha, Amy, Mena, Phyllis, Doris, Jean and brother Alf., Albany-road, Cannington.

HUMPHRY – In loving memory of our dear cousin, Private C. E. Humphry, C Company, 44th Battalion, who died of pneumonia December 5, 1916 in Wareham Hospital, England.

Inserted by his loving cousins, C. J. and H. E. McIntosh.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 5 December, 1921)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

HUMPHRY – In sad and ever loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Cecil E. Humphry, late 44th Battalion, died of pneumonia, in hospital, Wareham, England, December 5, 1916, aged 23 years and six months.

We keep in our memory the love of the past

With us it's as bright as of old,

For deep in our hearts it is planted to last,

In absence it never grows cold.

Saviour in Thy Gracious keeping,

We leave our soldier brother sleeping.

Ever remembered by his loving mother and father, sisters, Bertha, Amy, Mena, Phyllis, Doris, Jean and brother Alf, Albany-road, Cannington.

HUMPHRY – In loving memory of Private C. E. Humphry, C Company, 44th Battalion, who died of pneumonia at Wareham, England, December 5, 1916.

Inserted by C. J. and N. E. McIntosh.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 5 December, 1922)

**Memorial notices were also placed in the newspapers in 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948

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 C. E. Humphry does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

For Freedom's Cause He Left His Home And Native Land Far Across the Seas

Wareham Cemetery, Wareham, Dorset, England

Wareham Cemetery, Wareham, Dorset contains 71 Commonwealth War Graves. Wareham Military Hospital, with 185 beds, was at Worgret Camp during the First World War and the regimental depot of the Royal Armoured Corps was at nearby Bovington during the Second World War. Wareham Cemetery contains 49 First World War burials and 15 from the Second World War, 5 being unidentified. The cemetery also contains 12 German burials, 1 being an unidentified airman.

(Information & photos from CWGC)





(Photo from CWGC)



(Photo from ["Following the Twenty-Second"](#))



Wareham Cemetery, Wareham (Photos courtesy of Tracy Dunne)



Photo of Private C. E. Humphry's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Wareham Cemetery, Wareham, Dorset, England.



(Photo courtesy of Tracy Dunne)