

**All Saints Churchyard,
Yatesbury, Wiltshire**

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



LIEUTENANT

A. S. HUNT

ROYAL FLYING CORPS.

20TH AUGUST, 1917 Age 23

Alfred Stanley HUNT

Alfred Stanley Hunt was born on 13th June, 1894 at Dandaloo, NSW (as listed on Royal Aero Club Aviator's Certificate card) to parents Alfred Edgar & Sarah Ruth Hunt (nee Fletcher). His birth was registered in the district of Warren, NSW. (Place of birth listed as Nevertire, near Nyngan, NSW on Attestation Papers).

Alfred Stanley Hunt was a 21 year old, single, Grazier from Wyoming, Dandaloo, via Trangie, NSW when he enlisted on 27th September, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2875 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr A. E. Hunt, of Robel, Ranger's Avenue, Mosman, Sydney, NSW.

Corporal (states Private on Embarkation Roll) Alfred Stanley Hunt embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Euripides* (A14) on 2nd November, 1915 with the 17th Infantry Battalion, 6th Reinforcements.

Private Alfred Stanley Hunt was taken on strength of 17th Battalion from 6th Reinforcements on 5th February, 1916 & posted to "C" Company.

Private Alfred Stanley Hunt embarked from Alexandria on 17th March, 1916 to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) & disembarked at Marseilles on 23rd March, 1916.

Private Alfred Stanley Hunt was appointed Lance Corporal with 17th Battalion on 19th August, 1916 to complete establishment in France.

Lance Corporal Alfred Stanley Hunt was promoted to Temporary Corporal in the field on 21st September, 1916 – vice Cpl. McPhee promoted.

Temporary Corporal Hunt was promoted to Corporal in the field on 1st November, 1916 – vice Appleton promoted.

Corporal Alfred Stanley Hunt received a Memo to attend R.F.C. Officers Cadet Battalion in England. (Date entered on Service Record file – 14th November, 1916).

17th Australian Infantry Battalion

After further training in Egypt, the 17th Battalion proceeded to France. Landing there on 22 March 1916, it took part in its first major battle at Pozieres between 25 July and 5 August. The Battalion returned to the Pozieres trenches for a second time, although in a reserve role, between 18 and 28 August. After a spell in a quieter sector of the front in Belgium, the 2nd Division, which included the 5th Brigade, came south again in October. The 17th Battalion was spared from having to mount an attack across the quagmire the Somme battlefield had become, but did have to continue manning the front through a very bleak winter.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Corporal Alfred Stanley Hunt was marched in to "Exet. Col. School of Military Aeronautics", Oxford on 26th January, 1917.

Corporal Alfred Stanley Hunt was discharged from Australian Imperial Force in England on 16th March, 1917 in consequence of being appointed to a commission in the Royal Flying Corps. He had served for 1 year & 171 days with the Australian Imperial Force.

London Gazette 11th April, 1917:

SPECIAL RESERVE OF OFFICERS

The undermentioned, from an Officer Cadet Unit, to be 2nd Lts. (on prob.) 17th Mar. 1917:-

ROYAL FLYING CORPS.

Mil. Wing

Alfred Stanley Hunt

Second Lieutenant Alfred Stanley Hunt of R.F.C. gained his Royal Aero Club Aviator's Certificate on 30th April, 1917 at Ruffy-Baumann School, Acton, England on a Caudron Biplane.

Second Lieutenant Alfred Stanley Hunt was posted to No. 59 Training Squadron.

On 20th August, 1917 Second Lieutenant Alfred Stanley Hunt along with Sergeant Charles Findlay were flying a Royal Aircraft Factory R.E.8 – serial number A3882 & involved in formation flying. At around 11.30 am two aeroplanes collided, one crashing to the ground & the other making its way back to Yatesbury Aerodrome with a broken propeller.

Flight Lieutenant Alfred Stanley Hunt died on 20th August, 1917 south of Yatesbury Aerodrome, Wiltshire, England as a result of an aeroplane collision, along with Sergeant Charles Findlay.

Newspaper item – *Wiltshire Times and Trowbridge Advertiser*, Wiltshire, England – 25 August, 1917:

YATESBURY

FLYING MACHINES COLLIDE

Two Airmen Killed

A flying accident, in which two airmen connected with the Aerodrome lost their lives, occurred on Monday morning. The deceased were Second-Lieut. Alfred Stanley Hunt and Sergt. Charles Findlay, Royal Flying Corps.

An inquest was held on Tuesday by Mr A. L. Forrester, District Coroner, at which evidence was given by Lieut. Davey to the effect that on the previous morning, about 11.30, he was watching a formation flying over the downs near the Monument, when he noticed the aeroplane, piloted by Lieut. Hunt, with whom was Sergt. Findlay, doing an S bend and getting close to a machine piloted by Lieut. Meggitt, who was on the left. Witness then hear a crack and realised that there had been a collision. The aeroplane piloted by the deceased officers dived down out of control, and crashed to earth south of the aerodrome. He at once went to the spot where it fell, and found Lieut. Hunt and Sergt. Findlay dead. A portion of the wing of the damaged machine was found some few hundred yards away. The machine with which Lieut. Hunt collided had its propeller smashed, but the airman managed to make a safe landing near the aerodrome. Witness explained the S formation and said it was not a safe thing to do in flying. The formation had a leader in front and the other machines behind. They should be about 100 yards apart, but more often with pupils flying it was customary to keep 200 yards apart. When the collision occurred the officer piloting the machine with which Lieut. Hunt collided was in his correct position.

That officer, in his evidence, said they were flying in close formation for instructional purposes. Shortly after they got into formation, the leader turned and witness was also in the act of turning in order to keep his proper position on the left hand side, at the same time watching the leader. The machine piloted by Lieut. Hunt, which was on his right and slight above him, collided with him, striking his right wing. Witness got his machine away, and descended safely, but the other machine crashed to earth.

The Coroner: I congratulate you.

Medical evidence was given that the death of both the deceased were instantaneous. There was in each case a fracture of the skull, and other injuries.

A verdict of accidental death was returned.

Flight Lieutenant Alfred Stanley Hunt was buried in All Saints Churchyard, Yatesbury, Wiltshire, England, – Plot number 4 and has a Private Headstone that his younger brother is also remembered on. Flight Lieutenant Hunt's death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Sergeant C. Findlay, 7666, Royal Flying Corps, who also died in the plane with Flight Lieutenant Hunt, was buried in Airbles Cemetery, Dalziel, Lancashire, England.

A letter was sent to The Secretary, Air Ministry, Kingsway, London from the Department of Defence, Australian Imperial Force, Base Records, Melbourne on 5th October, 1921 stating that “*ex-No. 2875, Corporal Alfred S. Hunt, 17th Battalion has by his service with the Australian Imperial Force from 1.10.15 to 16.3.17 qualified for the undermentioned war medals, viz.:- 1914/15 Star - British War Medal - Victory Medal but in consequence of his subsequent service with a commission Royal Flying Corps the 1914/15 Star will be administered by the Department of Defence, Australia, the remainder by the Air Ministry.*”

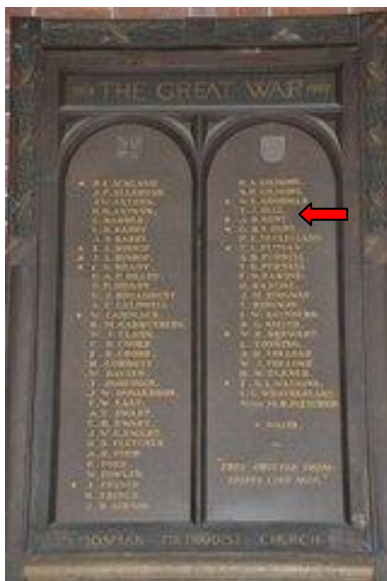
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Flight Lieutenant Alfred Stanley Hunt, aged 22, of Royal Flying Corps. He was the son of Alfred Edgar and Sarah Ruth Hunt.

Lieutenant Alfred Stanley Hunt is remembered on the Commemorative Roll Book, located in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The Commemorative Roll records the names of those Australians who died during or as a result of wars in which Australians served, but who were not serving in the Australian Armed Forces and therefore not eligible for inclusion on the Roll of Honour.



Commemorative Area of the Australian War Memorial (Capital Photographer)

A. S. Hunt and his brother G. B. F. Hunt, are both remembered on the Mosman Methodist Church Roll of Honour for 1914 – 1919.

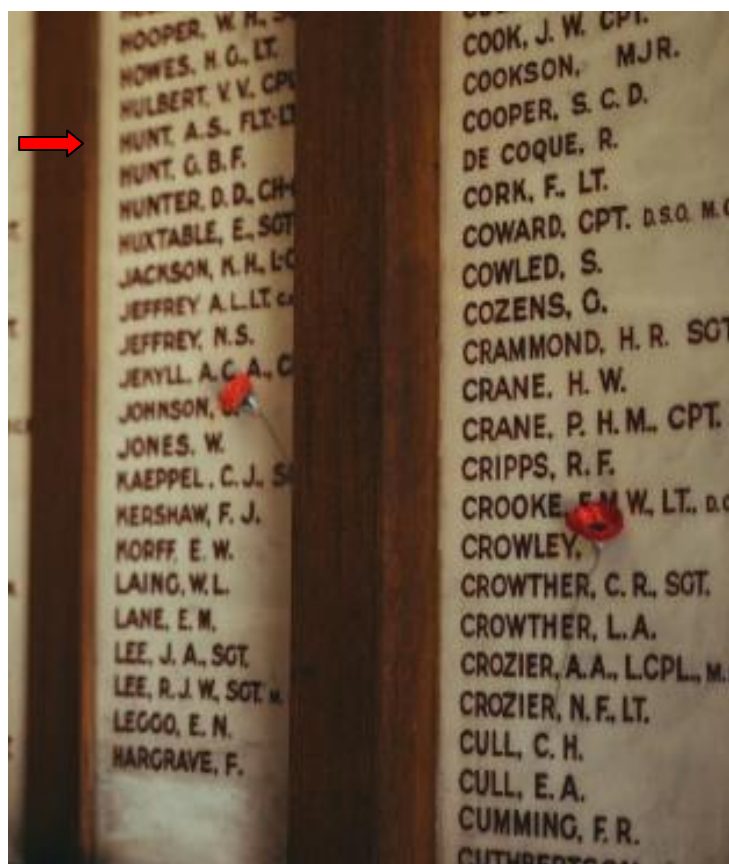


Mosman Methodist Church Roll of Honour

Flight Lieutenant A. S. Hunt and his brother G. B. F. Hunt, are both remembered on the Newington College Roll of Honour, which commemorates those from the school who served in World War One. The Honour Roll consists of 18 marble panels framed in polished maple, bearing the names of ex-students who served in World War One, four of the panels recording those who died. The rolls form two walls of the vestibule of the College's original (1880) building at 200 Stanmore Road, Stanmore, Sydney, NSW.



Newington College Roll of Honour (Photos from Register of War Memorials in NSW)

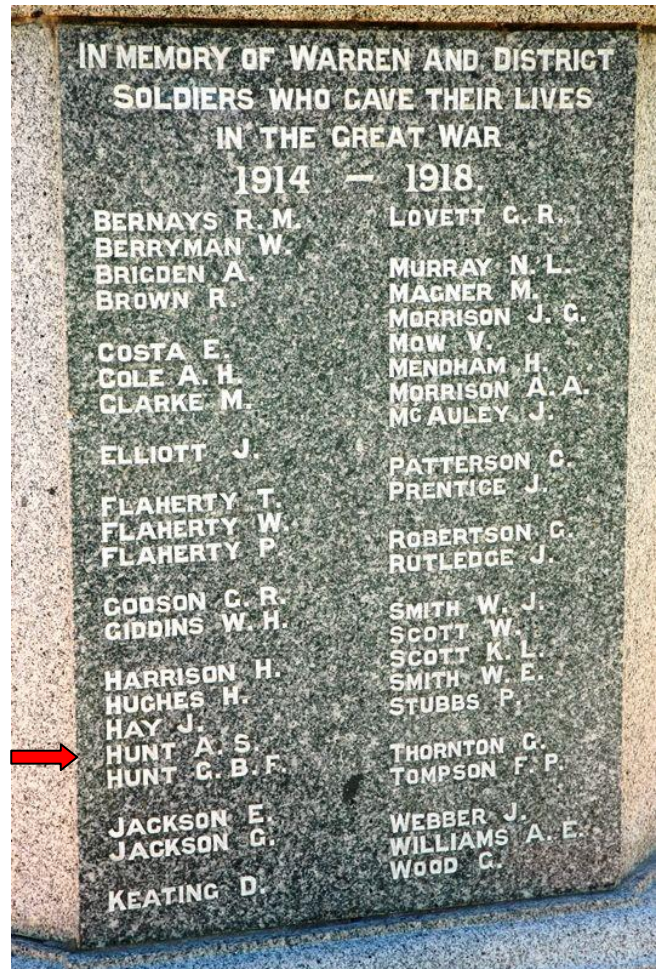


Flight Lieutenant A. S. Hunt and his brother G. B. F. Hunt, are both remembered on the Newington College Chapel Walkway. Twenty-nine brass memorial plaques commemorating individual ex-students who died on active service, mostly in WW1, plus two in WW2 and one on duty in peacetime. The plaques had originally been in the Prescott Hall. They were installed in a covered walkway beside the Chapel (built 1984) in 1985.



Newington College Chapel Walkway (Photo from Register of War Memorials in NSW)

A. S. Hunt and his brother G. B. F. Hunt, are both remembered on the Warren War Memorial, located on Oxley Highway (Burton Street), Warren, NSW. Alfred Stanley Hunt was listed as living at Dandaloo, near Trangie in the district of Warren, NSW.



Warren War Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia – Arthur Garland)

A. S. Hunt and his brother G. B. F. Hunt, are both remembered on the Mosman War Memorial (west face), located at Alan Border Oval, Myahgah Road and The Crescent, Mosman, NSW.



Mosman War Memorial (Photos by J Bar)



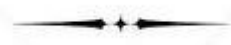
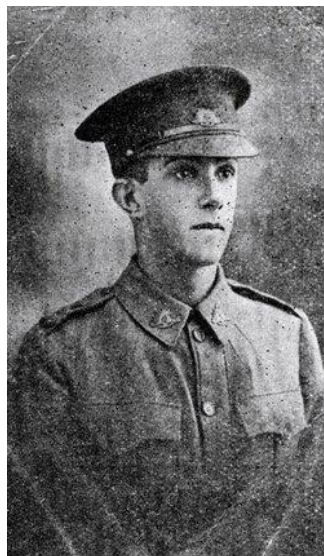
(40 pages of Alfred Stanley Hunt's Australian Imperial Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



[Connected to Lieutenant Alfred Stanley Hunt:](#)

Younger Brother - Private George Bruce Fletcher Hunt - 2672, 17th Battalion, A.I.F. Killed in Action 2nd August, 1916. Buried Gordon Dump Cemetery, Ovillers-La Boiselle, France.



Stan & Bruce Hunt



Alfred Stanley Hunt



Newspaper Notices

WAR CASUALTIES

PRIVATE G. B. F. HUNT.

Mr. A. E. Hunt, of Robel, Ranger's-avenue, Mosman, has received cable advice that his younger son, Private George Bruce Fletcher Hunt, was killed in action in France on August 2. Private Hunt was only 19 years of age, and was educated at Newington College. After leaving that seat of learning he entered into station life up-country, but on the call of Empire - young as he was - joined the colours, and left with his battalion for the front.

PRIVATE A. S. HUNT.

Private Alfred Stanley Hunt, 22 years of age, elder brother to Private G. B. F. Hunt, has been wounded in France. He is an old Newingtonian, and at the conclusion of his education went in for station life prior to joining the same battalion as his late younger brother.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 11 August, 1916)

A HEAVY BLOW

A heavy blow of an adverse fate has fallen on Mr. A. E. Hunt, of "Wyoming," Nevertire, and family. Early in the war Mr. Hunt felt the pride of every father that his two sons, Bruce and Stanley, fully realising their responsibilities, joined the forces. In due course the brave lads sailed for the front in the highest of spirits and in the happiest of moods, while the parents have ever since experienced the feelings which might be expressed as a conflict of anxiety and parental pride. Now comes the tragic news that Bruce was killed in action on the 2nd inst., and Stanley wounded. Never did a young man face the seriousness of life with higher hopes than Bruce Hunt. Success, prosperity, and every earthly happiness were foreshadowed for him and his brother Stanley. But he didn't hesitate to make the sacrifice. The people of the west sincerely hope that Stanley will soon be well, and they deeply sympathise with Mr. and Mrs. Hunt.

(Dubbo Dispatch and Wellington Independent, NSW – 18 August, 1916)

While a new air battle formation was being carried out at a Wiltshire camp, on Monday, two machines collided, and one, which was struck on the side by the engine of the other, immediately crashed to the ground resulting in the death of the pilot, Sergeant Charles Findlay, and Lieut. Alfred Stanley Hunt, who was acting as an observer. The pilot of the other machine had a remarkable escape. The propeller was broken, but he managed to land in safety.

(Wiltshire Times and Trowbridge Advertiser, Wiltshire, England – 25 August, 1917)

COLLISION IN THE AIR

LIEUTENANT AND SERGEANT KILLED

Lieutenant Alfred Stanley Hunt and Sergeant Charles Finlay, both of the Royal Flying Corps, were killed as the result of a collision in the air between two aeroplanes in North Wiltshire, yesterday.

They were the occupants of a machine which collided with another aeroplane, the pilot of which had a remarkable escape. In the collision the propeller of his machine was broken, but he managed to land in safety.

The other machine crashed to earth.

(Pall Mall Gazette, London, England – 21 August, 1917)

SYDNEY AIRMAN KILLED

A cablegram received by Mr Alfred E. Hunt, M.L.C., yesterday announced that his son, 2nd-Lieutenant Alfred Stanley Hunt, had been killed as the result of an aeroplane collision. He was educated at Newington College, after which he went to his father's station on The Bogan. In November, 1915, he went with his brother, Private George Bruce Fletcher Hunt, who was killed at Pozieres, to Egypt, and thence to France. After serving at Hill 60 and in the front trenches before Bapaume, Lieutenant Hunt went to England, where, after training, he was granted a commission in the Royal Flying Corps.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 22 August, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

HUNT – 2nd-Lieut. Alfred Stanley Hunt, third son of Mr and Mrs A. E. Hunt, Wyoming, Dandaloo, killed in aeroplane collision, England, August 20, aged 23 years.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 29 August, 1917)

All Saints Churchyard, Yatesbury, Wiltshire, England

All Saints Churchyard, Yatesbury contains 39 Commonwealth War Graves – 17 from World War 1 & 22 From World War 2.



All Saints Church, Yatesbury *(Photo by Brian Robert Marshall)*

Photo of Flight Lieutenant Alfred Stanley Hunt's Private Headstone he shares with his brother – Private George Bruce Fletcher Hunt in All Saints Churchyard, Yatesbury, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of John Grech)

In

loving memory

of

FLIGHT LIEUT. ALFRED STANLEY HUNT

R.F.C. Killed At Yatesbury

20TH August 1917. Aged 23 Years.

Also of

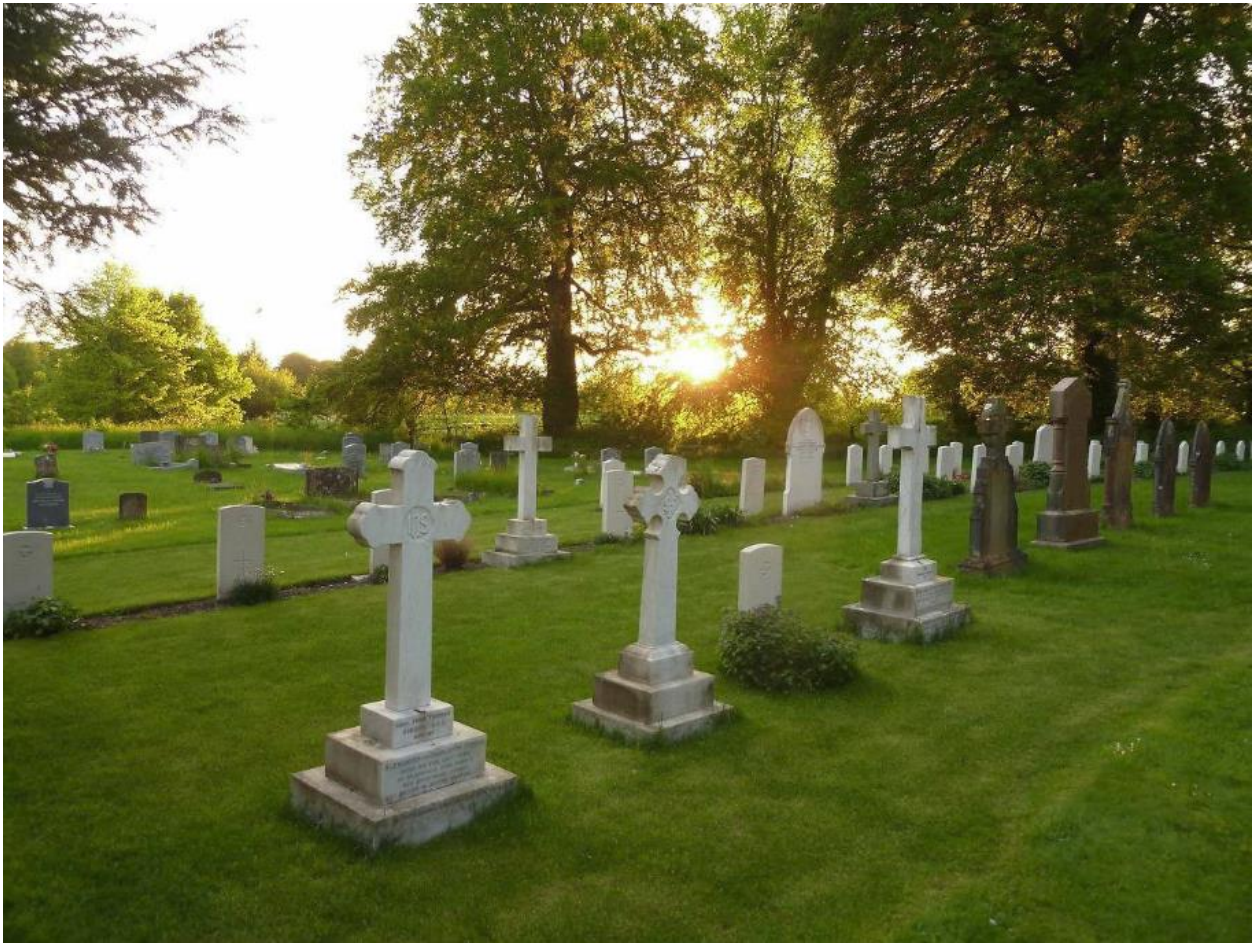
PTE GEORGE BRUCE FLETCHER HUNT

Killed In Action At Poziers 2ND August 1916.

Buried at Gordon Dump Cemetry, France, Aged 19.

Australians N. S. Wales.

“Abide with Me”



All Saints Church, Yatesbury (Photo by Brian Robert Marshall; below by Gareth James)

