

**Welford Road Cemetery,
Leicester, Leicestershire, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



3046 SERJEANT

A. HUNT

59TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

13TH AUGUST, 1916 Age 35

Arthur HUNT

Arthur Hunt was born in London, England on 2nd June, 1883 to parents Thomas and Emma Hunt. He was baptised on 3rd May, 1891 along with his sister Emma Maria Hunt (born 23rd October, 1880) in St. George's Church, Birmingham, Warwickshire. Their parents were listed as Thomas and Emma Maria Hunt, of 263 Great King Street & Thomas was listed as a Jeweller.

The 1891 England Census recorded Arthur Hunt as a 7 year old Scholar, living with his family at 263 Great King Street, Birmingham, Warwickshire, England. His parents were listed as Thomas Hunt (Gold Swivel Maker, aged 41, born Birmingham) & Emma Maria Hunt (aged 35, born Birmingham). Arthur was the youngest of four children listed on this Census – Albert E. Hunt (Gold Bracelet Maker, aged 14, born Birmingham), George Frederick Hunt (Scholar, aged 11, born London), Emma Maria Hunt (Scholar, aged 10, born London) then Arthur.

The 1901 England Census recorded Arthur Hunt as a 17 year old Gold Brooch Maker living with his family at 5 Tenby Street North, Birmingham, Warwickshire, England. His parents were listed as Thomas Hunt (Gold Swivel Maker, aged 51, born Birmingham, Warwickshire) & Emma Hunt (aged 47, born Birmingham, Warwickshire). Also recorded was Arthur's older sister – Emma Hunt (Domestic work, aged 20, born Clerkenwell, London).

Arthur Hunt married Edith Lily Allen on 24th April, 1904 in All Saints Church, Birmingham, Warwickshire, England.

The 1911 England Census recorded Arthur Hunt as a 27 year old Jeweller Bracelet Maker, living with his wife & children at Beech Cottage, Forest Road, South Yardley near Birmingham, Warwickshire, England. His wife was listed as Edith Lily Hunt (aged 30). Arthur & Edith Hunt had been married for 7 years & had 2 children – Beatrice Emma Hunt (aged 6, born Birmingham) & Eva Lily Hunt (aged 4, born Birmingham). Also listed was Thomas Hunt – father of Arthur (Married, Jeweller, aged 61).

According to information supplied by his widow for the Roll of Honour, Arthur Hunt came to Australia when he was 28 years old. She also reported that her husband had been a Corporal in the Boer War & had earned the Queens Medal & 3 Bars.

Arthur Hunt was a 32 year old, married, Jeweller from 322 Sydney Road, Coburg, Victoria when he enlisted on 15th June, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 3046 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his wife - Mrs E. L. Hunt, 322 Sydney Road, Coburg, Victoria. Arthur Hunt stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously served with 3rd Light Stafford Army Service Corps for 2 years in England.

Private Arthur Hunt was posted to Depot- 39th Company from 5th July, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to 51st Company on 19th July, 1915. Private Hunt was transferred to 10th Reinforcements of 7th Battalion on 2nd August, 1915 and given the rank of Sergeant. (6th Battalion as listed on one of the Statement of Service forms, however the Embarkation Roll records he embarked with 10th Reinforcements of 7th Battalion.)

Sergeant/Private Arthur Hunt embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on RMS *Osterley* on 29th September, 1915 with the 7th Infantry Battalion, 10th Reinforcements

Sergeant/Private Arthur Hunt was allotted to and proceeded to join 59th Battalion from Tel-el-Kebir on 26th February, 1916 from 2nd Training Battalion at Zeitoun. He was taken on strength of 59th Battalion on 26th February, 1916 & reverted to rank of Private.

Private Arthur Hunt was promoted to Sergeant on 4th March, 1916.

Sergeant Arthur Hunt embarked from Alexandria on 18th June, 1916 on H.M.T. *Kinfauns Castle* to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 29th June 1916.

Sergeant Arthur Hunt was wounded in action in France on 19th July, 1916. He was admitted to No. 1 Australian Casualty Clearing Station on 20th July, 1916 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to leg. Sergeant Hunt was transferred to Ambulance train then admitted to 13th General Hospital at Boulogne, France on 4th July, 1916 with GSW to Tibia. He embarked for England on 2nd August, 1916 on Hospital Ship *St. David* with GSW to knee.

59th Battalion

The 59th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 21 February 1916 as part of the expansion of the AIF. Approximately half of its recruits came from the veteran 7th Battalion, and the other half were fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 7th, the 59th was predominantly composed of men from rural Victoria. The battalion became part of the 15th Brigade of the 5th Australian Division.

On 19 July 1916, the 59th became embroiled in its first major battle on the Western Front, less than a month after it arrived in France. The battle of Fromelles was a disaster for the 59th. Attacking in the first wave, the 59th suffered heavy casualties at the hands of German machine-gunners, and its advance faltered far short of its objective. Despite grievous losses, the units of the 5th Division manned the front line around Fromelles for a further two months.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 59th Battalion

19th July, 1916

12 noon – Heavy bombardment of enemy lines 60th Battn relieved half our front from PINNEY AVENUE inclusive.

7 pm – 59th Battn attacked enemy position in four waves. First wave going over parapet at 6.45 pm other three waves following at five minute intervals. Attack did not penetrate enemy trenches being held up by intense rifle and machine gun for approximately 100 yds from enemy front line.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Sergeant Arthur Hunt was admitted to 5th Northern General Hospital at Leicester, England on 3rd August, 1916 with GSW wounds (severe) to right knee.

Sergeant Arthur Hunt died on 13th August, 1916 at Northern General Hospital at Leicester, England from wounds received in action in France – amputation of right leg.

A death for Arthur Hunt, aged 33, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of Leicester, Leicestershire, England.

Sergeant Arthur Hunt was buried in Welford Road Cemetery, Leicester, Leicestershire, England – Memorial Reference – Screen Wall 01.207. He does not have a headstone but his death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Newspaper item – *Brunswick and Coburg Star*, Victoria – 8 September, 1916:

OBITUARY

SERGEANT A. HUNT

Expressions of deep sympathy were expressed with Mrs Hunt and family, of 322 Sydney-road, Coburg, on Thursday, when the sad news was conveyed by Colonel Hawker, per Rev. Newton (Holy Trinity), that her husband, Sergeant A. Hunt, 34, had died in the Northern General Hospital, on August 13, as the result of the amputation of his right leg. Sergeant Hunt at the time of enlisting (June 15), was carrying on a jeweller's business in Dunne's Building, Sydney-road, Coburg. He was a native of Birmingham (England), and was a son of Mr Thomas Hunt, jeweller, Sydney. He also saw active service in the South African War.

A War Pension was granted to Edith L. Hunt, of Sydney Rd, Coburg, widow of the late Sergeant Arthur Hunt, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 23rd October, 1916. Pensions were also granted from the same date for the three children of the late Sergeant Arthur Hunt – Beatrice E. Hunt & Eva L. Hunt granted £1 per fortnight and Dorris V. Hunt granted 10/- per fortnight.

Sergeant Arthur Hunt was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Sergeant Hunt's widow – Mrs E. L. Hunt, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent September, 1921 & Plaque sent July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Sergeant Arthur Hunt – service number 3046, aged 35, of 59th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Thomas and Emma Hunt; husband of Edith Lily Hunt, of Leicester Cottage, Edenlea St., Epping, New South Wales.

Sergeant A. Hunt is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 167.

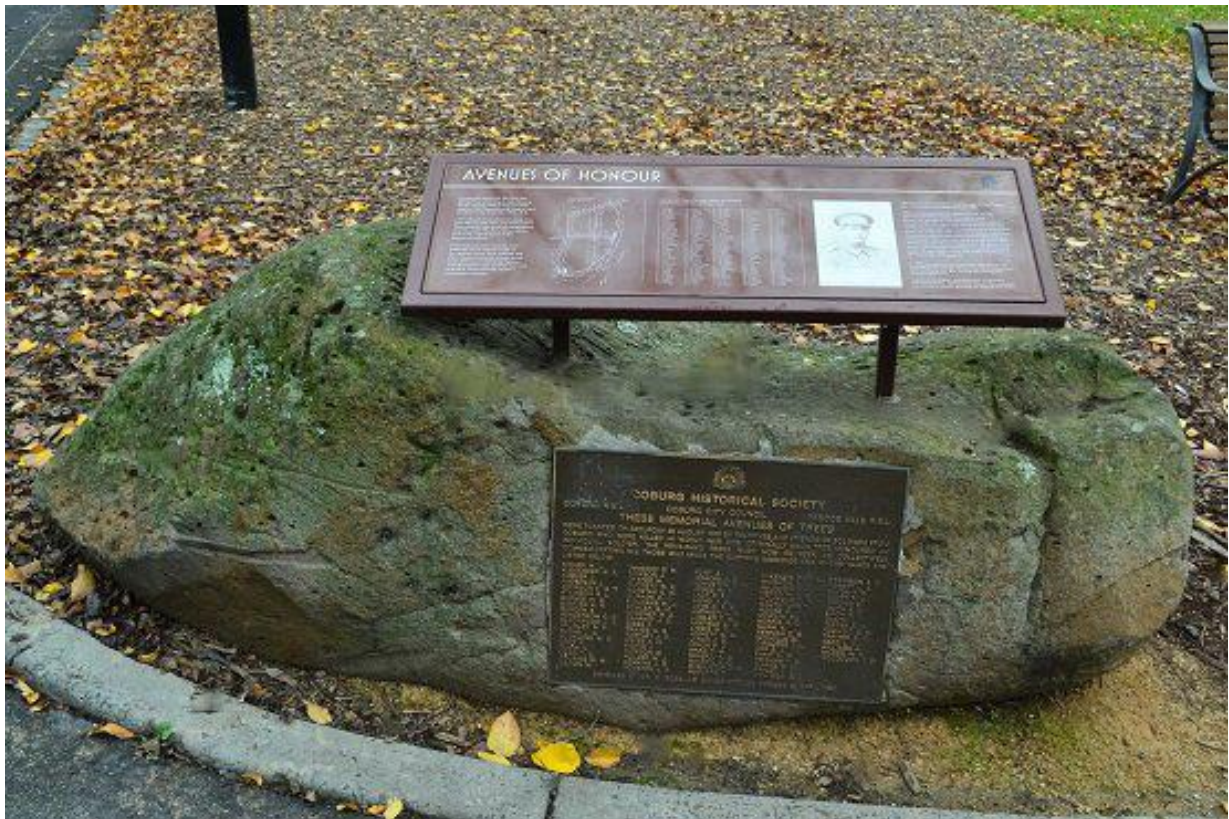


Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

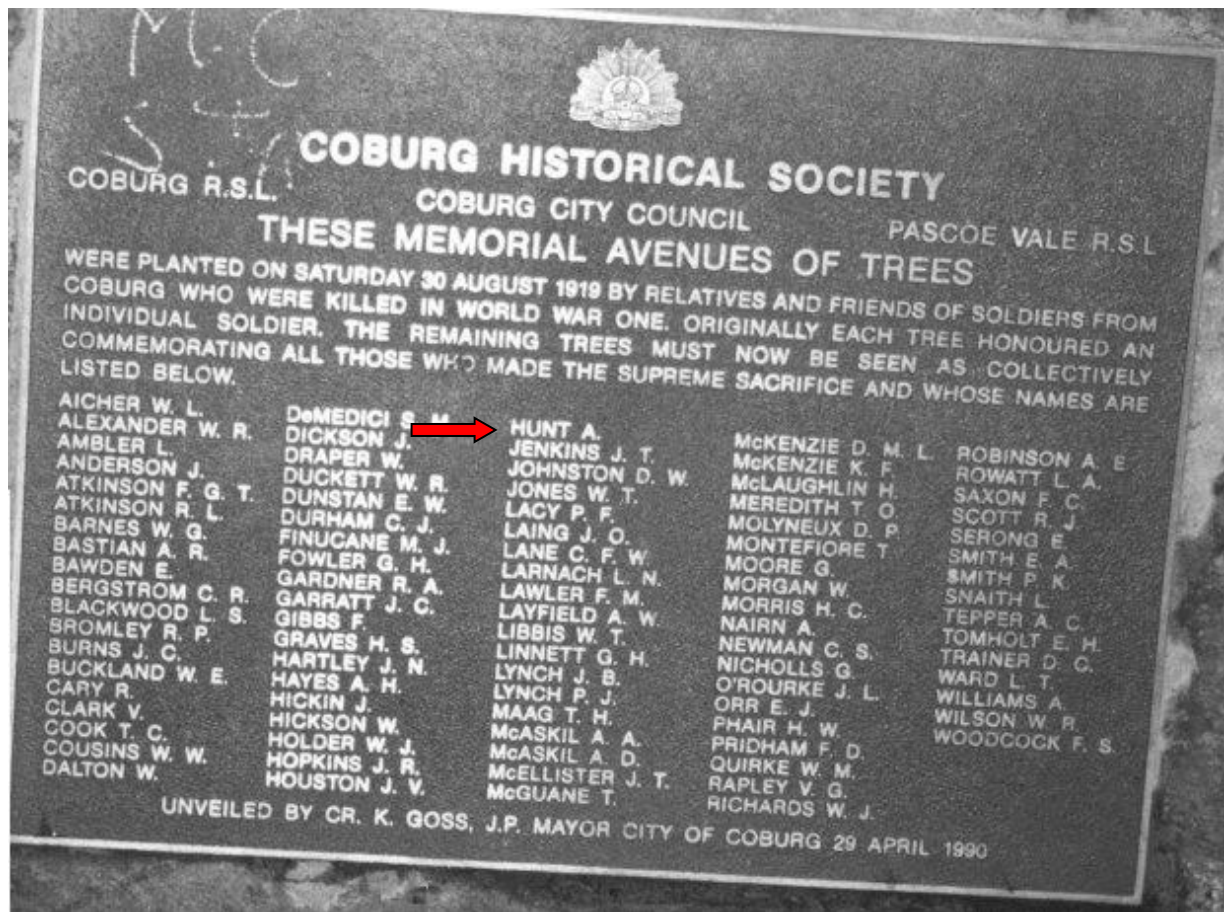
A. Hunt is remembered on the Coburg Avenue of Honour, located in Coburg Lake Reserve, Gaffney Street, Coburg, Victoria. The Coburg Avenue of Honour, consisting of 170 trees, was planted on August 30th 1919 in Coburg Lake Reserve. The avenue was dedicated to the memory of soldiers who died during the First World War.

A plaque was unveiled on the 29th May 1990 stating that remaining trees now collectively commemorate all Coburg servicemen who made the supreme sacrifice including the ninety one names on the memorial plaque.





Coburg Avenue of Honour (Photos from Victorian Heritage Database)



A. Hunt is remembered on the Town of Coburg Roll of Honour, located at City Hall, Coburg, 90 Bell Street, Coburg, Victoria.



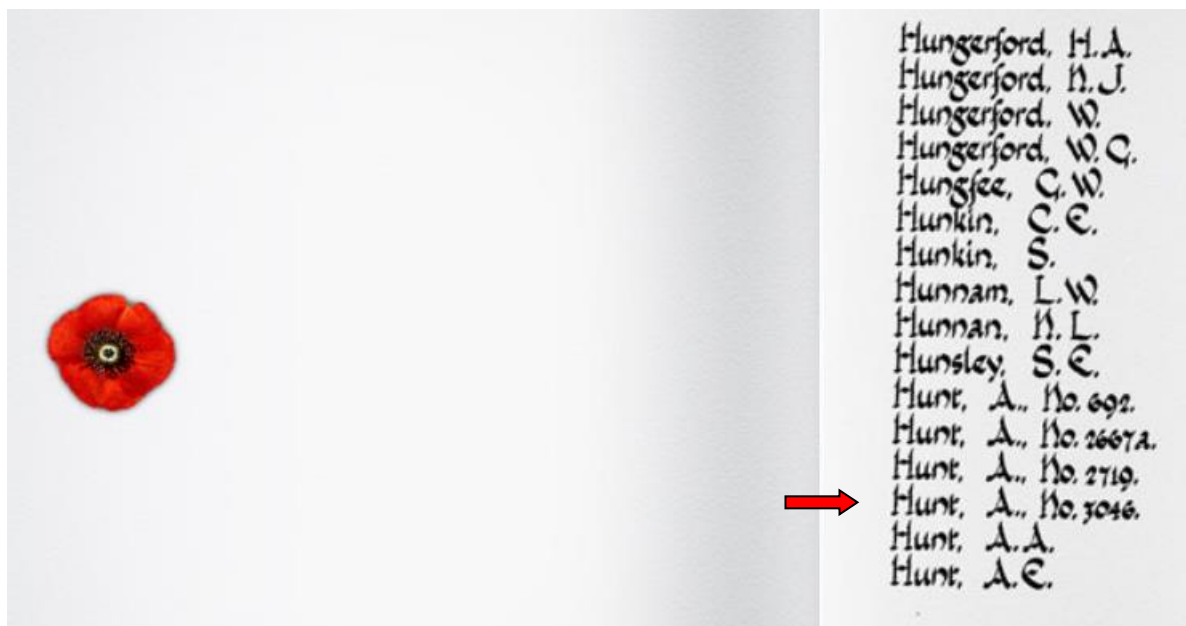
Town of Coburg Roll of Honour (Photo from Monument Australia – Graeme Saunders)

The Coburg War Memorial, located at Coburg City Hall, Bell Street, Coburg, Victoria does not list individual names.



Coburg War Memorial (Photo from Monument Australia)

A. Hunt is remembered in the Book of Remembrance at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne, Victoria.



(47 pages of Sergeant Arthur Hunt'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

THE 197th CASUALTY LIST

WOUNDED

Sergeant A. Hunt, Coburg

(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – 23 August, 1916)

DEATHS

On Active Service

HUNT – A tribute to the memory of Sergeant Arthur Hunt, died of wounds received in France.

-Inserted by his fellow employees, Aronson and Co. Pty Ltd., manufacturing department.

(The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 26 August, 1916)

THE 205th CASUALTY LIST

DIED OF WOUNDS

Sergeant A. Hunt, Coburg

(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – 6 September, 1916)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

HUNT – In loving memory of my dear husband, Sergeant Arthur Hunt, of 59th Battalion, who died of wounds in Leicester Hospital, England, on 13th August, 1916.

Sadly missed by all.

I often look at our picture as it hangs upon the wall,

And think of the trials and pleasures we have spent together;

But when God, King and country called and duty nobly done,

The greatest trial of all I spend alone.

I missed you then, I miss you now,

As time leads on I miss you more.

-Inserted by his loving wife and children, Coburg.

(The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 13 August, 1917)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Sergeant Arthur Hunt has a numbered flat memorial stone & is remembered on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Screen Wall in Welford Road Cemetery, Leicester, England.

Welford Road Cemetery, Leicester, Leicestershire, England

Between 1914 and 1919, the 5th Northern General Hospital, with more than 2,600 beds, occupied several buildings in Leicester and North Evington. More than 95,000 officers and men were admitted to the hospital, which recorded 514 deaths before its closure. During the Second World War, there was a Royal Air Force operational training station near Leicester. Leicester (Welford Road) Cemetery contains 286 First World War burials, more than half of them forming a war graves plot with a Screen Wall bearing the names of those buried there. The 46 Second World War burials are scattered throughout the cemetery, which also contains eight Belgian war graves, 1 of which is unknown.

(Information from CWGC)



(Photo by daglish – Find a Grave)

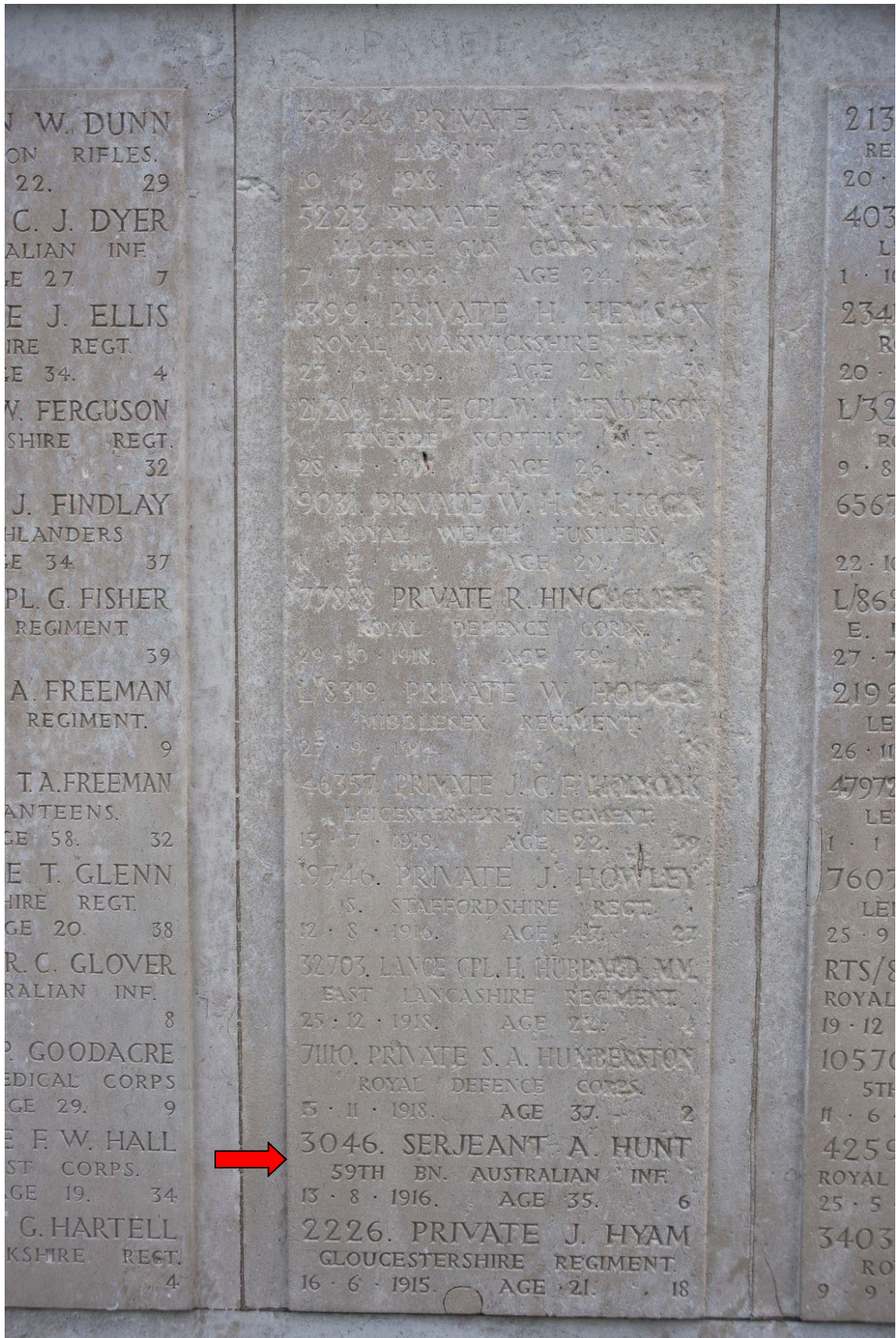


Cross of Sacrifice & Screen Wall in Welford Road Cemetery, Leicester (Photo from CWGC)



(Photo by Jackie March – Find a Grave)

Photo of Serjeant A. Hunt's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Screen Wall in Welford Road Cemetery, Leicester, Leicestershire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Michael Doyle)

Photo of Serjeant A. Hunt's numbered Memorial Stone in front of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Screen Wall in Welford Road Cemetery, Leicester, Leicestershire, England.



ANZAC Day Commemorations (Photos courtesy of Michael Doyle)





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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Mr and Mrs A T Sharp visiting the graves of seven Australians at the Welford Road Cemetery, Leicester, including the grave of Kathleen Adele Brennan, Australian Red Cross Society, member of the Voluntary Aid Detachment. Brennan died of influenza at Leicester, England on 24 November 1918.

From the collection of Mr Alfred Thomas Sharp. Mr Sharp was the Commonwealth Immigration Officer of Victoria and was based in the London Office during the First World War. He and his wife hosted and visited many soldiers, particularly those from Victoria, who were recuperating in London. He also photographed many Australian graves in English cemeteries. His photograph collection relating to this period in London was bequeathed to the Memorial in 1922 after his death. During his time in London he was a member of the British Volunteer Regiment, serving with the Willesden Battalion, Middlesex Volunteer Regiment.

