

**Newton-le-Willows Cemetery,
Merseyside, England**

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



4004 SERGEANT

J. HYLAND

59 BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

19TH JANUARY, 1958 Age 78

Loved Brother Of James

And The Late Peter

Requiescant In Pace

John HYLAND

John Hyland was born at Seacombe, Cheshire, England in 1879 to parents John & Mary Rebecca Hyland (nee Thomas). His birth was registered in September quarter, 1879 in the district of Birkenhead, Cheshire. (Birkenhead included the parish of Poulton cum Seacombe).

The 1881 England Census recorded John Hyland as a 1 year old (born Chester) living with his family at 12 Blake Street, Barrow in Furness, Lancashire, England. His parents were listed as John Hyland (Ship Plater, aged 40, born Ireland) & Mary Hyland (aged 31, born Liverpool). John was the youngest of two sons listed on this Census – James Hyland (aged 4, born Chester) then John.

The 1891 England Census recorded John Hyland as an 11 year old Scholar, living with his mother & two brothers at 4 Oakdale Road, Poulton cum Seacombe, Wallasey, Cheshire, England. His widowed mother was listed as Mary R. Hyland (Monthly Nurse, aged 40, born Liverpool, Lancashire). John was the middle son of three sons – James Hyland (Posted Office Messenger, aged 14, born Seacombe, Cheshire) then John & Peter Hyland (Scholar, aged 9, born Barrow in Furness, Lancashire).

The 1901 England Census recorded John Hyland as a 21 year old Provision Merchant Clerk, living with his family at 79 Wheatland Lane, Poulton cum Seacombe, Wallasey, Cheshire, England. His widowed mother was listed as Rebecca Hyland (aged 50). John was one of three sons listed on this Census – James Hyland (Sorting Clerk Telegraphist, aged 24) then John & Peter Hyland (Flour Mill Clerk, aged 19). Also listed was a boarder - Arthur Smith (widower, Boiler Maker, aged 54, born Birkenhead, Cheshire) & boarder – Catherine Smith (School Teacher, aged 22).

[There is insufficient information to correctly identify when John Hyland travelled to Australia]

John Hyland was a 39 year old (age as per Embarkation Roll), single, Traveller when he enlisted in Melbourne, Victoria on 2nd March, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 574 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs M. Hyland, St. George's Avenue, Wolstanton, Stoke-on-Trent, England. John Hyland stated on His Attestation Papers that he had served with 1st Cheshires for 3 years ("*Car Val Artly*").

Private John Hyland was posted to "C" Company, 23rd Battalion at Broadmeadows on 29th March, 1915.

Private John Hyland was promoted to Lance Corporal on 1st May, 1915 with 23rd Battalion.

Lance Corporal John Hyland was promoted to Corporal on 4th May, 1915 with 23rd Battalion.

Corporal (listed as Private on Embarkation Roll) John Hyland embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Euripides* (A14) on 8th May, 1915 with the 6th Infantry Brigade, 23rd Infantry Battalion "C" Company & disembarked at Suez on 7th June, 1915 as he was medically unfit.

23rd Battalion

The 23rd Battalion was raised in Victoria in March 1915 as the third battalion of the 6th Brigade. After initial training, it left Australia in March and arrived in Egypt, where it would complete its advanced training, in June.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Corporal John Hyland was discharged from Hospital on 16th June, 1915.

Corporal John Hyland was returned to Australia per Ceramic on 17th October, 1915 (Venereal).

John Hyland was a 33 year old (age as per Embarkation Roll, however the Attestation Papers recorded he was 35 years & 7 months), single, Traveller when re-attested in Melbourne, Victoria on 2nd March, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was changed from 574 to 4004 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs M. Hyland, Laurelis, St. George's Avenue, Wolstanton, Stoke-on-Trent, England.

The Embarkation Roll listed that John Hyland had previously served as No. 574, in 23rd Battalion.

Private John Hyland was posted to 12th Reinforcements of 7th Battalion on 22nd November, 1915.

Private John Hyland embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Ceramic (A40)* on 23rd November, 1915 with the 7th Infantry Battalion, 12th Reinforcements.

Private John Hyland was transferred to 59th Battalion on 3rd April, 1916 from 2nd Training Battalion at Zeitoun. He was taken on strength of 59th Battalion at Ferry Post on 3rd April, 1916.

Private John Hyland embarked from Alexandria on 18th June, 1916 on Troopship *Kinfauns Castle* to join B.E.F (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 29th June, 1916.

Private John Hyland was promoted to rank of Sergeant in France on 7th July, 1916 with 59th Battalion.

Sergeant John Hyland was wounded in action in France on 19th July, 1916. He was admitted to No. 2 Australian Casualty Clearing Station on 20th July, 1916 with Shrapnel wounds to Arm. Sergeant Hyland was transferred to Ambulance Train on 20th July, 1916 & admitted to 3rd Canadian General Hospital at Boulogne, France on 21st July, 1916 with fractured humerus & G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to Arm. He embarked for England on Hospital Ship *Jan Breydel* on 30th July, 1916 with shrapnel wound/s to left shoulder.

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

SAILLY – 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 fire approximately 100 yds from enemy front line.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Sergeant John Hyland was admitted to War Hospital, Dundee, Scotland on 31st July, 1916 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to left shoulder – serious. He was transferred to 1st Auxiliary Hospital, England on 4th October, 1916.

Newspaper items – The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 29 August, 1916:

AUSTRALIA'S ROLL OF HONOUR

200th and 201st CASUALTIES LISTS

WOUNDED

Victoria

Sgt. J. Hyland, England

Mr W. T. Burke, 183 Richardson Street, Middle Park, Victoria, wrote to Base Records on 14th September, 1916 asking for the address of next of kin of Sergeant J. Hyland, 4004, 59th Battalion "*who has been reported wounded, I regret to say having omitted to make note of No. Casualty List and also date, wish also to state that I am his allottee and would like if possible to get into communication with him.*"

Base Records replied to Mr W. T. Burke on 19th September, 1916 with the following "*... I beg to state the cable messages of report to hand in respect of the soldier to whom you refer, intimate that he was, on 21/7/16, admitted, suffering with gunshot wound arm, fractured humerus, mild, to the 3rd Canadian General Hospital, Boulogne, France. In the absence of further particulars, favourable progress is to be assumed, the practice of the Overseas Authorities being to notify this office should any change for the worse take place in a soldier's condition... I would add, the instructions of this office preclude that the name and address of next-of-kin to a member of the Force, be disclosed, unless some satisfactory reason first be stated.*" The address for Sergeant J. Hyland was supplied.

Sergeant John Hyland reported to Administrative Headquarters on 26th October, 1916 from Hospital & was granted furlough till 10th November, 1916. He was then to report to No. 1 Command Depot, Perham Downs.

Sergeant John Hyland was discharged from 1st Auxiliary Hospital on 12th November, 1916 with shrapnel wounds to left arm & a fractured humerus (slight).

Sergeant John Hyland embarked for Australia per H.T. *Wiltshire*, leaving Portland, England on 12th November, 1916.

Sergeant John Hyland disembarked from H.T. *Wiltshire* in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia on 31st December, 1916 & was admitted to No. 11 Australian General Hospital, Caulfield, Victoria with shrapnel wounds to left Arm.

Sergeant John Hyland was discharged from the Australian Imperial Force on 23rd May, 1917 medically unfit. He had served for 409 days & his conduct was listed as good.

Sergeant John Hyland was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal.

A War Pension was granted to ex-Sergeant John Hyland, of Commercial Travellers' Club, Flinders Street, Melbourne, Victoria, in the sum of £3.9.0 per fortnight from 24th May, 1917.

A War Pension was granted to Mary Rebecca Hyland, of 36 Cloughton Drive, Poulton, Wallasey, Cheshire, England, mother of ex-Sergeant John Hyland, in the sum of 34/6d per fortnight from 24th May, 1917.

A War Pension to ex-Sergeant John Hyland, of Commerce House P.O., Flinders St. City, was reduced from 2nd June, 1918 from 69/- to 34/6.

The 1919, 1921 & 1922 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Melbourne, subdivision of Latrobe, Victoria recorded John Hyland, Commercial Traveller, of 34 Collins Street, Melbourne.

The 1922 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Fawkner, subdivision of Queens, Victoria recorded John Hyland, Commercial Traveller, of St. Kilda Rd, Melbourne.

The 1926 & 1927 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Melbourne Ports, subdivision of Albert Park, Victoria recorded John Hyland, Commercial Traveller, of Hotel Victoria, Beaconsfield Parade.

[There is insufficient information to correctly identify when John Hyland returned to England]

Ex-Sergeant John Hyland died on 19th January, 1958.

A death for John Hyland, aged 78, was registered in the March quarter, 1958 in the district of Newton, Lancashire, England.

Ex-Sergeant John Hyland was buried in Newton-Le-Willows Cemetery, Merseyside, England. His headstone was erected by Commonwealth War Graves Commission on behalf of the Australian Government as he is classed as "Non-War."

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission does not list Sergeant John Hyland – service number 4004, of 59th Battalion, Australian Infantry on their casualty database as he died after the qualifying period for commemoration by Commonwealth War Graves Commission (4th August, 1914 – 31st August, 1921).

(33 pages of Sergeant John Hyland's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives



Commonwealth War Graves Commission

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 J. Hyland has a headstone with the following inscription:

Loved Brother of James And The Late Peter

Requiescant in Pace

Newton-Le-Willows Cemetery, Merseyside, Lancashire, England

(also known as Newton-in-Makerfield Cemetery)

This is in Park Road, Newton-le-Willows. It belongs to the Urban District Council. It covers 82 acres; and it contains 23 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-18 war and a further 23 of the 1939-45 war. The Commission also maintains 1 Non World War burial here.

(Information from CWGC)



Entrance to Newton-Le-Willows Cemetery *(Photo by David Dixon)*



Newton-Le-Willows Cemetery *(Photo by David Dixon)*

Photo of Sergeant J. Hyland's Headstone which was erected by Commonwealth War Graves Commission on behalf of Australian Government (Non-War) in Newton-Le-Willows Cemetery, Merseyside, Lancashire, England.

(See below for update headstone)



(Photo courtesy of Jeff Round)



(Photo courtesy of Jeff Round – 3 May, 2022)

Photo of Sergeant J. Hyland's New Headstone which was replaced in October, 2022 in Newton-Le-Willows Cemetery, Merseyside, Lancashire, England.



(Photo courtesy of CWGC -Oct 2022)