

**Sidcup Cemetery, Sidcup,
Greater London, England**

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1346 CORPORAL

W. JACKSON

55TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

5TH JANUARY, 1921 Age 53

R.I.P

William Henry JACKSON

William Henry Jackson was born at Wandsworth, London, Surrey, England around 1868.

[There is insufficient information to correctly identify William Henry Jackson in any of the England Censuses or his parents.]

William Henry Jackson stated he was a 32 year old, single, Seaman from Clarindas Street, Parkes, New South Wales when he enlisted at Kensington, Sydney, New South Wales on 27th August, 1914 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1346 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his sister – Helen Price, 33 Barnby Street, Elthan, London, England. William Henry Jackson stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously served with Royal Navy & had been discharged for time expired.

William Henry Jackson was posted to “G” Company of 3rd Battalion on 27th August, 1914 for recruit training as “Cook”.

Private William Henry Jackson embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Euripides (A14)* on 20th October, 1914 with the 3rd Infantry Battalion “G” Company.

[The first entry on Casualty Form – Active Service for Private William Henry Jackson was “embarked 22/8/14.” – no other details listed.]

Private William Henry Jackson embarked on *Derflinger* on 5th April, 1915 (from Alexandria) to join M. E. F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force).

Private William Henry Jackson was wounded at Gallipoli between 25 – 30th April, 1915. He was transferred to Hospital Ship *Galeka* then transferred to *Delta* on 2nd May, 1915. Private Jackson arrived at Southampton, England on *Delta* on 12th May, 1915.

Private William Henry Jackson was admitted to Royal Eye Hospital, England for treatment for Conjunctivitis in Right & Left Eyes. He was fit for Convalescent Hospital on 17th May, 1915.

Private William Henry Jackson forfeited 8 days’ pay on 29th June, 1915 while overstaying his leave while posted at Weymouth, England – from 10 am on 16th June, 1915 till 2.15 pm on 23rd June, 1915. This was queried by Legal Department.

Private William Henry Jackson forfeited 2 days’ pay on 29th July, 1915 while posted at Monte Video Camp, England – 1. Absenting himself from Piquet after being duly warned & remaining absent until found at 2.15 pm on 29th July, 1915 & 2. Drunk.

Private William Henry Jackson was part of No. 2 Draft returning from Australian & New Zealand Base at Weymouth, England to rejoin M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) on 19th August, 1915.

Private William Henry Jackson was admitted to *Beltana* – no date recorded. He rejoined his Unit at Anzac on 2nd September, 1915.

Private William Henry Jackson reported sick at Anzac on 15th December, 1915. He was admitted to 24th British Field Ambulance on 16th December, 1915 with Iritis then transferred to Rest Camp at Mudros on 23rd December, 1915.

Private William Henry Jackson disembarked at Alexandria from H.T. *Huntsgreen* on 28th December, 1915 (after the evacuation of Gallipoli). He rejoined 3rd Battalion at Tel-el-Kebir on 30th December, 1915.

3rd Battalion

The 3rd Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. Like the 1st, 2nd and 4th Battalions it was recruited from New South Wales and, together with these battalions, formed the 1st Brigade.

The battalion was raised within a fortnight of the declaration of war in August 1914 and embarked just two months

later. After a brief stop in Albany, Western Australia, the battalion proceeded to Egypt, arriving on 2 December. The battalion took part in the ANZAC landing on 25 April 1915 as part of the second and third waves and served there until the evacuation in December. In August, the battalion took part in the attack on Lone Pine.....

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli, the battalion returned to Egypt.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private William Henry Jackson was transferred to 55th Battalion on 13th February, 1916 from 3rd Battalion. He was taken on strength of 55th Battalion at Tel-el-Kebir on 14th February, 1916.

Private William Henry Jackson was promoted to Corporal on 20th February, 1916 at Tel-el-Kebir.

Corporal William Henry Jackson embarked from Alexandria on 19th June, 1916 on H.T. *Caledonian* to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 29th June, 1916.

Corporal William Henry Jackson reported sick on 3rd November, 1916. He was admitted to 3rd Stationary Hospital at Rouen, France on 6th November, 1916 with Myalgia. Corporal Jackson was invalided to England from Havre, France on 8th November, 1916 on Hospital Ship *Lanfranc*.

55th Battalion

The 55th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 12 February 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. Half of its recruits were Gallipoli veterans from the 3rd Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 3rd, the 55th was predominantly composed of men from New South Wales. The battalion became part of the 14th Brigade of the 5th Australian Division.

Arriving in France on 30 June 1916, the battalion entered the frontline trenches for the first time on 12 July and fought its first major battle at Fromelles a week later. The battle was a disaster, resulting in heavy casualties across the division. Although in reserve, the 55th was quickly committed to the attack and eventually played a critical role, forming the rearguard for the 14th Brigade's withdrawal. Despite its grievous losses the 5th Division continued to man the front in the Fromelles sector for a further two months.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Corporal William Henry Jackson was admitted to 3rd Southern General Hospital at Oxford, England on 8th November, 1916 with Myalgia – slight. He was transferred to 1st Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield on 13th December, 1916 from 3rd Southern General Hospital. The Hospital Admission form recorded "*Rheumatism. Convalescent.*" Corporal Jackson was discharged from 1st Auxiliary Hospital to Wareham on 18th December, 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 counties of Wiltshire & Dorset. Later Training & Convalescing Units were combined under the one Command Depot.

Corporal William Henry Jackson was posted to No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham, Dorset. The Medical form reported he "*complains of rheumatic pains in neck & thighs. Left Battalion Nov 4th – 16.*" Corporal Jackson was medically classified on 19th January, 1917 & 29th January, 1917 as B1 A2 (fit for Overseas Training Camp in 3 – 4 weeks). He was medically classified on 10th February, 1917 as B1 A3 (fit for Overseas Training Camp in 2 – 3 weeks) & again on 11th March, 1917 as B1 A3.

The next-of-kin of Corporal William Henry Jackson was changed on 1st March, 1917 to Mrs Ada Jackson, wife, 655 Wandsworth Road, Clapham Junction, London, England (previously next-of-kin was E. Price, sister, 33 Barnby St, West Ham, London, England).

A marriage was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Wandsworth, London, England between a "*William Jackson*" & an "*Ada Billingham.*"

Corporal William Henry Jackson was absent from No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham, Dorset from 1st to 6th March, 1917. He was written up for an Offence while posted at Wareham – A.W.L. (Absent without Leave) from 9.30 am on

1st March, 1917 to noon on 6th March, 1917. He was severely reprimanded by Lieutenant Colonel Roberts & forfeited 6 days' pay.

A Medical Report was completed on Corporal William Henry Jackson on 13th March, 1917 at Wareham. His disability was recorded as Rheumatism & Age. Corporal Jackson's age was recorded on the "*Medical Report of an Invalid*" form as 52 years last birthday. His disability originated in France in August, 1916. "*Says he never had rheumatism before August 1916. Was perfectly healthy when he enlisted. Had fever in India in 1892.*" Corporal Jackson's present condition was "*No swelling of joints. Heart sounds rapid but no murmur. His age seems sufficient cause to make him unfit for General Service. Still complains of Rheumatic pains.*" The Officer in charge of the medical case recommended that Corporal Jackson was permanently unfit for General Service & temporarily unfit for Home Service. The Medical Board recommended that Private Jackson was permanently unfit for General Service & unfit for Home Service for more than six months.

Corporal William Henry Jackson was admitted to 16th Field Ambulance on 6th April, 1917 with Scabies. He was marched in to No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham, Dorset, England on 13th April, 1917 from 16th Field Ambulance.

Corporal William Henry Jackson was marched out from No. 4 Command Depot, Wareham on 17th April, 1917 & marched in to No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth, Dorset on the same day.

Lena Brenda Jackson, daughter of William & Ada Jackson, was baptised on 16th May, 1917 at St. George's Church, Battersea, London, England. The family address was listed as 132 New Rd, Battersea & William Jackson was recorded as a Soldier.

Corporal William Henry Jackson was sent sick to King George Hospital, Stamford Street, London on 31st May, 1917 from No. 2 Command Depot, Weymouth. He was admitted the same day with Asthma. The Hospital Admissions form recorded "*On admission – Patient has a cough. Breathing laboured & noisy. Has an attack of asthma. Poultices to chest. Decidedly better. Breathing easier. No attack since 4-6-17. Transfer to Harefield Park Australian Hospital.*" Corporal Jackson was transferred to 1st Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield on 27th June, 1917.

A Medical Report was completed on Corporal William Henry Jackson on 28th June, 1917 at No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield, Middlesex, England. His disability was listed as Chronic Bronchitis. His disability originated in France in April, 1917. "*Had a cough all winter of 1916/1917 but was on duty till April when he became ill with severe cough & breathlessness. No history indicating ___ complaint. Has been confined to bed till present date.*" The Officer in charge of the medical case recommended that Corporal Jackson be classified as "*cii? ciii?*" (cii – unfit for overseas; temporarily unfit for Home Service) (ciii – Permanently unfit for Service). The Medical Board recommended that Corporal Jackson was permanently unfit for General & Home Service.

Corporal William Henry Jackson was discharged from 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield on 4th July, 1917 to Weymouth.

Corporal William Henry Jackson was sent sick to 3rd London General Hospital, Wandsworth, London on 22nd September, 1917 whilst on Leave from Weymouth. He was admitted on 23rd September, 1917.

Corporal William Henry Jackson had been written up for A.W.L. from 18th September, 1917 but this was cancelled in consequence of his illness & admission to Hospital.

Corporal William Henry Jackson was transferred to 1st Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield, Middlesex on 6th March, 1918.

A Medical Report was completed on Corporal William Henry Jackson on 7th March, 1918 at No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield. His disability was listed as Aneurysm Aorta & his age last birthday was recorded as 50 years. Corporal Jackson's Aneurysm had originated in May, 1917 at Weymouth. "*This man did duty until May 1917 when he states he was (Boarded). In Sept 1917 whilst on leave in London HQ Horseferry Rd sent him to the 3rd London Gen Hosp on 23rd Sept 1917. He was transferred to No.1 A.A.H on 6 – 3 -18. No history of Syphilis.*" Corporal Jackson's present condition was recorded as "*Pale looking man with shortness of breath and on exertion marked laryngeal studor and brassy cough.....Chest – markedly emphysematous over the upper part of both lungs. There is very harsh breathing breath sound sibulent sounds more marked on the R/side than on the left as there was obstruction of the larger bronchi....*" The Officer in charge of the medical case recommended that Corporal Jackson

be classified as Ciii. (ciii – Permanently unfit for Service). The Medical Board recommended that Corporal Jackson was permanently unfit for all Services.

Corporal William Henry Jackson was reported A.W.L. (Absent without Leave) on 15th March, 1918. This was later reported to be an error.

Corporal William Henry Jackson was admitted to King George Hospital, Stamford Street, London on 21st March, 1918 while on Leave from Harefield. The Hospital Admissions form recorded "*Haemosplysis. Complains pain & dullness in supper chest. Marked in inspiration. Vocal cords – bilateral paralysis – apparently voice husky. No marled signs in chest. Xray – both diaphragms move freely. Appearances suggest fibrosis of lung following inflammatory lesion. Trans to Aust Hopl.*" He was transferred to 1st Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield on 26th April, 1918.

Corporal William Henry Jackson was listed for return to Australia for discharge on 30th June, 1918 per *D14* due to Aneurysm Aorta. He embarked on Hospital Ship *Kanowna*, embarking from England on 22nd July, 1918 & arrived in Melbourne, Victoria, on 1st September, 1918 then on to Sydney, New South Wales on 3rd September, 1918.

A Medical Report was completed on Corporal William Henry Jackson on 8th November, 1919 at No. 4 Australian General Hospital, Australia. Corporal Jackson had arrived from England on *Kanowna* on 4th September, 1918. "*was returned in Sept/18 suffering with aortic aneurysm. Has been Xrayed and screened here on numerous occasions. Aneurysm of aortic arch always present in skiagrams.*" His present condition was listed as "*Short of breath on exertion. Slight cough. Is able to get about a little.*" The Medical Officer in charge of case recommended that Corporal Jackson be discharged as permanently unfit for General Service & his condition was due to Military Service. The Medical Board stated that Corporal Jackson had 100% total disability. An operation was not advised & he was convalescent at home for life. They recommended on 11th November, 1919 that he be discharged as permanently unfit for General Service.

Corporal William Henry Jackson was confirmed for discharged from Australian Imperial Force on 12th November, 1919.

A "*William Jackson*", Labourer, aged 52 was a passenger on *Ormonde* which arrived at the port of London, England on 27th November, 1920 from Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

Corporal William Henry Jackson died on 5th January, 1921. He would have died from a War related illness as he is included in Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour.

A death for William Jackson, aged 52, was registered in the March quarter, 1921 in the district of Bromley, Kent, England. (Sidcup was a parish in Bromley in 1921).

Corporal William Jackson was buried in Sidcup Cemetery, Sidcup, Greater London, England – Plot number C. 15.556 and now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Corporal William Henry Jackson was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. His postal address was listed as 66 Hartley Road, Sidcup, Kent, England.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Corporal W. Jackson – service number 1346, aged 53, of 55th Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

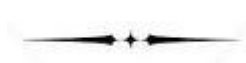
Corporal W. H. Jackson is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 161.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(63 pages of Corporal William Henry Jackson'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

Roll of Honor

18th CASUALTY LIST

WOUNDED

Private W. H. Jackson, 3rd battalion

(National Advocate, Bathurst, NSW – 20 May, 1915)

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)

Corporal W. Jackson has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone with the following inscription:

R.I.P.

Sidcup Cemetery, Sidcup, Greater London, England

This cemetery (late Fooks Cray Cemetery) belongs to the Urban District Council. (Queen Mary's Hospital, Sidcup, was the British centre of facial surgery.) (Information from CWGC)

There are 28 Commonwealth War Graves located here – 7 relating to World War 1 & 21 relating to World War 2.



Sidcup Cemetery (Photos from *Find a Grave* – Julia&keld)



Sidcup Cemetery



Photo of Corporal W. Jackson's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Sidcup Cemetery, Sidcup, Greater London, England.







(Photo from Find a Grave – Ray Dines)