

**St. Mary & St. Edward Churchyard,  
West Hanningfield, Essex**

**War Grave**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**1783 PRIVATE**

**H. T. JARVIS**

**11TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**6TH DECEMBER, 1919**

## Henry Thomas JARVIS

Henry Thomas Jarvis was born on 10th February, 1890 at West Hanningfield, Essex, England to parents Thomas & Fanny Jarvis (nee March). He was baptised at West Hanningfield on 30th March, 1890.

The 1891 England Census recorded Henry Jarvis as a 1 year old, living with his family "Near the Church", West Hanningfield, Essex, England. His parents were listed as Thomas Jarvis (Agricultural Labourer, aged 47, born East Hanningfield, Essex) & Fanny Jarvis (aged 41, born Ingalstone, Essex). Henry was the youngest of seven children listed on this Census (all born West Hanningfield, Essex) - John (Agricultural Labourer, aged 20), Lizzie (aged 17), James (Agricultural Labourer, aged 14), Frederick (Scholar, aged 11), Alfred H. (Scholar, aged 7), Arthur C. (Scholar, aged 4) & Henry.

Thomas Jarvis, father of Henry Thomas Jarvis, died in October, 1900.

The 1901 England Census recorded Henry Thomas Jarvis as an 11 year old living with his widowed mother & siblings "In the Village" at West Hanningfield, Essex, England. Fanny Jarvis was listed as a 51 year old widow. Also listed on this Census – James Edwin (Builder's Excavator, aged 24), then Henry Thomas & Alice Emily (aged 7, born West Hanningfield, Essex).

The 1911 England Census recorded Henery Thomas Jarvis as a 21 year old Farm Labourer living at West Hanningfield, Chelmsford, Essex in a 5 roomed Dwelling. Henry was living with his Mother – Fanny Jarvis (aged 61). No other children were listed in this Census.

A "Henry T. Jarvis, Farm Labourer, aged 22" was listed as a passenger on *Orama*, which departed from the port of London, England on 14th February, 1913, bound for Fremantle, Western Australia.

Henry Thomas Jarvis was a 25 year old, single, Labourer from Rockton Road, Claremont, Western Australia when he enlisted on 11th January, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1783 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Fanny Jarvis, Old School House, near Chelmsford, West Hanningfield, England.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was posted to Depot Company on 11th January, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to 4th Reinforcements, 11th Battalion on 11th February, 1915.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Argyllshire (A8)* on 19th April, 1915 with the 11th Infantry Battalion, 4th Reinforcements & disembarked on 13th May, 1915.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was taken on strength of 11th Battalion (A. Coy) from 4th Reinforcements on 4th June, 1915 at the Dardanelles.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was sent to Hospital on 24th August, 1915. He was admitted to 2nd Field Ambulance on 25th August, 1915 with Flue then transferred to 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station on 25th August, 1915. Pte Jarvis was admitted to Hospital at Malta on 27th August, 1915. He was listed for transfer to England on 28th August, 1915 then transferred to Hospital Ship *Ascania* on 31st August, 1915. Private Jarvis was transferred instead to Military Hospital at Cottonera, Malta on 20th October, 1915. He was transferred to Hospital Ship *Brasile* on 25th October, 1915 & embarked for England from Malta on 26th October, 1915.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was admitted to Military Hospital at Fulham, London, England. He was admitted to 2nd Birmingham War Hospital on 1st November, 1915 with Enteric & was discharged on 7th January, 1916.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was transferred from Abbey Wood to Monte Video, Weymouth on 11th March, 1916.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis proceeded overseas via Folkestone on SS *Princess Victoria* on 4th December, 1916 from 3rd Training Battalion.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis joined 1st A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 5th December, 1916. He was marched out to his Battalion on 22nd December, 1916 & rejoined his Battalion in France on 26th December, 1916.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was awarded 3 days' F.P. No. 2 (Field Punishment) on 27th January, 1917 for falling out of line on March without permission.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was reported as Missing in action in France on 16th April, 1917.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was captured as a Prisoner of War on 15th April, 1917.

#### War Diary – 11th Battalion

*15/4/17 – LOUVERVAL – At 0400 the Battalion was submitted to an Artillery attack, followed by an infantry attack (see narrative of operations attached 15/4/17)*

*Two prisoners were sent to Brigade Headquarters at 7.10 pm*

*At about 10 00 Majr. WATSON with two companies of the 2nd Battalion arrived as supports at disposal of C.O. 11th Bn.*

*The 10th Bn. took over the left half of the front line during the night.*

*(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)*

#### **11th Battalion**

The 11th Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. It was the first battalion recruited in Western Australia, and with the 9th, 10th and 12th Battalions it formed the 3rd Brigade.

The 3rd Brigade was the covering force for the ANZAC landing on 25 April 1915 and so was the first ashore at around 4:30 am. Ten days after the landing, a company from the 11th Battalion mounted the AIF's first raid of the war against Turkish positions at Gaba Tepe. Subsequently, the battalion was heavily involved in defending the front line of the ANZAC beachhead. In August, it made preparatory attacks at the southern end of the ANZAC position before the battle of Lone Pine. The 11th Battalion continued to serve at ANZAC until the evacuation in December.

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli, the 11th Battalion returned to Egypt. It was split to help form the 51st Battalion, and then bought up to strength with reinforcements.

In 1917 the battalion took part in the brief advance that followed the German Army's retreat to the Hindenburg Line. During a German counterattack at Louverval, France, in April 1917 Lieutenant Charles Pope was killed performing the deed for which he would be awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross. The battalion subsequently returned to Belgium to participate in the offensive that became known as the Third Battle of Ypres.

*(Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)*

According to details recorded on the German Prisoner of War Camp form – Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was captured at Boursies & interred at Limburg Camp, Lahn.

#### **Limburg Camp**

The Prisoner of War Camp was on the River Lahn, in a village called Dietkirchen, near to the town of Limburg. It held 12,000 men; many were Irish members of the British Army.



**Limburg Camp**



Reverend E. J. Thomas, of West Hanningfield, near Chelmsford, Essex, wrote to the Red Cross in May, 1917 requesting that The Red Cross make enquiries into 2 cases of "Missing" one of them being Private Henry Thomas Jarvis, No. 1783, 11th Battalion, A.I.F.

The Red Cross replied in June, 1917 stating that they had received an unofficial report from Pte F. C. Howard, No. 15415, 11th Battalion, A.I.F. regarding Private H. T. Jarvis & R. Jarvis of A Company, Platoon 4 – *"on April 16th I saw them with others surrounded by the Germans. Cpl. Debry of A.111, who has since been killed in action at Bullecourt told me he saw those two taken prisoner."*

The Red Cross replied in July, 1917 to another letter sent by the Rev. E. J. Thomas stating "we are sorry to inform you that we have had no further confirmation of the unofficial report that 1783 Pte H. T. Jarvis, 11th Battalion, A.I.F., was taken prisoner on April 16th. We are the only Society which deals with the Australian Prisoners of War and we received information direct from Germany. Should we hear any news of Pte H. T. Jarvis, we shall let you know at once, but at the same time we must emphasise that the report sent you was purely unofficial and we cannot vouch for its accuracy. Pte Jarvis is still officially reported as missing...."

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Henry Thomas Jarvis contains information received from a postcard received from Pte H. T. Jarvis, Prisoner of War, dated 14/5/18 which reads: "*Interned Stuttgart 2. "I am well and in good health. I am receiving my parcels regularly now."*"

## **Stuttgart**

Stuttgart had two prisoner of war camps; one in the city in an abandoned factory building, the other in a disused factory three miles outside.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was despatched for Calais, France from Ludres on 27th November, 1918

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was repatriated & arrived at Dover, England on 2nd December, 1918.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was discharged from the Australian Imperial Force being demobilised in London, England on 16th April, 1919, having served for 4 years & 96 days.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis died on 6th December, 1919 at Guy's Hospital, London, England. The Death Certificate recorded the cause of death as Femoral Aneurysm and Syncope. (With thanks to Sandra Playle for information).

A death for Henry T. Jarvis, aged 29, was registered in the December quarter, 1919 in the district of Southwark, London, England.

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was buried in St. Mary & St. Edward's Churchyard, West Hanningfield, Essex, England (south-east corner) and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

A letter was written to Base Records on 13th December, 1925 by Mrs W. A. Wadham, of 1 Princes Road, Ashford, Middlesex, England stating "*I am the widow of the late Pte H. T. Jarvis, 11th Battalion of the Australian Infantry Force, Regimental number 1783 who was taken Prisoner during the War and on his release from Germany, and afterwards died in Guys Hospital London on December 6th 1919. I have never received any medals of which he is entitled to, he having come over from Australia in 1915, I taking the address from the News of the World to claim...*"

Base Records replied to Mrs W. A. Wadham in February, 1926 stating "*that according to the records ex-No. 1783, Pte H. T. Jarvis, 11th Battalion, was not married at the time of his discharge from the A.I.F., consequently his medals were disposed of to his recorded next-of-kin (Mother), Mrs F. Jarvis, Old School House, West Hammingfield, England.*"

(Note- A marriage was registered in September quarter 1919 in the district of Chelmsford, Essex for Henry T. Jarvis & Rose E. Keeling. A later marriage was registered in June quarter, 1924 in the district of Chelmsford, Essex for Rose E. Jarvis & Wilfred A. Wadham.)

Private Henry Thomas Jarvis was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. The Medals were awarded to his listed next-of-kin – his mother – Mrs F. Jarvis.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private H. T. Jarvis – service number 1783, of 11th Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private H. T. Jarvis is not commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia. However, his brother Private A. H. Jarvis, is commemorated on the Roll of Honour – Panel 62. To be eligible for the Roll of Honour an individual had to have died during service as a member of a military unit.



*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

(31 pages of Private Henry Thomas Jarvis' 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*



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

#### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

#### **111th And 112th CASUALTY LISTS**

#### **ILL OR WOUNDED**

11<sup>th</sup> Battalion – H. T. Jarvis, 4<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements (Collie), embarked for England, previously reported ill.

*(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 18 November, 1915)*



## AUSTRALIANS IN ACTION

### W.A. ROLL OF HONOUR

#### THREE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LIST

##### PRISONERS OF WAR

Previously Reported Missing

.....

Henry Thomas Jarvis, England

(*Kalgoorlie Miner*, Western Australia – 14 August, 1917)

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##### PRISONERS OF WAR

##### ARRIVAL IN ENGLAND

.....

Henry Thomas Jarvis, England

(*Kalgoorlie Miner*, Western Australia – 6 January, 1919)

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#### [Connected to Henry Thomas Jarvis:](#)

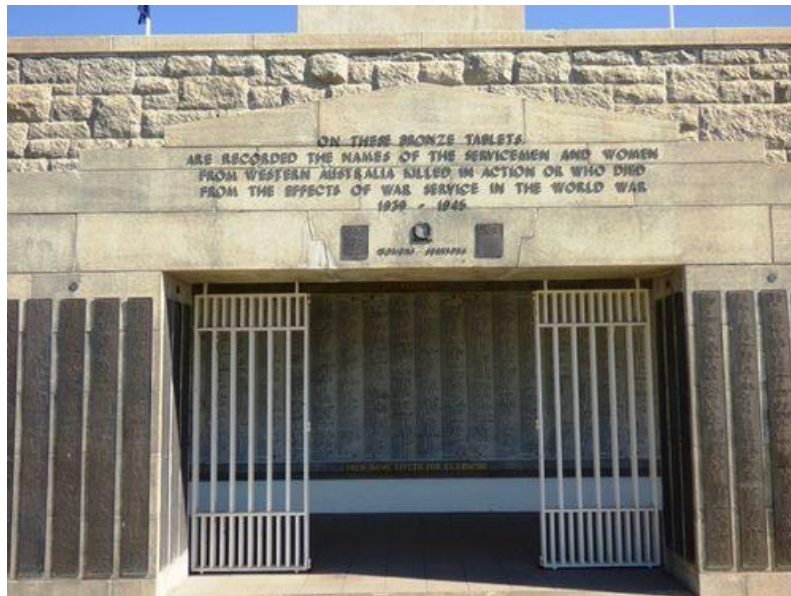
Older brother – Alfred Henry Jarvis, Labourer, aged 32, enlisted on 6th January, 1915. He was given a service number of 1568 & embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Itonus (A50)* on 22nd February, 1915 with the 11th Infantry Battalion, 3rd Reinforcements. Private Alfred Henry Jarvis, of Claremont, Perth, Western Australia died of wounds on 6th August, 1915 at Gallipoli, Dardanelles, Turkey. He is remembered on the Lone Pine Memorial - Panel 34, Gallipoli, Turkey.

A. H. Jarvis 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**



**& The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names**

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

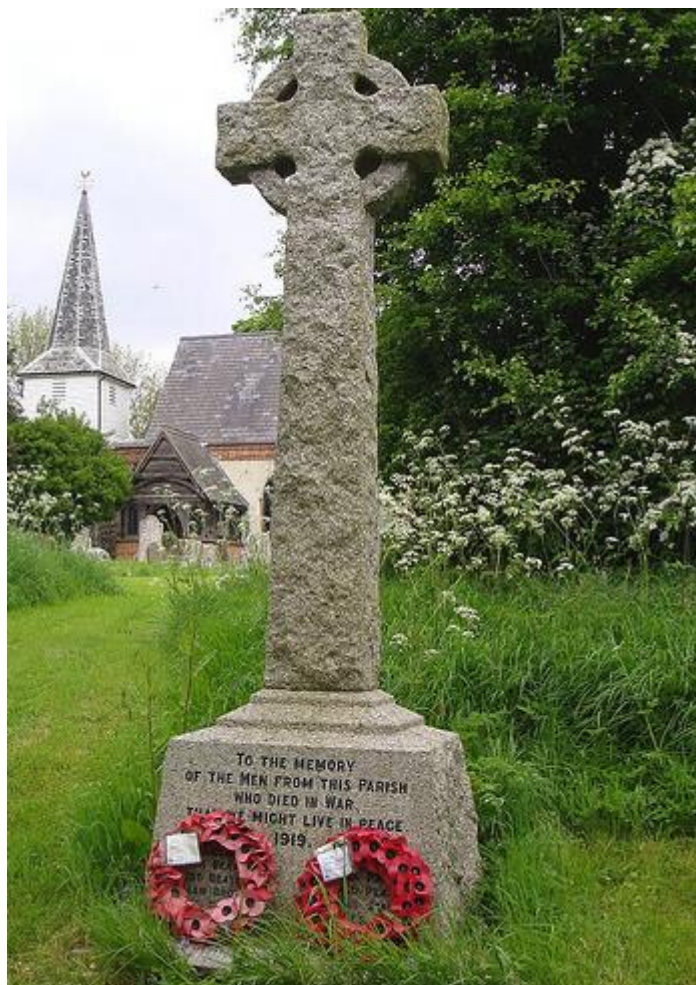


**Panel showing 11th Battalion**

\*\*Note: H. T. Jarvis is not included on the Western Australia State War Memorial. The dates for inclusion were from 4th August, 1914 until 28th June, 1919.



Alfred Jarvis is also remembered on the West Hanningfield War Memorial located in the grounds of the parish Church. His brother, Henry Thomas Jarvis, is not included on this Memorial.



West Hanningfield War Memorial





### 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 H. T. Jarvis does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

### **St. Mary & St. Edward's Churchyard, West Hanningfield, Essex, England**

St. Mary & St. Edward's Churchyard, West Hanningfield contains 3 Commonwealth War Graves – 2 relating to World War 1 & 1 from World War 2.



St. Mary & St. Edward's Church, West Hanningfield *(Photo by buttersnap – Find a Grave)*

Photo of Private H. T. Jarvis' Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Mary & St. Edward's Churchyard, West Hanningfield, Essex, England.



*(Photos courtesy of Geoffrey Gillon)*



