

# Gloucester Old Cemetery, Gloucestershire, England

## War Graves



*Lest We Forget*

### World War 1



**3845 PRIVATE**

**H. E. JENNER**

**21ST BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**22ND MARCH, 1917 Age 24**

*A Valiant Soldier*

*A Dutiful Son*

*A Humble Christian*

## Harold (Harry) Everett JENNER

Harold Everett Jenner was born at Mildura, Victoria in 1892 to parents Thomas Budgen Jenner & Alice Jenner (nee Neille). His name is recorded on the Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages as Harold Everitt Jenner.

Harold Everett Jenner attended State School at Mildura, Victoria.

Thomas Budgen Jenner, father of Harold Everett Jenner, died on 7th June, 1902 in Mildura, Victoria.

The 1914, 1916 & 1917 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Wimmera, subdivision of Mildura, Victoria recorded Harold Everett Jenner, Horticulturalist, of Merbein.

Harold Everett Jenner was a 23 year old, single, Horticulturalist from Nichol's Point, Mildura, Victoria when he enlisted on 22nd July, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 3845 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs A. Jenner, of Nichol's Point, Mildura, Victoria. Harold Jenner stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served 6 months with Voluntary Cadets.

Private Harold Everett Jenner was posted to "O" Company on 22nd July, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to "D" Company, 11th Battalion on 20th August, 1915 then transferred to "C" Company, 10th Battalion on 4th November, 1915. Pte Jenner was transferred to 12th Battalion on 6th December, 1915 then transferred to 9th Reinforcements of 21st Battalion on 16th December, 1915.

Private Harold Everett Jenner embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Warilda* (A69) on 8th February, 1916 with the 6th Infantry Brigade, 21st Infantry Battalion, 9th Reinforcements.

Private Harold Everett Jenner embarked for overseas on H.T. *Oriana* from Alexandria on 21st March, 1916 & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 27th March, 1916.

Private Harold Everett Jenner was to be E.D.P (Extra Duty Pay) Corporal (temporary) from 26th June, 1916. His rank reverted to Private on 1st August, 1916.

Private Harold Everett Jenner joined 21st Battalion in France on 4th August, 1916.

Private Harold Everett Jenner was wounded in action in France on 26th August, 1916. He was admitted to 4th Australian Field Ambulance on 26th August, 1916 with gunshot wounds to back, leg & buttock. Private Jenner was transferred to 5th General Hospital at Rouen, France & was reported as dangerously ill on 9th October, 1916. He embarked for England on Hospital Ship *St. George* from Rouen on 6th December, 1916 with gunshot wounds to back, leg & buttock.

### War Diary – 21st Battalion

26th August, 1916 – QUARRY

*1 am – "D" Company moved from SAUSAGE VALLEY to QUARRY and "A" Company from TOM'S CUT to QUARRY.*

*4.45 am – Enemy position 54,77,27 attacked with "A" & "B" Companies plus 2 Platoons "C" and "D" together with carrying parties left flank being protected by one Company 90 strong 22nd Battalion.*

*Attack was successful at point 77. Points 27 and 54 however proved to be very strong in men and machine guns. Reinforcements despatched to both these points and fresh efforts made to carry them by bombing but without success. Some of the Company operating on right flank appeared to go beyond their objective and in falling back suffered heavily. A further attempt on point 54 was made at 12.15 pm after heavy artillery had operated, Owing to artillery not successfully finding the range this attempt was again frustrated by enemy machine gun fire. An enemy trench mortar was captured & destroyed.*

*O. relief of this Unit during night 26/27 position at point 77 and to the Eastward handed over to 14th Battalion.*

*Casualties during period 22nd/26th August*

<u>Officers</u>	<i>Killed</i>	<i>Wounded</i>	<i>Missing (Note – Officers' names were listed)</i>
	3	7	3
<u>Other Ranks</u>	34	213	131

(War Diary information from the Australian War Memorial)

Mrs Jenner, mother of Private Harold Everett Jenner, was advised on 11th September, 1916 that her son was "dangerously ill with gunshot wound". She was advised on 31st October, 1916 that Private Jenner's condition was stationary & advised on 18th November, 1916 that his condition was improving.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Harold Everett Jenner contains a letter from the Hospital at Rouen, dated 29th November, 1916, stating that Private Jenner was "*suffering from a multiple of wounds, which are now healing rapidly, but he is not yet off the dangerous list.*"

Private Harold Everett Jenner was admitted to V.A.D. Hospital, Exeter, England on 7th December, 1916 with gunshot wounds to face & pelvis (severe). He was transferred to Red Cross Hospital, Gloucester on 12th January, 1917. The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Harold Everett Jenner contains a letter, dated 18th January, 1917, stating "*Serious case but by no means hopeless. frac. pelvis and sound in lower part of back. Has just had operation today for the removal of dead bone and stood it well. He is now sleeping quietly. Certainly some improvement – Very best care and attention & under clever surgeon.*"

A Medical Report was completed on Private Harold Everett Jenner on 27th January, 1917 at Red Cross Hospital, Gloucester regarding his disability – "G.S.W. Pelvis" which had occurred on 26th August, 1916 received in action in France. He had received an operation where the \_\_ bone had been removed. The Medical Board recorded that Private Jenner was totally incapacitated & should be discharged as permanently unfit for Service.

Mrs Jenner, mother of Private Harold Everett Jenner, was advised on 17th March, 1917 that her son was dangerously ill.

Private Harold Everett Jenner died on 22nd March, 1917 at Voluntary Aid Hospital, Cheltenham, England (Auxiliary to 2nd Southern General Hospital, Bristol) from wounds received in action in France – face & pelvis.

A death for Harold Jenner, aged 23, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Gloucester, Gloucestershire, England.

Private Harold Everett Jenner was buried on 26th March, 1917 in Gloucester Old Cemetery, Gloucestershire, England – Plot number 2447 and has a Private Headstone. His death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

From the burial report of Private Harold Everett Jenner - *Coffin was polished Pitch Pine, with black fittings. During his illness the Commandant & Sister in Charge frequently wrote to his Mother at Mildura. Some great friends of the family Mr & Mrs De Garis have been wintering at Old Government House Hotel, Guernsey and I kept them fully in touch with everything concerning Jenner, by weekly letters or wire. About 2 weeks before his death they came to Gloucester to see him and spent 3 days here. AM writing full details to his Mother and sending Photo of his Grave. (Sgd) A. H. Yonge, Assistant County Director for County Gloucester, V.A.*

Newspaper article – *Gloucester Journal*, Gloucestershire, England – 31 March, 1917:

### **Australian Soldier's Funeral**

#### **BISHOP FRODSHAM'S TRIBUTE**

*The funeral of the late Pte Harold Jenner, of the Australian Imperial Forces, who died at the Great Western-road Red Cross Hospital as the result of gunshot wounds sustained while on active service, took place with semi-military honours at the Gloucester Cemetery on Monday afternoon. The coffin, which was draped with the Union Jack, was carried into the Northgate Wesleyan Church by orderlies of the Hospital. The Rev. John Gawthrop (Superintendent Minister of the Gloucester Wesleyan Circuit) officiated, and was assisted by the Rev. H. Paynter Boase (Ryecroft Wesleyan Church) and the Rev. A. J. Burgoyne (Brunswick-road Baptist Church).*

*The Rev. J. Gawthrop, in the course of a short address, said great empires had arisen and gone to dust in the past. viz. those of Babylon, the Meads and Persians, the Grecians, and the Romans. The Germans thought the time had come for our country to go to bits, and that our colonies would break from us. But the colonies could see the difference between the German mailed fist and the Mother Country's rule of love and justice. The sons of our colonies had come from the other side of the world to fight. Here was the remains of one from Australia who had laid down his life for the Empire, He came into hospital on December 7th, severely wounded, and his condition from the first was grave. He was a Methodist. There were about 200,000 ranged under the colours and 173 chaplains. Methodism had done her best in this great war. An Australian soldier who was his neighbour and his great friend in Australia came down from London to attend the funeral, and told him (the speaker) that the family were very religious people, His mother, brother, and sister were living. One brother while working on a farm had been killed. This would add another grief to the mother and family. While in hospital he was very noble-minded, and had never been heard to murmur whatever the painful dressings to his wounds might have been, His end was absolutely peaceful.*

*Amongst those present in the church were Bishop Frodsham (who was chaplain of the Queensland Defence Force during the South African War), Mrs Frodsham (who is the official visitor in Gloucester in connection with the Australian Red Cross Association), Mrs Lee Williams (commandant), Sister Norriss, as well as a large contingent of nurses and wounded Tommies. The hymns sung were "Jesu, Lover of my Soul: and "Safe Home, Safe Home, in Port." After the service the procession proceeded to the Cemetery, headed by a firing party selected from the Stroud Volunteers, under the command of Capt. Philip Ford. After the committal rites at the graveside had been recited the usual volleys were fired and "Last Post" sounded by Messrs Nelmes and Niblett, buglers of the Gloucester Volunteer Corps. Beautiful floral tributes were sent by: His mother, sister and brother; Mr and Mrs de Garis (Guernsey); Mr F. de Garis and staff; sisters, nurses and patients of the Tuffley Ward of the Red Cross Hospital, and the Commandant. An example of the growing good feeling and co-operation between the various religious denominations which has been brought about by the war was afforded at the graveside, when at the conclusion of the funeral service, the Rev. John Gawthrop asked Bishop Frodsham to address the assembled Australians.*

*In responding to the request, Bishop Fordsham said that a foundation-stone of the Empire had been laid at Gloucester that day. The Prime Minister spoke for all England when he cabled to Mr Hughes the regret that was felt at this side that Australia was not officially represented at the Imperial War Conference, but not one solitary Englishman doubted the whole-hearted loyalty of Australia. Pte Jenner was a witness of this. He had died not for Australia alone, nor for England alone, but for the whole Empire. He was one of the true Empire builders who had hated war personally, but none the less had given his life, and more than his life, in order that an Empire should be built upon foundations of righteousness, justice and peace. In his Victorian home his parents were now in sorrow. It would console them to know that in the Red Cross Hospital their son had been tended by kind, sisterly hands, and that he had been laid in his grave by those who counted him as a brother and a fellow-citizen, not only of the British Empire, but of the larger Kingdom of God.*

*Messrs G. Harris and Son, Worcester-street, carried out the funeral arrangements.*

Australian Imperial Force, Administrative Headquarters, London wrote to Base Records, Melbourne, on 9th July, 1918 regarding the late 3845 Private Jenner, H.E. 21st Bn., A.I.F. "You are advised that the remains of the above-named late soldier of the A.I.F. were on 2nd July, exhumed from grave No. 2447 in Gloucester Cemetery to grave No. 2814 Section N.G. Gloucester Cemetery.

*The work was undertaken at the request of Mr E. C. De Garis, Old Government House Hotel, Guernsey, who is acting for relatives in Australia.*

*Through a mistake on the part of the Undertaker who arranged for the grave, Private Jenner was buried in a grave where an infant had been interred some 43 years ago. The mistake was not the fault of the Hospital who had been instructed by these Headquarters to arrange for a separate single in virgin soil, Undertaker alone being responsible.*

*It is Mr De Garis' intention to place a Headstone and Kerbing round the grave on behalf of the next-of-kin of the deceased soldier, and permission has been extended for this."*

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Harold Everett Jenner contains a request from the Red Cross on behalf of the relatives concerning his last hours and burial. A letter written by A. G. Lee-Williams, Commandant, Red Cross Hospital, Gloucester reads: *"In answer to your enquiries about Pte Jenner, who died 23.3.17. I am glad to tell you that I kept his mother fully informed about him nearly every week from the time of his admission – on 7.12.16 and I also sent her a photo of his grave and newspapers giving account of the funeral. A great friend of the family W. de Garris was wintering in Guernsey – and I also kept him fully in touch with dear Harry's condition. He and his wife spent a week-end in Glos. about a month before Harry died and were with him most of the time. Two or three intimate friends have also written to me – and I have sent them every detail I could think of – also photos. We all loved the dear Laddie so much – his patience and pluck were marvellous. Everything possible was done for him- but from the first his condition was considered most grave."*

Base Records contacted Mrs Jenner, mother of the late Private Harold Everett Jenner, in November, 1921 asking if there were any nearer blood relatives than herself & specifically if his father was still alive due to the "Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918" which stated that the War Medals & Mementoes of a deceased soldier were to be handed in the following order of relationship – Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister etc. Mrs Jenner advised that her husband was deceased.

Private Harold Everett Jenner was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Jenner's mother - Mrs A. Jenner, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent February, 1922 & Plaque sent May, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Harold Everett Jenner – service number 3845, of 21st Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Alice Jenner of Mildura, Victoria, and the late Thomas Budgen Jenner.

Private H. E. Jenner is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 94.



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

H. E. Jenner is remembered on the Carnegie Library Honor Roll for the Great War, located outside Carnegie Library, 74 Deakin Avenue, Mildura, Victoria.



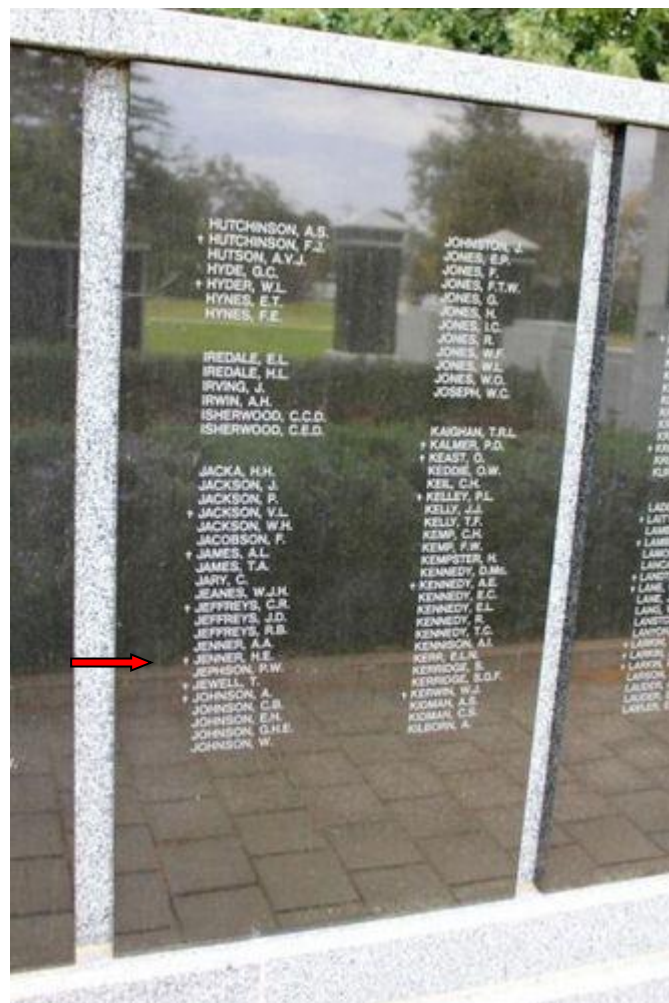
**Carnegie Library Honor Roll** (Photos from Monument Australia – Arthur Garland/ Sandra Brown)



H. E. Jenner is remembered on the Mildura Cenotaph, Henderson Park, Deakin Avenue, Mildura, Victoria.



**Mildura Cenotaph** (Photos from Monument Australia –Roger Johnson)



(61 pages of Private Harold Everett Jenner'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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



### All Australia Memorial Book – Victoria



### Newspaper Notices

#### **LOCAL NEWS**

Since the Shire President began to enrol recruits on the 1st September, 582 have presented themselves at the Shire office. Looking over the lists we find that there are some names which we have not previously noted. These are: .... Harold Everett Jenner.....

(*The Mildura Cultivator*, Victoria – 28 July, 1915)



## **241st CASUALTY LIST**

### **PROGRESS REPORT**

In the progress report it is stated that Private H. E. Jenner's condition is stationary, but that Private P. R. Jones, of Temy, is progressing favourably.

*(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – 11 November, 1916)*

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## **The 264th CASUALTY LIST**

### **WOUNDED**

Private H. E. Jenner, Mildura (Prev. reported wounded and dangerously ill)

*(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – 17 January, 1917)*

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### **DEATH**

#### **(On Active Service)**

JENNER – ON the 22nd March, at Gloucester Hospital, England, as the result of wounds received in France, Corporal Harold (Harry) Everett, beloved fourth son of Mrs T. B. Jenner and dear brother of Rose, Bert, Percy and Frank. Aged 23 years.

Entered into Rest

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### **THANKS**

Mrs Jenner and family appreciate very sincerely the cards, letters and messages received from sympathetic friends in the time of their sorrow.

*(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – 31 March, 1917)*

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## **285th CASUALTY LIST**

### **DIED OF WOUNDS**

Private H. E. Jenner, Mildura

*(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – 11 April, 1917)*

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THE UNVEILING of the Private HAROLD JENNER MEMORIAL will take place To-night at 8 o'clock at the Boys' Home, corner Latrobe and Exhibition streets. The ceremony will be performed by Mr James Menzies, M.L.A. Tickets may be had on application to the Home. W. Minton, hon. sec.

*(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 30 August, 1917)*

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An impressive ceremony took place last Thursday at the Melbourne Ragged Boys' Home, Latrobe-street, when the cot endowed to the memory of Private Jenner by his brother, Mr Jenner, of Merbein, was unveiled by Mr Jas. Menzies, M.L.A. There was a large number of friends present, including Mr Woodhead (president) and Mrs Woodhead, Mrs and Miss Menzies, the Rev. Mr Donaldson, Miss Mabel Mattingley, who has proved a staple worker for the home, and Mr Roy Anderson.

*(Table Talk, Melbourne, Victoria – 6 September, 1917)*

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **(On Active Service)**

JENNER – In loving memory of our beloved son and brother, Private Harold (Harry) Jenner, who died from wounds received in France, 22nd March, 1917.

*(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – 23 March, 1918)*

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

JENNER – In loving memory of our beloved son and brother, Private H. E. Jenner, died of wounds on 22nd March, 1917, at Gloucester, England.

“Though lost to sight, to memory dear.”

-Inserted by his loving mother, sister and brothers.

*(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – 22 March, 1919)*

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## **Gloucester Old Cemetery, Gloucestershire, England**

During the two world wars, the United Kingdom became an island fortress used for training troops and launching land, sea and air operations around the globe. There are more than 170,000 Commonwealth war graves in the United Kingdom, many being those of servicemen and women killed on active service, or who later succumbed to wounds. Others died in training accidents, or because of sickness or disease. The graves, many of them privately owned and marked by private memorials, will be found in more than 12,000 cemeteries and churchyards.

Gloucester Old Cemetery, which is in two distinct parts, contains burials of both wars. All but a few of the 158 First World War graves are in the original ground, 81 of them in a war graves plot. Of the 94 Second World War burials, 60 form a separate war graves plot known as 'B' ground. There are also 10 non World War service burials and 7 Foreign National burials here.

There are 4 Australian War Graves in this Cemetery – three from World War 1 & one from World War 2.

*(Information & photos from CWGC)*



**Gloucester Old Cemetery**



Photo of Private H. E. Jenner's Private Headstone in Gloucester Old Cemetery, Gloucestershire, England.



(Photo from Find a Grave – Jacqui)



*(Photo from Find a Grave – JohnM)*

Photo of Private H. E. Jenner's original wooden cross marking his grave in Gloucester Old Cemetery, Gloucestershire, England.



*(Photo kindly supplied by Sally McLean)*

The gentleman on the left is Sally's grandfather – Private Richard Baker Manning, 720, 43rd Infantry Battalion, A.I.F., who was wounded in action in September, 1918 in France, 18 months after Pte Harold Jenner died.

There does not appear to be any connection between Pte Manning & Pte Jenner, so the connection may be with the mystery man on the right of the photo.

Comparison table for Jenner & Manning:

	<b>JENNER</b>	<b>MANNING</b>
<b>Area</b>	Mildura, Victoria	St Peters, South AUstralia
<b>ENLISTED</b>	22 July, 1915	15 Feb 1916
<b>Embarked</b>	From Melbourne on HMAT Warilda (A69) 8 Feb 1916	From Adelaide on HMAT Afric (A19) on 9 June, 1916
<b>Battalion</b>	11th Battalion A.I.F. then 21st Battalion	43rd Battalion
<b>Wounded</b>	26th August, 1916 in France	7 September, 1918 in France
<b>Admitted to Hospital in England</b>	V.A.D. Hospital, Exeter, England on 7th December, 1916	VAD affiliated to 2nd Southern General Hospital Bristol  (Bristol is 41 miles from Old Cemetery Gloucestershire)
<b>Died</b>	22nd March, 1917 at Voluntary Aid Hospital, Cheltenham, England	
<b>Buried</b>	Gloucester Old Cemetery, Gloucestershire  26 March, 1917	