

**Tidworth Military Cemetery,
Tidworth, Wiltshire
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



3062 PRIVATE

E. T. KENNEDY

3RD AUSTRALIAN PIONEERS

7TH AUGUST, 1917

*Whose Distant Footsteps Echo
Through The Corridors
Of Time*

Even Thomas KENNEDY

Even Thomas Kennedy was born at Inverell, New South Wales to parents Even and Elizabeth Kennedy (nee Sweeney). His birth was registered in 1895.

Even Thomas Kennedy attended school at Greenbushes, Western Australia.

Even Thomas Kennedy was a 21 year old, single, Fireman from Gondonge, Osborne, Western Australia when he enlisted in Perth, Western Australia on 30th May, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 3062 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr Even Kennedy, Westonia, Western Australia. Even Kennedy stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served for 1 ½ years with 86th Infantry & was still serving.

Private Even Thomas Kennedy was posted to 70 Depot Battalion on 30th May, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 17th Reinforcements of 28th Battalion on 21st June, 1916.

Private Even Thomas Kennedy was admitted to Hospital on 24th August, 1916 with Measles then transferred to No. 8 Australian General Hospital on 4th September, 1916 "Con Measles". He returned to duty on 24th November, 1916. (The Hospital Admissions form recorded that Private Kennedy was admitted to Belmont on 24th August, 1916 with Measles & discharged the same day. He was admitted to No. 8 Australian General Hospital on 4th September, 1916 with "Con Measles" & discharged on 6th September, 1916. He was re-admitted to No. 8 Australian General Hospital from 11th September to 26th September, 1916 then transferred to Details Camp from 26th September, 1916 to 23rd November, 1916.)

Private Even Thomas Kennedy was posted to 19th Reinforcements of 28th Battalion on 27th November, 1916. He was transferred to 6th Reinforcements of 3rd Pioneers on 2nd December, 1916.

Private Even Thomas Kennedy embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Persic (A34)* on 29th December, 1916 with the 3rd Pioneer Battalion, 6th Reinforcements & disembarked at Devonport, England on 3rd March, 1917.

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 county of Wiltshire.

Private Even Thomas Kennedy was marched in to Pioneer Training Battalion at Larkhill, Wiltshire from Australia on 5th March, 1917.

3rd Pioneer Battalion

The 3rd Pioneer Battalion was an Australian infantry and light engineer unit raised for service during the First World War as part of the all volunteer Australian Imperial Force (AIF). Formed in Victoria in March 1916, the battalion subsequently undertook further training in the United Kingdom before arriving in France in late 1916. It later served on the Western Front in France and Belgium until the end of the war.

The 3rd Pioneers were raised in Victoria, in March 1916, from volunteers drawn from Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Western Australia and was subsequently assigned to the 3rd Division.

Trained as infantrymen, the pioneers were tasked with light combat engineer functions in the field, with a large number of personnel possessing trades from civilian life. The concept had existed within the British Indian Army before the war, but was adopted by the Australian Army in early 1916 to meet a need for troops with construction and engineering skills to assist with digging trenches, labouring, constructing strong points and undertaking battlefield clearance. As such, they were designated as pioneer units. At the same time, they could be pressed into the line to fight alongside regular infantry where required.

A total of five pioneer battalions were raised by the AIF during the war, with one being assigned to each of the five infantry divisions that the Australians deployed to the battlefield in France and Belgium. The battalions consisted of four companies, under a headquarters company. To identify the 3rd Pioneer Battalion's personnel, they were issued with a purple and white Unit Colour Patch. The colours were in common with other Australian pioneer battalions, while the horizontal oval shape denoted that the unit was part of the 3rd Division.

The battalion's first commanding officer was Lieutenant Colonel Robert Law, and upon establishment it was decided that the unit would be an "all States" unit, meaning that personnel would not just be drawn exclusively from one particular state, but would instead draw recruits from all around Australia. The headquarters and 'A' Company were recruited from Victoria, and was established at Ascot Vale, before moving to Campbellfield in March, while 'B' Company was composed of New South Welshmen, 'C' Company came from Queensland and 'D' Company was a composite sub-unit drawn from South Australia and Western Australia. After the sub-units had formed in their home locations – Liverpool, Bathurst, Brisbane, Blackboy Hill, and Adelaide – the battalion began concentrating at Campbellfield in April 1916.

Detailed training began at Campbellfield shortly after concentration and in May the battalion marched through the streets of Melbourne, before being presented with its unit colour. They were subsequently laid up at St Paul's Cathedral in Melbourne prior to embarkation. They departed Australia on the transport Wandilla on 6 June 1916, and endured a seven-week voyage to the United Kingdom, sailing via Cape Town. After arriving in the United Kingdom, the battalion subsequently concentrated with the rest of the 3rd Division around Larkhill on Salisbury Plain, in Wiltshire. Between July and November 1916, the 3rd Pioneers carried out intensive training to prepare them for their arrival on the Western Front. Finally, on 25 November the battalion entrained at Amesbury bound for Southampton from where they were ferried across the English Channel to Le Havre.

(Pioneer Battalion information from Wikipedia)

Private Even Thomas Kennedy was admitted to Parkhouse Military Hospital on 21st April, 1917 with Mumps. He was discharged on 9th May, 1917.

Private Even Thomas Kennedy was admitted to Brigade Hospital at Perham Downs on 4th July, 1917 with Bronchitis then transferred to Tidworth Military Hospital on 6th July, 1917 with Tubercle of Lung.

Mr Even Kennedy, Westonia, Western Australia, father of the Private Even Thomas Kennedy, was advised by Base Records on 24th July, 1917 that Private Kennedy had been admitted to Military Hospital at Tidworth, England on 6th July with Bronchitis severe.

Mr Even Kennedy, Westonia, Western Australia, father of the Private Even Thomas Kennedy, was advised by Base Records on 7th August, 1917 that Private Kennedy had been admitted to Tidworth Military Hospital on 29th July with Lung trouble & was dangerously ill.

Private Even Thomas Kennedy died at 5.20 pm on 7th August, 1917 at Military Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire, England from Tubercle of Lung. (Statement of Service form recorded cause of death as Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

A death for Even T. Kennedy, aged 22, was registered in the September quarter, 1917 in the district of Andover, Hampshire, England.

Private Even Thomas Kennedy was buried on 10th August, 1917 in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Plot number C.313 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Even Thomas Kennedy contains a letter from the Matron, Military Hospital, Tidworth which reads: "*In reply to your letter of the 26th re illness and death of Pte E. T. Kennedy. He was admitted to this Hospital on 6.7.17 suffering from Bronchitis. On 17.7.17 his diagnosis was changed to Tubercle of Lung. Everything possible was done for him but he did not improve at all gradually grew worse and died on 7.8.17 to our great regret. He is buried in Tidworth Military Cemetery Grave Bo 313 Plot C. the funeral took place on 10.8.17. The Sister-in-Charge of the ward has written to his relatives.*"

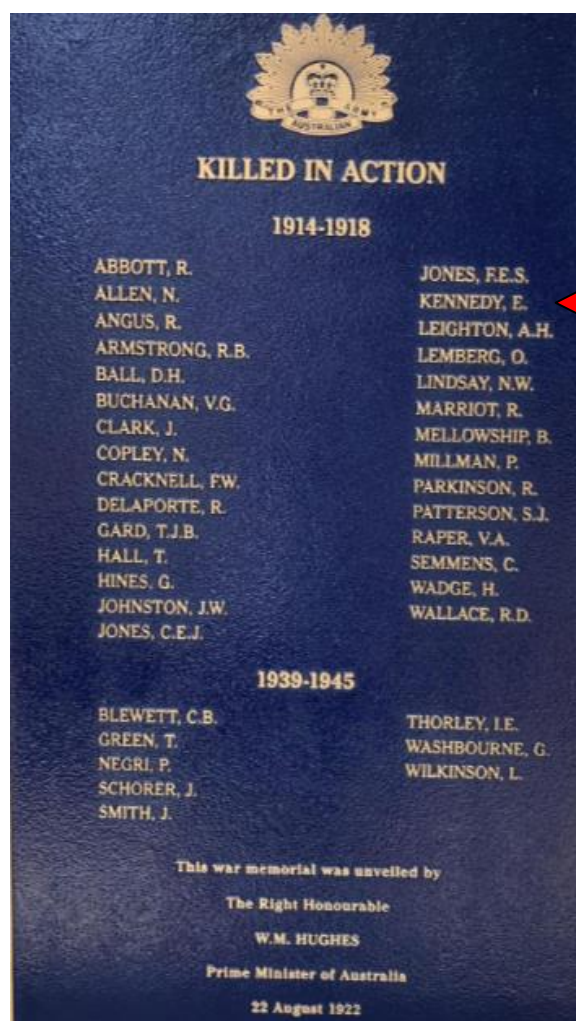
Private Even Thomas Kennedy requested in his Will, dated 11th January, 1917, that in the event of his death he appointed his mother – Mrs Elizabeth Kennedy, of 74 Robinson Avenue, Perth, Western Australia, as executor of his Will & bequeathed her all his money and personal effects.

Mr Even Kennedy, c/- Mr A. L. Kemp. Raymond Street, Collie, Western Australia, father of the late Private Even Thomas Kennedy, wrote to Base Records in November, 1923 making an application for the Victory Medal an account of the service of his late son. Base Records replied stating that the Victory Medal was not issuable as his son "did not serve on the establishment of a unit in a theatre of war."

Private Even Thomas Kennedy was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Kennedy's father – Mr E. Kennedy, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent June, 1922 & Plaque sent September, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Even Thomas Kennedy – service number 3062, of 3rd Australian Pioneers. He was the son of Even and Elizabeth Kennedy, of 74 Robinson Avenue, North Perth.

E. Kennedy is remembered on the Greenbushes War Memorial, located in Thompson Park, Blackwood Road, Greenbushes, Western Australia.



Greenbushes War Memorial

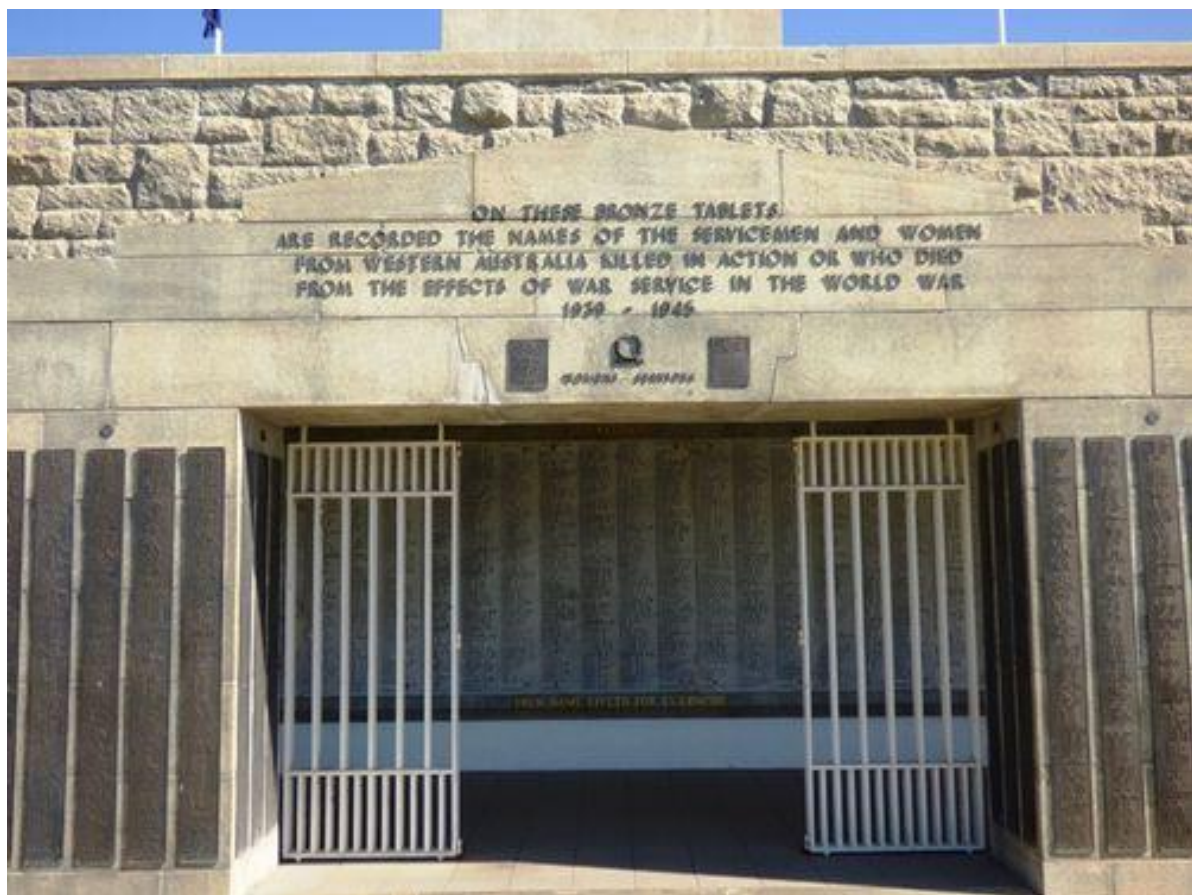
(Photo from AWM – Places of Pride – Pat Scallan (left) & James Wills (right))

E. T. Kennedy 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.



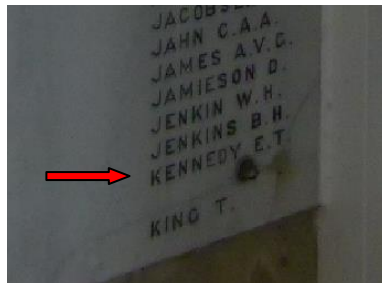
Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park



The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names *(Photos from Monument Australia)*



Corps of Engineers Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)



Private E. T. Kennedy is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 173.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(65 pages of Private Even Thomas Kennedy'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



Private Even Thomas Kennedy

Newspaper Notices

DEATHS

KENNEDY – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Even T. Kennedy, who died on August 7, 1917 at Tidworth Military Hospital, England, after a long illness; aged 22 years and 6 months.

Gone from those who loved him best.

In a hero's grave he lies at rest.

-Inserted by his loving father and mother, brother and sister, Barney, Connie, and sincere friend Vera Bloomer. New South Wales papers please copy.

(Western Mail, Perth, Western Australia – 31 August, 1917)

BEREAVEMENT NOTICES

Mr and Mrs Even T. Kennedy, of 74 Robinson-avenue, Perth desire to THANK all kind friends for letters and cards and personal expressions of sympathy in their recent bereavement through the loss of their son, Private Even T. Kennedy. New South Wales papers please copy.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 6 September, 1917)

AUSTRALIANS IN ACTION

W.A. ROLL OF HONOUR

List 336

DIED OF ILLNESS

Evan Thomas Kenned, Westonia, previously reported died.

(*Western Argus*, Kalgoorlie, Western Australia – 18 September, 1917)

In Memoriam

Anzac Heroes

KENNEDY.—In loving memory of our dear son, Private E. T. Kennedy (Even), died of illness, Tidworth Military Hospital August 7, 1917.

When you bade us good-bye

 On that bright December morn,

Our hearts were filled with pain,

 And you whispered Don't worry, mum,

I'm coming back again.

And we hoped and prayed that God would

 guard and shield you.

But we said through tears, God's will, not ours,

When the sad news came that day.

—Inserted by his sorrowing mother and father, Even and Lizzie Kennedy, Perth.

KENNEDY.—In memory of Private Even Thomas Kennedy, who died in Tidworth Hospital, England, on August 7, 1917, at the age of 22 years.

We'll meet again, dear Even,

 Where partings are no more;

We'll clasp your hand in a better land

 And we shall part no more.

—Inserted by his loving brother, Bernard, auntie and uncle, Rose and Rupert Scott, Col- lie.

KENNEDY.—In memory of my dear brother, Private E. T. Kennedy (Even).

 As the ivy clings to the oak

 So my memory, dear brother, clings to thee.

—Inserted by his loving sister and brother, Barney and Connie.

KENNEDY.—In loving memory of my dear friend, Private E. T. Kennedy (Even).

 You are often in my thoughts, dear Even,

 When we are speaking of the past;

 And I love to sit and picture you

 Just as I saw you last.

—Inserted by his sincere friend Vera.

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 7 August, 1918)

In Memoriam

Anzac Heroes

KENNEDY.—In loving memory of Private Evan T. Kennedy, who died after a long illness at Tidworth Military Hospital, England, August 7, 1917.

Ever remembered by his old friends E. and S. Bickley (returned).

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 8 August, 1918)

In Memoriam

KENNEDY – In sad but loving memory of my nephew, Evan, Private T. E. Kennedy, who died in Tidworth Military Hospital, England, August 7, 1917. Also my darling little daughter (Non.) Constance Mary Kemp, who died in Children's Hospital, Perth, August 19, 1915, Age three years and tern months.

The hours I've spent with thee dear heart,
are as a string of pearls to me,
The midnight stars are gleaming on a grave
far o'er the sea.

Where sleeping without dreaming lies the
one so dear to me.

Inserted by his loving aunt E. Kemp.

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(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 17 August, 1918) & (*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 20 August, 1918)

In Memoriam

Anzac Heroes

KENNEDY – A tribute to the memory of my dear son, Private E. T. Kennedy, died at Tidworth Military Hospital, England, on August 7, 1917; aged 22 years 6 months.

I think I see you smile, dear Eve,
Through the mist of falling tears,
But a mother's part is a broken heart,
And a burden of lonely years.
There is one more blow we have still to bear,
When the boys come home, and you're not there.
Could we have raised your dying head,
Or heard your last farewell
Two sad and lonely years now have gone by
Since our great sorrow fell.

Inserted by his loving mother, father, sister Connie and brother Barney, Perth.

KENNEDY – In loving memory of our dear nephew, Private E. T. Kennedy, who died in Tidworth Military Hospital, England, on August 7, 1917.

And after, where the great Round Table stands,
 We'll greet you at the ending of the story,
Because you held, unsullied, in your hands
 The sword of glory.

Inserted by his loving auntie and uncle, Emily and Aubrey Kemp, Perth.

KENNEDY – In loving memory of my dear friend, Private E. T. Kennedy, who died at Tidworth Military Hospital, England, on August 7, 1917.

Death cannot long divide,
For is it not as though the rose
That climbed the garden wall
Had blossomed on the other side.
Death doth hide, but not divide,
They are but on Christ's other side.

Inserted by his loving friend, Mrs T. Harnett, Northam

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 7 August, 1919)

In Memoriam

Anzac Heroes

KENNEDY – In everlasting remembrance of my loving brother and our dear nephew, Private Even Kennedy (Ken), 3rd Pioneers Battalion, who died of illness at Tidworth Military Hospital, England, August 7, 1917.

Even, dear, how much we miss you
 No one on earth can tell,
And how many times we've wished you
 We now back with us safe and well.

Inserted by his fond brother Barney, and uncle and aunt, R. and R. Scott, Collie.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 8 August, 1919)

In Memoriam

Anzac Heroes

KENNEDY.-In sad and ever loving memory of our dearly loved son. Private Even Thomas Kennedy. 3rd Pioneers Battalion, died at Tidworth Military Hospital, England, on August 7, 1917. Aged 22 years.

To-day. as we look at your photo.,
 Its likeness so fond and true.
Do you know how our hearts are aching
 And longing, dear son. for you.
Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand
 And the sound of a voice that is still.

Inserted by his sorrowing father, mother, sister and brother Barney and Connie.

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KENNEDY.--In loving memory of our dear nephew. Private E. L. Kennedy, (Ken.) 6th Reinforcements, 3rd Pioneer Battalion, who died August 7, 1917, at military hospital, England.

Could we have raised his dying head,
Or heard his last farewell,
The shock would not have been so hard.
To those who loved him well.

Inserted by his fond and sorrowing aunt and uncle, R. and R. Scott, Collie.

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 7 August, 1920)

In Memoriam

Anzac Heroes

KENNEDY – In loving memory of Private Even T. Kennedy 3rd Pioneers Battalion, who died at Tidworth Military Hospital, England, on August 7, 1916.

We never knew the pain he bore,
We never saw him died.
We only knew he closed his eyes,
And never said good-bye.

Inserted by his loving friend, Mrs S. Harnett, Northam.

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 11 August, 1920)

**Notices were also placed in 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926

In Memoriam

Anzac Heroes

KENNEDY. — In sad and loving memory of our dearly loved son, Private Evan Thomas Kennedy, 3rd Pioneers Battalion, died at Tidworth Military Hospital, England, on August 7, 1917; aged 32 years.

Dearer to memory than words can tell,
Is the son lost and loved so well.
Always so good, unselfish and kind,
Few in this world his equal to find.
He had a nature you couldn't help loving,
A heart that was purer than gold,
And to us who knew and loved him,
His memory will never grow cold.

Inserted by his sorrowing mother and father, brother Barney and sister-in-law Ruby and nieces Non and Bill, Eighth-avenue, Ingle wood, Perth.

KENNEDY. — In sad and loving memory of our dear brother, Private Evan Kennedy, died Tidworth Military Hospital, August 7, 1917; age 22 years.

As long as life and memory last, we will
remember thee.

Inserted by his sorrowing sister Non and brother-in-law, niece and nephew Val and Ken, 203 Eighth-ave., Inglewood.
(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 8 August, 1927)

In Memoriam

Anzac Heroes

KENNEDY. — In loving memory of our dearly loved son Even, who died at Military Hospital Tidworth, England, August 7, 1917.

We would give all the years to come, dear son,
Though they may only be few,
Just for a day of yesterday,
Just for a day with you.

Inserted by his loving parents, brother Barn, sister-in-law Rubie, niece Nonie and Bill.

KENNEDY. — In fond and loving memory of our dear loved brother Even (Private Even Thomas Kennedy), 3rd Pioneers Battalion, died August 7, 1917.

Never forgotten.

In our minds a constant thought,
In our hearts an abiding sorrow.

Inserted by his loving sister Connie and Bill, Val and Ken.

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 7 August, 1929)

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 E. T. Kennedy does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Whose Distant Footsteps Echo Through The Corridors Of Time

Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England

Tidworth Military Cemetery, which contains burials of both wars, was directly connected with training grounds on, or near, Salisbury Plain.

During the First World War, the cemetery was used for burials from Tidworth and Fargo Military Hospitals and the 417 graves, many of them of Australian or New Zealand servicemen, are scattered throughout the cemetery.

There are 106 Second World War graves in the cemetery, two substantial groups of which can be found in sections F and D. The rest are scattered.

The cemetery also contains 40 war graves of other nationalities, many of them Polish.

(Information from CWGC)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00327

The AIF Tidworth cemetery under snow. – March 1919.

Identified graves marked by a cross and headstone in the foreground

Front row: 50727 Private Rowland James Dickson, Australian Machine Gun Corps, died 14 October 1918.

*Second row, left to right: 18282 Driver John Thalma Jackson, Details Australian Engineers, died 30 October 1917; 17445 Pte Roland Travers Woodville, Australian Army Medical Corps, died 13 September 1917; 31712 Gunner John Alexander McDonald, 15th Field Artillery Brigade, Australian Field Artillery, died 30 July 1917, aged 37, at Tidworth Military Hospital; **3062 Pte Even Thomas Kennedy, 3rd Australian Pioneers, died 7 August 1917.***

Note Gunner McDonald has a large headstone which reads in part 'erected by his sorrowing comrades of the Australian Field Artillery. His duty done.'



Tidworth Military Cemetery (Photo by *julia&keld* – Find a Grave)



Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire



Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire *(Photo by Chris Talbot 2009)*



(Photo courtesy of John Prestidge)

Photo of Private E. T. Kennedy's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Selena Hardie)



(Photo courtesy of John Prestidge)

