

**St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard,
Harefield, Middlesex, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



182 2ND CORPORAL

E. N. KNELL

22ND BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

15TH JANUARY, 1920 Age 25

*He Is Not Dead
But Stands Triumphant
On The Shining Heights
Father*

Edgar Norman KNELL

Edgar Norman Knell was born at Malvern, Victoria in 1894 to parents Alfred William & Caroline Knell (nee Brooks).

Edgar Norman Knell attended Malvern State School, Victoria.

Edgar Norman Knell was a 20 year old, single, Labourer from 24 Beattie Avenue, Armadale, Victoria when he enlisted on 6th February, 1915 with the 6th Infantry Brigade, 22nd Infantry Battalion "A" Company of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 182 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs H. W. Knell, of 24 Beattie Avenue, Armadale, Victoria.

Private Edgar Norman Knell was posted to camp with 22nd Infantry Battalion on 1st May, 1915.

Caroline Brooks, mother of Edgar Norman Knell, died on 1st July, 1915 at Armadale, Victoria. She was buried on 3rd July, 1915 in St. Kilda Cemetery, St. Kilda, Victoria.

Private Edgar Norman Knell embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Ulysses* (A38) on 10th May, 1915.

Private Edgar Norman Knell was admitted to 6th Australian Field Ambulance at Anzac on 19th October, 1915 with dermatitis of shoulder. He was admitted to Hospital on 20th October, 1915. Pte Knell rejoined his Unit from Hospital on 12th November, 1915.

Private Edgar Norman Knell disembarked at Alexandria from Mudros on 7th January, 1916.

Private Edgar Norman Knell was appointed Lance Corporal at Canal Zone on 1st February, 1916. He reverted to ranks at own request on 21st February, 1916.

Private Edgar Norman Knell proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) from Alexandria on 19th March, 1917. He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 26th March, 1916.

Private Edgar Norman Knell was mustered as (Temporary) Driver (vice McLeod evacuated) on 19th February, 1917.

(Temporary) Driver Edgar Norman Knell was appointed Driver on 25th March, 1917.

Driver Edgar Norman Knell was sent to 5th Field Ambulance sick on 12th July, 1917. He was transferred to 7th Field Ambulance on same day. Driver Knell was transferred to 9th Casualty Clearing Station on 15th July, 1917 then transferred to Ambulance Train the same day. He was admitted to 39th General Hospital at Havre, France on 19th July, 1917 – cause of illness "N.Y.D." (Not Yet Determined).

Driver Knell was marched in to 2nd A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Havre on 30th August, 1917.

Driver Edgar Norman Knell rejoined his Battalion in the field on 6th October, 1917.

Driver Edgar Norman Knell was still with his Unit in the field on 30th June, 1918.

Driver Edgar Norman Knell was wounded in action on 3rd October, 1918. He was taken to 53rd Casualty Clearing Station then transferred to Ambulance Train. Driver Knell was admitted to 1st Australian General Hospital at Rouen, France on 4th October, 1918 with shrapnel wounds to foot. Driver Knell was listed for transfer by Hospital Ship to England on 6th October, 1918.

War Diary – 22nd Battalion – 3rd October, 1918:

WAINCOURT – On the afternoon the Bn. moved up to the BEAUREVOIR LINE (B27_ attacking from this line at 18.30. (See Report of Operations APP 1). Driver Edgar Norman Knell was admitted to 4th Southern General Hospital at Plymouth, England on 7th October, 1918 with gunshot wounds to right foot.

APPENDIX 1 – ATTACK ON 3.10.18:

PRELIMINARY – At noon on October 3rd, the Battalion received order to move from Trenches G.24a, through ETRICOURT to Trenches in H.13.c.

ASSEMBLY – At 15.00 instructions were received to move into Assembly Trenches in BEAUREVOIR system, B.27.a & c. Finding the Front Line only partly dug, the Battalion assembled in the rear trench, with “D” Company of Right of main ESTREES-GENEVE Road, and “C” & “A” Companies on the Left of the road. Whilst waiting here, two hostile planes flying low spotted the troops, and as a result of their reconnaissance, shelling by 5.9’s followed. Casualties were 3 O.R.’s wounded.

ATTACK – Punctually at 18.30, the barrage came down and rested on its initial line for six minutes. The Battalion, with 23rd Battalion on Right and 24th Battalion on Left, at once moved to the attack, pressing through the 18th Battalion – “D” Company on Right, “A” Company of left, with “C” Company behind “A” Company.

“A” Company obtained their objective – a line through LAMOTTE FARM – and “C” Company passing through them got their objective and pushed out to the line of trench B.23.c., along trench in B.22.b.7.2., and thence in line to B.15.d.9.b. The Copse in B.23.c. was inclusive to 23rd Battalion, but CANAL at B.16.c. was inclusive to the Battalion, hence the front was 1400 yards in extent.

The enemy appeared taken by surprise to some extent, but on the whole fought fairly well. There were several instances where determined resistance was offered by small groups of Machine Gunners, and an examination of the ground after the attack evidenced the fact that the bayonets had been used by our men to a greater extent than usual.

On the high ground in B.23.c. a 4-gun battery of 77 m.m guns was found, and the enemy made determined efforts to prevent them falling into our hands. The adjacent posts were mopped up by “D” Company, and the battery captured. 45 prisoners were secured in the vicinity of these guns.

On the main road in B.28.a. a 5.9 howitzer was found, being still in good order.

A reliable estimate of the number of enemy killed is hard to arrive at, but I consider that at least 50/60 were killed out in the open on the battalion front. Several Pill-boxes and deep Dugouts were bombed, and had dead in them, but I am unable to say how many.

PRISONERS – 3 Officers and 102 O.R.’s were captured.

BOOTY – 1 5.9 Howitzer

4 77 m.m. Field Guns

1 3” Minenwerfer

8 Heavy Machine Guns

20 Light Machine Guns

CASUALTIES – KILLED – 2 Officers (Capt. W. McC. Braithwaite, M.C. & Lieut. E. E. Paterson, M.C. 4 O.R.’s

WOUNDED – 1 Officer (Lt. G. T. Burrage) 12 O.R.’s Total 19.

(Information from The Australian War Memorial)

22nd Battalion

Most of the battalion embarked for Egypt on 8 May 1915. The battalion deployed to Gallipoli in the first week of September 1915 allowing elements of the 2nd Brigade to be rested from their positions in the front line at ANZAC. The battalion served on the peninsula until the final evacuation in December 1915, and were then withdrawn to Egypt and brought back to strength with reinforcements.

While most of the battalion was serving on Gallipoli the transport drivers, along with the other drivers from the 6th Brigade, were sent to the Salonika front to support the Serbs. They did not rejoin the battalion until after the evacuation of ANZAC.

In March 1916, the battalion embarked for France and experienced their first service on the Western Front in reserve

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breastwork trenches near Fleurbaix at the end of the first week of April 1916. The battalion's first major action was at Pozieres, part of the massive British offensive on the Somme. In September/October they were moved to the Ypres sector then back to the Somme for the winter. The battalion spent most of 1917 bogged in bloody trench warfare from Bullecourt to Broodseinde in Flanders. In 1918 the battalion returned to the Somme valley. After helping to stop the German spring offensive in March and April, the 6th Brigade participated in the period of peaceful penetration of the enemy lines. It was in mid-May that Sergeant William 'Rusty' Ruthven earned the 22nd Battalion's only Victoria Cross. In the last days of August and September the battalion helped capture Mont St Quentin. The 22nd Battalion took part in the last action fought by the AIF on the Western Front, the battle of Montbrehain, in October 1918.

At 11 am on 11 November 1918 the guns on the Western Front fell silent. The November Armistice was followed by the Peace Treaty of Versailles signed on 28 June 1919. The last elements of the battalion began their journey home from the Western Front in May 1919 to return to Australia for demobilisation and discharge.

(Information from The Australian War Memorial)

Advice was sent to Mrs A. W. Knell, of 24 Beatty Avenue, Armadale, Victoria on 17th October, 1918 to advise that "Driver E. N. Knell admitted 7/10/18 to 4th Southern General Hospital, Plymouth, England suffering from gunshot wound to right foot, actual condition not stated." The letter was returned "Not known at address." (Note – Driver E. Knell's mother had died in 1915). A letter was then sent by Base Records on 1st November, 1918 to E. A. Knell, of Noel Street, Ivanhoe, Victoria advising that the next-of-kin of Driver E. Knell was recorded on his Attestation sheet as his mother - Mrs A. W. Knell of 24 Beatty Avenue, Armadale, Victoria but communications had been returned unclaimed. Base Records were enquiring if Mr Knell had the correct postal address. Records were amended to show Mr A. W. Knell, father, as the next-of-kin.

Driver Edgar Norman Knell was on furlo from 6th November, 1918 to 20th November, 1918 & was then to report to No. 1 Command Depot.

Driver Edgar Norman Knell was transferred to A. A.O.C. (Australian Army Ordnance Corps) from 22nd Battalion on 20th November, 1918.

Driver Edgar Norman Knell was transferred to A.Q.M.G. Admin Headquarters, London on 14th March, 1919.

Driver Edgar Norman Knell was appointed Temporary 2nd Corporal on 9th May, 1919 while attached to A.Q.M.G. Headquarters.

Driver Edgar Norman Knell was eligible for 15 days extra Disembarkation leave from 31st July, 1919.

Driver Edgar Norman Knell was eligible for 15 days extra Disembarkation leave from 30th September, 1919

Driver Edgar Norman Knell was promoted to Temporary 2nd Corporal on 9th May, 1919.

Temporary 2nd Corporal Edgar Norman Knell was promoted to 2nd Corporal on 29th May, 1919.

2nd Cpl. Edgar Knell was admitted to Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank, London, England on 21st November, 1919.

A Medical Report was completed on 2nd Cpl. Edgar Knell at Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank, London, England on 30th December, 1919 stating that 2nd Cpl. Edgar Knell was ill for about a month and sent to Hospital on 22nd November, 1918. A laparoscopy operation occurred on the 3rd December, 1919 & it was found that he had Carcinoma of stomach which was inoperable. 2nd Cpl. Edgar Knell was classified as permanently unfit for General Service & Home Service.

Following the Medical Report on 30th December, 1919 an application for discharge in a country other than Australia was completed on 30th December, 1919 due to 2nd Cpl. Edgar Knell's ill health. 2nd Cpl. Edgar Knell had served for 4 years, 10 months & 24 days in the A.I.F. & was medically classed as totally unfit. The Commanding Officer wrote that 2nd Cpl. Edgar Knell "*is anxious to obtain his discharge to proceed to his relative. He is suffering from cancer in the stomach and I am informed no hope is entertained for his recovery. He has states he has no dependents.*"

A letter written by Capt. A. McCollie, Q.M., Adm., Hdqrs, A.I.F., London to Administration A.I.F. Hdqrs, London (undated) accompanied the application for discharge & reads: *"With reference to the attached application, I desire to report that 2/Cpl. Knell belongs to my section and owing to the pains in his stomach which had been giving him trouble for a long period, getting worse which was thought to be indigestion, he paraded sick and was ordered to the Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank, where an operation was performed, when it was discovered that the trouble was a cancer in the stomach in an advanced stage, and no hope could be entertained for him nor could anything be done for him. From time to time as I visit him I have found him sinking rapidly and although he is not aware of the trouble, he feels that there is no hope and desires to be removed to Mrs Thornton's home at Thornton Heath where he resided during his stay in London. From his statement I gather his Mother has been dead some time and he has not been home to his Father for a long period. His father lives in Australia. His uncle is, I understand, named as allottee, but not dependent. Mrs Thornton state she is anxious to have him home and will take care of him. Since 25/12/19 his legs have become swollen and useless. He was a hard working, sober and good living lad. I have gone into the matter thoroughly both with Mrs Thornton and 2Cpl Knell on the subject of his discharge, but they both consider it would be advantageous & under the circumstances I feel justified in forwarding his application for consideration, which of considered advisable I would request that same be hastened before he gets too low in condition to be moved. I was unable to obtain a Field Officer or Chaplain of A.I.F. to witness his signature so signed same myself, trusting this will meet with requirements."*

Mrs Thornton, of 22 Lucerne Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey, wrote to the A.I.F. on 18th December, 1919: *"Dear Sir, I beg to apply on behalf of 182 Cpl. E. N. Knell for his discharge, in England, from the A.I.F. on account of his sickness, in order to have him home to attend too as long as he needs it."*

2nd Cpl. Edgar Knell was discharged from Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank, London, England on 3rd January, 1920 to "his home" pending his discharge in U.K. (22 Lucerne Road, Thornton Heath – home of Mrs Thornton). He was reported as dangerously ill.

2nd Cpl. Edgar Norman Knell was granted a discharge from the Australian Imperial Force in the UK. There were 4 sections on the Discharge form. The top section of the "Discharge in UK" form was dated 5th January, 1920. The next section reads *"I certify that there is no medical objection to the discharge of this OR in UK provided that no charge is made on the A.I.F. for future medical attendance & treatment"* - signed & dated 9th January, 1920. The third section of the form was dated 8th January, 1920. The last section of the form has recommendation – "No objection" – signed & dated 11th January, 1920.

Notification was sent to Mr E. A. Knell, Estate Agent, Ivanhoe, Victoria on 14th January, 1920 advising him that his son was suffering from Carcinoma Stomach & was dangerously ill. Later advice was sent to Base Records to advise that the initials of the father of 2nd Cpl. Edgar Norman Knell were "A. W." & not "E. A." Their records were noted on 27th January, 1920.

2nd Corporal Edgar Norman Knell, aged 25, died on 15th January, 1920 at 22 Lucerne Road, West Croydon (residence of Mrs Thornton) from Cancer of the stomach & Exhaustion. M. Thornton was present at the death, as noted on the death certificate.

A death for Edgar N. Knell, aged 25, was registered on the 16th January, 1920 (March quarter) in the district of Croydon, Surrey, England.

2nd Corporal Edgar Norman Knell was buried on 19th January, 1920 in St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England – Plot number Aust. 110 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of 2nd Corporal Edgar Norman Knell - *Coffin was Elm with brass mountings. The deceased was accorded a Military funeral. A service was held in Harefield Parish Church. The coffin was covered with the Australian Flag. Six of the deceased's comrades from the A.Q.M.G. Branch, A.I.F., Headquarters acted as pall-bearers. His O.C. Captain A. McCollie (MC) as well as a number of the staff, was present at the service and the graveside. The Last Post was sounded by a bugler from these Headquarters. Friends - Mr & Mrs Thornton & daughters, of 22 Lucerne Road, Thornton Heath were present at the funeral.*

Mrs M. Thornton, of 22 Lucerne Road, Thornton Heath, wrote a letter on 19th January, 1920 which reads: *"Dear Sir, Will you please accept my warmest thanks for all that you have had done, in connection with 182 (late) Cpl. E. N. Knell, whose funeral has taken place at Harefield today, for you kindness in letting me have him home from the*

Hospital at Millbank, that loving friends might tend him to the last, was a comfort to him & us too, for he has been as one of our own dear boys, during the last 12 months. Your Officers Captain Collie & W.O. Morris, have visited him frequently & been so kind. Will you kindly convey my thanks to Col. Jefferies also for his kindness.

2nd Corporal Edgar Norman Knell requested in his Will, dated 10th January, 1920, that all his real and personal estate he bequeathed to his sister – Olive Caroline Knell of “Twickenham” High Street, Northcote, Victoria, Australia.

The personal effects of 2nd Corporal Edgar Norman Knell were sent to Miss O. C. Knell, as the legatee.

2nd Corporal Edgar Norman Knell was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to 2nd Corporal Knell’s father – Mr A. W. Knell, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent September, 1921 & Plaque sent February, 1923).

Miss O. Knell, of 8 May Street, W. Preston, wrote to the Official in Charge, Medal Department, Victoria Barracks on 29th July, 1930 asking if she “*could get possession of my deceased Brothers war medals. Edgar Norman Knell No. 182, 22nd Battalion died of illness in England 1920 (I was next of kin) & Victor Ernest Knell, No. 3252, 29th Battalion killed in action 1917.*” A reply was sent from Base Records on 4th August, 1930 advising that the War Medals (1914/15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal) in respect of her brother the late No. 182 2nd Corporal E. N. Knell had been forwarded to the legal next-of-kin (Father) Mr A. W. Knell, of 49 Vincent Street, Caulfield on 24th January, 1921, 26th January, 1922 and 19th January, 1923 respectively.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists 2nd Corporal Edgar Norman Knell – service number 182, aged 25, of 22nd Battalion Australian Infantry, attached to Headquarters. He was the son of Alfred William Knell, of 49 Vincent Street, Caulfield East, Victoria, Australia. Born at Malvern, Victoria.

2nd Corporal E. N. Knell is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 96.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

E. Knell is remembered on the Boisdale Honour Roll, which is located in the Boisdale Hall, Maffra Road, Boisdale, Victoria.



Boisdale Honour Roll (Photos from Monument Australia – Chris McLaughlin)

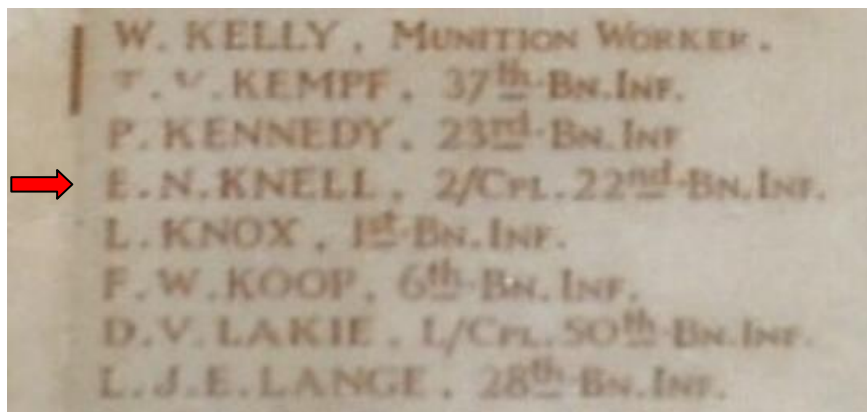


Edgar Knell was also mentioned in the list of those serving in Maffra – Maffra Spectator 2.9.18 (and thereafter) Honour Roll. A similar, framed version of this roll is located at Shelton.

E. N. Knell is remembered in the Australian Soldiers' Memorial in St. Mary the Virgin Church, Church Hill, Harefield, Middlesex, England.



Australian Soldiers' Memorial, Harefield (Photo from War Memorials Online – B. Wood)



(101 pages of 2nd Corporal Edgar Norman Knell'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

2nd Corporal Edgar Norman Knell



(Photos kindly supplied by Diane Thompson & Ray Harrop)



2nd Corporal Edgar Norman Knell *(far right – white shirt)*

Connected to 2nd Corporal Edgar Norman Knell:

Younger brother - Private Victor Ernest Knell (born 1896), Enlisted 23rd February, 1916. Service number 3252, 29th Battalion. Reported Missing then Killed in Action 23rd March, 1917. Buried in Beaumetz Cross Roads Cemetery, Beaumetz-Les-Cambrai, France. He was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal.



Edgar Norman Knell's letter home to his sister Olive – dated Sunday 8th December, 1918

ANZAC CLUB AND BUFFET,
Established and controlled by the
London Branch of the Australian
Native Association
HON. SUPERINTENDENT:
MRS. A. RATTIGAN,
91, Victoria Street,
London, S.W. 1.
Sunday Dec. 8th 1918.

My Dear Sister
Received your
welcome letter of Sept 25th
very pleased you are still
well & got over the flu
abright. It is very bad over
here, & people are dying like
flies. I had it while I was
in Hospital, so that was
not too bad. I was very
surprised to hear the news
about Stanby & tell Violet
I am sincerely sorry also I
wish I had a letter from
her. You say that it is
about time I came home.
Well I have been working

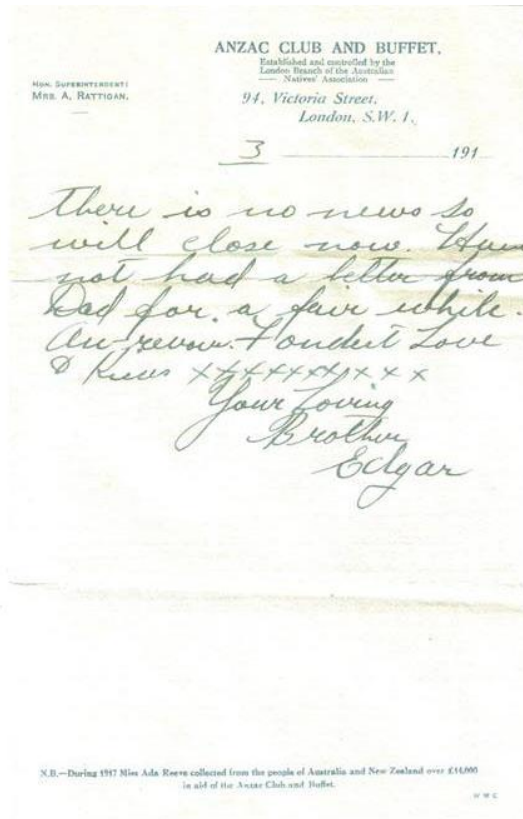
N.B.—During 1917 Miss Ada Reeve collected from the people of Australia and New Zealand over £14,000
in aid of the Anzac Club and Buffet. W.C.

ANZAC CLUB AND BUFFET,
Established and controlled by the
London Branch of the Australian
Native Association
HON. SUPERINTENDENT:
MRS. A. RATTIGAN,
91, Victoria Street,
London, S.W. 1.
2 191

at H.M. for the last
couple of weeks 13/- a day
that's not too bad. I could
stay on for 12 months or
so, but intend coming
home & expect to sail very
shortly. So don't be surprised
if Edgar come to see you
very soon after you
receive this letter. I am
going to Thornton Heath
to-day. They are very
nice people & wanted me
to stop with them
while I am here. I am
sending you a photo
with this letter. Well

N.B.—During 1917 Miss Ada Reeve collected from the people of Australia and New Zealand over £14,000
in aid of the Anzac Club and Buffet. W.C.

(Letters kindly supplied by Diane Thompson)



My Dear Sister

Received your welcome letter of Sept. 25th very pleased you are still well & got over the flu alright. It is very bad over here & people are dying like fly's. I had it while I was in Hospital, so that was not too bad. I was very surprised to hear the news about Stanley & tell Violet I am sincerely sorry also I wish I had a letter from her. You say that it is about time I came Home. Well I have been working at HdQrs for the last couple of weeks 12/- a day that's not too bad. I could stay on for 12 months or so but intend coming home & expect to sail very shortly, so don't be surprised if Edgar come to see you very see after you receive this letter. I am going to Thornton Heath to-day. They are very nice people & wanted me to stay with them while I am here. I am sending you a photo with this letter. Well there is no new so will close now. Have not had a letter from Dad for a fair while.

Au revoir. Fondest Love & Kisses xxxxxxxxxx

Your loving

Brother

Edgar



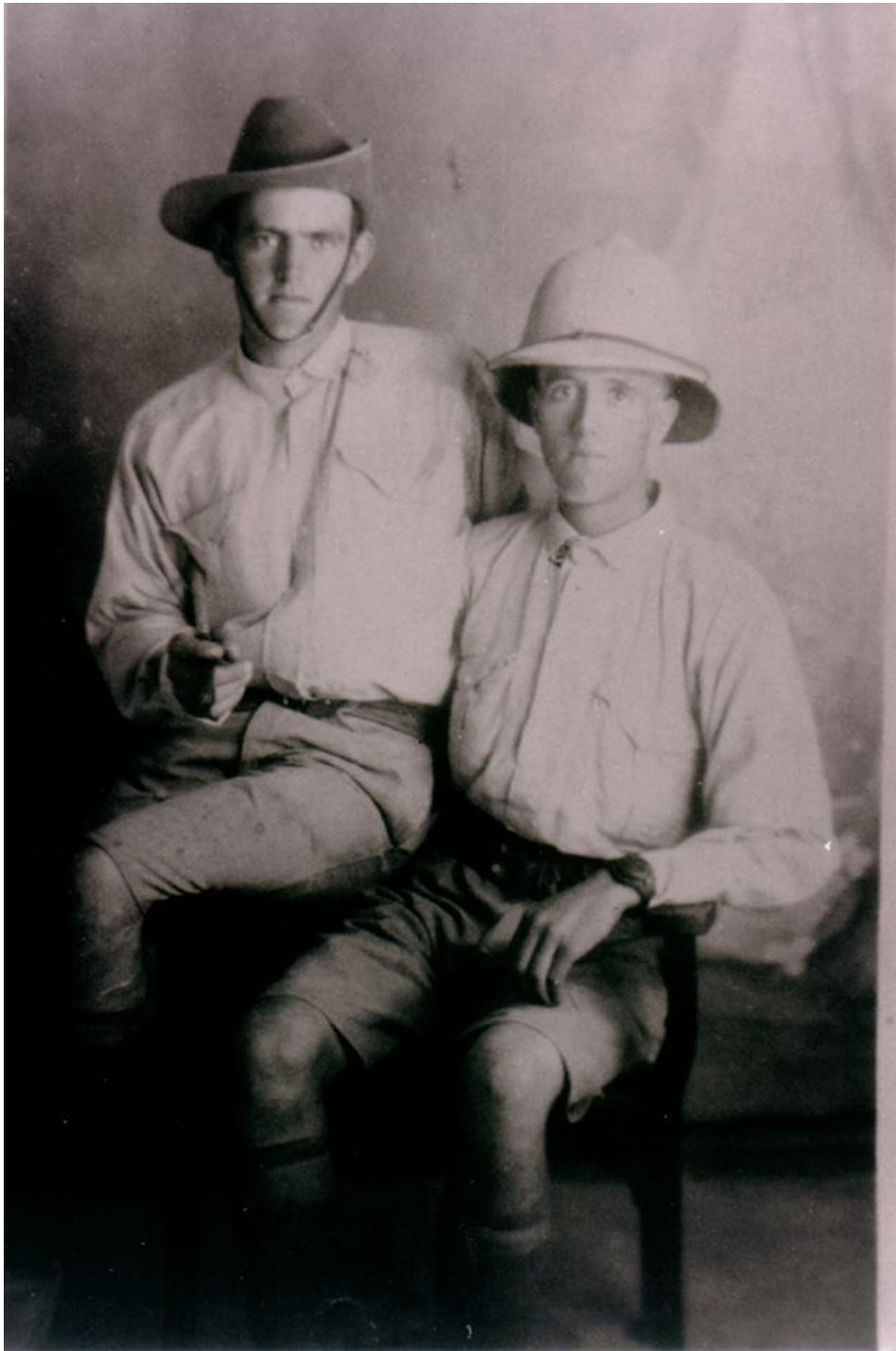


Photo of Edgar with his best friend Clarence Cavey

(Photo kindly supplied by Diane Thompson)

Diane informed me that Edgar loved his sister Olive & asked his best friend Clarence Cavey to look after Olive if anything were to happen to him.

Olive Caroline Knell married Clarence Cavey in 1933.



Newspaper Notices

MAFFRA SHIRE HONOUR ROLL

Following is a list of names to be inscribed on the Maffra Honour Roll.

.....

E. Knell

.....

(*The Maffra Spectator*, Victoria – 2 September, 1918)

DIED ON SERVICE

KNELL – On the 15th January, 1920, at Lucerne private hospital, London, Corporal E. N. Knell, 22nd Battalion, loving son of A. W. Knell, 49 Vincent Street, East Malvern.

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 22 January, 1920)

DEATHS

On Active Service

KNELL - On the 15th January, 1920, at Lucerne private hospital, London, Corporal E. N. Knell, 22nd Battalion, loving son of the late Caroline Knell, beloved brother of Horace, Stanley, Alfred and Olive; also the late Victor Knell, killed on active service.

- Inserted by his brothers, Stan and Alf.

KNELL - On the 15th January, 1920, at Lucerne Private Hospital, London, Edgar (late 22nd Battalion) the loved son of the late Caroline Knell, loved brother of the late Private V. E. Knell (killed in action 22nd March, 1917), and much loved brother of Olive. Our Anzac. Mother and sons reunited.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 23 January, 1920)

DIED ON SERVICE

KNELL – Just a tribute of love to the memory of our dear friend, Corporal Edgar N. Knell, 22nd Batt., who passed away on Lucerne Private Hospital, London, on the 15th January, 1920.

“Ever remembered”

- (Inserted by Mr and Mrs Geo. Coridas and family, Maffra.)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 31 January, 1920) & (*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 31 January, 1920)

A.I.F. CASUALTIES

The military authorities have forwarded the 479th list of casualties in the A.I.F., as follows:

3rd Military District (Victoria)

T/2/Cpl. Edgar Norman Knell, A.I.F. Headquarters, died 15/1/20, illness (previously reported ill), relatives at Malvern.

(*Western Argus*, Kalgoorlie, Western Australia – 24 February, 1920)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

KNELL – In loving memory of my dear brothers, Corporal Edgar N. Knell, who passed away in England on the 15th January, 1920, and Private Victor E. Knell, who was killed in action in France on the 22nd March, 1917. Two of the best.

Ever fondly remembered.

-Inserted by their loving sister, Olive.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 15 January, 1921)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

KNELL – In loving memory of my dear brothers, Corporal Edgar N. Knell, who passed away in England on the 15th January, 1920, and Private Victor E. Knell, who was killed in action in France on the 22nd March, 1917.

One by one earth's ties are broken,

One by one they're linked above.

-Inserted by their loving sister, Olive.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 16 January, 1922)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

KNELL – In loving memory of my dear brothers, Corporal Edgar N. Knell, who passed away in England on the 15th January, 1920, and Private Victor E. Knell, who was killed in action in France on the 22nd March, 1917. Fondly remembered.

-Inserted by their loving sister, Olive.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 15 January, 1923)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

KNELL – In loving memory of my dear brothers, Corporal Edgar N. Knell, who passed away in England on the 15th January, 1920, and Private Victor E. Knell, who was killed in action in France on the 22nd March, 1917.

Ever remembered.

-Inserted by their loving sister, Olive.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 15 January, 1924)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

KNELL – In loving memory of my dear brothers, Corporal Edgar N. Knell, who passed away in England on the 15th January, 1920, and Private Victor E. Knell, who was killed in action in France on the 22nd March, 1917. Ever remembered.

-Inserted by their loving sister, Olive.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 15 January, 1925)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

KNELL – In loving memory of my dear brothers, Corporal Edgar N. Knell, who passed away in England on the 15th January, 1920, and Private Victor E. Knell, who was killed in action in France on the 22nd March, 1917.

Ever fondly remembered.

-Inserted by their loving sister, Olive.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 15 January, 1926)

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*)

2nd Corporal E. N. Knell does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

He Is Not Dead But Stands Truimphant On The Shining Heights

Father

St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England

St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield contains 126 Commonwealth War Graves.

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.

Harefield (St. Mary) Churchyard contains war graves from both world wars. There are 120 First World War graves, mostly those of Australians who died in No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield Park. Uniquely, their graves are marked by scroll shaped headstones, chosen by the staff and patients at the hospital. In the centre of the Australian plot stands a memorial obelisk which was erected by Sir Francis Newdegate, late Governor of Tasmania and of Western Australia, and Mr. C.A.M. Billyard-Leake, of Harefield Park. The churchyard also contains six graves of the Second World War.

(*Information & photos from CWGC*)



St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield



Front of War Graves (above) & Back of War Graves (below)



St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield

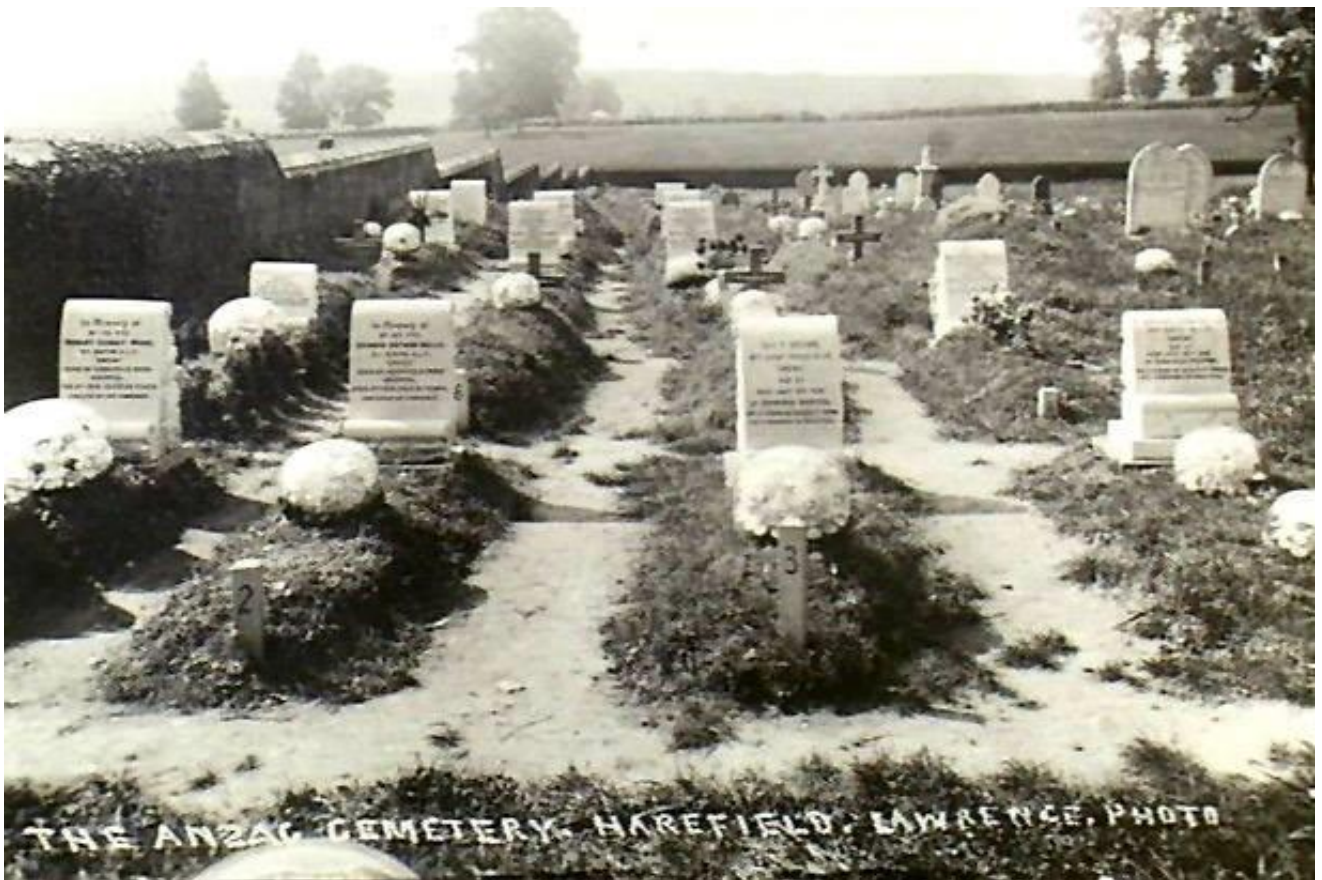


Photo of 2nd Corporal E. N. Knell's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England.



(Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)



St Mary the Virgin Church, Harefield (Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)



St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield (Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)



St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield (Photos courtesy of Peter Bennett)

