

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

**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**6602 PRIVATE**

**L. J. E. LANGE**

**28TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**8TH APRIL, 1919**

## Leo Julius Edward LANGE

Leo Julius Edward Lange was born at Yahl Paddock, near Mt Gambier, South Australia on 19th April, 1899 to parents Rudolph Carl & Frances Lange (nee Spencer).

Leo Julius Edward Lange attended the Government School at Marleyup, near Kojonup, Western Australia.

Leo Julius Edward Lange stated he was aged 18 years & 2 months, single & a Draper from Wagin, Western Australia when he enlisted on 27th June, 1916 at Blackboy Hill, Western Australia with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). (His Medical examination occurred on 13th June, 1916 at York, Western Australia). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his father – Mr R. C. Lange, of Wagin, Western Australia.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange was posted to 1/5 Depot on 27th June, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 23 Reinforcements of 11th Battalion on 1st August, 1916.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange was admitted to No. 8 Australian General Hospital on 22nd August, 1916 – cause N.Y.D. (not yet determined). He was transferred to Hospital for Insane at Claremont on 23rd August, 1916. Private Lange was re-admitted to No. 8 Australian General Hospital on 21st September, 1916 with “*Conv Meningitis*” & returned to duty on 6th January, 1917.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange was transferred to 19th Reinforcements of 28th Battalion on 5th January, 1917.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange, Service number 6602, embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Miltiades (A28)* on 29th January, 1917 with the 28th Infantry Battalion, 19th Reinforcements. He was admitted to Ship's Hospital on 8th March, 1917 while at Sea & was discharged from Ship's Hospital on 10th March, 1917. Private Lange was re-admitted to Ship's Hospital on 16th March, 1917 & discharged on 20th March, 1917. (no cause recorded in both cases). He disembarked at Devonport, England on 27th 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 Leo Julius Edward Lange was marched in to 7th Training Battalion at Rollestone, Wiltshire, England on 28th March, 1917 from Australia.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange was admitted to Hospital at Parkhouse, Wiltshire on 21st April, 1917 with Mumps. He was discharged to Depot on 9th May, 1917.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange was marched in to 7th Training Battalion from Hospital on 10th May, 1917.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange proceeded overseas to France via Southampton on 17th October, 1917 from Fovant, Wiltshire. He was marched in to 2nd A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Havre, France on 18th October. Private Lange proceeded from 2nd A.D.B.D. on 22nd October, 1917 & was taken on strength of 28th Battalion in the Field on 24th October, 1917.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange reported sick on 26th February, 1918 & was admitted to 7th Australian Field Ambulance with Trench Fever. He was transferred on 3rd March, 1918 & was admitted to New Zealand Stationary Hospital at Wisques. Private Lange was transferred to Ambulance Train on 21st March, 1918 & was admitted to 2nd Australian General Hospital with Trench Fever on the same day. He embarked from Boulogne, France for England on 25th March, 1918 on Hospital Ship *St. Denis* (as listed on Casualty Form – Active Service, however Statement of Service form recorded the Hospital Ship as *St. David*).

### 28th Battalion

The 28th Battalion was raised at Blackboy Camp in Western Australia on 16 April 1915 from recruits previously earmarked for the 24th Battalion, which was instead being raised in Victoria.....

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

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange was admitted to 1st Birmingham War Hospital, Rednal, England on 26th March, 1918 with Trench Fever. He was transferred to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford on 24th April, 1918 & discharged on 1st May, 1918.

Base Records contacted Mr R. C. Lange, Wagin, Western Australia, father of Private Leo Julius Edward Lange, on 8th April, 1918 to advise that Private L. J. E. Lange had been admitted to 1st Birmingham War Hospital on 26th March, 1918 suffering from Trench Fever.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange was marched in to No. 3 Command Depot at Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 1st May, 1918. He was marched out to No. 1 Command Depot at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 6th July, 1918 & was medically classified as B1 A2. (Fit for overseas training camp in 3 – 4 weeks).

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange was admitted to Group Clearing Hospital at Sutton Veny on 17th July, 1918 with Influenza & was discharged on 24th July, 1918 to No. 1 Command Depot, Sutton Veny.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange was marched in to Overseas Training Brigade at Longbridge Deverill, Wiltshire on 14th August, 1918 from No. 1 Command Depot. He was marched out to 2nd Training Brigade at Fovant on 13th September, 1918 & was marched into 5th Training Battalion at Fovant on the same day.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange proceeded overseas to France, via Dover on 4th October, 1918. He was marched in to A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) at Havre, France on 6th October, 1918. Private Lange proceeded from A.I.B.D. on 9th October, 1918 & rejoined 28th Battalion in France on 10th October, 1918.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange was on Leave to Brussels from 10th February, 1919 & rejoined his Battalion on 15th February, 1919.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange reported sick on 18th February, 1919 & was admitted to 7th Australian Field Ambulance with Bronchitis. He was transferred & admitted to 20th Casualty Clearing Station on 18th February, 1919 then transferred to Ambulance Train on 25th February, 1919. Private Lange was admitted to No. 14 General Hospital on 27th February, 1919 with Bronchitis & was transferred to England on 2nd March, 1919.

## **28th Battalion**

...The 28th's last actions of the war were fought as part of the effort to break through the Beaurevoir Line in the first week of October 1918. The first members of the battalion began returning to Australia in January, and the 28th was disbanded in March 1919.

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

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange was admitted to The King George Hospital, London, England on 2nd March, 1919. The Hospital Admissions form recorded "*Not gassed – Wounded – or Captured. Cough present for long time with frequent colds. Wasting 11st 5lbs in clothes when he was fit. At present 9st 4 lbs. No pain anywhere, night sweats – Evening rise in Temp. Signs Tubercle B.S. R (?) Apex. B.S. at left Apex also. Fine creps. T.B. found in Sputum. 21.3.19 Larynx. Infiltration of epiglottis ....vocal cords ulcerated at edges. Patient can swallow sufficiently well – must rest voice completely. 28.3.19 Throat condition no worse – but no better. Voice almost gone – very little pain. Lung condition rapidly deteriorating. Signs of T.B. both lungs – wasting & anaemia rapidly increasing. Incontinence of urine & faeces yesterday. 2.4.19 \_\_ semi comatosed. Speaks if spoken too – Incontinence now frequent – very drowsy. Complains of no pain or discomfort. 4.4.19 Decline continues. No special change to note. 6.4.19 Patient much weaker. 8.4.19 Patient died 2.15 pm."*

Base Records contacted Mr R. C. Lange, Wagin, Western Australia, father of Private Leo Julius Edward Lange, on 13th March, 1919 to advise that Private Leo Lange was ill. Mr R. C. Lange was advised later on 13th March, 1919 that Private Leo Lange had been admitted to King George Military Hospital, Stamford Street, London on 2nd March was Bronchitis – severe.

Mr R. C. Lange, Wagin, Western Australia, was advised by Base Records on 19th March, 1919 that Private Leo Lange's condition was reported to be dangerously ill.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange died at 2.15 pm on 8th April, 1919 at The King George Hospital, Stamford Street, London, England from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

A death for Leo J. E. Lange, aged 21, was registered in the June quarter, 1919 in the district of Lambeth, Surrey/London, England.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange was buried on 11th April, 1919 in St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England – Plot number Aust. 99 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

From the burial report of Private Leo Julius Edward Lange - *The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler and Pallbearers being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the Australian Flag, and conveyed to the graveside, surmounted by several beautiful wreaths sent from: - Mr & Mrs A. McFarlane, Hospital Staff and comrades. The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside, and the Rev: E. S. Yeo, of the A.I.F. London. officiated. The grave will be turfed and an oak cross erected by the A.I.F. London. A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

*Names of Relatives or Friends present at Funeral – Mr & Mrs A. McFarlane and Son.*

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange requested in his Will, dated 19th July, 1917 that all his personal estate be bequeathed to his mother – Mrs Frances Lange, "Lake View", Wagin, G.S.R., Western Australia.

Private Leo Julius Edward Lange was entitled to British War Medal & Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Lange's father – Mr R. C. Lange, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent December, 1922 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Leo Julius Edward Lange – service number 6602, of 28th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Rudolph Carl & Frances Lange, of Wagin, Western Australia.

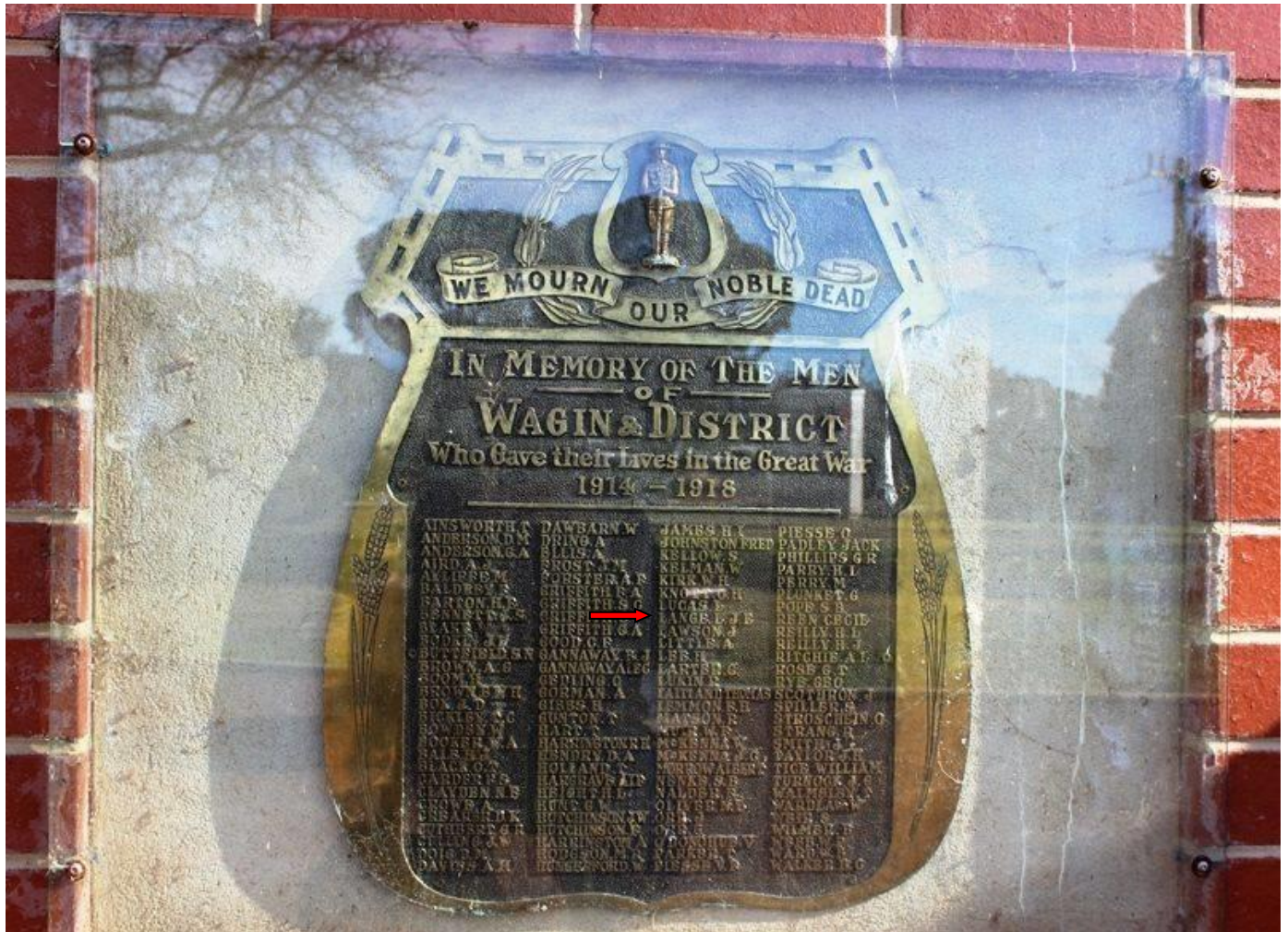
Private L. J. E. Lange is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 113.



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



L. J. E. Lange is remembered on the Wagin & District Honour Roll, located in Wagin High School Commemorative Wall, Ranford Street, Wagin, Western Australia.



Wagin & District Honour Roll (Photo from Monument Australia – Harry Frochter)

L. J. E. Lange is not remembered on the Wagin War Memorial, located at War Memorial Swimming Centre, Trimdon Street, Wagin, Western Australia.



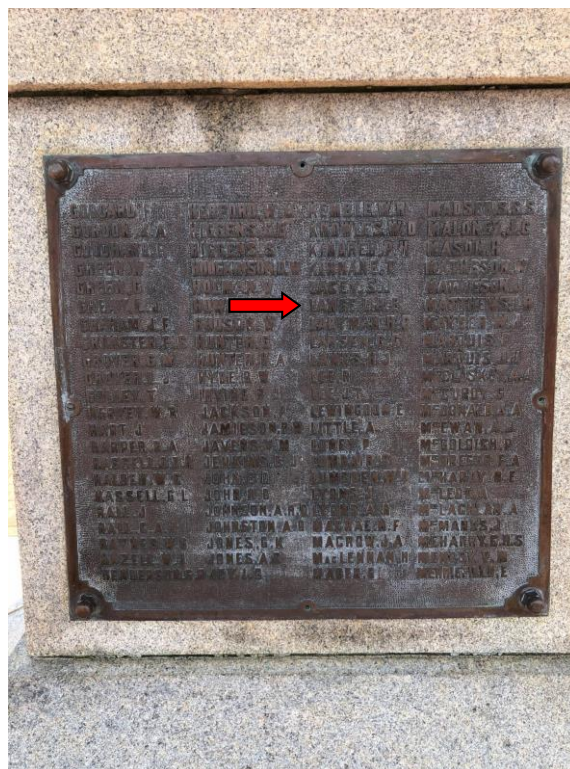
(Photo from Monument Australia – Bryan Hardy)



L. J. E. Lange is remembered on the Katanning War Memorial, located in Prosser Park, Carew & Cliff Streets, Katanning, Western Australia.



**Katanning War Memorial** (Photo above from AWM Places of Pride – James Wills; below Stephen Bowes)



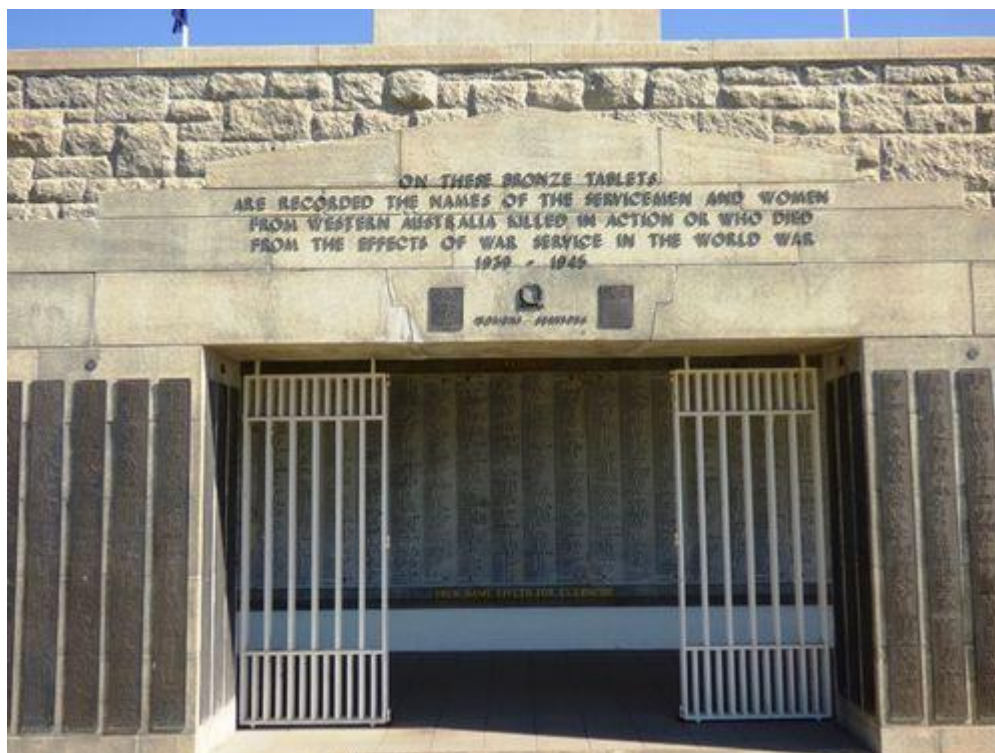
L. J. E. Lange is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost 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 (above)  
& (below) The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names**

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

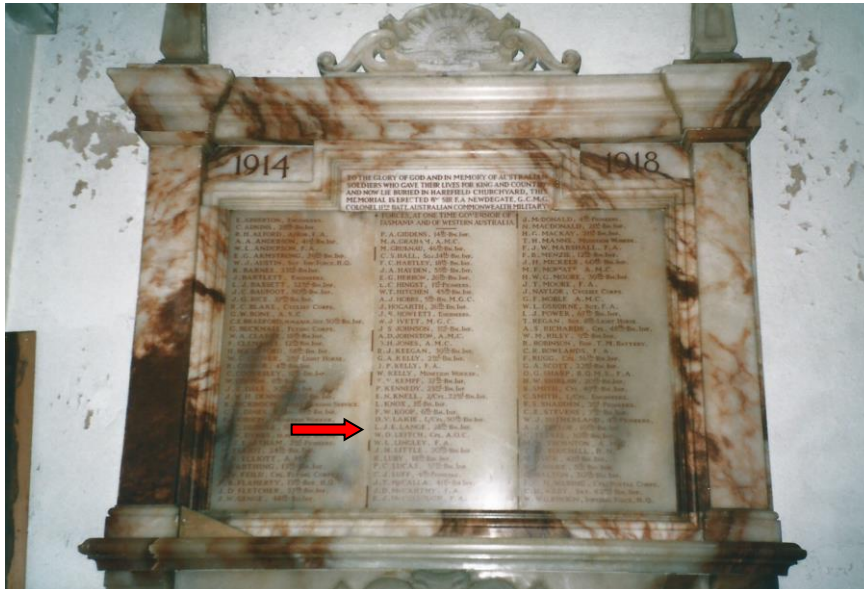






28th Battalion Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)

L. J. E. Lange is remembered on the Australian Soldiers' Memorial in St. Mary the Virgin Church, Church Hill, Harefield, Middlesex, England.

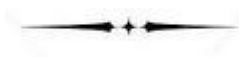


Australian Soldiers' Memorial, Harefield (Photo from War Memorials Online – B. Wood)



(64 pages of Private Leo Julius Edward Lange'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*



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **PERSONAL**

Signaller L. J. E. Lange, according to latest letter received by his parents, is in the 1st Birmingham Hospital suffering from trench fever.

*(The Southern Argus and Wagin-Arthur Express, Perth, Western Australia – 20 April, 1918)*

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### **AUSTRALIANS IN ACTION**

#### **W.A. ROLL OF HONOUR**

The 464th list of casualties among West Australians in the A.I.F. is as follows....

ILL

Leo Julius Ew. Lange, Wagin

*(Western Argus, Kalgoorlie, Western Australia – 23 April, 1918)*

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### **THE ROLL OF HONOUR**

#### **463rd CASUALTY LIST**

ILL

Lange, Leo Julius Edw. (Wagin, second occasion)

*(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 25 April, 1919)*

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### **DIED ON SERVICE**

LANGE – On April 8 at King George's Military Hospital, London, Signaller L. J. E. Lange, eldest son of F. and R. Lange, Wagin in his twentieth year. For the Empire.

*(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 26 April, 1919) & (Western Mail, Western Australia – 2 May, 1919)*

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## **AUSTRALIANS IN ACTION**

### **W.A. ROLL OF HONOUR**

The 464th list of casualties among West Australians in the A.I.F. is as follows....

#### **DIED, OTHER CAUSES**

Leo. Julius Edward Lange, Wagin, 8/4.19, illness, previously reported ill; ....

(*Western Argus*, Western Australia – 20 May, 1919)

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **Anzac Heroes**

LANG – In loving memory of our beloved son and brother, Signaller Leo Julius Edward of the 19/28th Battalion, A.I.F., who died at King George's Military Hospital, London, April 8, 1919.

Oh for a touch of a vanished hand,  
And the sound of a voice that is still,

Inserted by his sorrowing parents and relations

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 8 April, 1920)

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### **Fallen Soldiers Memorial**

It is the desire of the committee that the names of each of the fallen who enlisted from these districts should be inscribed correctly on the pedestal of the memorial. The following list of names, taken from the Katanning and Districts Honor Roll is offered to the public with the earnest request that all corrections and additions be forwarded to the secretary of the fund as soon as possible:-

Katanning

....L. J. E. Lange.....

(*The Southern Districts Advocate*, Katanning, Western Australia – 22 November, 1920)

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\*\*Memorial Notices were also placed in newspapers 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925 & 1926

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## 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 L. J. E. Lange does not have a personal inscription on his headstone, however the CWGC lists on their website that his inscription reads “*Only An Australian Soldier But One of God’s Bravest And Best*”.

## **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**





Photo of Private L. J. E. Lange'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)





