

Epsom Cemetery, Surrey

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



4138 PRIVATE

P. E. LIVING

24TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

15TH AUGUST, 1916 Age 22

Phillip Edward LIVING

Phillip Edward Living was born at Maryborough, Victoria in 1893 to parents John & Annie Living (nee Samles / Samels).

Phillip Edward Living was a 22 year old, single, Grocer from Hope Street, Maryborough, Victoria when he enlisted at Melbourne on 19th October, 1915 with the 6th Infantry Brigade, 24th Infantry Battalion, 10th Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 4138 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Annie Living, of Hope Street, Maryborough, Victoria.

Pte Phillip Edward Living was at Camp with 24th Depot Battalion at Royal Park from 20th October, 1915. He was transferred to Reinforcements at Williamstown on 14th November, 1916 & transferred to 10th Reinforcements, 24th Battalion at Broadmeadows on 14th January, 1916.

Private Phillip Edward Living embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Wiltshire (A18)* on 7th March, 1916.

Private Phillip Edward Living proceeded to join the B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) from Alexandria on H.M.T. *Scotian* on 9th May, 1916. He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 18th May, 1916.

Private Phillip Edward Living was admitted to 26th General Hospital at Etaples on 20th June, 1916 with Appendicitis. He embarked from Boulogne on Hospital Ship Newhaven for England on 30th June, 1916.

Private Phillip Edward Living was admitted to County of London War Hospital, Epsom, Surrey, England on 30th June, 1916.

Private Phillip Edward Living was reported as dangerously ill by A.I.F. Headquarters on 15th July, 1916.

Notification was sent to Mrs A. Living, mother of late Pte Phillip Edward Living, on 20th July, 1916 advising the Private Phillip E. Living was "*dangerously ill with Facial Fistula*". A subsequent notification as sent on 1st August, 1916 stating that Private Phillip E. Living "*condition improving. Will furnish further progress report when received.*"

Private Phillip Edward Living died on 15th August, 1916 at County of London War Hospital, Epsom, Surrey, England from (1) Appendicitis and (2) Gangrene of Coecium.

A death for Phillip E. Living, aged 22, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of Epsom, Surrey, England.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Pte P. E. Living contains several explanations regarding his death.

- "*Ill, July/16. Died 18/8/16- was conscious to the end, thought much of his mother, and sent many messages to her – asking the doctor to write. He was buried at Epsom Cemetery, with military honours, and many of his comrades were present. The number of the grave is not yet obtained, but will be forwarded. Sister Legge was with him at the end and says he died happily and was always very patient. Both doctor and sister were very sorry to lose him – they had grown so fond of the boy.*"
- "*Admitted Epsom Hospital 20/7/16, with appendicitis.*
Still very ill. Cert by Telephone message from hosp. 10/8/16.
Still very ill – not much hope. Cert by Telephone message from hosp. 15/8/16.

Private Phillip Edward Living was buried on 18th August, 1916 in Epsom Cemetery, Surrey in Site "K" Grave No. 645.

A letter dated 19th April, 1920, from Base Records to Mrs A. Living, mother of late Pte Phillip E. Living, reads in part "*....that his remains have been exhumed from former site and re-interred in Grave No. 82, Star 1, Section "K", Epsom Cemetery, Epsom.*" Private Phillip Edward Living is named on the Screen Wall. K. 82. There are no headstones for this section of the Cemetery, however those buried have their names on a bronze plaque located on the Screen Wall

which is directly in front of the lawned area of burials. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

A War Pension was granted to Annie Living, mother of late Pte Phillip Edward Living, in the sum of £2 per fortnight as from 26th October, 1916.

Pte Phillip Edward Living was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Living's mother – Mrs Annie Living, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent November, 1921 & Plaque sent June, 1922).

Mrs A. Living, mother of late Pte Phillip Edward Living, received a letter from Base Records, dated 7th May, 1925, advising her that the Chairman of the Epsom Urban District Council had advised that on the 17th May "*there will be unveiled and dedicated the Great War Cross erected by the Imperial War Graves Commission to the soldiers, sailors and airmen, who died in the service of their King and Country and who are buried in the Epsom Cemetery..... A similar notification is being forwarded to next-of-kin of all members of the Australian Imperial Force whose remains are interred in the abovenamed cemetery, as it is felt that the proposed ceremony will be of special interest to the relatives concerned, and an assurance that the work of perpetuating the memory of our fallen is being carried out with the reverent care and attention.*"

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Phillip Edward Living – service number 4138, aged 22, of 24th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Annie and the late John Living, of Hope St., Maryborough, Victoria, Australia.

Private P. E. Living is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 102.

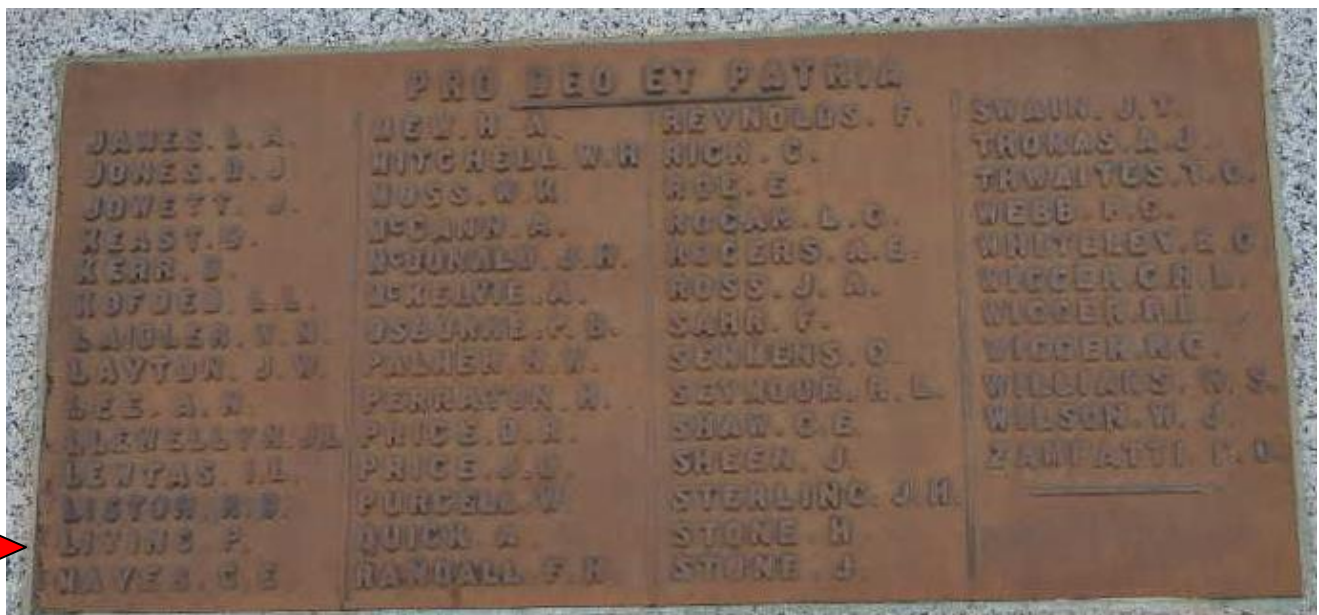


Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

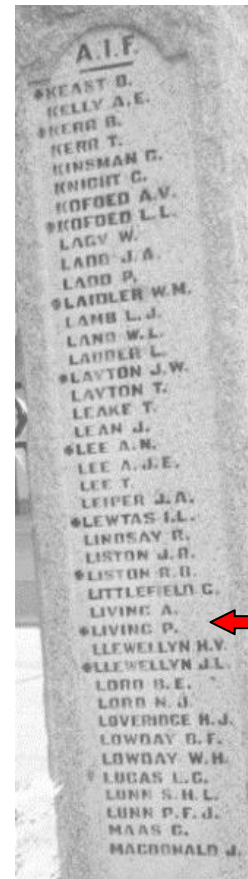
P. Living is remembered on the Maryborough War Memorial located on Clarendon Street, Maryborough, Victoria.



Maryborough War Memorial (Photos from Carol's Headstones)



P. Living is also remembered on the Prince's Park Memorial Gates, Park Road, Maryborough, Victoria.



Prince's Park Memorial Gates, Maryborough (Photos from Victorian Heritage Database)

(65 pages of Pte Phillip Edward Living'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

AUSTRALIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

THE CASUALTY LISTS

BENDIGO AND NORTHER DISTRICT MEN

ILL

Pte P. E. LIVING, Maryborough (dangerously)

(*Bendigonian*, Bendigo, Victoria – 3 August, 1916)

Word was received on Saturday by his parents residing at Hope Street, Maryborough, of the death from illness of Private P. E. Living. Private Living was reported seriously ill some weeks ago. The deceased soldier was in the employ of Mrs Laird, Nolan Street, prior to enlistment.

(Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser, Victoria – 28 August, 1916)

AUSTRALIA'S TOLL

Additional Official Casualties

Died of Illness

Pte P. E. LIVING, Maryborough

(The Bendigo Independent, Victoria – 7 September, 1916)

BEREAVEMENT NOTICE

Mrs A. Living and Family desire to THANK all kind friends for letters, cards, and visitation, and for expressions of sympathy during their sad bereavement.

(Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser, Victoria – 13 September, 1916)

LATE PRIVATE P. E. LIVING

STORY OF HIS PASSING

Mrs A. Living, of Hope-street, Maryborough, has received the following letters with reference to the death of her son. Private P. E. Living from Captain A. Geoffrey Owen, A. I.C., A.I.F., the County of London War Hospital, Epsom, as follows: "Dear Madam, I promised your son, Private Living, before he died to write to you and give you some details about him. First of all, I should like to send you my very sincere sympathy in your sad loss. This war is a terrible time for you mothers, and it is doubly sad that your boy should have died so far away from his home and all his friends, but you must rest assured that everything possible was done for him. Your son developed appendicitis in France, and was operated on there. Unfortunately complications set in, which proved very serious. He was brought over here, and for a time he improved considerably; but further complications then developed and, in spite of all our efforts, proved fatal. I had charge of your boy for several weeks, and during that time I got to know him well, and became very fond of him. He was an excellent patient, and very patient. I think it was some comfort to him to be able to talk to me about Australia and his life and friends out there; and I can assure you that we did all we could to help him. Some day when the war is over. I may find myself in Maryborough, if so, I shall make a point of coming to see you. My home is in Camperdown, in the Western District. Once again, dear madam, let me send you my sincere sympathy.

Another letter was from Rose E. Welby, 14a Finchley-road, St. John's. Wood. London. This lady was a constant visitor at the hospital where Private Living lay, The letter concludes: "His message was, 'Send my mother my very best love, and say I am not suffering much pain.' He was such a nice fellow, and I had got to know him and now when I got into the ward miss his bright look of welcome." A letter from the Red Cross organisation states:--"He was buried at Epsom cemetery, with military honors, and many of his comrades were present."

(Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser, Victoria – 17 November, 1916)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

DA1 3935

Private Phillip Edward Living



Epsom Cemetery, Surrey, England

Epsom Cemetery, Surrey contains 231 War Burials. There are 182 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war and 49 of the 1939-1945 war here. 149 of the 1914-18 war burials are located in Plot K. These are commemorated at the North end of the plot on a Screen Wall, upon which are bronze panels bearing the names of those buried in the plot. The bronze panels were provided from a fund held by the Horton (County of London) War Hospital, the Horton Hospital, the Manor (County of London) War Hospital and the Woodcote Park Military Convalescent Hospital.

(Information from CWGC)

There are six soldiers buried in Epsom Cemetery, Surrey who served with the Australian Imperial Force in World War 1. These six soldiers are named on bronze panels on the Screen Wall, within Plot K of the Cemetery. The bronze panels on the Screen Wall have the name, service number, rank, date of death, age & plot number. The plot numbers on the bronze plaques correspond to plaques located in the lawn immediately in front of the Screen Wall. There are 110 plaques on the lawn which do not have individual headstones, unlike most other Commonwealth War Graves Cemeteries.



Screen Wall with named bronze panels within Plot K of Epsom Cemetery, Surrey

(Photos courtesy of Kevin Loughnane - Great War Forum)



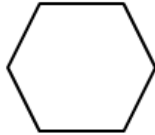
Example showing Pte Cummings in Plot 239 & the Numbered Lawn Plaques in front of Screen Wall

Arrow showing Pte Thomas Harrison's Plot number 82

(Note there are 3 plots numbered 82)



Screen Wall



Cross of Sacrifice

665	690	737	225	90	91	236	746	701	654
664	691	736	226	89	92	237	745	702	653
663	692	735	227	88	93	238	744	703	652
662	693	734	228	87	94	239	743	704	651
661	694	733	229	86	95	240	742	705	690
660	695	732	230	85	96	241	741	706	649
659	696	731	231	84	97	242	740	707	648
658	697	730	232	83	98	243	739	708	647
657	698	729	233	82 *	99	244	738	709	646
656	699	728	234	82 *	100	245	737	710	645
655	700	727	235	82 *	101	246	736	711	644



Lawned plots

100ft to scale



Aerial view of the Screen Wall burials

Photo of Pte P. E. Living's name on the bronze panels on the Screen Wall in Epsom Cemetery, Surrey, England.

4138 PRIVATE P. E. LIVING
24 TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF
15. 8. 1915 AGE 22 82

11498 DRUMMER T. LITTLE
ROYAL FUSILIERS
2. 9. 1917 AGE 29 647

4138 PRIVATE P. E. LIVING
24 TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF
15. 8. 1915 AGE 22 82

55/18180 PRIVATE A. LYLE
ROYAL ARMY SERVICE CORPS
4. 1. 1920 AGE 44 753

415171 PNR. J. T. MC BURNEY
CANADIAN PIONEERS
16. 6. 1916 AGE 40 711

4852 PRIVATE D. F. MC GILLEN
THE KING'S LIVERPOOL REGT
11. 1. 1917 AGE 34 647

17345 PRIVATE W. H. MACK
EAST SURREY REGIMENT
15. 12. 1916 AGE 21 646

92794 GUNNER G. C. MC KAY
CANADIAN ARTILLERY
26. 1. 1913 AGE 19 743

9473 PTE. W. C. MAC MURCHY
3 RD BN. CANADIAN INF
16. 2. 1913 AGE 26 704

859147 PTE. F. E. MC PHERSON
CAN. MACHINE GUN CORPS
22. 6. 1918 AGE 41 745

M2/115119 PTE. F. C. MARTIN
ROYAL ARMY SERVICE CORPS
26. 11. 1917 AGE 32 649