

Wandsworth Cemetery, London, England War Graves

(also known as Earlsfield Cemetery, Magdalen Road Cemetery, Wandsworth Earlsfield Cemetery)



Lest We Forget

World War 1



5163 PRIVATE

C. S. MARMENT

56TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

15TH JANUARY, 1917 Age 25

Conway Spencer MARMENT

Conway Spencer Marment was born at Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England to parents James & Dorinda Marment (nee Arthur). His birth was registered in March quarter, 1888 in the district of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England.

The 1891 England Census recorded Conway Marment as a 3 year old Scholar, living with his family at 6 Glenfall terrace, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England. His parents were listed as James Marment (Fruiterer, aged 42, born Cheltenham, Gloucestershire) & Dorinda Marment (Scholar, aged 35, born Surrey). Conway was one of four children listed on this Census (all born Cheltenham, Gloucestershire) – Olive Marment (Scholar, aged 8), William Marment (Scholar, aged 6) then Conway & Emily Marment (aged 1). Also listed in the household was Amy Walton (Domestic Servant, aged 13).

Dorinda Marment, mother of Conway Spencer Marment, died in 1892 in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England. Her death was registered in September quarter, 1892.

The 1901 England Census recorded Conway Marment as a 13 year old living with his family at 6 Glenfall Terrace, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. His widower father was listed as James Marment (Fruit Greenman, aged 52). Conway was one three children listed on this Census – Olive Marment (aged 18) then Conway & Emily Marment (aged 11). Also listed in the household was Ellen Wright General Domestic Servant, aged 56).

James Marment, father of Conway Spencer Marment, died on 2nd July, 1904 in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England.

From the New South Wales Police Gazette – 2 August, 1911:

Apprehensions

Conway Spencer Marment, charged on warrant with making a false statement on oath before W. P. Breden, J.P., at Sydney, on the 30th March last, has been arrested by Sergeant Morris, Gosford Police, on information supplied by Senior-detective Walker and Detective Malone. Remanded to Sydney, and committed for trial at Quarter Sessions.

From the New South Wales Police Gazette – 11 October, 1911:

Return of Prisoners Tried at the different Circuit Courts and Courts of Quarter Sessions

Name	Offence	On Whom committed	When and when Tried	Sentence
<i>Conway Spencer Marment</i>	<i>Wilfully making a false statement in declaration</i>	<i>Rex</i>	<i>Sydney Q.S., 31st July, 1911</i>	<i>Acquitted</i>

Conway Spencer Marment was a 25 year old, single, Steward, care of Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Head Office, Sydney, NSW when he enlisted on 21st January, 1916 at Liverpool, New South Wales with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Roman Catholic & his next of kin was listed as his sister – Mrs H. O. Williams, 48 Alcester Road, Moseley, Birmingham, England. (Originally Conway Marment had listed his sister Emily Marment as his next of kin & listed “do not know address Gloucester.”) (His postal address on “Application to Enlist in the Australian Imperial Force” was listed as 234 Elizabeth St, City).

Private Conway Spencer Marment was posted to “C/4” on 28th January, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 16th Reinforcements of 4th Battalion from 15th March, 1916.

Private Conway Spencer Marment, Service number 5163, embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on SS *Makarini* on 1st April, 1916 with the 4th Infantry Battalion, 16th Reinforcements & disembarked at Suez on 1st May, 1916.

Private Conway Spencer Marment embarked from Alexandria on 29th July, 1916 on H.M.T. *Arcadian* & disembarked at Southampton via Marseilles, France on 9th August, 1916.

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.

4th Battalion

The 4th Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. Like the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions it was recruited from New South Wales and, together with these other battalions, formed the 1st Brigade....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Conway Spencer Marment was transferred to 56th Battalion on 24th May, 1916 from 4th Battalion.

Private Conway Spencer Marment embarked for Overseas (France) on 9th September, 1916 (Statement of Service form recorded he embarked for overseas France on 31st August, 1916) from 14th Training Battalion in England. He was marched in to 5th Divisional Base Depot at Etaples, France on 11th September, 1916. Private Marment joined 56th Battalion in France on 24th September, 1916 from Reinforcements.

Private Conway Spencer Marment was wounded in action in France on 31st October, 1916. He was admitted to 1st Anzac Dressing Station on 2nd November, 1916 with G.S.W left Hand & Back then transferred to Casualty Clearing Station. Private Marment was transferred & admitted to 9th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 4th November, 1916 with G.S.W. left Hand (amputated). He was invalided to England on 10th November, 1916 from Havre on Hospital Ship *Carisbrook Castle*.

56th Battalion

The 56th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 14 February 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. Half of its recruits were Gallipoli veterans from the 4th Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 4th, the 56th was predominantly composed of men from New South Wales. The battalion became part of the 14th Brigade of the 5th Australian Division.

Arriving in France on 30 June 1916, the battalion entered the frontline trenches for the first time on 12 July and fought its first major battle at Fromelles a week later. The battle was a disaster, resulting in heavy casualties across the division. Despite these losses the 5th Division continued to man the front in the Fromelles sector for a further two months.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 56th Battalion

POMMIERES

October 30, 1916:

5.20 pm – “A” and “B” Companies, also Lewis Gun Detachment, reported that they were in position.

Throughout the night rain fell almost incessantly with the result that the men became absolutely drenched, also the trenches got into very bad condition.

Nothing of much importance happened along the Battalion front throughout the night, except for the usual hostile shelling.

October 31, 1916:

4pm – Major Anderson was summoned to Brigade Headquarters and returned at 4.30 pm

2 men were evacuated sick to Hospital.

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On Standing down everything was reported quiet along the Battalion front. At daybreak the party from the 57th Battalion withdrew from the trenches and returned to their camp at Montauban. Although this party worked throughout the night in the rain it was practically all wasted energy as the rain had washed most of the earth back into the trenches again; also in many cases the sided of the trenches had fallen in.

.....

2.20 pm – Remainder of the Battalion, excluding a few details, left to join the first half of the Battalion in the trenches.

During the day 3 men were evacuated to Hospital sick.

5 Other ranks were killed and 9 wounded.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

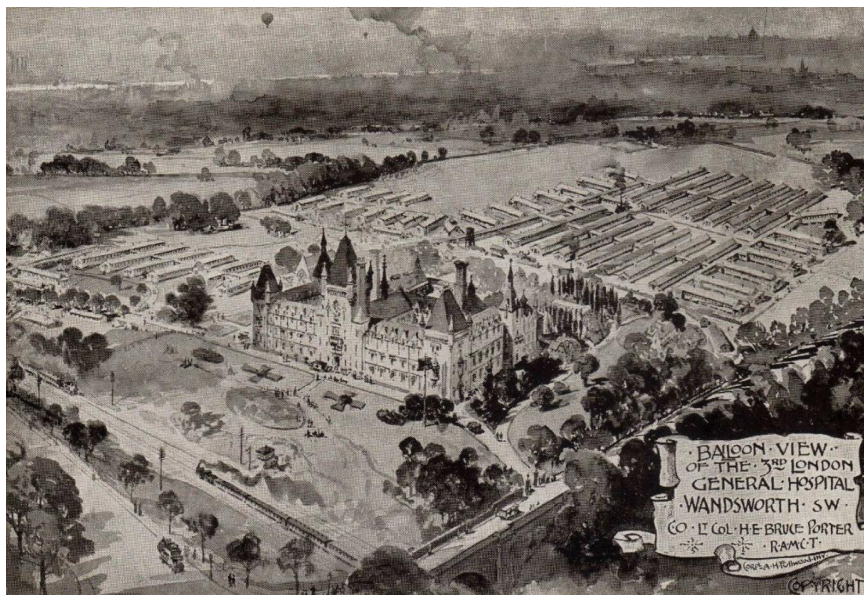
Private Conway Spencer Marment was admitted to 3rd London General Hospital, England on 11th November, 1916 with G.S.W. left Hand & Back. He was reported to be seriously ill on 14th January, 1917.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

A01040

3rd London General Hospital, Wandsworth



Private Conway Spencer Marment died at 10.35 am on 15th January, 1917 at 3rd London General Hospital, Wandsworth, England from wounds received in action in France – G.S.W. Back, left Hand (amputated) & Tetanus. (Note: The *“Report of Death of a Soldier”* (Army Form B 2090) listed his next of kin as Mother: – Mrs Marment, Tweed River, nr Murwillumbah, NSW & Sister:- Mrs H. O. Williams, 64 Edmund Road, Saltley, Birmingham)

A death for Conway S. Marment, aged 25, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Wandsworth, Greater London, England.

Private Conway Spencer Marment was buried on 20th January, 1917 in Wandsworth (Earlsfield) Cemetery, London, England – Block 30 Grave no. F B 19.

This is now recorded by Commonwealth War Graves Commission as Plot number Aust. 22 and he now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Public Trust Office, Sydney, NSW wrote to Base Records on 11th September, 1917 requesting a Certificate in duplicate of the death of Private C.S. Marment, 56th Battalion; the address of deceased prior to enlistment & the name & address of person nominated as his next of kin.

Base Records replied to The Public Trustee on 20th September, 1917, enclosing a certificate, in duplicate of report of death of the late No. 5163 Private C. S. Marment, 56th Battalion. His address prior to enlistment was listed as c/- Commonwealth Bank of Australasia, Head Office, Sydney, NSW. The next of kin was listed as his Sister – Mrs H. O. Williams, 48 Alcester Road, Mosley, Birmingham, England.

Private Conway Spencer Marment was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Marment’s sister – Mrs H. O. Williams, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque issued in England in August, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Conway Spencer Marment – service number 5163, aged 25, of 56th Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private C. S. Marment is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 162.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

C. S. Marment is remembered on the Cheltenham War Memorial, located on The Promenade, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England.



Cheltenham War Memorial (Photos from War Memorials Online)



MARCEYTS CPL A. R. WAR. R.
MARMONT PTE C.S. AUS. I.F.
MARSDEN CAPT E. I. A.

C. Marment is remembered on the Pates Grammar School World War One Roll of Honour.



(Photo by Henry Joseph Pitman)



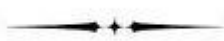
Private C. S. Marment is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 162.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(38 pages of Private Conway Spencer Marment'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

ABOUT A BANK PASS-BOOK

Conway Marment, aged 23, was committed for trial on a charge of making a false statement to the effect that his pass-book on the Government Savings Bank had been lost or destroyed, and had not been assigned or pledged or lodged with any person as security. Constance Ward stated that accused gave her a pass-book. He owed her money. Evidence was also given by the manager of the Government Savings Bank to the effect that accused had an account at the bank. He subsequently made a declaration for a new pass-book. Mrs Ward stated in accused's presence that she held the pass-book as security got money lent to Marment.

(The Maitland Daily Mercury, NSW – 28 July, 1911)

CONWAY AT COOGEE

HANKERS FOR A SISTER

AND IS COMMITTED FOR TRIAL

Before Mr. Love, S.M., in the Water Police Court, on Friday last, a young fellow named Conway Spencer Marment, 23 years of age, was charged with having, on or before the 30th of March, wilfully made a false statement in a solemn declaration, authorised to be received by Richard Percy Breden, manager of the Moore-street branch of the Government Savings Bank, that his pass-book was not assigned, pledged, or lodged with any person.

Evidence was originally taken at Gosford, at which place the accused was arrested. When the arresting officer saw him, he said, "I have a warrant for your arrest," to which accused replied, "That's a strange affair. When I was down in Sydney I one day went with a woman out to Coogee. On returning home I lost my passbook, and then went to the bank and made a declaration. A woman accompanied me to the bank, and she and I, by arrangement, agreed to pass off as

BROTHER AND SISTER.

I drew from the bank the sum of £10, and this I gave to the woman.

On Friday, at the Water, Detective Walker conducted the case.

Richard Percy Breden stated that he was the manager of the Moore-street branch of the Government Saving Bank of New South Wales, where the accused had an account which had been opened on the 20th of August, 1910. On February of this year the accused made a declaration for a new passbook, according to the regulations of the institution whenever a bank-book is lost or destroyed. A Mrs. C. Ward, in accused's presence, made a claim, and said, "I hold this book as security for money I have lent to Marment; he is my brother." She repeated this later at a second interview.

Constance Ward, a stylishly dressed young woman, said that she had had some monetary transactions with accused, whose passbook she had about March 30th, 1911, holding with the knowledge of Marment, not so much on account of the money as

CERTAIN PAPERS

which belonged to witness, and were in the possession of accused.

Accused: When, may I ask, did I give the book to you? — One day after we had been out to La Perouse. You gave it to me when we returned.

Mr. Love (to witness) : When did you return the book? — On the first of April. He



CONWAY SPENCER MARMET. CONSTANCE WARD

was, I might say, under the influence of liquor when he gave me the book.

Accused, who reserved his defence, was committed for trial.

(*Truth*, Sydney, NSW – 30 July, 1911)

Grafton Police Court

Friday 27th December

Before Mr M. H. Cleeve, J.P.

Conway S. Marmet, for being drunk in Princess street, was fined 2s 6d & twenty four hours.

(*The Grafton Argus and Clarence River General Advertiser*, NSW – 30 December, 1912)

ALLEGED STEALING

William Herpich (26), was charged with stealing £50, the property of Conway Spencer Marment, at Grafton on January 10. Mr. A. J. Pollack represented defendant.

The depositions taken at Coff's Harbour Police Court were put in (giving evidence of arrest by Constable Harper and of the latter securing £31, which defendant had left with the manager of the hotel). Defendant's replies to the Constable were to the effect that Marment had given him the money to mind.

Marment deposed that he and defendant had been staying at the same hotel in town, and were drinking together ; witness had on his person one £20 note, one £10 note, and six £1 notes, which he got from the Post Office Savings Bank ; in addition witness had £5. Witness, gave defendant £25 which he (witness) had promised him, together with witness' share of £25, to mind ; that was on the 10th ; witness gave defendant £1 to spend during the day ; witness was locked up that night, and, next morning, found his portmanteau had gone from the room he occupied at the hotel and then had a warrant issued for defendant's arrest, gave defendant authority to use his own half (£25), but not to take away witness' £25 ; did not now charge him with stealing the £25.

The Bench asked was it any use continuing.

Sergeant Swan : No ! This is the first we have heard of this. This man takes out a warrant, puts the country to the expense of bringing a constable and the defendant from Coff's Harbour, and then withdraws. There should be a penalty for this.

Mr. Pollack asked that the money be returned to defendant, which was done.

Defendant was discharged.

(The Grafton Argus and Clarence River General Advertiser, NSW – 22 January, 1913)

A NEW CATHOLIC SOCIETY

A Far-Reaching Movement

On Friday night last at Liverpool Camp a new movement of great significance and promising popularity was begun. At a meeting called by the chaplain the first steps were taken for the formation of a Catholic Soldiers' Guild.

The idea came from the reproduction of a letter in the "Catholic Press" from Sergeant Bert Rein to his mother. Sergeant Rein, the ideal type of a Catholic soldier, in relating his manner of life on a troopship going to the front, describes how the Catholic soldiers on board formed themselves into a guild, and assembled nightly to recite the Rosary. This letter the chaplain at Liverpool read to our boys in camp and remarked "If they can do it on a ship at sea we can do it in Liverpool Camp."

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The following are the pioneers of the newly established Catholic Soldiers; Guild:.....Conway S. Marment (Murwillumbah),

(The Catholic Press, Sydney, NSW – 3 February, 1916)

WAR LOSSES

The 245th list of casualties amongst Australian troops was issued this morning.....

WOUNDED

Pte C. S. MARMENT, England

(The Sun, Sydney, NSW – 2 December, 1916)

CASUALTIES

DEATHS OF 132 SOLDIERS REPORTED

LIST No. 269 ISSUED

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED OF WOUNDS

Pte C. S. MARMENT, England

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 30 January, 1917)

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 C. S. Marment does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Wandsworth (Earlsfield) Cemetery, London

This is to the North-East of Earlsfield Station and is bounded by the Magdalen Road on the East and the main railway line on the West.

It contains five 1914-1918 War Plots, (the general Military Plot, the Australian, the Newfoundland, the New Zealand and the South African plots). These are on the main path leading West from Magdalen Road and there are also over 200 burials in other parts of the cemetery. The Military Plot contains a Screen Wall bearing the names of those buried in it and those in unmarked graves in other parts of the cemetery. The majority of the 1939-1945 burials are scattered throughout the cemetery but there is one group of six burials together in a War Plot near the main entrance. Again, those whose graves are unmarked are also named upon the Screen Wall, Panel 1.

Many of the 1914-1918 burials are from the 3rd London General Hospital which was at Wandsworth. There are 477 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war and 115 of the 1939-1945 war here. There are also 5 non-war service burials here.

There are 34 Australian World War 1 Soldiers buried here & 1 Australian Soldier from 1925.

(Information from CWGC)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

H16917

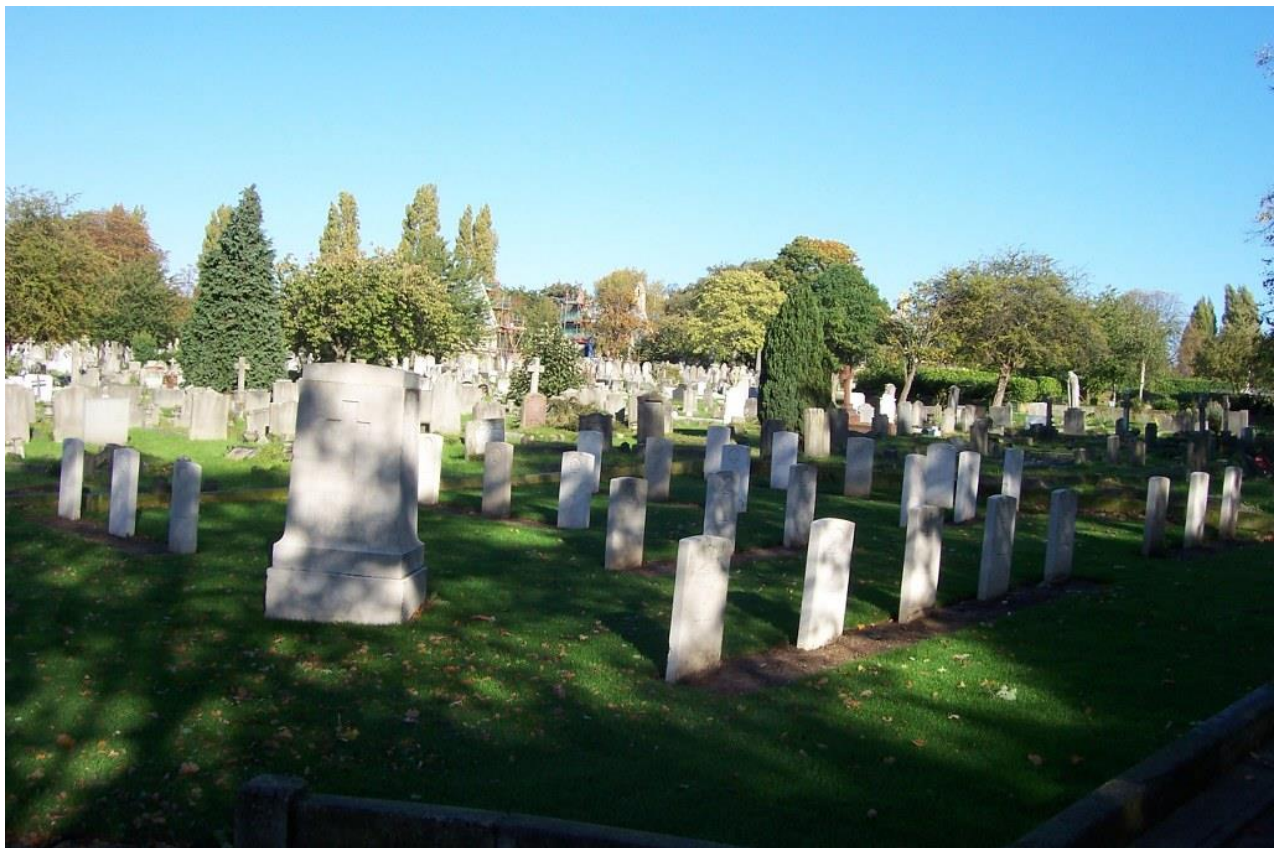
A group of Soldiers' graves in the Australian Section of Wandsworth Cemetery, London *(taken 15 April, 1931)*



(Photo by Scotch Mist 2013)



The Australian Plot in Wandsworth Cemetery, London *(Photos from CWGC)*





Cross of Sacrifice (Photos from CWGC)

Photo of Private C. S. Marment's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Wandsworth (Earlsfield) Cemetery, London, England.



(Photo courtesy of Neil Bright)