

# Compton Chamberlayne War Graves

## Wiltshire, England



*Lest We Forget*

### World War 1



2736 LANCE SERJT

**H. W. McCARTHY**

27TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

8TH MAY, 1918 Age 27

*ASLEEP IN JESUS*

## Horace William McCARTHY

Horace William McCarthy was born at Yatala, South Australia on 15th September, 1890 to parents William James McCarthy & Melissa Harriett McCarthy (nee Johns).

Horace William McCarthy attended Port Adelaide Public School and Muirden College, Adelaide, South Australia.

Horace William McCarthy was a 24 year old, single, Clerk from Eden Hills, South Australia when he enlisted on 26th July, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2736 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Melissa Harriett McCarthy, Hawker, South Australia.

Private Horace William McCarthy was posted to “O Group” on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to “A” Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Depot Battalion on 16<sup>th</sup> August, 1915 then transferred to 11<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements of 10<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 1915. Private McCarthy was transferred on 16<sup>th</sup> September to 6<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements of 27<sup>th</sup> Battalion.

Horace William McCarthy married Elsie Mary Lyne in the district of Adelaide, South Australia in 1915.

### Marriages

*McCARTHY-LYNE – On the 15th September, at the Parkside Methodist Church, by the Rev. V. Roberts, Private Horace William McCarthy of Mitcham Camp, eldest son of Mr W. J. McCarthy, of Hawker, to Elsie Mary, second daughter of Mr H. Lyne, Helston, Young Street, Parkside, and granddaughter of the late G. W. Cole, of North Adelaide.*

*(The Register, Adelaide, South Australia – Saturday 23rd October, 1915)*

Private Horace William McCarthy embarked from Adelaide, South Australia on HMAT *Benalla (A24)* on 27th October, 1915 with the 7th Infantry Brigade, 27th Infantry Battalion, 6th Reinforcements & disembarked at Egypt.

Private Horace William McCarthy was promoted to Temporary Corporal on 1st April, 1916 whilst in England.

T/Cpl McCarthy was promoted to Corporal on 24th January, 1917 at Tidworth & then to Acting Lance/Sergeant on 21st February, 1917 at Rollestone (both in Wiltshire, England).

On 21st November, 1917 McCarthy was attached to “Perm. Cadre” of 6th Training Battalion at Fovant, Wiltshire. He was then transferred to the 5th Training Battalion at Fovant on 22nd April, 1918.

Lance Sergeant Horace William McCarthy was admitted to the Military Hospital at Fovant, Wiltshire on 8th May 1918.

Lance Sergeant Horace William McCarthy died at 7.55 p.m. on 8th May, 1918 of Phthisis at Military Hospital, Fovant.

A death for Horace W McCarthy, aged 27, was registered in the June quarter, 1918 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire.

Lance Sergeant Horace William McCarthy was buried on 11th May, 1918 at Compton Chamberlayne Cemetery – Back Row, Grave Plot # 11. From the burial report of L/Sgt McCarthy – *Coffin was good, Polished Elm with Brass Mountings – Deceased was buried with full Military Honour. There was a large attendance at the funeral which was preceded by a band of a Training Brigade. The Firing Party was supplied from a Training Battalion, six Warrant Officers acting as pallbearers. Lieut. E. C. Norris, C.o. and Lieut A. K. Paul with a company of D. C. O.'s and men attended the funeral. Wreaths from the Sgts Mess, Q.M. and Staff and the Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the Training Battalion were placed on the grave. The late soldier was most popular with all ranks in the Battalion and always proved himself a good soldier and true comrade. His loss is very keenly felt by Officers and men.*

Information from the Australian Red Cross Society Missing & Wounded File -enquiries were received by several people enquiring into details of the death of Lance Sergeant Horace William McCarthy – 2736, namely Pte W G Nicholls 3446 50th Battalion, Percy A Parsons of Marsh Barn Farm, Horsington, Templecombe, Somerset, England.

Reply from the O.C. Military Hospital, Fovant:

*"Died of Disease 8/5/18 Re Sgt McCarthy, he was admitted into Hospital on the 8/5/18, he did not appear very seriously ill. He was seen by the Medical Officer who prescribed treatment. He changed suddenly about 7 o'clock and died at 7.55 same day of failure of the heart muscle. He was buried at Compton Chamberlayne. As he was in such a short time I regret I am unable to give you any more details."*

Mrs Elsie McCarthy, wife of deceased L/Sgt Horace William McCarthy, wrote to the A.I.F. on 22nd September, 1919 stating that it had been eighteen months since the death of her late husband & that she had neither heard about or seen his personal effects.

A reply was sent 26th September, 1919 from Officer in Charge of Base Records advising that *"a package containing your husband's property... was included in a consignment shipped from England per S.S. Barunga of which vessel was lost at sea with all cargo on its way to Australia, as the result of enemy action. No hope can be entertained of the recovery of the articles so lost."*

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Lance Sergeant Horace William McCarthy – service number 2736, of 27th Battalion, Australian Infantry, A.I.F. He was the son of William James and Melissa Harriet McCarthy; husband of Elsie M. McCarthy, of Wilfrena St., Eden Hills, South Australia.

Lance Sergeant H. W. McCarthy is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 110.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia





Lance Serjeant H. W. McCarthy is also remembered on the Roll of Honour Board at Unley Town Hall, South Australia.



H. W. McCarthy is remembered on the National Soldiers Memorial in Adelaide. The Adelaide National War Memorial commemorates those from South Australia that served in the First World War. The names of those that died are listed inside the Memorial, which is located on the corner of North Terrace & Kintore Avenue, Adelaide.



**National War Memorial – Adelaide** (Photos by Bilby)

Lance Sergeant H. W. McCarthy was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll (October, 1921) & Memorial Plaque (December, 1922) were sent to L/Sgt. McCarthy's widow – Mrs Elsie May McCarthy, Eden Hills, South Australia.

(49 pages of Lance Sergeant H W McCarthy's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

*Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives*





## **Newspaper Reports**

### **DEATHS – For King And Country**

McCarthy- on the 8th May, at Alexandra Hospital, of phthisis, Lce-Sgt Horace William, dearly loved husband of Elsie M McCarthy (nee Lyne), of Parkside and Eden Hills, and eldest son of W. J. McCarthy, Esq, of George Street, Hindmarsh, aged 27 years. "Until the day break, and the shadows flee away."

(*The Register*, Adelaide, South Australia - Thursday 16th May, 1918)

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### **DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE**

McCarthy- on the 8th May, at Alexander Hospital, of phthisis, Lance-Sergeant Horace William McCarthy, late of Good, Durrant & Co, dearly beloved eldest son of W. J. McCarthy, railway-station master, Bowden, late of Hawker and husband of Elsie M McCarthy, Eden Hills, aged 27 years. Safe in the arms of Jesus.

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia – Thursday 23rd May, 1918)

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### **Our Fallen Heroes - THE AUSTRALIANS**

#### **Biographical**

LATE LCE.-SGT. H. W. McCARTHY

The late Lce.-Sgt. Horace William McCarthy was the eldest son of Mr W. J. McCarthy, stationmaster, and was born at Yatala in 1890. With his parents he moved to Farina in 1903, and in 1910 obtained employment as clerk with Messrs. Goode, Durrant, & Co. Of Adelaide, with whom he continued to work until he enlisted in July, 1915. After 13 weeks' training, he left with the 6th Reinforcements of the 27th Battalion for Egypt, but was put to office work with the 7th Training Battalion, with which he sailed for England in June, 1916. Later, as a result of recognition from France for duties faithfully accomplished, he was promoted to the rank of lance-sergeant, and during re-organization in November, 1917, was transferred to the 6th Training Battalion. On May 8 Lce.-Sgt. McCarthy died of phthisis at the Alexander Fovant Hospital. The news came as a shock to his many friends, as no notification of his illness had been received. He was interested in the work of the Parkside Methodist Church and Sunday school, and was a member of the tennis club connected with the Sunday school. For some years he was a member of the Jubilee Tent, I. O. R. In September, 1915, he married Elsie, daughter of Mr H. Lyne, then of Parkside, and now of Eden Hills. A brother, Pte H. H. McCarthy, is with the 14th Australian General Hospital in Egypt.

(*The Register*, Adelaide, South Australia – Saturday 8th June, 1918) & (*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia – Wednesday 12th June, 1918)

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### **Concerning People**

The following probates and letters of administration are notified in the weekly gazette of the Mercantile Trade Protection Association –

Horace William McCarthy, Parkside, £350;

(*The Register*, Adelaide, South Australia – Monday 28th October, 1918)

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## IN MEMORY OF THE BRAVE

McCARTHY (Lyne) – On the 8th May, 1918, at Alexander Fovant Military Hospital, England, of phthisis and heart failure. Lce.-Sgt. Horace William (27th Battn), dearly loved husband of Elsie M. McCarthy (nee Lyne), of Parkside and Eden Hills.

*(The Register, Adelaide, South Australia – Thursday 8th May, 1919)*

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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 at Compton Chamberlayne Cemetery. 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)*

Lance Sgt McCarthy does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

ASLEEP IN JESUS

### **Compton Chamberlayne War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire, England**

Compton Chamberlayne War Graves Cemetery contains 34 Commonwealth War Graves. There are 28 Australian War Graves, 4 British & 2 Irish. The War Graves, interspersed with some Public graves, are located in the front section of the Cemetery. The majority of the Public graves are in the back section of the Cemetery.



**Compton Chamberlayne War Graves Cemetery**





Looking left & right from front of Compton Chamberlayne Cemetery. (Photos by Andrew Stacey)



Compton Chamberlayne War Graves (Photo from CWGC)



Photo of Lance Serjeant H. W. McCarthy's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone at Compton Chamberlayne War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey)*

## Compton Chamberlayne War Grave Locations



British Soldier



Irish Soldier



Australian Soldier

Front Row	Grave		Middle Row	Grave		Back Row	Grave
<i>Public</i>	1		Oliver	1			1
<i>Public</i>	2		Knowles	2		<i>Public</i>	2
	Haywood	3		Skipper	3		Turner
	Gilbert	4		Wehrmann	4		Evans
	Le Tisser	5		Park	5		Dreckow
	Jones	6		Riley	6		Cass
	Cook	7		Turnbull	7		Arnold
	Pairman	8		White	8		Sillar
		9		Howard	9		Ross
	Norris	10		Tull	10		Finn
	Lintott	11		Snell	11		McCarthy
	Redman	12		Ferrow	12		Trengove
<i>Public</i>			<i>Public</i>				13
<i>Public</i>			<i>Public</i>				14
<i>Public</i>						Walsh	15
							16
						Hooper	17
							18
						Larkin	19