St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England

War Graves

Lest We Forget

World War 1

6621 PRIVATE

D. E. McGREGOR

15TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

23RD JANUARY, 1917   Age 36

David Edward McGREGOR

David Edward McGregor was born at Brogo, near Bega, New South Wales in 1880, to parents John & Isabella McGregor (nee Brown).

John McGregor, father of David Edward McGregor, died on 21st November, 1905 at Brogo, New South Wales.

David Edward McGregor attended school at Brogo, New South Wales.

The 1913 & 1917 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Darling Downs, subdivision of Toowoomba, Queensland, recorded David Edward McGregor, Assistant Buttermaker, from Campbell Street.

David McGregor was a 36 year old, single, Cheesemaker (according to information provided by his sister for the Roll of Honour – David was the Manager of a Cheese Factory) from Toowoomba, Queensland when he enlisted at Toowoomba on 7th July, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Presbyterian & his next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Isabella McGregor of Begs Street, Bega, New South Wales.

Private David Edward McGregor, Service number 6621, embarked from Brisbane on HMAT *Boonah (A36)* on 21st October, 1916 with the 4th Infantry Brigade, 15th Infantry Battalion, 21st Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 10th January, 1917.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. These were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Private McGregor was marched in to 4th Training Battalion at Codford, Wiltshire on 10th January, 1917.

Private McGregor was admitted sick to Group Hospital on 21st January, 1917.

Private David Edward McGregor died at 3.30 p.m. on 23rd January, 1917 at No. 3 New Zealand Hospital, Codford, Wiltshire, England from Broncho pneumonia.

A death for David E. McGregor, aged 36, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

Private David Edward McGregor was buried on 26th January, 1917 at St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England - Grave No. 41.

Private David Edward McGregor was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private McGregor's mother – Mrs I. McGregor (December, 1921 & April, 1922)

A War Pension was awarded to Private McGregor's mother – Isabella McGregor in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 18/4/1918.

Private D. E. McGregor is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 76.

*3 Soldiers (Above) - J.C.P. McGrath, D.E. McGregor & G. McIlroy were all from 15th Battalion & were all buried in Anzac Cemetery at Codford St. Mary, Codford, Wiltshire, England. Privates McIlroy & McGregor both embarked on the same ship.

Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)

D. E. McGregor is remembered on the Toowoomba Soldiers' Memorial Roll of Honour, located in Toowoomba RSL, 549 Ruthven Street, Toowoomba, Queensland.

Toowoomba Soldiers' Memorial Roll of Honour *(Photo from Monument Australia – John Huth)*
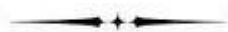
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(33 pages of Private David Edward McGregor's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

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

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** According to the Information supplied the Roll of Honour, by Ada M. McGregor, sister of Private David Edward McGregor – 2 other brothers also served with the A. I. F.

- Lieut. A. S. McGregor of 121 Light Horse – Mentioned in Despatches

- Sgt. Major Wallace McGregor of 25th Battalion – Military Medal

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Newspaper Reports

ROLL OF HONOUR

McGREGOR – January 23, at St Mary's Hospital Codford, England, Private David E., much loved brother of Ada McGregor, Bega-street, Bega, and Lach. and Wallace (on active service).

(*The Sydney Morning Herald*, NSW, Tuesday 6th February, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR – Casualty List

DIED OF ILLNESS

Private D. E. McGregor, Bega

(*Townsville Daily Bulletin* (Queensland, Saturday 10th February, 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 at Codford War Graves 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)

Private D. E. McGregor does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England

The New Zealand Command Depot was established at Codford in June 1916 and the No 3 New Zealand General Hospital followed in July. The New Churchyard was established by deed of gift as the "Military Burial Ground," with a small part reserved for future burials from the parish. The war graves plot contains 98 burials, mostly of New Zealand and Australian forces. There is only one burial of the Second World War in the New Churchyard.

(Information from CWGC)

There are 31 WW1 Australian War Graves & 66 WW1 New Zealand War Graves located here. There is one WW1 British Royal Army Medical Corp Grave & one WW2 Welsh Guards grave located in this Churchyard.

(Photos by Romy Wyeth 2013)
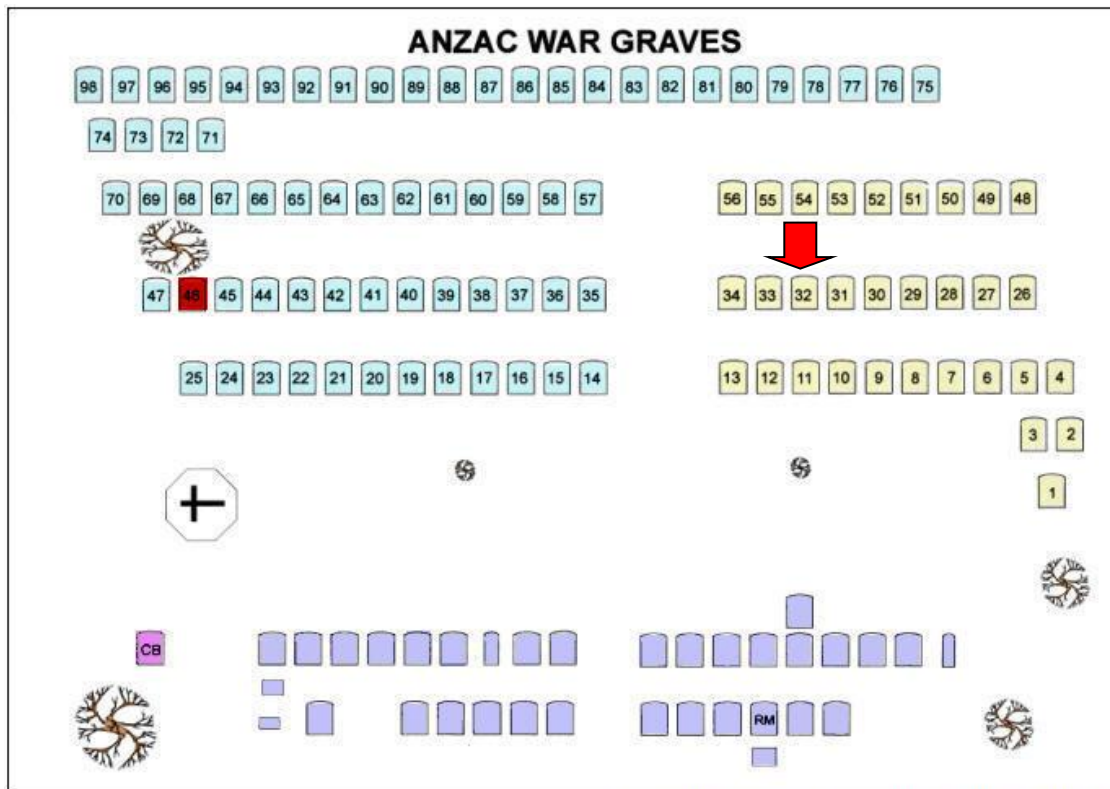
(Photos by Romy Wyeth)

Photo of Private D. E. McGregor's Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone in St. Mary's New Churchyard (Anzac), Wiltshire, England.

(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)

Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Private D. E McGregor is located in Main Middle Row (Right hand side) Grave Plot # 32 of Codford War Graves Cemetery (CWGC Reference - Grave # 41)

Codford War Graves map adapted from Brian Marshall courtesy of Romy Wyeth

Australian Soldiers

Welsh Soldier

New Zealand Soldiers

Local Burials

UK Soldier