

**Sutton Road Cemetery,  
Southend-On-Sea, Essex, England**

**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**2712 SERJEANT**

**J. NAYLOR**

**55TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**27TH JULY, 1916 Age 25**

*Only Remembered By*

*What We Have Done*

## Joseph NAYLOR

Joseph Naylor was born at Petersham, Sydney, New South Wales on 12th January, 1891 to parents Joseph and Alice Ann Naylor. He was baptised on 24th October, 1906 at St. Paul's Church of England, Chatswood, Sydney, NSW.

Joseph Naylor attended Sydney High School, Sydney, New South Wales.

Joseph Naylor was a 24 year old, single, Licensed Surveyor from Saywell Street, Chatswood, Sydney, NSW when he enlisted at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW on 26th March, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2712 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his sister – Mrs Mary E. Naylor, Saywell Street, Chatswood, Sydney, NSW. Joseph Naylor stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously joined Chatswood Rifle Reserve.

Private Joseph Naylor was transferred from "G" Company Depot to "X" Company on 19th April, 1915. He was transferred from "X" Company to Depot Training School on 1st June, 1915. Private Naylor was transferred from Depot Training School to 8th Reinforcements of 3rd Battalion on 15th July, 1915.

Private Joseph Naylor embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Runic (A54)* on 9th August, 1915 with the 3rd Infantry Battalion, 8th Reinforcements.

Private Joseph Naylor embarked from Alexandria on 21st October, 1915 for the Front on H.M.T. *Borda*. He was taken on strength of 3rd Battalion at Anzac on 2nd November, 1915.

Private Joseph Naylor was to be Temporary Corporal from 3rd November, 1915 vice Turnham.

Temporary Corporal Joseph Naylor disembarked from H.M.T. *Simla* at Alexandria on 29th December, 1915 (after the evacuation of Gallipoli).

### 3rd Battalion

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

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli, the battalion returned to Egypt.....

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

Temporary Corporal Joseph Naylor was transferred from 3rd Battalion to 55th Battalion on 13th February, 1916. He was taken on strength of 55th Battalion at Tel-el-Kebir the same day.

Temporary Corporal Joseph Naylor was promoted to Sergeant at Tel -el-Kebir on 20th February, 1916.

Sergeant Joseph Naylor embarked from Alexandria on *Caledonian* on 18th June, 1916 to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 29th June, 1916.

Sergeant Joseph Naylor was wounded on 20th July, 1916. He was admitted to 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station on 21st July, 1916 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to Legs then transferred to Ambulance Train on 22nd July, 1916. Sergeant Naylor was admitted to 8th Stationary Hospital at Wimereux, France on 22nd July, 1916. He was invalided to England on Hospital Ship St Denis on 23rd July, 1916 with G.S.W. Leg.

### 55th Battalion

The 55th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 12 February 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. Half of its recruits were Gallipoli veterans from the 3rd Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 3rd, the 55th 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. Although in reserve, the 55th was quickly committed to the attack and eventually played a critical role, forming the rearguard for the 14th Brigade's withdrawal. Despite its grievous 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 – 55th Battalion

*19th July, 1916:*

*4.30 pm – Received final orders for the attack on German lines this afternoon.*

*Marched out of billers to join in attack which was launched about 6 pm.*

*The attack was successful and the German trenches were carried. The trenches were held during the night and communication established with our own lines.*

*Owing to strong counter attack by the enemy, and being exposed on both flanks a retirement was necessary and this was effected.*

*20th July, 1916:*

*7 am – The losses were heavy, but the battalion, four-fifths, or more, of whom were strangers to battle acquitted itself honourably in its first engagement and returned with 40 German prisoners. (The report of the Commanding Officer, Lieut-Col. D. M. McCouaghy C.M.G. is attached See Appendix A.)*

*Casualties:*

<i>Killed</i>	<i>2 Officers</i>	<i>35 Other Ranks</i>
<i>Died of Wounds</i>		<i>5 “ “</i>
<i>Wounded</i>	<i>5 “</i>	<i>149 “ “</i>
<i>Missing</i>	<i>4 “</i>	<i>139 “ “</i>

*This is a statement of Casualties as known on 31st July 1916. Many of the missing will undoubtedly be proved to have been killed – and other wounds in Hun trenches, are doubtless, prisoners of war.*

*(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)*

Sergeant Joseph Naylor was admitted to H.M. Queen Mary's Royal Naval Hospital, Southern-on-Sea (affiliated to Chatham) with G.S.W. Buttock.

Sergeant Joseph Naylor died on 27th July, 1916 at Military Hospital, Chatham, England from wounds received in action in France – G.S.W. Left Buttock. (The Field Service Army Form B. 2090A – Report of Death of a Soldier, Statement of Service form, Purport card & Casualty Form – Active Service all recorded that Sergeant Naylor died at Military Hospital, Chatham. The Morning State of Sick Army Form A27 for the Military Hospital at Chatham recorded that Sergeant Naylor died at H. M. Queen Mary's R. N. Hospital, Southend.)

A death for Joseph Naylor, aged 25, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of Rochford, Essex, England.

Sergeant Joseph Naylor was buried in Sultan Road Cemetery, Southend – Grave No. 3492.

Sergeant Joseph Naylor's burial place is now listed by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission as Sutton Road Cemetery, Southend-On-Sea, Essex, England – Plot number E. 3437 and he now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

[Note: There are seven WW1 Australian Soldiers buried in Sutton Road Cemetery, Southend-On-Sea, Essex, England.

Originally five Soldiers were buried in 1916 in Municipal Cemetery, Sultan Road. The five were exhumed from Municipal Cemetery, Sultan Road at a later date & re-interred in separate graves in Sutton Road Cemetery, Southend-On-Sea.

Private Emery & Sergeant Naylor were originally recorded as being buried in Grave No. 3492 in Sultan Road Cemetery. Private Scott was originally recorded as being buried in Grave No. 5975 in Municipal Cemetery, Sultan Road. Private Spooner & Sergeant Yelverton were originally recorded as being buried in Grave No. 1169 in Municipal Cemetery, Sultan Road.

Of the five that were exhumed only one soldier has a copy of a letter in his Service Record file that was sent to next-of-kin advising of the exhumation. This is a transcript of the letter that was sent to Private Emery's father on 19<sup>th</sup> August, 1919: *"With reference to my communication of the 6th March, 1917, regarding the burial of your son, the late No. 3540, Private H. E. Emery, 59th Battalion, I am now in receipt of advice from A.I.F. Headquarters, London, to the effect that the remains of your son have been exhumed from Common Grave No. 3492 and re-interred in Separate Single Grave No. 3439 in Sutton Road Cemetery, Southend-on-Sea, England. This work is carried out with the utmost care and reverence in the presence of a Chaplain."*

The two soldiers that were buried in 1917 were buried in Sutton Road Cemetery, Southend-On-Sea undisturbed.]

Sergeant Joseph Naylor was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Sergeant Naylor's father – Mr J. Naylor, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent September, 1921 & Plaque sent July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Sergeant Joseph Naylor – service number 2712, aged 25, of 55th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Joseph and Alice Ann Naylor.

Sergeant J. Naylor is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 161.



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

(42 pages of Sergeant Joseph Naylor'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**

### **LATEST CASUALTIES**

#### **191st LIST**

#### **NEW SOUTH WALES**

Died – Cause Not Stated

Sgt J. Naylor, Chatswood

*(The Land, Sydney, NSW – 11 August, 1916)*

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### **DIED OF WOUNDS**

#### **SERGEANT J. NAYLOR**

Sergeant J, Naylor, son of Mr J. Naylor, of Chatswood, has died of wounds in Chatham Military Hospital, England. He served in Gallipoli. Deceased was educated at the Sydney High School.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 5 September, 1916)*

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### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

NAYLOR – In loving memory of Sergeant Joseph Naylor, died of wounds at Chatham Hospital, England,.

N. Naylor, Baywell-street, Chatswood.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 6 September, 1916)*

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### **IN MEMORIAM**

NAYLOR – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Sgt Joe Naylor, died of wounds received in France, July 27, 1916. J. and N. Naylor, Chatswood.

NAYLOR – In sweet and cherished remembrance of Sgt Joe Naylor, died of wounds received in France, July 27, 1916. Loved friend of Don and Rosie Jephcott, Killara.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 27 July, 1917)*

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

NAYLOR – In loving memory of our dear brother and uncle, Sergt. J. Naylor, who died of wounds received in France, July 27, 1916. Inserted by A. Naylor and family, Bondi.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 28 July, 1917)*

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## **On Active Service**

NAYLOR – In loving memory of our dear brother and uncle, Sergt. J. Naylor, who died of wounds on July 27, 1916. Inserted by Mr and Mrs A. Naylor and family.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 27 July, 1918)*

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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)*

Serjeant J. Naylor has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone with the following inscription:

*Only Remembered By What We Have Done*

## Sutton Road Cemetery, Southend-On-Sea, Essex, England

This cemetery contains 127 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-18 war and 152 burials of the 1939-45 war, including 1 unidentified seaman of the Merchant Navy. In addition there are 4 Foreign National war burials here. There are 2 small Screen Wall memorial panels naming those of the 1914-1918 war whose graves are not marked by headstones.

*(Information from CWGC)*



*(Photo from Find a Grave – Hawk Moth)*



*(Photo from CWGC)*

Photo of Serjeant J. Naylor's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Sutton Road Cemetery, Southend-On-Sea, Essex, England.

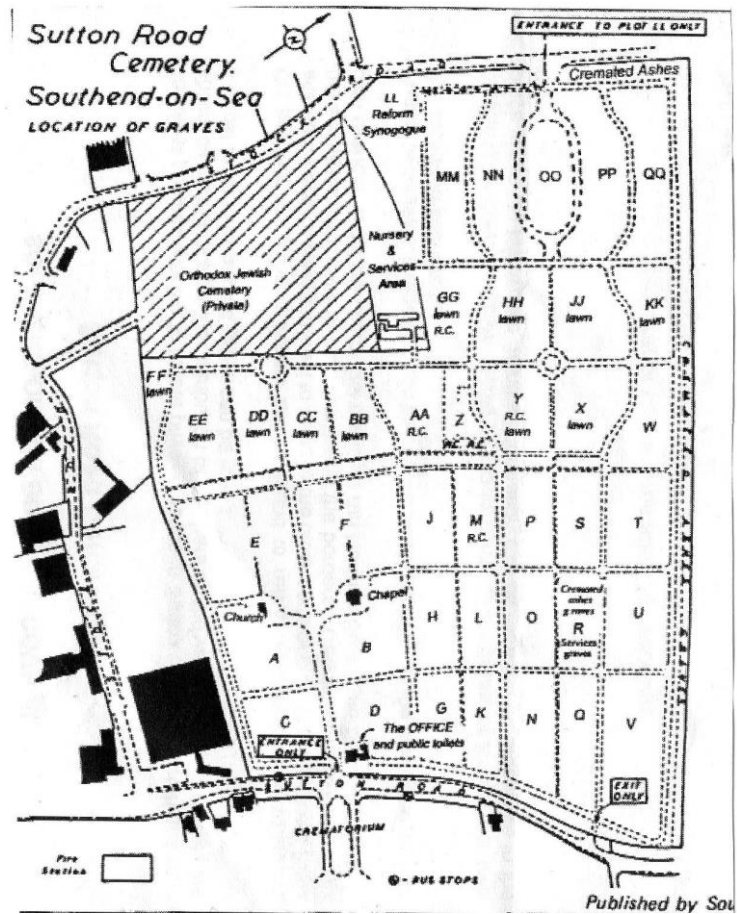


*(Photo courtesy of Geoffrey Gillon)*





Row of 7 Australian WW1 Headstones (Photo courtesy of Geoffrey Gillon)



(Find a Grave – J Keefe)