Brookwood Military Cemetery, Brookwood, Surrey, England

War Graves

Lest We Forget

World War 1

6846   PRIVATE

A. O'MALLEY

12TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

27TH SEPTEMBER, 1918   Age 25

Peace Perfect Peace

Anthony O'MALLEY

Anthony O'Malley was born at Bakers Creek, Huon, Tasmania on 26th August, 1893 to parents Anthony and Ellen Mary O'Malley (nee Hennigan).

Anthony O'Malley attended Mountain River State School, Tasmania.

Anthony O'Malley married Sarah Newbon in 1916 in Tasmania.

Anthony O'Malley was a 22 year old, married, Labourer from Ranelagh, Tasmania when he enlisted at Claremont, Tasmania on 6th September, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 6846 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs S. O'Malley, Ranelagh, Tasmania.

Private Anthony O'Malley was posted to 22nd Reinforcements of 12th Battalion for recruit training on 6th September, 1916.

Private Anthony O'Malley embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Ulysses (A38)* on 25th October, 1916 with the 12th Infantry Battalion, 22nd Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 28th December, 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.

Private Anthony O'Malley was marched in to 3rd Training Battalion, Durrington Camp, Wiltshire, England on 29th December, 1916 from Australia.

Private Anthony O'Malley was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 16th January, 1917 – cause – P.U.O. (Pyrexia (fever) of unknown origin). The Hospital Admissions form recorded he was suffering from Bronchitis & he was transferred to Military Hospital, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 8th February, 1917 with Inflammation of Larynx.

Private Anthony O'Malley was sent sick to Fargo Hospital on 16th February, 1917. He was marched in to 3rd Training Battalion from Hospital on 11th April, 1917.

Private Anthony O'Malley proceeded overseas to France via Southampton on 22nd May, 1917. He joined 1st A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Havre, France on 23rd May, 1917. Private O'Malley proceeded from 1st A.D.B.D. on 13th June, 1917 & joined 12th Battalion in France on 15th June, 1917.

Private Anthony O'Malley reported sick on 18th July, 1917. He was admitted to 2nd Australian Field Ambulance on 18th July, 1917 with Aphonia (loss of the ability to vocalize) then transferred & admitted to 3rd Canadian Stationary Hospital at Doullens, France on 19th July, 1917. Private O'Malley was transferred & admitted to 5th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 23rd July, 1917. He was transferred to England on 25th July, 1917.

Private Anthony O'Malley was admitted to 1st Birmingham War Hospital, Rednal, England on 29th July, 1917 with Aphonia. He was transferred to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, Kent on 13th August, 1917 with Bronchitis & Laryngitis. Private O'Malley was discharged to furlough from 3rd Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford on 21st September, 1917 & was then to report to Depot at Weymouth.

Private Anthony O'Malley was marched in to No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth, Dorset on 5th October, 1917. He was transferred to No. 1 Command Depot at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 10th December, 1917 & medically classified as B1 A4 (fit for Overseas Training Camp when passed dentally fit) on 11th December, 1917.

Private Anthony O'Malley was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Sutton Veny from Tidworth on 6th March, 1918. He was transferred to Overseas Training Brigade at Longbridge Deverill, Wiltshire on 15th March, 1918, having been passed dentally fit.

Private Anthony O'Malley proceeded overseas to France via Southampton on 9th April, 1918 from Overseas Training Brigade. He was marched in to A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) at Havre, France on 10th April, 1918. He proceeded to his Unit form A.I.B.D. on 16th April, 1918 & rejoined 12th Battalion in the Field on 21st April, 1918.

Private Anthony O'Malley was wounded in action on 25th August, 1918. He was admitted to 3rd Australian Field Ambulance on 25th August, 1918 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to Back & Chest, penetrating Kidney. Private O'Malley was transferred to 53rd Casualty Clearing Station on 25th August, 1918 then transferred & admitted to 12th U.S.A. General Hospital at Rouen, France on 30th August, 1918. He was invalided to England on 3rd September, 1918 on Hospital Ship *Aberdonian*.

12th Battalion

The 12th Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. Half of the battalion was recruited in Tasmania, a quarter was recruited in South Australia, and a quarter from Western Australia. With the 9th, 10th and 11th Battalions it formed the 3rd Brigade…..

In March and April 1918 the battalion helped to stop the German spring offensive, and later participated in the great allied offensive of 1918, fighting near Amiens on 8 August 1918. This advance by British and empire troops was the greatest success in a single day on the Western Front, one that German General Erich Ludendorff described as "the black day of the German Army in this war"…..

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Information from War Diary of 12th Battalion shows during Operations from 23rd to 26th August, 1918 – 2 Officers were killed; 5 Officers were wounded; Other Ranks – 32 killed, 154 Wounded; 1 Missing & 7 Gassed.

(Information from 12th Battalion War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Anthony O'Malley was admitted to Endell Street Military Hospital, London, England on 4th September, 1918 with GSW to back penetrating chest. His condition was reported as severe.

Mrs S. O'Malley, Huonville, Tasmania, wife of Private Anthony O'Malley, was advised by Base Records on 13th September, 1918 that Private O'Malley had been admitted to a French Hospital on 30th August, 1918 suffering from gunshot wound chest, penetrating. Mrs O'Malley was advised again on 19th September, 1918 that Private A. O'Malley had been transferred to Endell Street Military Hospital, London, England on 4th September, 1918, suffering from gunshot wound back and chest penetrating – severe.

Private Anthony O'Malley died at 2 am on 27th September, 1918 at Endell Street Military Hospital, London, England from Wounds received in action – G.S.W. Abdomen. (The Morning State of Sick – Army Form A.27 recorded the time of death as 2 am, however a Telegram from Endell Street Hospital, London to Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London advising of the death of Private O'Malley recorded his time of death as 1.30 am.)

[Note: The Report of Death of a Soldier – Army Form B. 2090 recorded he was unmarried.]

A death for Anthony O'Malley, aged 25, was registered in the September quarter, 1918 in the district of St. Giles, Gloucestershire, England.

Private Anthony O'Malley was buried on 1st October, 1918 in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England – Australian Military Burial Ground - Plot number 181, 596.

From the burial report of Private Anthony O'Malley - *Coffin was good, Polished Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler and Pallbearers being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the Australian Flag, and borne to the graveside where the "Last Post" was sounded, and the Rev: J. Halpin, A.I.F. London, conducted the burial service. The grave will be turfed and an oak cross erected by the A.I.F. London. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Base Records wrote to Mrs S. O'Malley, Huonville, Tasmania on 6th April, 1923 stating advising that the site of the grave of the late No. 6846 Private A. O'Malley, 12th Battalion in Brookwood Military Cemetery had been officially registered as Plot 4 Row C Grave 13.

This is now recorded by CWGC as Memorial reference – IV. C. 13. Private A. O'Malley now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private Anthony O'Malley requested in his Will dated 13th July, 1917 that all his personal estate be bequeathed to his wife – Mrs Sarah O'Malley, Ranelagh Post Office, Tasmania, Australia.

Private Anthony O'Malley was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private O'Malley's widow – Mrs S. O'Malley, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent December, 1921 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Anthony O'Malley – service number 6846, aged 25, of 12th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Anthony and Ellen O'Malley; husband of Sarah O'Malley, of Huonville, Tasmania.

A. O'Malley is remembered on the Grove Honour Roll, located in Memorial Hall, 263 Mountain River Road, Mountain River, Tasmania.

(Photos from Monument Australia – Arthur Garland)

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A. O'Malley is remembered on the St. James' Church Roll of Honour, located in St. James' Anglican Church, 1 Louisa Street, Ranelagh, Tasmania.

St. James' Church Honour Roll *(Photo from Monument Australia – Arthur Garland)*

A. O'Malley is remembered on the St. James' Church War Memorial, located in St. James' Anglican Church, 1 Louisa Street, Ranelagh, Tasmania.

St. James' Church War Memorial *(Photo from Monument Australia – Arthur Garland)*

Anthony O'Malley is remembered on the Wall of Remembrance, at the War Memorial, Cecilia Street, St. Helens, Tasmania. The Wall of Remembrance commemorates those from Tasmania who died in service or were killed in action in World War One.

Front Inscription

Tasmania`s World War One Roll of Honour, 1914 - 1918

The names of 3165 soldiers, sailors and airmen who were Tasmanian by birth or residence and died from their service in WW1 are commemorated on these walls. Their names appear alphabetically, grouped by the year of death. These men served with Australian, New Zealand and British units.

"What these men did nothing can alter now. The good and the bad, the greatness and the smallness of their story will stand. Whatever of glory it contains nothing now can lessen. It rises, as it will always rise, above the mists of ages, a monument to great hearted men; and for their nation, a possession forever. "

Wall of Remembrance, St. Helens, Tasmania *(Photo from Places of Pride – Henry Moulds)*

Private A. O'Malley is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 67.

Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(61 pages of Private Anthony O'Malley'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) & National Archives

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Newspaper Notices

RANELAGH SOLDIER KILLED

Mrs O'Malley, of Ranelagh, has received official notification that her husband, Private Anthony O'Malley has died from wounds received on active service in France. Information was received over a month ago that Private O'Malley was seriously wounded on the 1st inst. the authorities announced that the wounds had proved fatal.

(*Huon Times*, Franklin, Tasmania – 4 October, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

O'MALLEY – Died in Military Hospital, London, on September 27, 1918. Anthony O'Malley, of Ranelagh, from wounds received in action. A good son, a devoted husband, a fine soldier.

(*The Mercury*, Hobart, Tasmania – 4 October, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

437th CASUALTY LIST

THE TASMANIANS

DIED OF WOUNDS

O'Malley, Anthony, Huonville, 27/9/18.

(*The Mercury*, Hobart, Tasmania – 28 October, 1918)

Anthony O'Malley is mentioned on the Newbon Family Headstone consisting of his father-in-law, mother-in-law & his wife in St. James' Anglican Cemetery, Ranelagh, Huon Valley, Tasmania.

(Photos from Find a Grave –JandET)
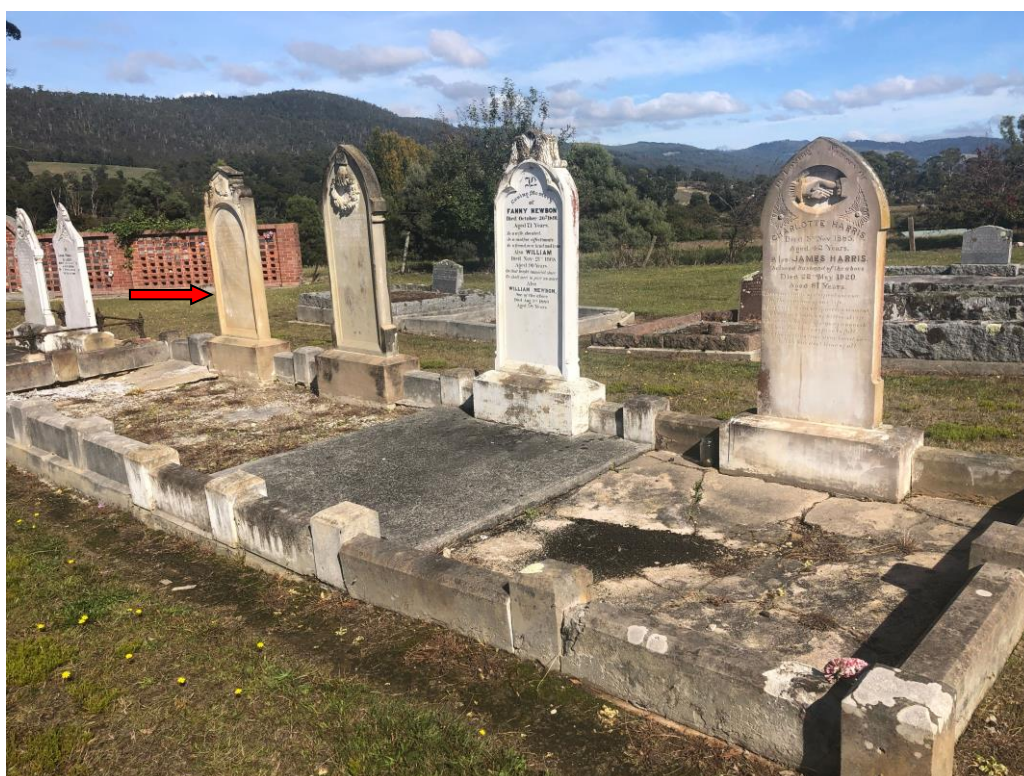
Also Sarah

Beloved Daughter of the above

& loving Wife of ANTHONY O'MALLEY

(late A.I.F.)

Who passed to Higher life Aug 13 1938

Aged 54 Years

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

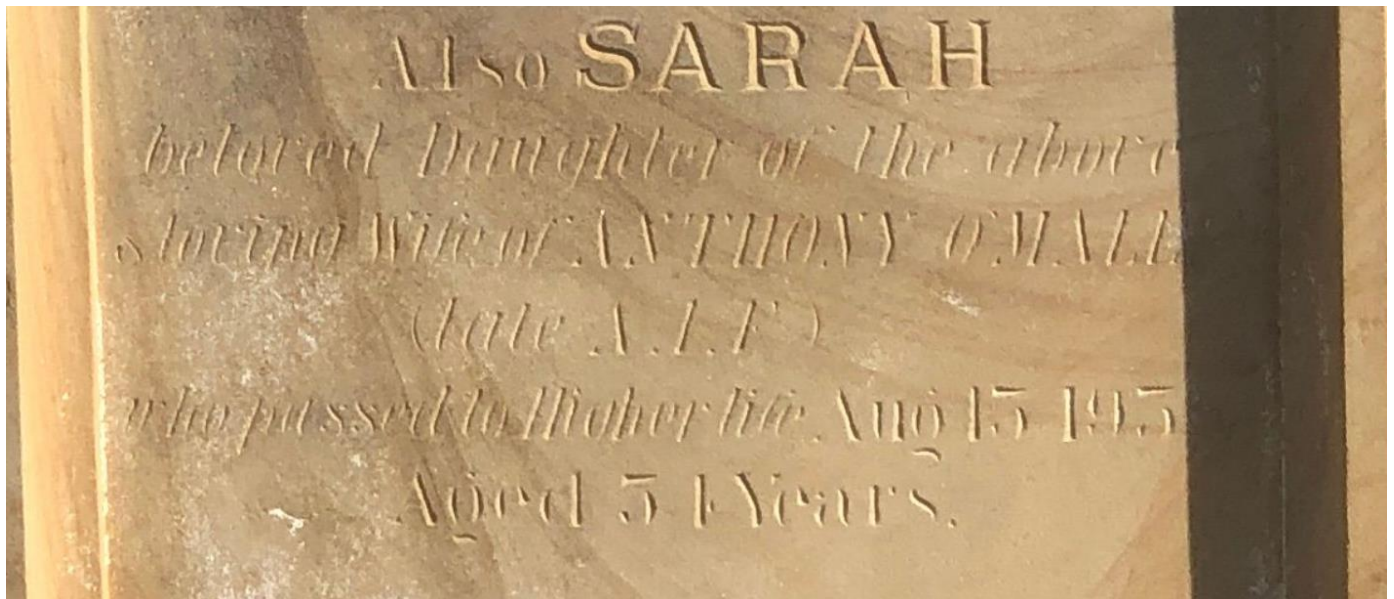The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & 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 A. O'Malley does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Peace Perfect Peace

Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England

Located 30 miles from London in Surrey, Brookwood Military Cemetery is the largest CWGC cemetery in the United Kingdom. The cemetery contains the graves of more than 1,600 servicemen of the British Empire in the First World War and over 3,470 from the Second World War.

Brookwood Military Cemetery lies adjacent to Brookwood Cemetery (The London Necropolis), a vast space which covers 500 acres. In 1917, an area to the north of the cemetery was set aside as Brookwood Military Cemetery for men and women of Commonwealth forces who died, many of battle wounds, in the London district. This site was further extended to accommodate Commonwealth casualties of the Second World War. *(Information from CWGC)*

There are 446 Australian War Graves in Brookwood Military Cemetery – 351 from World War 1 & 95 from World War 2.

Brookwood Military Cemetery *(Photos by Magicfingers)*

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL   D00185

A large crowd attends an A.I.F. military funeral at Brookwood Cemetery. In the foreground wooden crosses mark rows of graves. (Photo c1919)

Identified: Front row, left to right: Second Lieutenant Douglas Abbott Ferguson, Australian Flying Corps, died of accidental injuries 18 August 1918; Lieutenant (Lt) Francis John Smedley MC, 7th Battalion, died of wounds 20 August 1918.

Second row: 6860 Private (Pte) James Alexander McKeown, 21st Battalion, died of wounds 20 June 1918; 3622 Pte S T Wilson, 2nd Australian Pioneers, died of wounds 4 July 1918; 2390 Sergeant Frederick Charles Stronell, 21st Battalion, died of wounds 9 July 1918; Lt Arthur Melville Lilburne MC, 6th Brigade Australian Field Artillery, died of disease 11 July 1918.
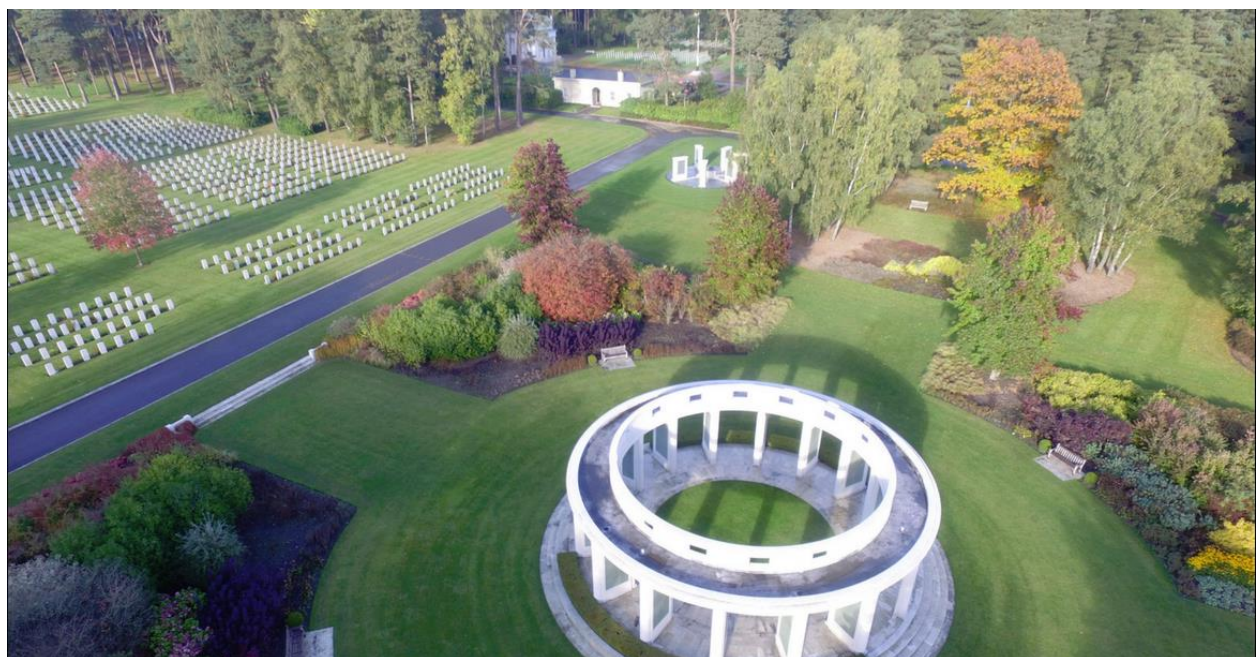
Brookwood Military Cemetery *(Photo from CWGC)*

Australian Graves in Brookwood Military Cemetery *(Photos by Magicfingers)*

(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher)

Australian War Graves *(Photo courtesy of Neil Bright 2020)*

Photo of Private A. O'Malley's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England.

(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher – Jan 2021)

PLOT No. REFERENCE

1	South African	13	British
1A	South African	14	British
2	New Zealand	15	German and Italian
2A	Muslim	16	Italian
3	Canadian	20–25	Air Forces
4	Australian	26	Belgian
5	British	27	Polish
6	British	28	Czechoslovakian
7	South African	29	French
8	New Zealand	30–62	Canadian
9	Canadian	63	Royal Hospital Burial Ground
10	Newfoundland	30A–34A	British and Polish
11	Australian	A	Canadian Post War
12	British		Service Burials
		128(A)	Indian
		128(B)	Turkish
		133	Military Annex

PRINCESS ALEXANDRA'S MILITARY NURSING SERVICE
(NURSES PLOT) LOCATION