

Durrington War Graves

World War 1



Lest We Forget



7061 PRIVATE

T. J. PAUL

12TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

8TH APRIL, 1917 Age 24

Called to a Higher Life

Thy Will Be Done

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte T. J. Paul is located in Grave Plot # 230
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

Tasman John PAUL

Tasman John Paul was born at Koonya, Tasman Peninsula, Tasmania in 1892 to parents George and Caroline Paul.

Tasman John Paul was a 24 year old, single Farmer from Hobart, Tasmania when he enlisted on 12th October, 1916 with the 12th Infantry Battalion, 23rd Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 7061 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs C. Paul of Koonya, Tasmania. Tasman Paul stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously been rejected for Service due to defective feet.

Pte Tasman John Paul embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Persic* (A34) on 22nd December, 1916 & disembarked at Devonport, England on 3rd March, 1917.

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.

Pte Tasman John Paul was marched in to 3rd Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire on 3rd March, 1917.

Pte Tasman John Paul was admitted sick with Influenza to Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 29th March, 1917.

Private Tasman John Paul died at 6.45 a.m. on 8th April, 1917 at Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire from Pneumonia.

A death for Tasman J. Paul, aged 24, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private Tasman John Paul was buried on 11th April, 1917 at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – Plot number 230 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Pte Tasman John Paul - *Coffin was polished wood with brass furniture.*

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Pte T. J. Paul includes a letter from the Red Cross on behalf of his family requesting details concerning the last hours, death and burial of Pte Paul. A letter from E. W. Bowes, Assist. Matron, Fargo Military Hospital reads:

"Pte. Paul. 7061 12th Battn. A.I.F. died on 8.4.17 from influenza and pneumonia. He was buried 11.4.17 in grave number 230 in Durrington Cemetery, Wilts. The Sister who nursed him wrote to his relatives just after his death telling them all she was able about his illness. Please convey to relatives of Pte Paul our sincere sympathy – we only wish we could have done more for him, but all treatment proved ineffectual."

Pte Tasman John Paul requested in his Will that all his possessions be left to his mother – Caroline Paul.

Private T. J. Paul is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 67.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Pte Tasman John Paul was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Paul's mother – Mrs C. Paul (March, 1923 & March, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Tasman John Paul – service number 7061 as being 24 years old & served with 12th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of George and Caroline Paul of Koonya, Tasman's Peninsula, Tasmania.

A War Pension was granted to Caroline Paul, Widowed mother of the late Pte Tasman John Paul in the sum of 40/- per fortnight from 13th June, 1917.

Pte T. J. Paul is also remembered on the 1914-1918 Roll of Honour at the Tasman Council Chambers, Nubeena.



(Photo courtesy of Lysbeth Ford - Tasman Peninsula Historical Society)

Pte T. J. Paul is also remembered on the War Memorial at Tasman District High School, Nubeena.



(Photos courtesy of Lysbeth Ford - Tasman Peninsula Historical Society)

(56 pages of Pte Tasman John Paul'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 Reports

TASMANIAN CASUALTIES

DIED

Pte T. J. PAUL, Koonya, 8/4/17 (Cause not stated)

(*The North Western Advocate and the Emu Bay Times*, Tasmania – Saturday 21 April, 1917)

GENERAL WAR NEWS

TASMANIA

Our Koonya correspondent writes:- News has been received of the death of Private John Paul, son of Mrs Geo. Paul. He died at Fargo Military Hospital, London, on Easter Sunday. Private Paul left for the front shortly before Christmas. He was very popular here, and was churchwarden of St. Alban's Church, Koonya. No news of the deceased's illness had been previously received.

(*The Mercury*, Hobart, Tasmania – Tuesday 22 May, 1917)

PERSONAL

.....At the monthly meeting of the Tasman Municipal Council it was decided, on the motion of Councillor Price, to send letters to Mr and Mrs Allen, of Taranna, and Mrs Geo. Paul, of Koonya, expressing deep sympathy with them in the losses of their boys at the front.

(*The Mercury*, Hobart, Tasmania – Tuesday 22 May, 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 Durrington 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*)

Pte T. J. Paul does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Called To A Higher Life. Thy Will Be Done



Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire (Photo by Dave Healing 2013)

Photo of Pte T. J. Paul's Headstone at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire.



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