

Durrington War Graves

World War 1



Lest We Forget



6783* PRIVATE

D. J. QUINLAN

4TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

3RD FEBRUARY, 1917 Age 44

Call Not Back

The Dear Departed

Anchored Safe

Where Storms Are Oer

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte D. J. Quinlan is located in Grave Plot # 173
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

(Pte Quinlan's Headstone has the wrong Service Number engraved – should be 6783 not 6873. CWGC were
advised of the error in June 2014)*

David James QUINLAN

David James Quinlan was born in 1873 to parents Henry & Annie Quinlan (nee Limeburner). His birth was registered at Newcastle, NSW as "David Morton Quinlan".

David James Quinlan stated he was a 38* year old, widower*, Labourer from Newcastle, NSW when he enlisted on 18th July, 1916 with the 4th Infantry Battalion, 22nd Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 6783 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his brother – Mr Albert Quinlan of Murray Avenue, Newcastle, NSW.

Pte David James Quinlan embarked from Sydney on *SS Port Nicholson* on 8th November, 1916 & disembarked at Devonport, England on 10th January, 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 David James Quinlan was marched out to Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire with Influenza from 1st Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire on 28th January, 1917.

Pte David James Quinlan was reported seriously ill with Pneumonia at Fargo Military Hospital on 30th January, 1917. His brother was advised of the illness.

Private David James Quinlan died at 6.15 a.m. on 3rd February, 1917 at Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire from Pneumonia.

A death for David J. Quinlan, aged 38, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private David James Quinlan was buried on 6th February, 1917 at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – Plot number 173 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing File for Pte David James Quinlan contains a request by the Red Cross of behalf of his relatives into details regarding his illness, death & burial. A reply by the Assistant Matron reads:

"Pte Quinlan was admitted to hospital on Jan. 28th became delirious soon after admission and never regained full consciousness again, died on 3.2.17, buried at Durrington on 6.2.17 grave no. 173, on right hand side of cemetery path. The Sister asked Pte Quinlan on admission the address of his home, but understood from him that he had no relatives living, therefore she has was not able to write to them. Please convey to them our sincere sympathy."

Pte David James Quinlan 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 Quinlan's widow – Mrs Lilly Quinlan (both sent March, 1922). The Personal effects of the late Pte D. J. Quinlan had previously been sent to his brother – Mr Albert Quinlan

Private D. J. Quinlan is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 41.

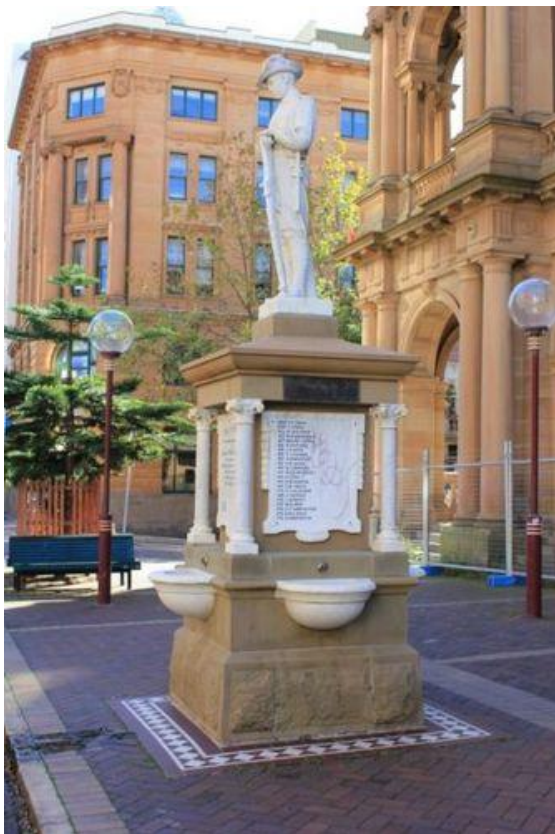


(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Pte D. Quinlan is also remembered on the Newcastle World War 1 Memorial located at Hunter & Bolton Streets, Newcastle, NSW.



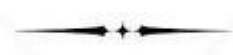
Newcastle World War 1 Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia – Roger Johnson)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private David James Quinlan – service number 6873 (incorrect should be 6783) as being 44 years old & served with 4th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Capt. Henry Jeremiah and Mrs Georgina Ann Harriett Quinlan. Born at Newcastle, New South Wales.

A War Pension was granted to Georgina Ann Harriett Quinlan, mother of late Pte David James Quinlan, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 8th April, 1917. A War Pension was also granted to Lilly Quinlan, widow of late Pte David James Quinlan, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 8th April, 1917. The War Pension form also stated that the correct name was "David Morton Quinlan".

(52 pages of Pte David James Quinlan'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

ROLL OF HONOUR

QUINLAN – In loving memory of my dear son, Private D. J. Quinlan (Mort), who died in Fargo Military Hospital, London, February 3, 1917, with pneumonia.

We never knew what pain he bore,
We never say him die
We only know he passed away,
And never said good-bye.
Inserted by his loving mother, Annie Quinlan

(Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate, NSW – Saturday 17 February, 1917)

CASUALTIES – 273rd LIST

Died of Illness

Pte D. J. Quinlan, Newcastle

(The Land, Sydney, NSW – Friday 23 February 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

QUINLAN – In loving memory of our dear brother and uncle, Pte D. M. (Mort), 4th Battalion, died in England, of pneumonia, February 3, 1917.

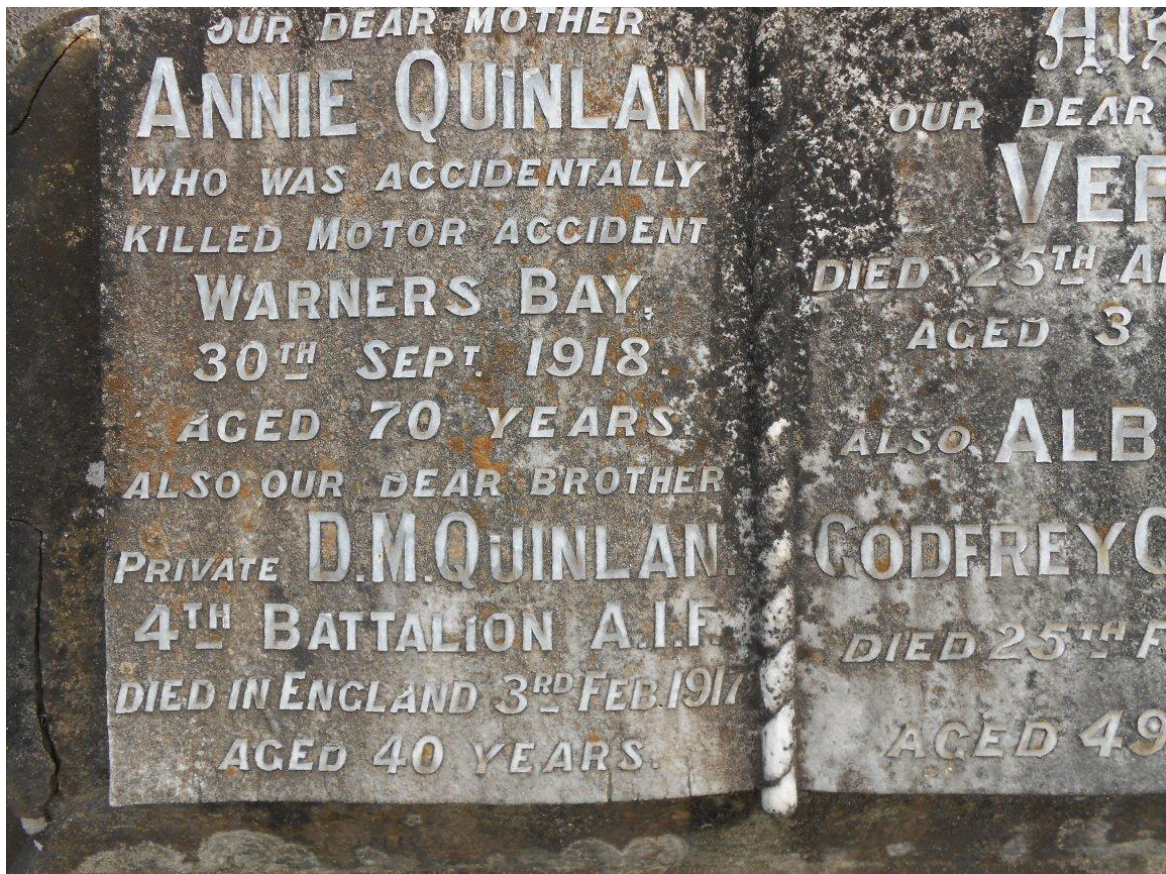
Greater love hath no man than this.
That he lay down his life for his friends.
Inserted by his loving brother, Alf (on active service), and sister-in-law, Lizzie and children.

(Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate, NSW – Monday 3 February, 1919)

Private D. M. Quinlan is remembered on his parents' headstone in Sandgate Cemetery, NSW.



Quinlan Headstone in Sandgate Cemetery, NSW (photos courtesy of Gary Mitchell)



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)

A letter from Base Records, dated 28th July, 1921, to Mr A, Quinlan advises that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of the late Pte D. J. Quinlan had not been answered & non-receipt of a reply within 21 days would have to be accepted as indicating that no further action was to be taken.

Pte D. J. Quinlan does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Call Not Back The Dear Departed Anchored Safe Where Storms Are Oer

Pte D. J. Quinlan is also remembered on the Red Granite Obelisk Memorial to Men of 1st Training Battalion A.I.F. which is located in Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire.



Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire *(Photo by Dave Healing 2013)*



Memorial to 1st Training Battalion A.I.F. at Durrington Cemetery (Photos by Ian King 2010)



Photo of Pte D. J. Quinlan's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)