

**Hollybrook Memorial,  
Southampton, Hampshire, England  
War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**4667 PRIVATE**

**W. J. REVILL**

**31ST BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**13TH JANUARY, 1917**

## William James REVILL

William James Revill was born at Colac, Victoria on 13th June, 1882 to parents William & Hannah Revill (nee Raper).

William James Revill was a 34 year old, single, Farmer from Warra, Queensland when he enlisted on 13th November, 1916 at Toowoomba, Queensland with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Hannah Revill, Colac, Victoria.

Private William James Revill was posted to 11th Depot Battalion on 17th November, 1916 for recruit training. He was granted Home Leave for 7 days (6 with pay) from 6 am on 28th November, 1916 & returning at 6 am on 5th December, 1916. Private Revill requested Leave "*Business in connection with Farm, property, Stock etc.*" He was transferred to 12th Reinforcements of 31st Battalion on 19th December, 1916.

Private William James Revill, Service number 4667, embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Demosthenes (A64)* on 23rd December, 1916 (date as per Embarkation Roll, however the Statement of Service form on Private Revill's Service Record file recorded he embarked on 22nd December, 1916) with the 8th Infantry Brigade, 31st Infantry Battalion, 12th Reinforcements.

### 31st Battalion

The 31st Battalion was raised as part of the 8th Brigade at Enoggera, on the outskirts of Brisbane, in August 1915.....

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

Private William James Revill was admitted to Ship's Hospital on 24th December, 1916 (date as per Statement of Service form. The Casualty Form – Active Service & Purport form both recorded he was sent sick to Ship's Hospital on 12th January, 1917. The Hospital Admissions form recorded he was admitted to Ship's Hospital on 11th January, 1917 with Cerebro Spinal Meningitis. "Profound septicaemia toxaemia terminating \_\_\_\_").

Private William James Revill died at 8.30 pm on 13th January, 1917 at Sea on board HMAT *Demosthenes (A64)* from Meningitis.

Private William James Revill was buried at Sea at 6 am on 14th January, 1917 from HMAT *Demosthenes (A64)*. He is commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England as he has no grave. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Major H. R. Carter, O.C. Troops A64, wrote to Base Records on 15th January, 1917 advising of the death, at Sea. Of No. 4667, Private William James Revill. "*He was admitted to Hospital on the 11th instant, suffering from Meningitis, and he died at 8.30 pm on the 13. He was buried at 6.0 am on the 14th with full Military Honours....*"

Private William James Revill 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 Private Revill's father – Mr W. Revill, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent July, 1922).

Base Records wrote to The Postmaster, Warra, Queensland on 18th October, 1922 with the following: "*On 21/7/22 a Memorial Plaque No. 314882 in respect of the late No. 4667 Private W. J. Revill, 31st Battalion, was despatched to Mr W. M. Revill, "Rhodesia", Warra, Wester Line, Q. That gentleman who is now residing at Campbell St, Colac, Victoria, advises that the Plaque has not reached him, and as same has not been returned to this office to date, I should be glad of information regarding its disposal.*"

A handwritten reply on the original communication reads: "*Parcel No 3101 ex Melbourne addressed W. Revill was delivered to \_ . H. Revill on 4/8/22.*"

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private William James Revill – service number 4667, of 31st Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

W. J. Revill is remembered on the Warra War Memorial, located outside Memorial Hall, Warrego Highway, Warra, Queensland.



**Warra War Memorial** (Photo from Monument Australia – Diane Watson)



(Photo by Anne Wunsch)

W. J. Revill is not remembered on the Warra Roll of Honour, located inside Memorial Hall, Warrego Highway, Warra, Queensland.



**Warra Roll of Honour** (Photo from Queensland War Memorials – Shirley & Trevor McIvor)

Private W. J. Revill is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Supplementary Panel 2.

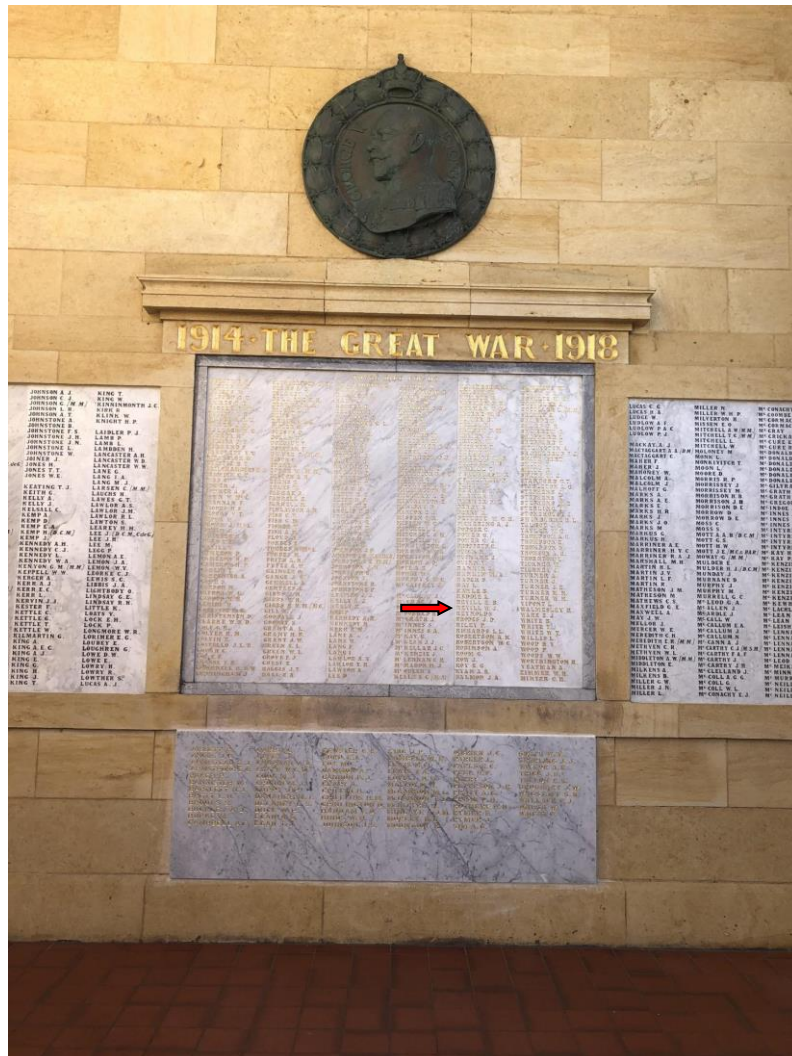


*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

W. J. Revill is remembered on the Colac Soldiers' Memorial, located at Murray Street, Colac, Victoria.



**Colac Soldiers' Memorial** (Photo from AWM Places of Pride – Meredith Atilemile)





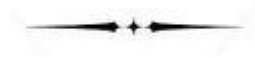
J. Revill is remembered on St John's Honour Roll, located in St. John's Church, 17 Hesse Street, Colac, Victoria.



St John's Honour Roll, Colac (Photo from Monument Australia – Sandra Brown)

(45 pages of Private William James Revill'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*



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **Death**

REVILL – At sea, from meningitis, on January 13th, Private William J. Revill, A.I.F., eldest son of William and Hannah Revill, of Manner-Sutton street, Colac (late of Gellibrand); aged 35 years.

*(Colac Reformer, Victoria – 25 January, 1917)*

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### **AUSTRALIANS IN WAR**

#### **269th CASUALTY LIST**

##### **DIED OF ILLNESS**

Pte W. J. REVILL, Colac

*(Hamilton Spectator, Victoria – 30 January, 1917)*

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### **Killed in Action**

REVILL – On 29th March, 1918, in France, Private Edward B. Revill, of 21st and 14th Battalions, aged 29 years 9 months; dearly loved second son of William and Hannah Revill, Elliminyt (late of Gellibrand), brother of late Private W. J. Revill (died at sea), Private V. H. Revill (returned), and Seaman Robert O. Revill, of the H.M.A.S. Melbourne.

“His duty nobly done.”

*(Colac Reformer, Victoria – 13 April, 1918)*

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## Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

### **Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England**

The Hollybrook Memorial is situated in Southampton (Hollybrook) Cemetery behind the plot of First World War graves near the main entrance.

The Hollybrook Memorial commemorates by name almost 1,900 servicemen and women of the Commonwealth land and air forces\* whose graves are not known, many of whom were lost in transports or other vessels torpedoed or mined in home waters (\*Officers and men of the Commonwealth's navies who have no grave but the sea are commemorated on memorials elsewhere). The memorial also bears the names of those who were lost or buried at sea, or who died at home but whose bodies could not be recovered for burial. Almost one third of the names on the memorial are those of officers and men of the South African Native Labour Corps, who died when the troop transport Mendi sank in the Channel following a collision on 21 February 1917. Other vessels sunk with significant loss of life were: HS Anglia, a hospital ship sunk by mine off Dover on 17 November 1915. SS Citta Di Palermo, an Italian transport carrying Commonwealth troops, sunk by mine off Brindisi on 8 January 1916. In rescuing survivors, two Royal Naval Otranto drifters were themselves mined and blown up. HMTs Donegal and Warilda, ambulance transports torpedoed and sunk between Le Havre and Southampton on 17 April 1917 and 3 August 1918. HS Glenart Castle, a hospital ship torpedoed and sunk off Lundy on 26 February 1918. SS Galway Castle, torpedoed and sunk in the Atlantic on 12 September 1918. RMS Leinster, the Irish mail boat, torpedoed and sunk in the Irish Sea on 10 October 1918. Among those commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial is Field Marshall Lord Kitchener, Secretary of State for War, who died when the battle cruiser HMS Hampshire was mined and sunk off Scapa Flow on 5 June 1916.

The memorial was designed by T. Newham and unveiled by Sir William Robertson on 10 December 1930.

There are approximately 162 Australian World War 1 Service Personnel commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England.

*(Information & photos from CWGC)*







**Cross of Sacrifice**



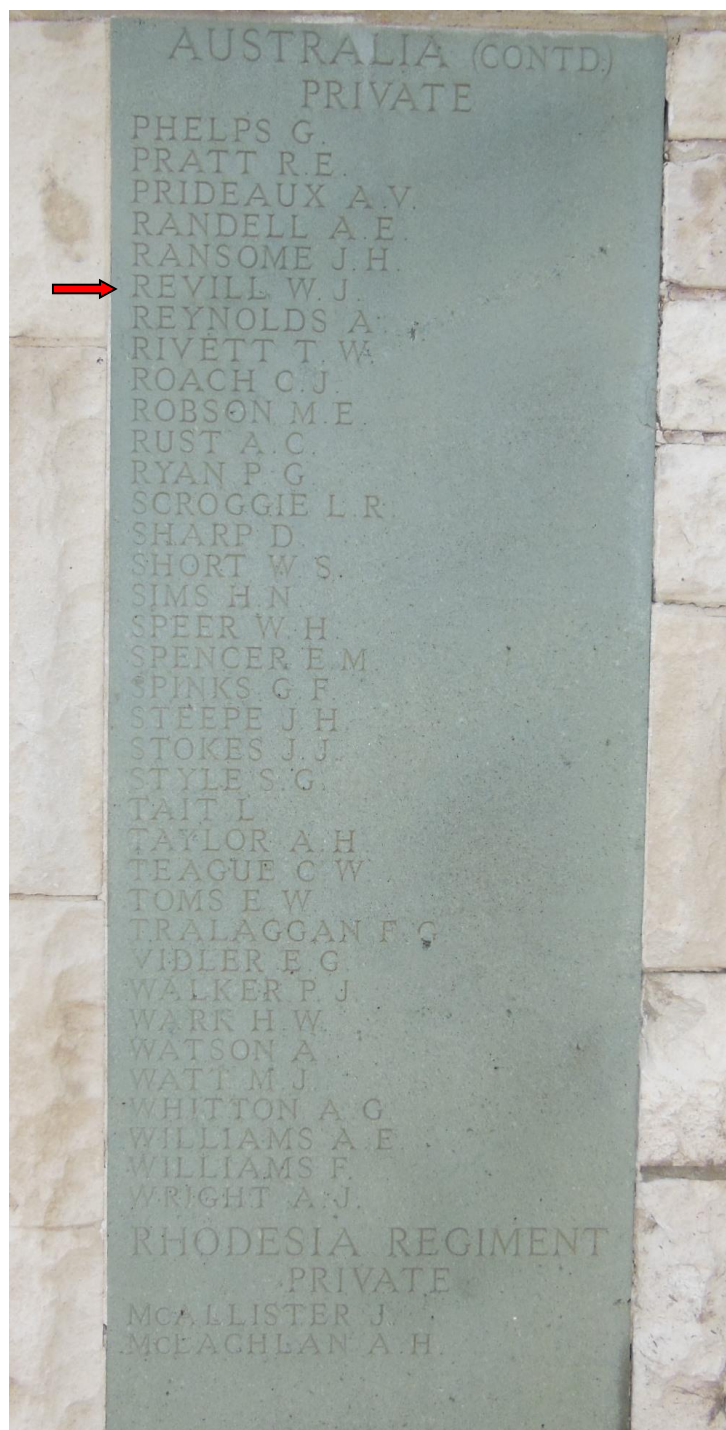
**Name Panels behind Cross of Sacrifice**



**CWGC Graves in Hollybrook Cemetery with Cross of Sacrifice & Hollybrook Memorial**

*(Photo from CWGC)*

Photo of Private W. J. Revill's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England.



(Photo by julia&keld – Find a Grave)

