

**Comely Bank Cemetery,
Edinburgh, Scotland
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



935 2ND AIR MAN

I. M. R. RICHARDSON

AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS

9TH APRIL, 1919 Age 22

Greater Love Hath No Man

That He Give Up His Life

For His Friends

Ivan Morton Rupert RICHARDSON

Ivan Morton Rupert Richardson was born on 22nd September, 1897 at Devonport, Tasmania to parents Albert John Richardson & Elizabeth Richardson (nee O'Garey).

Albert John Richardson, father of Ivan Morton Rupert Richardson, died on 18th March, 1898 at Longford, Tasmania.

Elizabeth Richardson, widowed mother of Ivan Richardson, married Donald J. W. McAskill in the district of Dapto, New South Wales in 1909.

Ivan Richardson had been an apprentice to Mr P. A. Boll, of Deniliquin, NSW.

Ivan Morton Rupert Richardson was a 19 year old, single, Motor Mechanic (according to information supplied by his mother for the Roll of Honour his occupation was Electrical Engineer). He was from Dunorlan, Tasmania when he enlisted on 11th December, 1916 with the Australian Flying Corps, No. 4 Squadron, Headquarters Flight of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 935 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Elizabeth McAskill, care of Miss McAskill, 8 Balmore Crescent, Melbourne, Victoria.

Ivan Richardson stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served with Deniliquin Cadets. He had previously been rejected for Service on the grounds of medically unfit & under age.

A telegram was sent to Longreach by Bessie McAskill stating that her son, Ivan Morton Richardson, had her consent to embark for active service abroad. This was a requirement as Ivan was under the age of 21.

[Information provided by Mrs Elizabeth McAskill, mother of Ivan Richardson for the Roll of Honour, wrote Ivan's second name as "Morton", however Ivan Richardson enlisted & signed his second name as "Mortyn".]

Private Ivan Mortyn Rupert Richardson ("Mortyn" as recorded on the Embarkation Roll) embarked from Melbourne on RMS *Omrah* on 17th January, 1917 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 27th 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.

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Richardson was marched in from Australia to A.F.C. (Australian Flying Corps) Depot Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 27th March, 1917.

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Richardson was transferred to 71 Squadron, A.F.C. (Australian Flying Corps) at Castle Bromwich, Birmingham on 2nd April, 1917.

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Richardson was sent sick to 1st Southern General Hospital on 9th April, 1917. He was taken on strength from A.F.C. Details from Hospital on 7th June, 1917.

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Richardson proceeded overseas to France from Castle Bromwich via Southampton on 16th December 1917. He disembarked in France on 16th December, 1917.

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Richardson was given a new designation – No. 4 Squadron A.F.C., Authority A.I.F. Order No. 1074 on 18th January, 1918.

No. 4 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps

No. 4 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps arrived in France on 18th December, 1917 and established itself at Bruay. It was assigned to the 10th Wing of the Royal Flying Corps, and operated in support of the British 1st Army, undertaking offensive patrols and escorting reconnaissance machines. The unit's first patrol over German lines took place on 9th January, 1918, and its first air combat action occurred on 13th January, 1918.

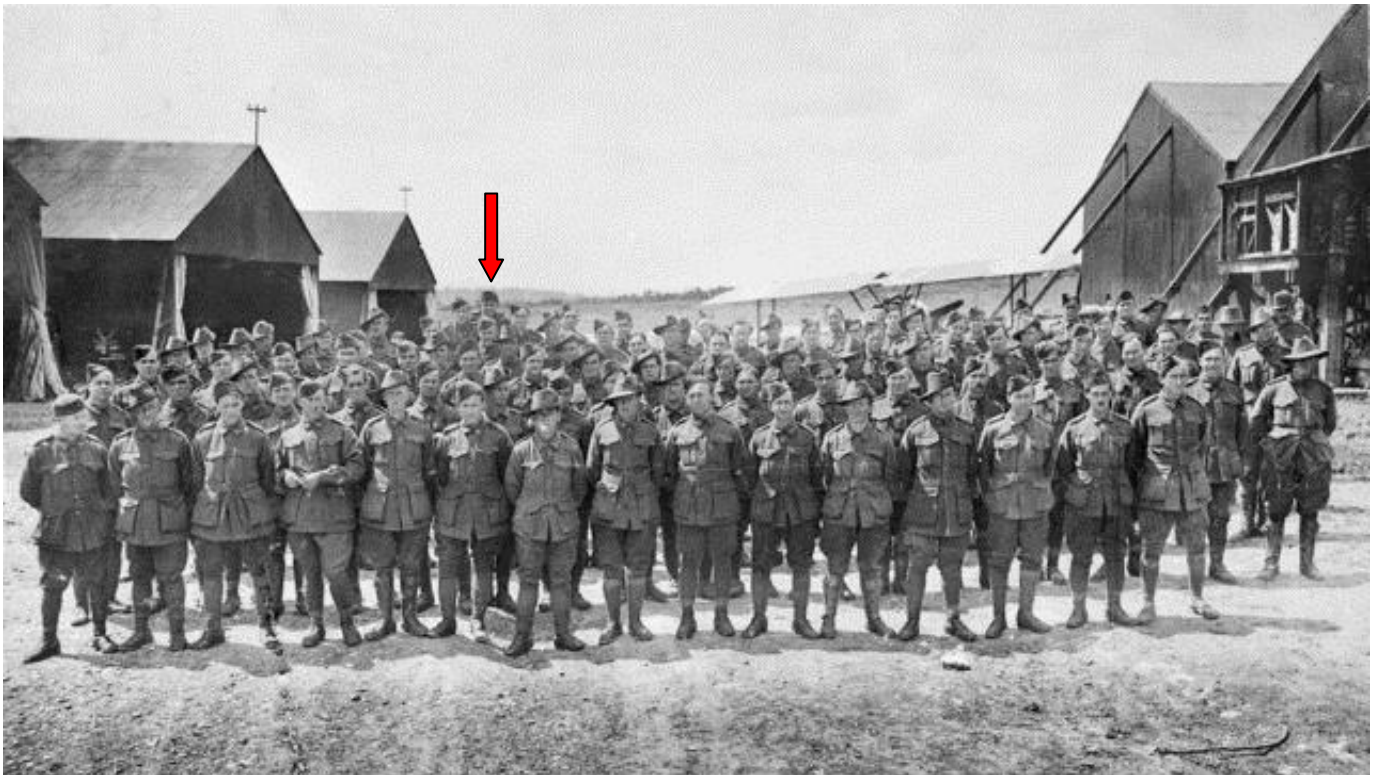
Towards the end of February, 1918 the squadron was increased from 18 to 24 machines, considerably enhancing its capacity for offensive operations. March, 1918 saw an increase in the squadron's ground attacks and offensive patrols, including a notable engagement with elements of Manfred von Richthofen's "Flying Circus" on 21st March,

during which five enemy machines were downed in an attack led by Captain Arthur Henry Cobby.

During the German spring offensive, the squadron was heavily involved in strafing and bombing operations in support of the retreating Allied ground forces. Threatened by the German advance the Squadron moved from Bruay to Clairmarais North on 28th April 1918 and joined 11th Wing, part of the British 2nd Army.

Due to repeated enemy bombing attacks on the Clairmarais North airfield, the Squadron moved to Reclinghem on 30th June, where it shared the aerodrome with 2 Squadron AFC. Both squadrons formed part of 80th Wing under the British 5th Army. In July, the squadron was heavily involved in offensive patrols and also provided escorts for bombing and reconnaissance missions. 4 Squadron maintained a high operational tempo throughout the great Allied offensive launched in early August 1918.

At the end September 1918, 4 Squadron moved to Serny and in early October was re-equipped with Sopwith Snipe fighters; it was only the second unit in France to be equipped with these advanced machines. The squadron was relocated several times during the last month of the war, and following the Armistice was assigned to the British Army of Occupation. It moved to Bickendorf, near Cologne on 17th December, 1918. In March 1919 the unit returned to the United Kingdom.
(Information from Australian War Memorial)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

E02660

**Group portrait of the Air Mechanics of No. 4 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps (AFC), at the hangars.
Note Sopwith Camel aircraft 'U' and 'D' in background. 16 June 1918, Nord Pas de Calais, Clairmarais, France.**

Identified: I. Richardson (79); J. Arbrew (80); F. Flight (81); L. Funnell (82); H. Philippe (83); H. Ingram (84); J. Leavey (85); W. Pinder (86); O. D. Whitcomb (87); J. Morgan (88); 1082 John Henry Pittard (89); R. Head (90); R. Dewar (91); F. Ryder (92); W. Waters (93); W. Wilson (94); R. Harris (95).

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Richardson was written up for disobedience – “*driving a motor tender at an excessive speed through a village on 8th July, 1918*”. He was to forfeit 3 days’ pay by authority of C. O. No. 4 Squadron.

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Richardson was sent to 87th Field Ambulance sick on 22nd December, 1918. He was transferred to 44th Casualty Clearing Station on 24th December, 1918 suffering from Gonorrhoea. Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Richardson was transferred to Ambulance Train 17 on 1st January, 1919 & admitted to 14th Stationary Hospital on 5th January, 1919.

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Richardson was transferred to England from France on 4th March, 1919 on Hospital Ship *St. Andrew* suffering from Debility & Urethritis. He was admitted to King George Hospital, Stamford Street, London on 4th March, 1919.

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Richardson was discharged on 12th March, 1919 & granted furlough to 26th March, 1919 when he was to report to No. 2 Command Depot, Weymouth.

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Richardson was admitted to 2nd Scottish General Hospital, Edinburgh, Scotland on 21st March, 1919 suffering from Influenza and Pneumonia (right base). He was very seriously ill & had been on leave from France at the time. Air Mechanic 2nd Class Richardson's Medical Case Sheet reports "*He was making slight progress when the left lung became affected and he rapidly became much worse. His breathing became difficult and he was cyanosed and had later a general oedema of both lungs.*"

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Morton Rupert Richardson died at 9.10 pm on 9th April, 1919 at 2nd Scottish General Hospital, Edinburgh, Scotland from Pneumonia, aged 21.

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Morton Rupert Richardson was buried on 14th April, 1919 in Comely Bank Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland – Plot number D. 46 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Air Mechanic 2nd Class Richardson - *Coffin was good. The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler, Pallbearers and Band being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and conveyed to the graveside, surmounted by several beautiful wreaths sent from – The Hospital Staff of 2nd Scottish General Hospital Overseas Club, Nurses and Sisters of the Hospital. The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside, and the burial service conducted by Chap. Hannan. The grave will be turfed and an oak cross will be erected by the A.I.F. London. A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan M. R. Richardson stated that his Will was with his mother – Mrs Elizabeth McAskall, C/o Miss McAskall, 8 Balmoral Crescent, Surrey Hills, Victoria. His Will stated that "*I hereby give and Bequeath to my mother Mrs Elizabeth McAskall of 8 Balmoral Crescent, Surrey Hills, Victoria, Australia. (1) My Fondest Love and Admiration, all of my money which she is holding in Trust for me. If called upon to make the Supreme Sacrifice I gladly give all to our Glorious Cause.*"

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Morton Rupert Richardson was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal (Both sent 9th May, 1924). A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Air Mechanic 2nd Class Richardson's mother – Mrs E. McAskall, as the closest next-of-kin. (Originally Scroll sent November, 1922 & Plaque sent December, 1922 but both were despatched on 28th April, 1924).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Morton Rupert Richardson – service number 935, aged 22, of Australian Flying Corps. He was the son of Elizabeth McAskall Richardson, of 8 Balmoral Crescent, Surrey Hills, Victoria, Australia, and the late Albert John Richardson. Born at Devonport, Tasmania.

Air Mechanic Class II Ivan Morton Rupert Richardson is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 187.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

I. M. R. Richardson is remembered on the Deloraine District Roll of Honour located in the Deloraine Ex-Services Club and also a copy is kept in the Mole Creek Memorial Hall.



Deloraine District Roll of Honour (Photo from Monument Australia – John Huth)

I. M. R. Richardson is remembered on the Deloraine Honour Roll, located in Deloraine Ex-Services Club at West Church Street, Deloraine, Tasmania.



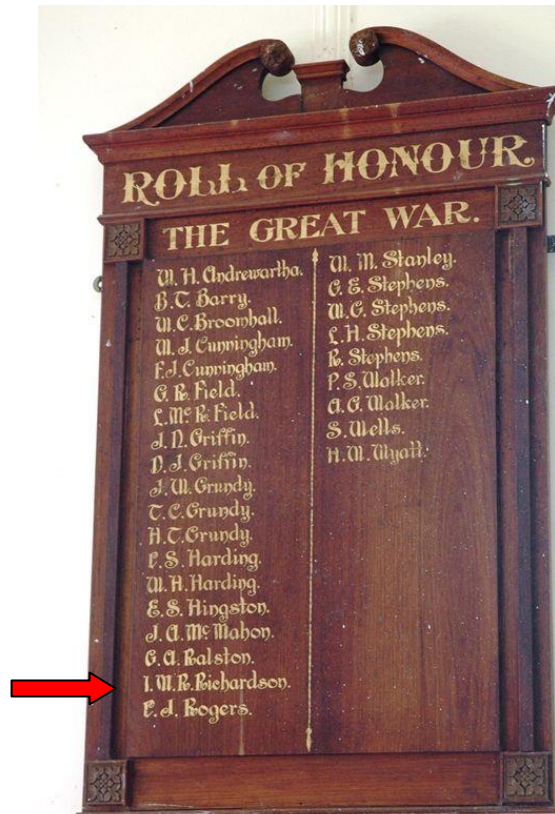
Deloraine Honour Roll (Photo from Monument Australia – John Huth)

I. M. R. Richardson is remembered on the Deloraine War Memorial located on Emu Bay Road, Deloraine, Tasmania.



Deloraine War Memorial (Photo from Monument Australia – Diane Watson / John Huth)

I. M. R. Richardson is remembered on the Weegeena Roll of Honour held in Weegeena Hall, Weegeena Road, Weegeena, Meander Valley, Tasmania.



Weegeena Roll of Honour (Photo from Monument Australia – Arthur Garland)

Ivan Morton R. Richardson 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)

6069	Pte	Moody	Ernest Charles	07.01.1919	23	12th Inf Bn	Sisters Creek	
2228	Tpr	Murdoch	George Alexander	08.04.1919	37	4th Lt Horse Regt	Lefroy	
15878	Dvr	O'Doherty	Joseph Frederick	09.02.1919	22	ANZAC Div Train	Battery Point	
63316	Pte	Oliver	Walter Sebastian	27.01.1919	21	12th Inf Bn	Mangana	
257	Grv	Parkes	Reginald Richard	25.10.1919	28	13AGA Ft Nelson	Glenorchy	
2370	Pte	Parkes	Arthur Leslie	05.02.1919	28	40th Inf Bn	Hobart	
45037	2nd Lt	Pauling	Frank William	16.02.1919	25	NZEF Rfl Bde	Tas Native	
2138	Pte	Pennington	Frederick	11.02.1919	46	40th Inf Bn	Devonport	
22431	Dvr	Pickett	Osbourne Vincent	12.02.1919	26	8th Fd Arty Bde	Deboraine	
6038	Pte	Purton	John David H	11.01.1919	20	12th Inf Bn	Ulverstone	
2427	Pte	Quinn	Trevor	18.04.1919	25	2nd Pioneer Bn	St Marys	
8004	Pte	Raynolds	Albert	08.10.1919	20	12th Inf Bn	Zeehan	
605	AM II	Richardson	Ivan Morton R	08.04.1919	22	4 Sqns AFC	Dunrobin	
4348A	Pte	Riva	Jack Eugene	27.05.1919	20	7th Inf Bn	Launceston	
2089	Pte	Rudd	Henry Osbourne	27.10.1919	44	12th Inf Bn	Hegley	ANZAC
1435	Pte	Fryar	James	02.04.1919	31	1st AusCasClHosp	Launceston	ANZAC
827	Pte	Shawing	Thomas Edwin	26.11.1919	25	AAMC	Bagdad	

1511	LI	Deane	Alfred James	17.08.1919	38	39th Inf Bn	Hobart
1719	Pte	Lindsay	Alfred Arthur John	13.07.1919	48	2nd Tunnel Coy	Hobart
6006	Sapr	Llewellyn	Robert	08.02.1919	31	52nd Inf Bn	Campbelltown
2300	Pte	Lucas	William George	18.01.1919	24	12th Inf Bn	Woodbridge
2887	Sgt	Lucas	Roy Kenneth	23.01.1919	20	12th Inf Bn	South Arm
83313	Pte	Mathews	Charles George	07.10.1919	26	47th Inf Bn	Port Arthur
2515	Pte	McArthur	George William	19.02.1919	31	7 Trng Sqn AFC	Hobart
3261	AM II	McGuffie	Roy Nelson Victor	28.01.1919	35	1st Pioneer Bn	Launceston
41418	Dvr	McIntyre	Robert John	11.02.1919	28	4th Div HQ	Hobart
2744	Pte	McPherson	Percy Thomas	07.03.1919	27	12th Inf Bn	Granton
486	Pte	Mears MM	Arthur Albert	31.08.1919	19	40th Inf Bn	Latrobe
717	Pte	Henne	Leonard Stanley	19.02.1919	25	5 Div Signal Coy	Launceston
2848A	Sapr	Melcher	Claude Tasman	18.02.1919	27	1st Div HQ	Cygnat
5322	L/Sgt	Mills	Charles Stuart	13.02.1919	30	1st Tunnel Coy	Claremont
7471	Sapr	Moody	Joseph				
6059	Pte	Moody	Ernest Charles	07.01.1919	23	12th Inf Bn	Sisters Creek
2225	Tpr	Murdell	George Alexander	08.04.1919	37	4th LI Horse Regt	Lefroy
15878	Dvr	O'Doherty	Joseph Frederick	09.02.1919	22	ANZAC Div Train	Battery Point
63316	Pte	Oliver	Walter Sebastian	27.01.1919	21	12th Inf Bn	Mangana
257	Gen	Parkar	Reginald Richard	25.10.1919	28	13AGA Fl Nelson	Glenorchy
2370	Pte	Parkie	Arthur Leslie	05.02.1919	28	40th Inf Bn	Hobart
45037	2nd Lt	Pauling	Frank William	16.02.1919	25	NZEF Inf Bde	Tai Mawne
2138	Pte	Pearlington	Frederick	11.02.1919	48	40th Inf Bn	Devonport
26431	Dvr	Pickal	Osbourne Vincent	12.02.1919	28	8th Fd Arty Bde	Deloraine
8038	Pte	Purton	John David H	11.01.1919	20	12th Inf Bn	Ulverstone
2427	Pte	Oslen	Trevor	18.04.1919	25	2nd Pioneer Bn	St Marys
6084	Pte	Reynolds	Albert	08.10.1919	20	12th Inf Bn	Zeehan
935	AM II	Richardson	Ivan Morton R	08.04.1919	23	4 Sqn AFC	Danford
4869	Pte	Riva	Jack Eugene	27.05.1919	20	7th Inf Bn	Launceston
2069	Pte	Rudd	Henry Osborne	27.10.1919	44	12th Inf Bn	Hagley
1435	Pte	Ryan	James	02.04.1919	31	1st AusCasCst Hosp	Launceston
927	Pte	Shawring	Thomas Edwin	28.11.1919	25	AAMC	Begged
487	Pte	Sheppard	Frank	22.02.1919	25	51st Inf Bn	Rainefield
83534	Pte	Shoppard	Alfred Edward	09.01.1919	30	12th Inf Bn	Ellet
2232	Pte	Smith	Augustus Eugene	19.12.1919	25	26th Inf Bn	Cygnat
8247	Sapr	Strickland	Lionel Victor	06.11.1919	22	12th Fd Coy Engr	Hobart
395	Sitr	Taylor (3005)	Herbert Stephen	09.05.1919	27	HMAS Yarra	Hobart
4602	Pte	Tiffin	Claude	19.05.1919	34	49th Inf Bn	Derby
2972	Pte	Troon	John James	13.04.1919	36	47th Inf Bn	Launceston
2460	Pte	Tynall	Edward James	04.01.1919	24	41st Inf Bn	Hobart
63346	Pte	Vincent	John David	30.01.1919	32	12th Inf Bn	Sanolly
14462	Sapr	Ward	Albert Edward W	13.02.1919	36	2nd Fd Coy Engrs	Weldborough
2014	DCMS	Webb	Albert Henry	27.12.1919	45	53rd Inf Bn	Launceston
2903	Pte	Webb	Thomas Henry W	06.12.1919	26	40th Inf Bn	Deloraine
20742	Pte	Webster	William Ivorick	30.05.1919	35	AAMC	Hobart
1190	Pte	Whelan	John Joseph	10.04.1919	28	40th Inf Bn	Claremont
83372	Pte	Wilkes	Ernest Henry	12.02.1919	19	12th Inf Bn	Sand Hill South
1920							
897	L/Cpl	Blake	Lindsay William	05.08.1920	34	40th Inf Bn	Bethwell
8171	O/Sqn	Bryant	William Walker	18.02.1920	30	HMAS Australia	Launceston
4789	Dvr	Camerton	Donald Hugh	21.08.1920	29	1st DivAmcoCdm	Swinawa
4862	Pte	Cassidy	John	02.04.1920	28	48th Inf Bn	Launceston
8509	Pte	Chavez	Arthur Ernest	24.12.1920	26	10th Inf Bn	Launceston
11468	Dvr	Collin	Frederick John	08.11.1920	38	8th Fd Arty Bde	Hobart
3578	Pte	Eastman	Leonard Angus E	05.10.1920	21	40th Inf Bn	Derby
7928	Sapr	Hartford	Henry Augustus M	23.05.1920	24	Wireless Corps	Hobart
8996	Pte	Hart	William Joseph	17.02.1920	24	32th Inf Bn	Bridgenorth
911	Pte	Kingston	Robert Beveridge	13.05.1920	33	AAMC	Hobart
1915	L/Cpl	Manning	Clyde Frederick	05.08.1920	28	99th Inf Bn	Bream Creek
1407	Sapr	McDermott	John	23.12.1920	42	28th Inf Bn	Gladstone
4002	Pte	McGowan	Andrew	15.06.1920	27	3rd Tunnel Coy	Parattah
3545	Sapr	Nicholson	William Thomas	10.08.1920	38	1st Pioneer Bn	Wesbury
1669	Dvr	Nunn	William George	28.11.1920	47	2nd Tunnel Coy	Beaconsfield
2899	Pte	Ridgell	Ernest Henry	22.08.1920	39	48th Inf Bn	Paradise
3899	Pte	Way	Edmond Charles	21.01.1920	25	28th Inf Bn	Forest
3695	Tpr	Williams	Henry John	20.12.1920	33	51st Inf Bn	Hobart
4038	Pte	Wilson	Henry Thomas	29.07.1920	32	3rd LI Horse Regt	Hobart
			George Robert	23.02.1920	29	12th Inf Bn	Hobart
1921							
8238	Pte	Barber	Osborne James	07.02.1921	28	12th Inf Bn	Penguin
4472	Pte	Curt MM	Cyril James	22.02.1921	24	4th MG Bn	Hobart
424	Pte	Douglas	Henry Pangloss	13.01.1921	25	12th Inf Bn	Queenstown
865	Cpl	Turner	James Charles	02.02.1921	35	40th Inf Bn	Longford
8947	Sapr	Watts	William John	02.02.1921	48	2nd Tunnel Coy	Hobart

Wall of Remembrance, St. Helens, Tasmania

(51 pages of Air Mechanic 2nd Class Ivan Morton Rupert Richardson'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

CASUALTIES

LIST No. 463

ENLISTED OTHER DISTRICTS

ILL

935 T.A.M. I.M.R. Richardson, Longreach

(Daily Standard, Brisbane, Qld – 16 April, 1919)

ROLL OF HONOUR

CASUALTY LIST No. 465

DIED, OTHER CAUSES

2/A.M. Richardson, Ivan Mortyn R., Caulfield, Vic, 9/4/19, illness (previously reported ill).

(The Mercury, Hobart, Tasmania – 27 May, 1919)

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)

Airman 2nd Class I. M. R. Richardson does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Greater Love Hath No Man That He Give Up His Life For His Friends

Comely Bank Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland

Comely Bank Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland contains 302 War Graves. There are only seven Australians buried in this cemetery from World War 1.

During the First World War, Edinburgh was headquarters to the 4th, 5th, 6th and 9th Battalions of the Royal Scots, with the 7th Battalion at Leith. The 2nd Scottish General Hospital (1,000 beds) occupied Craighleith Poorhouse, the Edinburgh War Hospital (2,600 beds) was in the Asylum buildings at Bangour and the Leith War Hospital (585 beds) in the infirmary at Leith. The port of Leith was used by hospital ships from north Russia and about 4,500 officers and men passed through it.

Second World War military hospitals were in Edinburgh Castle, Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and Bangour. The city was also Scottish Command Headquarters.

Edinburgh (Comely Bank) Cemetery contains 225 burials of the First World War, most of them forming a war graves plot in Section D. The Second World War plot is immediately in front and contains more than half of the 76 Second World War burials. The cemetery also contains a Finnish war grave and two non-war service burials.

(Information & photos from CWGC)



Communal Commonwealth War Graves plot in Section D

An unusual feature of the War Graves plot is that the granite headstones lie flat. This was a decision made by the architect, Sir Robert Lorimer. The plot contains WW1 and WW2 casualties/Spanish Flu victims and a member of the Finnish Legion.

Photo of Airman 2nd Class I. M. R. Richardson's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Comely Bank Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland.



(Photo courtesy of John Byrne)



Comely Bank Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

J00524

Australian Graves at Comely Bank Cemetery in Edinburgh, Scotland.

(From the collection of Mr Alfred Thomas Sharp, who was the Commonwealth Immigration Officer of Victoria and was based in the London Office during the First World War.)