

Sutton Veny War Graves

World War 1



Lest We Forget



5747 PRIVATE

G. ROBINSON

7TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

31ST OCTOBER, 1918

*CWGC Headstone for Pte G. Robinson is located in
Grave Plot # 19. H. 5. of St. John the Evangelist Churchyard, Sutton Veny*

George ROBINSON

George Featherstone Robinson was born in 1887 at Hotham, Victoria to parents George & Margaret Ann Robinson (nee Pizarro).

George Robinson married Myrtle Clarke in Victoria in 1912.

George Robinson stated he was born at North Melbourne & was a 27 year old, married, Brewery Labourer (Embarkation Roll states Grocer) from 35 Nelson Street, Abbotsford, Victoria when he enlisted at Melbourne, Victoria on 12th February, 1916 with the 7th Infantry Battalion, 18th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 5747 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs M. Robinson of 138 Albert Street, East Brunswick, Victoria.

A birth was registered in 1916 for George Alexander Robinson, son of George & Myrtle Robinson. George Alexander Robinson was born on 4th January, 1916.

Private George Robinson embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Ayrshire* (A33) on 3rd July, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 2nd September, 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 George Robinson was marched in to 7th Battalion at 2nd Training Battalion at Perham Downs from Australia on 2nd September, 1916.

Pte Robinson proceeded overseas to France on 22nd October, 1916. He was marched in to 1st Divisional Base Depot at Etaples, France on 23rd October, 1916.

Pte Robinson was taken on strength with the 7th Battalion in France on 10th November, 1916.

Pte Robinson was admitted to 3rd Stationary Hospital at Rouen with Pharyngitis on 14th December, 1916 & transferred to England on 16th December, 1916 on Hospital Ship *Aberdonian*. Pte Robinson was admitted to 2nd London General Hospital on 17th December, 1916, suffering with Pharyngitis & transferred to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital at Dartford with Influx Larynx on 13th February, 1917.

Pte Robinson was marched in from furlo at Perham Downs on 8th March, 1917 & medically classified as B1 A.

Pte Robinson was marched in to No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham from No. 1 Command Depot on 16th March, 1917. He was transferred from 7th Battalion to 65th Battalion at Wareham on 23rd March, 1917.

Pte Robinson was transferred to 7th Battalion Details at Perham Downs on 4th April, 1917 & marched in to Infantry Draft Depot on 5th April, 1917.

Pte Robinson was attached to No. 6 Camp at Perham Downs then marched out on 11th May, 1917 to No. 7 Camp at Perham Downs.

Pte Robinson was marched out to Drafting Depot at Perham Downs on 12th May, 1917.

Private George Robinson was admitted to the Military Hospital at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 24th October, 1918 seriously ill with Pneumonia.

Private George Robinson died at 02.30 hrs on 31st October, 1918 at the Military Hospital, Sutton Veny of Influenza & Pneumonia.

A death for George Robinson, aged 38, (age should be 30) was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

Private George Robinson was buried on 4th November, 1918 in St. John the Evangelist Churchyard at Sutton Veny - Grave no. 19. From the burial report of Pte Robinson - *Coffin was good polished Elm with Brass Mounts – Deceased*

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was buried with full Military Honours, the coffin draped with the Australian flag being borne to the graveside on a Gun Carriage preceded by a Firing Party from the Australian Overseas Training Brigade. Six of deceased's late Unit comrades supported the Pall. The funeral was attended by two Officers and about 80 N.C.O.'s and Men who followed the remains to the graveside. Headquarters A.I.F. Depots in United Kingdom were represented at the funeral. Also in attendance at the funeral were (friend) Dr R. H. Stevens of South Woodford, London & (friend) Cpl. R. W. Morris of 12th Battalion, A.I.F.

Pte George Robinson requested in his Will dated 27th May, 1916 that all his real & personal Estate be left to his wife – Mrs Myrtle Robinson of 35 Nelson St Abbotsford, Melbourne. George Robinson of No. 3 Summerset Street, Richmond was appointed Executor of the Will.

Private G. Robinson is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 51.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

G. Robinson is remembered on the Brunswick Town Hall Honour Roll located in Foyer of Brunswick Town Hall, 233 Sydney Road, Brunswick, Victoria.



Brunswick Town Hall Honour Roll (Photo from Monument Australia – Bruce Garrett)



Pte George Robinson was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Robinson's widow who had remarried – Mrs M. Benson of 29 Yamba St, Clifton Hill, Victoria (Scroll sent May, 1922 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The CWGC lists Private G. Robinson, 5747, of 7th Battalion, Australian Infantry, A.I.F. No family details are listed.

The Dept of Repatriation, Victoria wrote a letter to Base Records dated 28th February, 1919 regarding the widow of Pte George Robinson, 5747, 7th Battalion, 19 Victoria Place, Carlton. Included was a report from Charity Organization Society, Melbourne which reads:

R/43545 – Mrs M. Robinson

My assistant was unfavourably impressed with this woman. She is of a most shallow type, and did not seem to feel her husband's death in the slightest. She was most evasive, and exceedingly clever in withholding any information which would enable us to make inquiries about her, although she had lots to say regarding the inadequate provision made for war widows. We are told that, as a result of complaints received from her late husband, the Defence Dept. had her case in the hands of a private detective, and it is suggested that you might be able to get from the Dept, some useful information concerning her. She is spoken of as a flighty young woman and her husband was taking steps to have her allotment stopped before his death. She has one young child.

The district Paymaster wrote to Base Records on 4th April, 1919 advising that “no action was taken by this Department to suspend or cancel the allotment prior to the soldier’s death.”

(79 pages of Pte George Robinson’s Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives.



Pte George Robinson with his wife Myrtle & young son George Alexander Robinson

Newspaper Reports

DEATHS

On Active Service

ROBINSON — Died of influenza in Sutton Veny Hut Hospital, England, on the 31st October, after 2 years and 4 months' service, Private G. Robinson, dearly beloved husband of Myrtle, and only son George Robinson. A soldier and a man.

His duty called him, he was there
To do his bit and take his share;
His heart was true, his spirit brave,
And there he sleeps in a hero's grave.
The hardest part is yet to come,
When the other boys return:
We'll miss among the happy throng
Dear George, who never will return.

- Inserted by his loving wife and his son, George, Myrtle Robinson, late of Abbotsford.

(The Age, Melbourne, Vic – Monday 11 November, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

VICTORIAN LIST

Died, Other Causes

Pte G. Robinson, East Brunswick, 31/10/18 (illness)

(Weekly Times, Vic – Saturday 7 December, 1918)

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 St. John the Evangelist Churchyard at Sutton Veny. 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 was sent from Base Records to Mrs M. Robinson of 86 Lydia Street, East Brunswick, dated 29th July, 1921, advising that a communication from the Defence Department concerning an inscription that could be placed on her late husband's Headstone in the Churchyard of Sutton Veny had not yet been replied to. The letter advised that if no reply was received within 21 days, it would be taken as indicating that no further action was required.

Pte George Robinson does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Photo of G. Robinson's CWGC headstone in St. John the Evangelist's Churchyard, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of David Milborrow)



War Graves at Sutton Veny *(Photos from CWGC)*

