

**St. Lawrence Churchyard,  
Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire**

**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**4278 PRIVATE**

**R. C. ROGERS**

**3RD BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**6TH APRIL, 1919**

## Roy Cyril ROGERS

Roy Cyril Rogers was born at Broken Hill, NSW on 30th September, 1891 to parents Thomas & Louisa Rogers (nee Penhall).

Thomas Rogers, father of Roy Cyril Rogers, died 25th November, 1899 at Broken Hill, New South Wales.

The 1913 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Sturt, Oxide Street Polling Place recorded Roy Cyril Rogers, Fitter of Lane Street.

From *Dun's Gazette for New South Wales* – Vol 12. No. 5 (August 3, 1914):

### *Business Changes*

*BIGGINS & ROGERS (Ralph Stanley Biggins and Roy Cecil Rogers), Blended St., Broken Hill, motor mechanics and general cycle repairers – Reported partnership dissolved. Ralph Stanley Biggins will continue the business under old style.*

Roy Cyril Rogers was a 24 year old, single, Engineer (as per Embarkation Roll, however on his Application to Enlist in the Australian Imperial Force (page 33/64) he listed his occupation as Fitter & Turner & Motor Mechanic) from Lane Street, Convent Hill, Broken Hill, NSW when he enlisted at Holsworthy, Sydney, NSW on 2nd September, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 4278 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Louisa Rogers, Lane Street, Broken Hill, NSW. Roy Rogers stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served for 6 months with Senior Cadets at Broken Hill, NSW but had left through pressure in studying.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was posted to 13th Reinforcements of 3rd Battalion on 2nd September, 1915 for recruit training.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Aeneas (A60)* on 20th December, 1915 with the 3rd Infantry Battalion, 13th Reinforcements. He was admitted to Ship's Hospital on 26th December, 1915 with Gonorrhoea.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was admitted to 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital at Abbassia on 17th January, 1916. He was discharged to duty on 19th March, 1916 – (63 days venereal).

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was marched in to Australian Details at Zeitoun on 27th March, 1916 from Garrison Camp.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers embarked from Alexandria on 29th March, 1916 on Troopship *Transylvania* for B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 4th April, 1916.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was sent to Hospital on 27th April, 1916 from Australian Base Depot. He was admitted to 26th General Hospital with an ingrowing toenail. Private Rogers was discharged to Base Depot on 18th May, 1916 & was posted to 1st Australian Base Depot at Etaples, France the same day.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was marched out from 1st Australian Base Depot at Etaples on 25th June, 1916 to join Entrenching Battalion.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was taken on strength of 3rd Battalion in France on 31st July, 1916 from Reinforcements.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was "On Command" from 4th September, 1916. He rejoined 3rd Battalion on 14th September, 1916 in Belgium from Lewis Machine Gun School at Le Touquet.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was "On Command" at Corps Light Railway in France from 27th December, 1916.

### **3rd Battalion**

The 3rd Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. Like the 1st, 2nd and 4th Battalions it was recruited from New South Wales and, together with these battalions, formed the 1st Brigade....

In March 1916, it sailed for France and the Western Front. From then until 1918 the battalion took part in operations against the German Army, principally in the Somme Valley in France and around Ypres in Belgium. The battalion's first major action in France was at Pozieres in the Somme valley in July 1916. Later the battalion fought at Ypres, in Flanders, before returning to the Somme for winter.

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

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was sent sick to Hospital in France on 11th January, 1917 whilst "On Command". He was admitted to 5th Australian Field Ambulance in France on 12th January, 1917 then transferred to A.C.R.S. (Australian Corps Rest Station) the same day. Private Rogers ceased to be attached to 17th Anzac Light Railway Operations as Fetter on 12th January, 1917 on being admitted to Hospital. Private Rogers was transferred & admitted to 38th Casualty Clearing Station on 23rd January, 1917 with I.C.T. foot (Inflammation of connective tissues). He was transferred to Ambulance Train 22 on 25th January, 1917 & admitted to 6th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 26th January, 1917. Private Rogers was transferred to 2nd Convalescent Depot at Rouen on 27th January, 1917. He embarked from Havre, France on 28th February, 1917 for England on Hospital Ship *Panama* with I.C.T. Feet.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was admitted to 3rd Southern General Hospital at Oxford, England on 28th February, 1917. He was discharged to furlo on 7th May, 1917 & was then to report to Training Depot at Wareham on 22nd May, 1917.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was medically classified as B1 A2 (fit for overseas training camp in 3 – 4 weeks) at No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham, Dorset on 23rd May, 1917. Comment on Admissions form reads: "Toes tender, flat footed."

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was medically classified as B1 A3 (fit for overseas training camp in 2 – 3 weeks) at No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham, Dorset on 29th May, 1917 & again on 5th June, 1917 & 12th June, 1917.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was medically assessed on 18th June, 1917 "*states walked to Corps C\_\_\_ & back but his feet were sore afterward*" & classified as B1 A3 (fit for overseas training camp in 2 – 3 weeks).

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was medically assessed again on 26th June, 1917 "Improving toenail. Improving" & was classified as B1 A3 (fit for overseas training camp in 2 – 3 weeks).

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was medically assessed on 2nd July, 1917 & classified as B1 A4 (fit for overseas training camp when passed dentally fit).

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was medically assessed (no date recorded) but classified as A3 (fit for overseas training camp, to which transferred for hardening, prior to rejoining unit overseas).

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was marched out from No. 4 Command Depot at Codford, Wiltshire on 8th August, 1917 & was marched in to Overseas Training Brigade at Perham Downs, Wiltshire the same day.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was marched out from Overseas Training Brigade at Perham Downs, Wiltshire & marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 22nd August, 1917. He was medically classified on 22nd August, 1917 as C1 (permanently unfit for General Service but fit for Home Service) – flat feet.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was marched out to Headquarters London from No. 1 Command Depot at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire, England on 2nd January, 1918.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was granted a leave of absence (12 months) without pay & allowances to take up duty with Y.M.C.A. on 3rd January, 1918. If he was found to be medically fit for service in the meantime he was to be returned to his Unit.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers married Edith Augusta Julia Clissold in 1918 at Salisbury, Wiltshire, England.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers died on 6th April, 1919 at 51 Catherine Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire, England from Influenza & Pneumonia.

A death for Roy C. Rogers, aged 27, was registered in the June quarter, 1919 in the district of Salisbury, Wiltshire, England.

Private Roy Cyril Rogers was buried on 9th April, 1919 in St Lawrence's Churchyard, Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire, England – Plot number 143 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private Roy Cyril Rogers - *Coffin was Elm with brass mounts. Deceased was buried with full Military honors the coffin draped with the Australian flag being borne to the graveside on a Gun-carriage preceded by a Firing Party from No. 4 Australian Group Headquarters Hurdcott. Six Australians supported the Pall. The "Last Post" was sounded and volleys fired over the grave. Flowers were sent by "Mother, Sister and Brother", "Mr and Mrs E. W. Collette", "Mr and Mrs Whitworth", "Miss G. M. Loyd". "Miss D. Murray". "Y.M.C.A. Parkhouse". "Greenhill Y.M.C.A., Sutton Veny", "Comrades Business Department". "M. Barnes and E. K. Shears", "Austin and Family". "Miss Starkey, Sutton Veny". Headquarters, A.I.F. Depots in United Kingdom were represented at the funeral.*

Names of relatives & Friends present at the Funeral: (Brother) Pte A. B. T. Rogers, A.A.M.C.; (Wife) Mrs R. C. Rogers; (Mother-in-Law) Mrs K. Chissoll, (Sister-in-Law) Miss Chissoll; (Brother-in-Law) Mr Billie Chissoll – (wife & in-laws all from 51 Catherine Street, Salisbury) & A number of Y.M.C.A. Representatives. (Spelling as per Burial Report)

Private Roy Cyril Rogers requested in his Will dated 14th July, 1917 that all his real & personal estate be bequeathed to his mother – Mrs Louisa Rogers, Lane Street, Broken Hill, NSW.

A letter was sent to Mrs L. Rogers, Lane Street, Broken Hill, NSW, mother of the late Private Roy Cyril Rogers, which contained a form to be completed by the next-of-kin for the "Nation's Histories", Roll of Honour of Australia" & for "Inscriptions on War Graves". This communication was returned to Base Records unclaimed "Not Known by Letter Carriers Broken Hill" in January, 1920.

Base Records wrote to D.F.O., (District Finance Officer), 2nd Military District on 16th June, 1921 regarding the late No. 4278 Private R. C. Rogers, 3rd Battalion stating " *I should be glad to know whether you have the present address of the widow of the abovenamed soldier, formerly of 51 Catherine St, Salisbury, England. If no, can you furnish the present address of the soldier's mother – Mrs L. Rogers, formerly of Lane Street, Broken Hill, NSW.*" The District Finance Officer replied on 25th June, 1921 stating that " *the addresses of soldiers' Widow and Mother as shown on the records of this Department, are identical with those quote din your letter. There has been no claim lodged, to date, in connection with the late soldier's War Gratuity.*"

An Advertisement was placed in the Newspapers in 1921 to find the address of the mother of the late Private Roy Cyril Rogers.

A letter was sent to Australian Graves Services, Australia House, London on 17th December, 1921 from Base Records stating that the District Finance Officer, 2nd District Base, had " *advised that a claim for war gratuity has now been received from the widow of the late No. 4278 Private R. C. Rogers, 3rd Battalion, on which her address is shown as – Mrs E. A. J. Jones c/o S. Macdonald, Union Bank, Salisbury, Wilts, England. It is also advised that the soldier's widow remarried on 1.9.20.*"

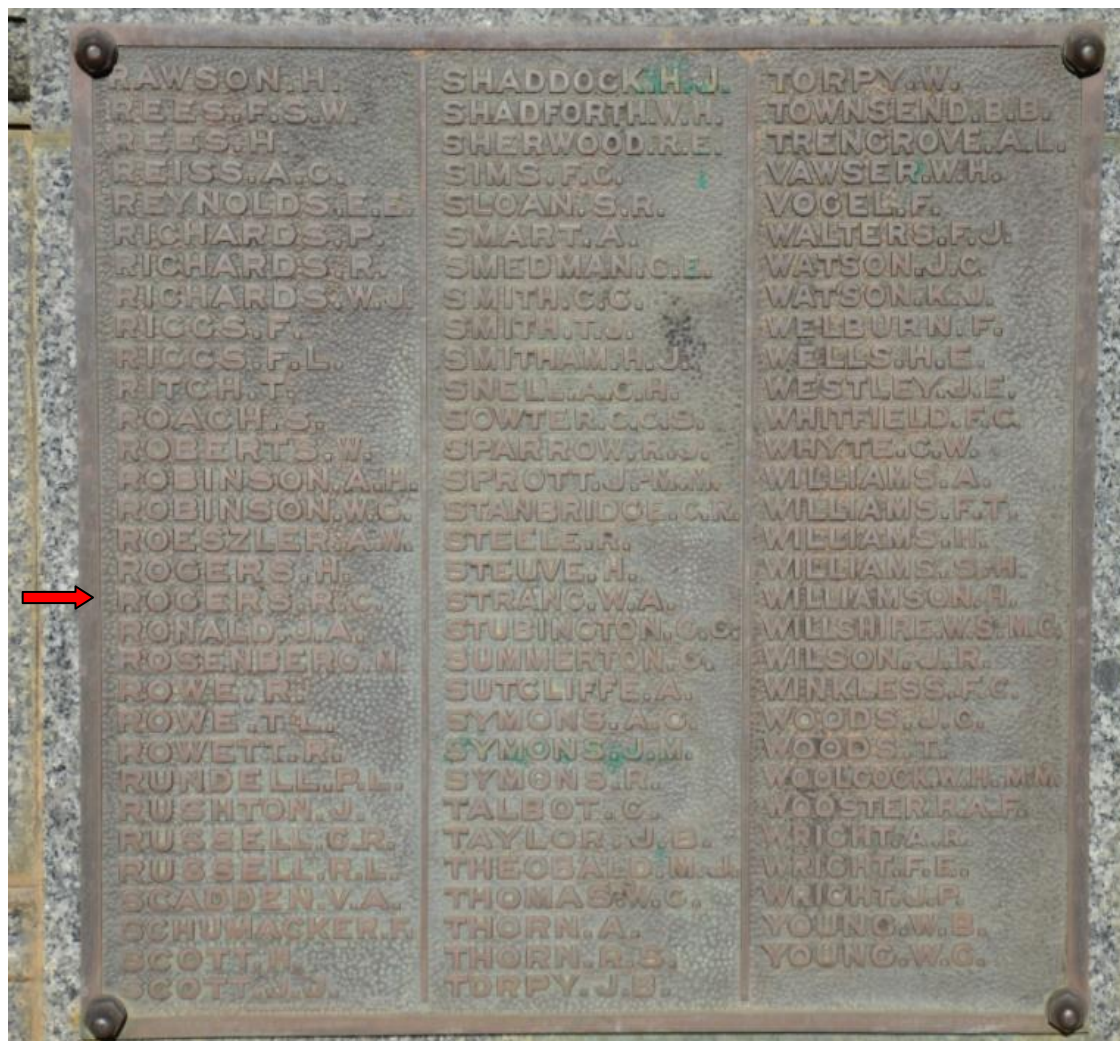
Private Roy Cyril Rogers was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Rogers remarried widow – Mrs E. A. J. Jones, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll issued January, 1922 & Plaque issued November, 1922. Both items were to be sent to London for issue to remarried widow.).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private R. C. Rogers – service number 4278, of 3rd Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

R. C. Rogers is remembered on the Broken Hill War Memorial, located at Broken Hill War Memorial Reserve, 234 Argent Street, Broken Hill, NSW.



**Broken Hill War Memorial** (Photos from AWM – Places of Pride)



Private R. C. Rogers is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 38.



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

(64 pages of Private Roy Cyril Rogers' 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*



**Private Roy Cyril Rogers**

## Newspaper Notices

### **464th CASUALTY LIST**

#### **NEW SOUTH WALES**

##### **DIED OTHER CAUSES**

Pte ROY CYRIL ROGERS, Broken Hill (illness)

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 10 May, 1919)*

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##### **RETURNING SOLDIERS**

Mrs. L. Rogers, of 248 Lane-street, has been advised by the military authorities that her son, Private A. T. B. Rogers, A.M.C, is returning to Australia by the transport Euripides, which left England on September 3, and is due to reach Melbourne about October 15. Private Rogers has been on active service about two years. His brother, Private R. C. Rogers died of pneumonia and influenza while on active service, and just prior to the date fixed for his leaving for home. He had been serving four years.

*(Barrier Miner, Broken Hill, NSW – 13 October, 1919)*

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##### 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)*

Private R. C. Rogers does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

## St Lawrence's Churchyard, Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire, England

During the two world wars, the United Kingdom became an island fortress used for training troops and launching land, sea and air operations around the globe. There are more than 170,000 Commonwealth war graves in the United Kingdom, many being those of servicemen and women killed on active service, or who later succumbed to wounds. Others died in training accidents, or because of sickness or disease. The graves, many of them privately owned and marked by private memorials, will be found in more than 12,000 cemeteries and churchyards. Most of the 47 First World War burials in Stratford-sub-Castle (St Lawrence) Churchyard were made from the local hospital and more than half of them are of Australian servicemen who were based at the many Australian depots and training camps in the area. There are also two burials of the Second World War in the cemetery. (*Information from CWGC*)



St. Lawrence Church, Stratford-sub-Castle



Churchyard of St. Lawrence, Stratford-sub-Castle with CWGC Cross of Sacrifice





*(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)*



*(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)*



*(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)*

Photo of Private R. C. Rogers' Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St Lawrence's Churchyard, Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire, England.



*(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)*



Original Grave Markers

## Stratford-sub-Castle War Graves



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
A	RAF	British Army			NZ	NZ	Rogers 3 AIF		Robson Nurse	NZ	
B			Nicol AFC	Mason 5 Aus Pioneer	Dundas 29 AIF	Thorsby 20 AIF	Walpole (Wilson) 3 AIF	O'Grady 10 AIF	Kubank 40 AIF	NZ	
C	NZ	Jacob 31 AIF	Wood 9 AIF	Smith 55 AIF	British Army	British Army	Smith Aus ASC	O'Donnell 16 AIF	Knight 52 AIF	Lawrence 54 AIF	Edmonds 48 AIF
D		Lewis 30 AIF	British Army	Whitchurch 51 AIF	British Army	Dee 52 AIF	Greenslade 17 AIF	British Army	Thorburn 13 AIF	Knight 13 AIF	Hannabry 16 AIF
E					Adams 13 AIF	Crow Aus FA	British Army	Bolton 40 AIF	British Army	British Army	
F		British Army		British Army	British Army	British Army		Canada		British Army	

(Information for layout of graves – courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)