

Durrington, Wiltshire, England

War Graves

World War 1



Lest We Forget



6813 PRIVATE

A. W. SAGGERS

11TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

6TH FEBRUARY, 1917

Called to a Higher Life

Thy Will Be Done

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte A. W. Saggars is located in Grave Plot # 177
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

Aubrey William SAGGERS

Aubrey William Saggars was born at Ringarooma, Tasmania in 1893** to parents William & Mary Frances Saggars (nee Ryan). He was educated in Perth, Western Australia.

** (Ringarooma was listed as place of birth on Aubrey's Attestation Papers, however a birth is listed in Australia Births & Baptisms 1792 – 1981 (Ancestry) for Aubrey William Saggars born 11 November, 1894 at Swan (Shire), Western Australia to parents William & Mary Saggars)

Aubrey W. Saggars married Muriel Brittain on 26th May, 1915 in the district of Wellington, Western Australia.

The 1916 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Swan, subdivision of Nelson, Western Australia recorded Aubrey William Saggars, Shop Assistant & his wife Muriel Saggars, Housewife, living at Spence Street, Bridgetown.

Aubrey William Saggars was a 22 year old, married, Butcher from Bunbury, Western Australia (with one child) when he enlisted on 4th July, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 6813 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Muriel Saggars - Rathmines, Bunbury, Western Australia. Aubrey had served 3 years with 86 Infantry, Bunbury.

Private Aubrey William Saggars embarked from Fremantle on HMAT *Argyllshire (A8)* on 9th November, 1916 with the 11th Infantry Battalion, 22nd Reinforcements & disembarked at Devonport, England on 10th January, 1917. Private Saggars had been admitted to Ship's Hospital from 30th November to 12th December, 1916 whilst at sea.

11th Battalion

The 11th Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. It was the first battalion recruited in Western Australia, and with the 9th, 10th and 12th Battalions it formed the 3rd Brigade.....

(Battalion information from The Australian War Memorial)

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 Aubrey William Saggars was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 30th January, 1917 from 3rd Training Battalion, Durrington, Wiltshire. He was reported seriously ill on 2nd February, 1917.

Private Aubrey William Saggars died at 1.11 am on 6th February, 1917 at Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire, England from Bronchitis & Asthma.

Private Saggars was the first of three soldiers, all from 3rd Training Battalion, to die from Bronchitis related illnesses on 6th February, 1917. Private W. C Gilchrist – 6462 died at 7.15 a.m. from Bronchitis & Private G. F. Holmes – 6520 died at 7.50 a.m. from Broncho pneumonia.

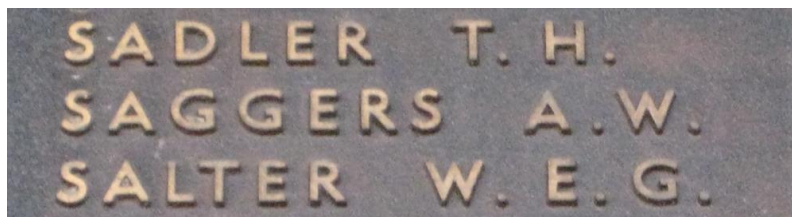
A death for Aubrey W. Saggars, aged 23, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private Aubrey William Saggars was buried on 9th February, 1917 at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – Plot number 177 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private Aubrey William Saggars 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 Saggars's widow – Mrs M. Saggars (sent December, 1921 & February, 1922)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Aubrey William Saggars – service number 6813 as being 22 years old & served with 11th Battalion Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

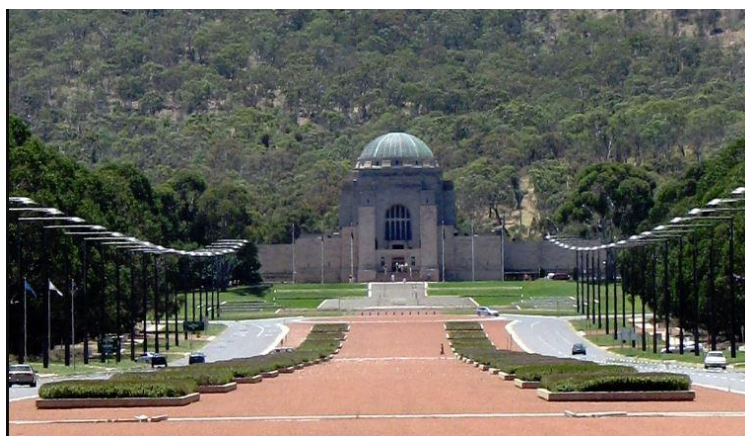
Private A. W. Saggers is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 64 .



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia



Aubrey William Saggers is remembered by the Anzac Heroes – Great War 1914 – 1918 Bunbury – Wellington District, Western Australia website but he is not remembered on the Bunbury War Memorial.



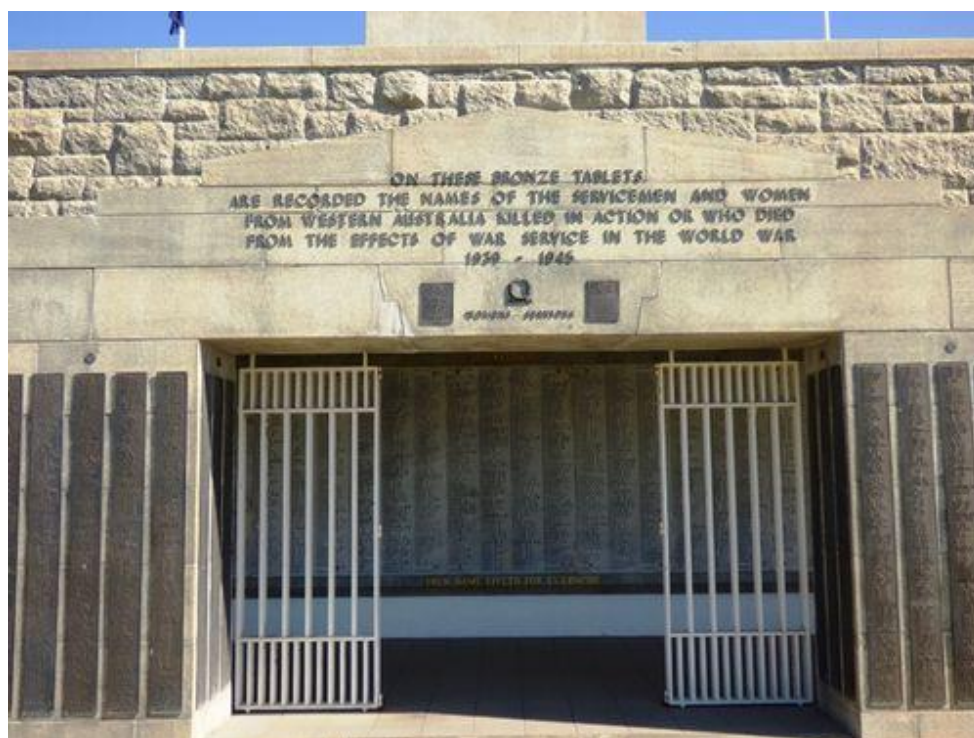
A. W. Siggers is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.



**Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park (above)
& (below) The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names**

(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)





11th Battalion Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)

(47 pages of Private Aubrey William Siggers' 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 Aubrey William Sagers



PTE. A. SAGGERS.

Died of illness, February 6. Wife resides at Bunbury.

(Photo from Sunday Times, Perth, Western Australia – 8 July, 1917)



(Photo from Western Mail, Perth, Western Australia – 11 January, 1918)



Newspaper Reports

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

DEATHS

A. W. Saggars (Bunbury), died of illness

(Sunday Times, Perth, Western Australia – Sunday 25 February, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

SAGGERS—In sad but loving memory of my dear husband Aubrey, who died in Fargo Military Hospital, England, February 6, 1917.

I would that I could tell you now
The love I have for you.
I wish that I could but express
The thoughts for ever true.
But simple words could ne'er convey
The longing of my heart,
The wish to see my darling one
Never again to part.

-Inserted by his loving wife Muriel, and little son Bertie (Bunbury).

SAGGERS.-In sad but loving memory of our dear son and brother Aubrey, who died in Fargo Military Hospital, England, on February 6, 1917. Ever remembered.

-Inserted by his mother and stepfather, M. and T. K. Kelly, sisters and brother.....

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – Wednesday 6 February, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

ANZAC HEROES

SAGGARS – In loving memory of my dear husband, Private Aubrey Saggars, who died of illness at Fargo Military Hospital, February 6, 1917, Durrington, 11th Battalion. Age 23 years.

Until the dawn breaks and the shadows flee away

Inserted by his loving wife and son, Muriel and Bertie.

SAGGARS – In sad but loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Aubrey W. Saggars, who died on February 6, 1917, in Fargo Military Hospital, England. Peace, perfect Peace.

Inserted by his loving mother and step-father and family, Mr and Mrs T. H. Kelly, 51 Albany-road, Victoria Park, and his loving sister and brother-in-law, E. and J. Crick, Bongardie.

SAGGARS – In sad but loving memory of Private Aubrey Saggars, who died on February 6, 1917, in Fargo Military Hospital, England, aged 22 years. So dearly loved, so sadly missed.

Inserted by his loving sister (Elvie) and Private C. Straw (on active service).

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – Thursday 6 February, 1919)

IN MEMORIAM

ANZAC HEROES

SAGGARS – In loving memory of my dear husband and dear daddy, Aubrey William Saggars, who died while on active service February 6, 1917, in Fargo Military Hospital, England.

You are always in our thoughts, dear Aubrey,

‘Tis sweet to breathe your name;

In life we loved you dearly,

In death we do the same.

Inserted by his loving wife and son, Muriel and little son Bertie.

SAGGARS – In sad but loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Aubrey W. Saggars, who died Fargo Military Hospital, England on February 6, 1917, aged 22 years.

Thy will be done

Inserted by his loving mother and step-father and family, Mr and Mrs T. H. Kelly, Victoria Park, and sisters and brothers-in-law, Ethel and J. Crick, Elvie and C. Straw, Bunbury, also Mavis, Edythe and Arthur Kelly, and little nephew Malcolm.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – Friday 6 February, 1920)

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)

Private A. W. Sagers does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire, England

Durrington Cemetery contains burials of both wars. The 204 First World War burials were mostly from nearby Larkhill Camp. Many of the graves are of Australian servicemen and there is a separate Australian memorial in the cemetery. The Second World War burials number 22. In addition to the war graves, there are a number of post-war service graves in the cemetery, mostly of the Royal Air Force.

(Information from CWGC)



Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire *(Photo above by Dave Healing 2013; below CWGC)*

Photo of Private A. W. Saggars' Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)



(Photo from Find a Grave – Remembering Our Fallen)