

**Fort Pitt Military Cemetery,
Rochester, Kent
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



9769 PRIVATE

M. A. SILVA

AUST. ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

5TH DECEMBER, 1916 Age 46

The Path Of Duty

Leads To Glory

Manuel Antony SILVA

Manuel Antony Silva was born at Watson's Bay, Sydney, New South Wales in 1870 to parents Joseph and Susannah Union Silva (nee Davey).

Manuel Antony Silva attended Watson's Bay Public School, NSW.

Susannah Silva, mother of Manuel Antony Silva, died on 17th November, 1888 at Woollahra, New South Wales.

Joseph Silva, father of Manuel Antony Silva, died on 2nd August, 1891 at Batlow, NSW.

Emmanuel Antony Silva married Rosa Sadler in Sydney, NSW in 1892. A birth was registered in 1892 for Harriett Florence Silva in Sydney, NSW, daughter of Emanuel & Rosa Silva.

On 26th September, 1901 Manuel Antony Silva joined NSW GR & T (Government Railways & Trams) as a temporary Labourer in Railways Interlocking Branch in Sydney. He was transferred to the Locomotive Branch as a Cleaner (permanent) at Picton on 23rd May, 1902. Manuel Silva was transferred to Eveleigh on 19th July, 1904 & on 1st October, 1906 he became a fireman based at Wellington. He was transferred on 14th January, 1908 to Bathurst as fireman. He was promoted to Driver on 13th July, 1912 at Bathurst then his official base changed to Penrith.

The 1913 Australia Electoral Roll for the district of Mudgee, subdistrict of Gulgong, NSW listed Manuel Anthony Silva, Engine Driver & his wife Rosa Silva, Domestic duties living at Gulgong.

A death was registered in 1894 in Sydney for Florence H. Silva, daughter of Emanuel & Rosa Silva.

Manuel Antony Silva was a 45 year old, married, Railway Engine Driver from Mudgee, NSW when he enlisted at Lithgow, NSW on 14th August, 1915 with the 1st Field Ambulance, 16th Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 9769 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Rosa Silva, Church Street, Mudgee, NSW. Manuel Silva stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously served in the Naval Artillery Volunteers 8 years ago. He had previously been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service due to medical issues. According to information submitted by his wife, Rosa Silva for the Roll of Honour, Manuel Siva was also trained as a Captain – Harbours & Rivers.

Private Manuel Antony Silva embarked from Sydney on SS *Makarini* on 5th April, 1916. He was marched in to Base Details at Tel-el-Kebir, Egypt on 4th May, 1916.

Private Manuel Silva embarked for overseas from Alexandria on 28th May, 1916 on "*Corsican*".

Private Manuel Silva was transferred from A.A.M.C. (Australian Army Medical Corps) Details at Tidworth, Wiltshire to Fargo Hospital, Wiltshire on 4th July, 1916.

Private Manuel Silva was transferred to Delhi Officers Hospital at Tidworth, Wiltshire on 23rd August, 1916.

Private Manuel Silva was marched out to Parkhouse Camp, Wiltshire from "20 Con R.A.M.C." (Royal Army Medical Corps) on 13th October, 1916. He was detached from Australian Medical Corps on 17th October, 1916 for duty with D.A.A.G's Branch Administration Headquarters, London. Private Silva was attached to Convalescent Home, Cobham from 18th October, 1916 to 28th November, 1916.

Private Manuel Antony Silva was admitted to Fort Pitt Military Hospital, Chatham, Kent, England on 29th November, 1916 with a ruptured Gastric Ulcer.

Private Manuel Antony Silva died at 7.20 am on 5th December, 1916 at Fort Pitt Military Hospital, Chatham, Kent, England from a Perforated Gastric Ulcer, General Peritonitis.

A death for Manuel A. Silva, aged 43, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Medway, Kent, England.

Private Manuel Antony Silva was buried on 8th December, 1916 in Fort Pitt Military Cemetery, Rochester, Kent, England – Plot number 1425 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private Manuel Antony Silva 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 Silva's widow – Mrs Rosa Silva, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent December, 1921 & Plaque sent August, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Manuel Antony Silva – service number 9769, aged 46, of 1st Field Amb., Australian Army Medical Corps. He was the son of Joseph and Susannah Union Silva; husband of Rosa Silva, of Myalla, New South Wales. Native of Watson's Bay, New South Wales.

M. A. Silva is remembered on the Mudgee District Fallen Soldiers Memorial located at Mudgee Park, Mudgee, NSW.



Mudgee District Fallen Soldiers Memorial

(Photos from Monument Australia – Peter F. Williams/Sandra Brown)

M. Silva is also remembered on the William Thompson Masonic School War Memorial at Balcombe Heights Estate located at 92 Seven Hills Road, Baulkham Hills, NSW. The William Thompson Masonic School War Memorial commemorates the masons of New South Wales who died in service or were killed in action during World War One. This memorial has no inscription except for the veterans names engraved into the glass plate panels. This memorial was built and installed in 2007.

An Avenue of Trees was planted in memory of Freemasons of NSW who made the supreme sacrifice in the Great War 1914 – 1918. 364 Brush Box Trees were planted in along the avenue of the western boundary of the Masonic School. A list of their names is displayed on the memorial at the northern end of the avenue.



William Thompson Masonic School War Memorial
(Photos from War Memorials Register of NSW – Ron McIntosh)





The Avenue of Trees (Photos from War Memorials Register of NSW – Ron McIntosh)



M. Silva is remembered on the Grand Lodge of Sydney Honour Roll located inside the United Grand Lodge of Sydney, 279 Castlereagh Street (cnr Goulburn Street), Sydney, NSW.



Grand Lodge of Sydney Honour Roll (Photos from War Memorials Register of NSW – Ron McIntosh)



| | | | |
|-------------------|------------|------------------|-----|
| SHARP, K. J. D. | 143 | WHEATON, L. N. | 53 |
| SHEATH, A. R. | 174 | WHITE, P. R. | 183 |
| SHIRTLEY, W. F. | 187 | WRITTON, T. | 240 |
| SILVA, M. | 38 | WILSON, O. L. | 251 |
| SIMS, F. C. | 119 | WILSON, S. | 77 |
| SIMS, W. J. | 237 | WILLIAMS, H. T. | 227 |
| SMITH, A. | 58 | WINCHESTER, B. | 227 |
| SMITH, C. J. | 174 | WISDOM, J. S. | 211 |
| SMITH, C. A. | 128 129 | WOODFIELD, J. D. | 173 |
| SMITH, L. S. | 22 | WOODS, R. H. | 175 |
| SMITH, T. H. B. | 136 | WOOLLACOTT, R. | 154 |
| SMITH, T. O. | 162 | WREN, H. E. | 220 |
| SMITH, W. C. R. | 91 | WRIGHT, E. E. | 75 |
| SNEDDEN, A. | 243 | YATES, A. E. | 56 |
| SNEYD, A. W. | 119 | YOUNG, A. S. | 114 |
| SPENCER, W. J. | 164 | YOUNG, W. R. | 153 |
| STAPLES, H. E. G. | 270 | | |
| STEEL, O. L. J. | 93 | | |
| STEPHENSON, A. | 115 | | |
| STEVENS, A. E. | 208 | | |
| STEVENS, T. | 261 | | |

Manuel A. Silva is remembered on the NSW Government Railways & Tramways Roll of Honour, located at Country Trains Concourse, Eddy Avenue, Haymarket, Sydney, NSW.



NSW Government Railways & Tramways Roll of Honour

(Photo from AWM – Places of Pride – Peter F. Williams)

| DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| HESTER, WILLIAM | TRAM | WALSH, LEO. D | PER. WAY | WATSON, JAMES | LOCO | SMITH, STUART. R | TRAFFIC |
| STEVENS, WILLIAM | LOCO | SCULLEY, CHAS. E | TRAM | WILLIAMS, A. E | TRAFFIC | WEST, SAMUEL | TRAM |
| TAYLOR, ALBERT | TRAFFIC | DIXON, WILLIAM. J | LOCO | SMITH, WILLIAM. F | PER. WAY | STEENSON, G | LOCO |
| DORAN, JAMES | PER. WAY | CARTER, DAVID. W | TRAFFIC | SCOBIE, WALTER. F | TRAM | DUCKWORTH, A | TRAFFIC |
| COTTE, A. P | LOCO | CAMPS, VICTOR. A | PER. WAY | ADSHEAD, WILLIAM | TRAFFIC | BRABAZON, S. H | PER. WAY |
| BROWN, LESLIE. J | TRAFFIC | ROGERS, HERBERT | TRAM | MUSGROVE, T | PER. WAY | BUTTERS, ALFRED | TRAFFIC |
| M'DONALD, R | PER. WAY | WAUGH, CHARLES | STORES | M'LEAN, DONALD | TRAFFIC | LEE, ALBERT | LOCO |
| ROBINS, WILLIAM. J | TRAM | ANDREWS, C. A. | TRAFFIC | WATERS, EDGAR | LOCO | WALTON, THOMAS | PER. WAY |
| GUYOT, CLAUD W. E | LOCO | MADDEN, V. J. | PER. WAY | SHYTH, ARTHUR | PER. WAY | HODGSON, WALTER | TRAFFIC |
| MULLEN, FARGY | PER. WAY | KINKADE, ERNEST | LOCO | M'DONALD, W | TRAM | HARRIS, GEORGE | LOCO |
| ANDERSON, W. H | TRAFFIC | HESKETH, L | TRAFFIC | M'SPARRON, A | TRAFFIC | BYRNS, WILLIAM | PER. WAY |
| REID, MERSEY, A | LOCO | ANDERSON, J | PER. WAY | M'PHILLAN, A | PER. WAY | WAILES, HERBERT | TRAFFIC |
| KEATING, THOMAS | PER. WAY | SMITH, ARTHUR. L | TRAFFIC | M'GULLOCH, W. L | TRAM | M'LEOD, HECTOR | PER. WAY |
| SCHMUTTER, C. V | TRAFFIC | ROWLAND, F | PER. WAY | MURPHY, WILLIAM | TRAFFIC | MEYER, FRED. H. G | TRAM |
| DAVIES, A. N | LOCO | GLYNN, GRENFELL | TRAM | RAMAGE, STANLEY | PER. WAY | HARTLEY, WILLIAM | SIGNAL |
| PARKER, EDWARD | PER. WAY | CAIRNS, ARTHUR. T | LOCO | BROWN, W. E. C | TRAM | ROBINSON, W. R | TRAFFIC |
| BRADY, FRED. G | TRAFFIC | THOMSON, ALBERT | PER. WAY | SILVA, MANUEL. A | LOCO | HOPE, EDWARD. J | PER. WAY |
| DOOLEY, JOHN. T | LOCO | LAWRENCE, T. J. | TRAM | LANG, WILLIAM | PER. WAY | ASHTON, HAROLD | LOCO |



NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT
RAILWAYS AND TRAMWAYS
ROLL OF HONOUR
HIS MAJESTY'S AUSTRALIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|------------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| HESTER WILLIAM | TRAM | WALLEN LEO D | PER WAY | WATSON JAMES | LOCO | SMITH STUART R | TRAM |
| BYRNES WILLIAM | LOCO | SCULLY ERAB E | TRAM | WILLIAMS M E | LOCO | WEST BARNES | TRAM |
| TAYLOR ALBERT | TRAM | EDSON WILLIAM | LOCO | SMITH WILLIAM F | PER WAY | STEEVENSON D | LOCO |
| DOBBAN JAMES | PER WAY | CARTER DAVID W | TRAM | SCOTTIE WALTER F | TRAM | DICKINSON A | LOCO |
| COTTELL A F | LOCO | CAMPS VICTOR A | PER WAY | ASHHEAD WILLIAM | TRAM | BIRNBAUM S H | PER WAY |
| BROWN LESLIE J | TRAM | RODGER HERBERT | TRAM | MURDOCH T | PER WAY | BUTTERS ALFRED | TRAM |
| MCDONALD N | PER WAY | WADSWORTH CHARLES | LOCO | WHELAN DONALD | TRAM | LEE ALBERT | LOCO |
| BYRNES WILLIAM | TRAM | ANDREWS C A | TRAM | WATSON EDGAR | LOCO | WALTON THOMAS | LOCO |
| BYNOD CLAUD W E | LOCO | MADDEN V J | LOCO | SMITH ARTHUR | TRAM | HODGSON WALTER | TRAM |
| MULLER HANSY | PER WAY | KINNADE ERNEST | LOCO | MCDONALD W | TRAM | HARRIS GEORGE | LOCO |
| ANDERSON W H | TRAM | HESETH L | TRAM | MCHELLAN A | PER WAY | BYRNS WILLIAM | PER WAY |
| REED HERBERT A | LOCO | ANDERSON J | PER WAY | HUBBERT WILLIAM | TRAM | WALLES HERBERT | TRAM |
| KEATING THOMAS | PER WAY | SMITH ARTHUR L | TRAM | MCULLOCH W L | TRAM | MLEDIC WILLIAM | PER WAY |
| SCHWARTZ D V | TRAM | ROWLAND F | PER WAY | BROWN W E C | TRAM | MEYER FRED H | TRAM |
| DAVIES A N | LOCO | GALVIN GREENFELL | TRAM | RANAGE STANLEY | PER WAY | HARTLEY HECTOR | TRAM |
| PARKER EDWARD | PER WAY | THOMSON ALBERT | TRAM | SILVA MANUEL A | LOCO | ROPE EDWARD J | PER WAY |
| BRADY FRED B | TRAM | LAWRENCE T J | LOCO | LANG WILLIAM | PER WAY | ANTON HANOLD | LOCO |
| DOOLEY JOHN T | LOCO | ADRIAN WALTER | LOCO | FLENNIS ARTHUR | TRAM | ROWLINGTON S | TRAM |
| HARDING HENRY | PER WAY | HANLON A | PER WAY | BENSON S | LOCO | HARRINGTON M J | LOCO |
| JEFFCOATE A B | TRAM | GARDNER JOHN | TRAM | MCDOUGALL F | TRAM | FINLEY ARTHUR | TRAM |
| HARRISON T | TRAM | EATHER JOHN | LOCO | MCDOUGALL S | LOCO | RUCKLEY T A | LOCO |
| MITCHELL L | LOCO | LAKE THOMAS J | TRAM | MCGRATH VIVIAN | TRAM | RICHARDS J P | PER WAY |
| BYRNES WILLIAM | TRAM | WRIGHT T A B | PER WAY | MCDONALD S C | LOCO | JACKSON M V | LOCO |
| OVENDEN ROBERT | PER WAY | REID NORMAN A | PER WAY | DROOKS THOMAS | TRAM | EARLS JOHN A | LOCO |
| MURLEY GEORGE | LOCO | FLOWER REG O | TRAM | HANDERS J D | PER WAY | CHARNOCK T | TRAM |
| ARNOLD ARTHUR | TRAM | WALSH STANLEY R | LOCO | TRULAND J H | LOCO | BELL JOHN H E | LOCO |
| CAMERON ROY | TRAM | RALPH LESLIE | SIGNAL | GIBBS GEORGE | TRAM | DEVER WALTER | TRAM |
| MORGAN EDWARD | LOCO | HOLDEN JAMES | TRAM | CHATTERTON C W | LOCO | MALCOLM E D B | TRAM |
| STOLDS GREGORY | TRAM | KELSO CYRIL | TRAM | MCNEILL HENRY P | TRAM | HUGHES GORDON | LOCO |
| LORD ROY | PER WAY | GARDNER WALTER | LOCO | COLLINS MARTIN | TRAM | JENSEN A P | LOCO |
| MCNAMARA EDWARD | LOCO | CAMERON ROBERT | TRAM | PALTON ROBERT | TRAM | HUGHES GORDON | TRAM |
| FLYNN THOMAS J | TRAM | LATTER ALBERT | TRAM | HAWKES GEORGE | PER WAY | THIR WILLIAM B | TRAM |
| ROSS DONALD | PER WAY | MADDEN T E | LOCO | TAYLOR GEORGE | TRAM | JENNINGS C W | PER WAY |
| CLARK JAMES | TRAM | BRENNAN JOSEPH | PER WAY | DURBURY R A | LOCO | CLARKE ALF E | TRAM |
| MCDOFFIT J A | TRAM | SARLES E J H | SIGNAL | HONG GEORGE | TRAM | CHEESBROUGH R | LOCO |
| ROSE WALTER | TRAM | CAMPBELL OLIVER | TRAM | BROWN AUBREY | TRAM | ROGERS FRED | PER WAY |
| HUTCHINSON H B | TRAM | CRANE ARTHUR S | TRAM | ROBIN HARRIS | LOCO | BANES A J | TRAM |
| BLACK LESLIE M | LOCO | CHINGLAND FRED | PER WAY | HURT CHARLES | PER WAY | JARRETT W F | LOCO |
| BROOKS C | LOCO | PRICE WILLIAM | TRAM | PENLIDON FRED | LOCO | BYRON C | TRAM |
| FARRELL JAMES | TRAM | LENNAN A | LOCO | MURPHY W J | TRAM | DOTLE MICHAEL | PER WAY |
| FRITCHAM | LOCO | BIRNMAN V E | TRAM | LE SUEUR W J | LOCO | WILSON W C | TRAM |
| HADDEN FELTON | TRAM | ROBINSON ROBERT | LOCO | READ CYRIL | PER WAY | STONELL ALFRED | LOCO |
| HADDEN WILLIAM | LOCO | SPILLANE T E | TRAM | FORBES JAMES | LOCO | WHELAN ALFRED | LOCO |
| GOODMAN W J | LOCO | BRUCE GEORGE | H | TOOME W J | TRAM | WARD ALLAN H | TRAM |
| HEFNER JAMES | LOCO | KNIGHT CHARLES | LOCO | IRWIN HERBERT | ELCC | STONELL ALFRED | LOCO |
| RUSSELL ARTHUR | PER WAY | WINDER S H | TRAM | SEASE JOSEPH | TRAM | WHELAN ALFRED | LOCO |
| COLLINS JOHN S C | LOCO | JAMESON W H | TRAM | BUFLER THOMAS | TRAM | TANSEY MARTIN | LOCO |
| HOLYOAKE FRED | PER WAY | ALSTON ARTHUR | LOCO | FITZPATRICK J | TRAM | KEEN RICHARD | TRAM |
| ROBINSON N | TRAM | SMITH HENRY | TRAM | STEWART G W | TRAM | WATTS HORACE | LOCO |
| SIMPSON ALBERT | SIGNAL | HAMMENCE E S | TRAM | RICHMOND ALBERT | TRAM | SHANNON C F | TRAM |
| JONES JOHN | TRAM | BROWN JAMES S | TRAM | CLINDAN ALEX S | PER WAY | EDWARDS H | PER WAY |
| NOOD ROY F | TRAM | MILLER MARSD | LOCO | RICHARDS LESLIE | TRAM | MCGRACKEN CLIVE | TRAM |
| MCNAMARA EDWARD | LOCO | HOKES JACK | PER WAY | SWINDELL FRANK | LOCO | CLARK W L M | TRAM |
| TROTTER JOSEPH | TRAM | CAVANAGH H J | LOCO | DEBILLET FRED | PER WAY | EDWARDS H | PER WAY |
| SHENMARK LESLIE | LOCO | BOOKER W A | LOCO | MCDOUGALL F J | LOCO | DEANER ROBERT | TRAM |
| POFFER DANIEL | LOCO | SMITH JOHN H G | PER WAY | GARRELL R J | SIGNAL | WEST CLAUDE B | TRAM |
| NEWBURY HENRY | LOCO | SMITH JOHN H G | PER WAY | GOODE GEORGE N | TRAM | THOMAS F L | LOCO |
| MOLYAN CECIL | TRAM | SMITH JOHN H G | PER WAY | JENNINGS C E | LOCO | JORGAN EDWIN | LOCO |
| GREATER JOE | TRAM | SMITH JOHN H G | PER WAY | CANE EDWARD | TRAM | TODD SYDNEY C | TRAM |
| JONES GEORGE | TRAM | SMITH JOHN H G | PER WAY | DALY FRANCIS M | TRAM | GOODE R | TRAM |
| MURRAY JOHN | PER WAY | SMITH JOHN H G | PER WAY | FISHER WILLIAM H | ELCC | KENNEDY JOSEPH | TRAM |
| | | | | | | BURBANK A H | TRAM |

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------|------|------------------|---------|
| AYRES GEORGE | PER WAY | LINSLEY GEORGE | TRAM | DAVIS WILFRED | TRAM | STYLES C H | TRAM |
| FOOTE F C | LOCO | RAVEY THOS F | TRAM | BROWN FRANCIS | TRAM | SHARROCK H W | TRAM |
| WRIGHT THOMAS | TRAM | MLEDIC N L | LOCO | REDMAN R J | TRAM | MURPHY JOHN W | TRAM |
| HICKEY M J | TRAM | CROWE W H | LOCO | CORMACK ALLAN | LOCO | AMOS OWEN A E | CONST |
| COLLINS JOHN D | TRAM | CHAFFMAN W H | LOCO | GOOD REGINALD | LOCO | HITCHCOCK ROBERT | TRAM |
| PERRY ARTHUR R | TRAM | SANDERS J R | LOCO | BAILEY R H | LOCO | JACO HENRY E | TRAM |
| BRIGGS F | LOCO | ROBERTS L T | LOCO | RAINE THOMAS F | TRAM | TARRAN HARRY | TRAM |
| ALLEN F J | LOCO | MCMANON P F | LOCO | LUCK PERCY | LOCO | MURRAY R H K | TRAM |
| ROBERTSON W J | LOCO | JONES RUFERT C | PER WAY | MACPHERSON E | LOCO | DUTTON B | PER WAY |
| LYONS JOHN W | TRAM | ROBERTS J H | PER WAY | REYNOLDS W H | LOCO | WALLACE T | LOCO |
| HOWARD A E | TRAM | COLLEN THOMAS | PER WAY | ELLIS GEORGE | TRAM | HOMER V W M | LOCO |
| FRANKENFELDER E F | TRAM | COLLINS LIONEL | PER WAY | RYAN RICHARD | TRAM | BOWEN F P | TRAM |
| TOONEY S T | TRAM | SMITH JOHN H G | PER WAY | FELTHAM F D | LOCO | BURTON V R | LOCO |
| RICHENS E W | TRAM | | | OWEN CHARLES | TRAM | TEAKEL C | TRAM |

(Photo Jennifer Edmonds)

Private M. A. Silva is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 183.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(34 pages of Private Manuel Antony Silva'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



(Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 26 December, 1916)

Newspaper Notices

LANDED IN EGYPT

Mrs M. A. Silva, of Mudgee, has received a letter from her husband, Private M. A. Silva, to the effect that he has arrived in Cairo after a good trip over, and feels well. He states that all his mates on board were well. He wishes to be kindly remembered to all his Mudgee friends.

(Mudgee Guardian and North-Western Representative, NSW – 19 June, 1916)

MUDGEE'S TRIBUTE TO EMPIRE

ANOTHER SOLDIER'S DEATH

PRIVATE M. A. SILVA

On Saturday, the Rev. Gordon Dunstan, rector of St. John's Church of England, Mudgee, was advised by wire from Colonel Luscombe of the death of Private M. A. Silva (formerly of Mudgee), 1st Field Ambulance, in England. The telegram of advice was as follows:—"Officially reported that number 9769, Private M. A. Silva, 1st. Field Ambulance, died December 5 (enquiring cause), at the Military Hospital, Chatham. Please inform Mrs M. Silva, Church-street, and convey deep sympathy of their Majesties the King and Queen and Commonwealth Government in loss that she and army have sustained by the death of this soldier."

Mrs Silva is at present staying at Granville, Sydney. Her address in that suburb was wired by Canon Dunstan to Colonel Luscombe, with the request that he would communicate with the local Church of England clergyman.

Private Silva, prior to his enlistment, was a locomotive engine driver, employed on the Mudgee-Dunedoo section of the Mudgee railway line. He was a Mason, and had been a member of the order for many years. Though not a young man (he was probably beyond military age) he felt so strongly that his duty called him to the service of the Empire, that he offered himself, and, having obtained leave from the Department, was accepted as a member the Army Medical Corps.

It is not known under what circumstances Pte. Silva met his death, but the probability in that the death was the result of illness rather than wounds.

Mrs Silva has been an untiring worker in Mudgee for the various patriotic funds, and she showed the sincerity and depth of her patriotism when she cheerfully consented to the sacrifice of her husband, to whom she was greatly attached, in his enlistment as a soldier.

Private Silva leaves no children. The news of his death has come as a great blow to the town, in which he was universally respected and esteemed. The deep sympathy of the townspeople in which the "Guardian" very sincerely associates itself, will go out to Mrs Silva in her great and irreparable loss.

Private Silva is the third Mudgee married soldier to give his life for his country in this war. The first was Sergeant Thomas Musgrove (also a railway employee, and secretary of the Mudgee branch of the Political Labor League), who left a widow and one child, the second Private Donald Lawson, who left a widow and one child, and the third Private Silva.

(Mudgee Guardian and North-Western Representative, NSW – 11 December, 1916)

Latest Casualties

NEW SOUTH WALES

225th LIST

Died of Illness

M. A. Silva, Mudgee

(The Land, Sydney, NSW – 29 December, 1916)

RETURN THANKS

Mrs M. A. Silva wishes to THANK all kind friends and relatives for letters, cards, and telegrams of sympathy in the sad loss of her dear husband Private M. A. Silva.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 3 February, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

SILVA – In loving memory of our dear brother and uncle, Private M. A. Silva, died Chatham Hospital, December 5, 1916. Thy will be done. Inserted by his loving brother Jack, and family.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 5 December, 1917)

ON ACTIVE SERVICE

SILVA – In loving memory of our dear brother and uncle, Private M. A. Silva, died Chatham Hospital, December 5, 1916. Thy will be done. Inserted by his brother Jack, and family.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 5 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. 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 M. A. Silva does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

The Path Of Duty Leads To Glory

Fort Pitt Military Cemetery, Rochester, Kent, England

Fort Pitt Military Cemetery, Rochester, Kent contains 289 identified Commonwealth War Graves.

During both wars there were naval and military establishments in the neighbourhood of Rochester, and some fishing and shipping at the port.

Fort Pitt Military Cemetery contains a plot of 266 First World War graves. The 25 Second World War graves (two of them unidentified) are north of the plot. All save two of them are together in a group.

(Information & photos from CWGC)



Photo of Private M. A. Silva's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Fort Pitt Military Cemetery, Rochester, Kent, England.



(Photo courtesy of Kyle Tallett)



(Photo courtesy of Neil Bright)