

**Weston Mill Cemetery,
Plymouth, Devon
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



4531 PRIVATE

E. G. H. STACEY

19TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

14TH* JUNE, 1916

(Note: There is a discrepancy with the date of death – The Australian War Memorial & several forms in the Service Record file have the date of death as 15th June, 1916, however the CWGC & the “Admission to Hospital” form have the date of death as 14th June, 1916.)

Ernest George Hewlett STACEY

Ernest George Hewlett Stacey was born at Helme, near Huddersfield, Yorkshire, England on 10th September, 1894 to parents Ernest Lloyd Stacey & Edith Stacey (nee Johnson). He was baptised on 8th November, 1894 in Christ Church, Helme, Yorkshire, England. His father was listed as Ernest Lloyd Stacey, Clerk in Holy Orders.

The 1901 England Census recorded Ernest G. H. Stacey as a 6 year old living with his family in The Vicarage, Christ Church, Helme, Meltham, Yorkshire, England. His parents were listed as Ernest L. Stacey (Clergyman (Church of England), aged 42, born Stamford Hill, Middlesex) & Edith Stacey (aged 35, born Manchester, Lancashire). Ernest was one of four children listed on this Census – Charles L. Stacey (aged 7, born Liverpool, Lancashire), then Ernest, Edith M. Stacey (aged 4, born Meltham, Yorks) & Kenneth B. Stacey (aged 1, born Meltham, Yorks). Also listed were 3 servants – Mary H. Hinchcliffe (Cook, aged 34), Ellen Jones (Housemaid, aged 23) & Mary I. Jones (Nurse (domestic), aged 22).

Ernest George Hewlett Stacey attended St. Lawrence College, Ramsgate, Kent, England.

The 1911 England Census recorded Ernest George Hewlett Stacey as a 16 year old, Student attending St. Lawrence College, Ramsgate, Kent, England

[The 1911 Wales Census recorded Ernest's parents & five of their seven children living at Dolobran, Abergele, North Wales in an 8 roomed dwelling.]

Ernest George Hewlett Stacey came to Australia when he was 18 years old, according to information provided by his father for the Roll of Honour.

Ernest George Hewlett Stacey was a 21 year old, single, Orchardist from San Remo Orchard, Dural, NSW when he enlisted at Casula, Sydney, NSW on 6th December, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 4531 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr E. L. Stacey, of Abergele, Dolobran, North Wales, British Isles.

Private Ernest George Hewlett Stacey was posted to "A" Company, 19th Battalion, 11th Reinforcements on 6th December, 1915 for recruit training. He was promoted to Acting Corporal on 21st December, 1915.

Private Ernest George Hewlett Stacey embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Nestor* (A71) on 9th April, 1916 with the 5th Infantry Brigade, 19th Infantry Battalion, 11th Reinforcements.

Acting Corporal Ernest George Hewlett Stacey embarked from Alexandria on 29th May, 1916 on HMAT *Megantic* & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 7th June, 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.

Acting Corporal Ernest George Hewlett Stacey was admitted to Military Hospital, Devonport, England on 7th June, 1916. He was listed as dangerously ill with Pneumonia on 13th June, 1916 then diagnosed with Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

Acting Corporal Ernest George Hewlett Stacey died on 14th June, 1916 at Military Hospital, Devonport, England from Cerebral Spinal Fever.

(Note: There is a discrepancy with the date of death – The Australian War Memorial & several forms in the Service Record file (Casualty Form Active Service, Field Service form, Statement of Service form have the date of death as 15th June, 1916, however the CWGC & the "Admission to Hospital" form have the date of death as 14th June, 1916.)

A death for Ernest G. H. Stacey, aged 21, was registered in the June quarter, 1916 in the district of Devonport, Devon, England.

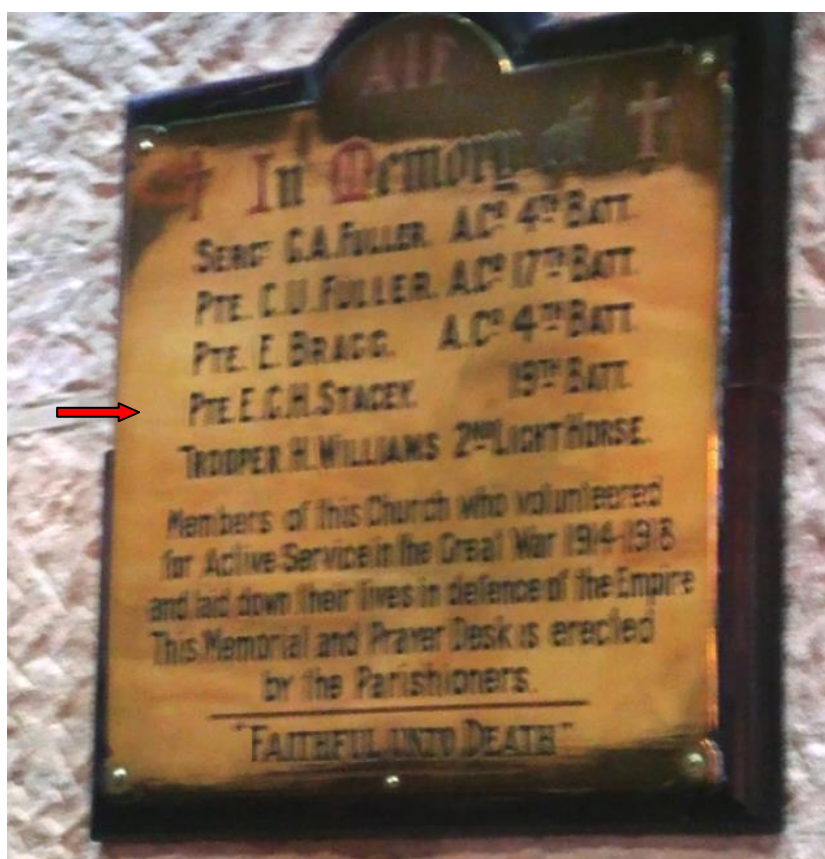
Acting Corporal Ernest George Hewlett Stacey was buried in Weston Mill Cemetery, Plymouth, Devon, England – Plot number Mil. Con. C. 3656 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

A Miss Marguerite Holland of Stanmore, Sydney (a particular friend of Corporal Stacey) & a Miss Vivien M. Cowling of Petersham, Sydney (a boat friend of Corporal Stacey) both wrote to Base Records individually requesting the address of the late Corporal Stacey's parents' address so that they could communicate with his parents. Both were given the address of Dolobram, Abergale, North Wales.

Acting Corporal Ernest George Hewlett Stacey 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 Acting Corporal Stacey's father in England - Mr E. L. Stacey, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque sent April, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private E. G. H. Stacey – service number 4531, of 19th Battalion Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

E. G. H. Stacey is remembered on the Roll of Honour for World War 1 in St. Jude's Church, junction of Old Northern Road and Galston Road, Dural, NSW.



St. Jude's Church, Dural Roll of Honour

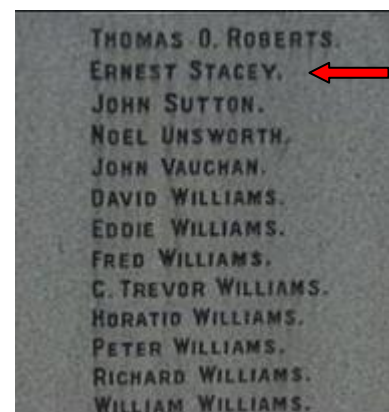
(Photo from Register of War Memorials in NSW – Mark Sutherland-Harris)

Private E. G. H. Stacey is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 90.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

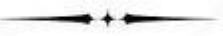
Ernest Stacey is remembered on the St. Michael's Church War Memorial located in the Churchyard at Abergele, Wales.



St. Michael's Church War Memorial, Abergele (Photo by Stephen Ellis)

(38 pages of Pte (Acting Corporal) Ernest George Hewlett Stacey'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) & National Archives



Newspaper Notices

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

179th LIST

DANGEROUSLY ILL

NEW SOUTH WALES – Cpl. E. G. H. Stacey

(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 24 June, 1916)

LATEST CASUALTIES

181st LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

Died of Illness

Cpl. E. G. H. Stacey, England

(The Land, Sydney, NSW – 7 July, 1916)

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 (Acting Corporal) E. G. H. Stacey does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Weston Mill Cemetery, Plymouth, Devon, England

During the First World War, Plymouth, Devonport and Stonehouse contained between them the Royal Dockyard, Royal Naval Barracks (known as H.M.S. Vivid), the Royal Marine Barracks of the Plymouth Division, and naval and military hospitals. For the duration of the war, Devonport was made headquarters of the Auxiliary Patrol Area.

Plymouth was a naval station second only to Portsmouth during the Second World War. Devonport was also an important military station and there was a R.A.F station at Mount Batten, opposite Plymouth.

Plymouth (Weston Mill) Cemetery contains 401 burials of the First World War, 1 being unidentified. Approximately half are in the naval and military war graves plots north-east of the chapel, the rest are scattered.

Second World War burials in the cemetery number 556, 11 of which are unidentified. Of these, 111 of the earlier graves filled the existing naval and military plots. A further plot was then set aside for service graves and 317 of the burials were made there. The rest of the war graves are scattered. The cemetery also contains 14 non-war service burials and 36 war graves of other nationalities, 25 of them Polish.

There are six Australians buried in this cemetery – five from World War 1 & one from World War 2.

(Information & photos from CWGC)

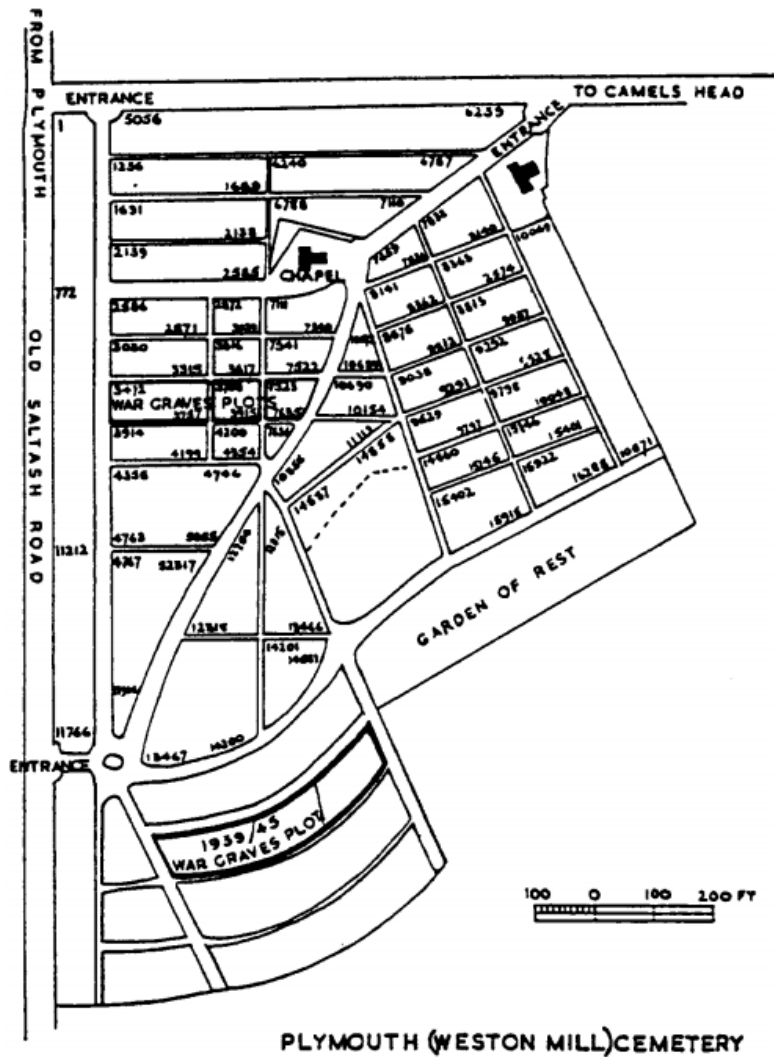


Weston Mill Cemetery, Plymouth, Devon

Photo of Private (Acting Corporal) E. G. H. Stacey's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Weston Mill Cemetery, Plymouth, Devon, England.



(Photo courtesy of Julia & keld)



PLYMOUTH (WESTON MILL) CEMETERY