

**Cheltenham Cemetery**  
**Cheltenham, Gloucestershire**  
**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**5766 PRIVATE**

**A. W. STEVENS**

**7TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**19TH NOVEMBER, 1917 Age 24**

*Beloved Husband*  
*Of Elizabeth Stevens*  
*And Loving Father Of Jack*

## Andrew Williams STEVENS

Andrew Williams Stevens was born at Moonee Ponds, Victoria in 1893 to parents John and Jane Stevens (nee Wilson).

Andrew Williams Stevens attended Seymour State School.

Andrew Williams Stevens married Elizabeth Helen Saunders in Victoria in 1914.

The 1914 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Batman, subdivision of Carlton, Victoria recorded Andrew William Stevens, Cutter, of 221 Station Street, Carlton. Also listed at 221 Station Street were his parents John Stevens, Sorter & Jane Stevens, Home duties & his brother Francis Victor, Hardware Assistant.

The 1916 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Batman, subdivision of Carlton, Victoria recorded Andrew William Stevens, Cutter, of 221 Station Street, Carlton. Also listed at 221 Station Street were his parents John Stevens, Sorter & Jane Stevens, Home duties.

Andrew Williams Stevens was a 23 year old, married, Stock-cutter from 221 Station Street, North Carlton, Victoria when he enlisted on 6th March, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 5766 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs E. Stevens, of 221 Station Street, North Carlton, Victoria.

Private Andrew Williams Stevens was posted to "A" Company, 22nd Battalion at Royal Park Camp on 22nd March, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 18th Reinforcements of 7th Battalion at Broadmeadows on 28th April, 1916.

Private Andrew Williams Stevens embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Ayrshire* (A33) on 3rd July, 1916 with the 7th Infantry Battalion, 18th Reinforcements & 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 Andrew Williams Stevens was marched in to 2nd Training Battalion at Perham Downs, Wiltshire from Australia on 2nd September, 1916.

Private Andrew Williams Stevens proceeded overseas to France on 14th October, 1916 from 2nd Training Battalion at Perham Downs, Wiltshire. He was marched in to 1st Divisional Base Depot at Etaples, France on 16th October, 1916 then marched out to his Unit on 29th October, 1916. Private Stevens was taken on strength of 7th Battalion in the Field on 3rd November, 1916.

Private Andrew Williams Stevens was wounded in action in France on 25th February, 1917. He was transferred to 3rd Stationary Hospital at Rouen, France on 28th February, 1917 with GSW (gunshot wound/s) to thighs. Private Stevens was transferred on 28th February, 1917 from Rouen & embarked from Havre, France on 1st March, 1917 on Hospital Ship *Formosa*.

### War Diary – 7th Battalion

The 7th Battalion were at Flers from 19th February to 27th February, 1917. An operation was conducted from 24th February to 27th February, 1917 & 7th Battalion orders were "*To ascertain if trench [BAYONET TRENCH] is occupied. If so in what strength. If only occupied in skeleton, or unoccupied, to enter same extend outwards and hang on till reinforced.*"

*25th February, 1917 – STRENGTH 43 Officers. 921 O.R's. 2/Lt. C. G. Shuttleworth to Hospital sick.*

*26th February, 1917 - STRENGTH 43 Officers. 921 O.R's. (5) O.Rs to Hosp.. (1) O. R. from Hospital*

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Andrew Williams Stevens was admitted to 1st London General Hospital, England on 1st March, 1917 with GSW to thighs. He was discharged to furlo on 26th May, 1917 & was then to report to Depot at Perham Downs.

Private Andrew Williams Stevens was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire from furlo on 12th June, 1917. He was medically classified as B1 A3 (fit for overseas training camp in two to three weeks). He was passed as dentally fit on 29th June, 1917.

Private Andrew Williams Stevens was marched in to Overseas Training Depot from No. 1 Command Depot on 29th June, 1917. He proceeded overseas to France via Southampton on 23rd July, 1917.

Private Andrew Williams Stevens was marched in to 1 A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Havre, France from England on 24th July, 1917.

Private Andrew Williams Stevens was sent to Hospital on 24th July, 1917 & admitted to 39th General Hospital at Havre on 24th July, 1917 – cause N.Y.D. (not yet determined). He was discharged to Base Details on 31st July, 1917 having suffered with Scabies.

Private Andrew Williams Stevens was marched in to 1 A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Havre, France from Hospital on 31st July, 1917. He was marched out to his Unit on 17th August, 1917 & rejoined his Unit (7th Battalion) in the Field on 20th August, 1917.

Private Andrew Williams Stevens was wounded in action (2nd occasion) in Belgium between 25th – 26th October, 1917. He was admitted to 11th Canadian Field Ambulance on 26th October, 1917 with GSW to left elbow then transferred the same day to 11th Casualty Clearing Station. Private Stevens was transferred & admitted to 9th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 28th October, 1917. He embarked for England on Hospital Ship *Panama* on 2nd November, 1917.

## **7th Battalion**

.... In early 1917, the Germans withdrew to the Hindenburg Line and the 7th Battalion participated in the brief advance that followed and then came to a grinding halt before Bullecourt. The battalion was withdrawn from the front line for training on 9 May 1917 and did not return to action until the Ypres offensive of September and October. It fought major battles at Menin Road on 20 September and Broodseinde on 4 October, and then spent much of ensuing winter in the Ypres mud.

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

### War Diary – 7th Battalion

The 7th Battalion were located at Ypres from 23rd October to 29th October, 1917.

*Wagon Lines bombed and 7 horses killed and 4 wounded.*

*From 0600 – 25/10/17 to 0600 26/10/17:*

Our Activity

#### *Patrols*

*1. A Patrol ( Officer and 8 ORs) left our lines at 2115 for the purpose of examining roads in D24.b. Patrol moved along road from D24.B41 to DEMISPLEARE for about 250 yards thence 20 yards on left of road to the CROSS Rd at D24 D29 where it was challenged and fired on by enemy in front and later from flank. This was the first indication of enemy whereabouts, patrol had examined dugouts without finding traces of recent occupation. Casualties 1 Killed 1 wounded.*

*No. 2 – A Patrol of 1 Officer and 7 ORs left our lines at 2315 for the purpose of reconnoitring DAINTY Copse (D 18 D43). Patrol went out by D23 D48 and patrolled along BUSY WOOD to D26 A 8.4 thence straight to the Copse. No sign of enemy occupation could be found. Patrol returned by same route to D23 D48 arriving back at 0030. Casualties Nil.*

#### *Artillery*

*Our barrages during the 24 hours have been fairly intense.*

*The enemy reply has been rather feeble on the forward areas, usually falling about 10 minutes after ours opens and then falling 300 yards in front of our line and passing lightly to the ridge between support and front line. Calibre – 77 & 4.2. In the area around THAMES WOOD and MOULIN FARM the enemy replied with a considerable number of 4.2 and 5.9 shells from 1900 to 2400 the enemy shelled this area very heavily with 5.9 shells.*

.....

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Andrew Williams Stevens was admitted to V.A. Hospital, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England on 3rd November, 1917 with G.S.W. to left arm (slight).

The Hospital Admissions form for Private Andrew Williams Stevens has the following recorded for 18th November, 1917: *“He fell in getting over a fence & was brought back to Hospital with signs of fracture of base of skull.”*

Private Andrew Williams Stevens died at 11.40 am on 19th November, 1917 at Racecourse V.A. Hospital, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England from a fractured skull – the result of an accidental fall.

A Court of Enquiry was held at Racecourse Hospital, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England on 21st November, 1917. The Coroner Mr J. Waghorie was inquiring into the circumstances connected with the death of Private Stevens' fractured skull which was a result of a fall whilst going over a Hospital Wall. The Jury found that the deceased died as the result of an accident following a fall & returned a verdict accordingly.

Newspaper item – Gloucestershire Echo, England – 20 November, 1917:

### **AUSTRALIAN SOLDIER'S DEATH**

#### **Further Details of the Fatality in Cheltenham**

*The young Australian soldier, Pte Andrew William Stevens, who died in the Racecourse Hospital, Cheltenham, as the result of injuries sustained in a fall, was a native of North Carlton, Melbourne. He had been in the Army about 18 months, and being wounded at Ypres last month was sent to England, arriving in Cheltenham on November 3rd.*

*From the fuller details of the fatality which are now available it appears that Pte Stevens and his comrade, Pte H. V. Cottell, also an Australian, left the hospital on passes in Sunday afternoon, and returned together at 6.10. They had, apparently, made arrangements to meet the same friends in the evening, and a few minutes after their return they left the hospital again, going out unobserved by way of the wash-house. To escape the attention of the gate porter they walked across the fields on the Evesham side, keeping close to the hedge which abuts into the Evesham-road until they came to a gap which had been repaired by a barbed-wire fence about 5ft high. Cottell assisted his comrade on to the fence, and Stevens jumped on to a steep bank. Thinking Stevens had cleared, Cottell followed, but missed his footing and collided with Stevens, who was lying partly on the road with his head against the bank, and groaning. Striking a match, Cottell discovered that Stevens had injured the back of his head. He assisted him down to the gate porter, and then to the hospital, where the man was attended by a nurse, and subsequently by Dr Lidderdale. He was found to be suffering from concussion of the brain, due to fracture of the skull, and he died on Tuesday morning. Deceased was 25 years of age, and had been in France about 14 months.*

Newspaper item – Cheltenham Chronicle, England – 24 November, 1917:

### **CHELTENHAM AND COUNTY**

.....

*At the inquest held in the Racecourse Hospital, Cheltenham, on Wednesday, on the body of Pte Andrew William Stevens, an Australian soldier, evidence showed that the deceased, in leaping from a fence on to a sloping bank, fell, striking the back of his head on a stone and fracturing the base of his skull. With a comrade, also an Australian, he had made arrangements to meet two friends in the road abutting the hospital ground, and on leaving the hospital after six o'clock without permission both men committed a breach of the regulations. The consequences were tragic, and the Coroner (Mr John Waghorne), commenting on the sad nature of the case, said he hoped it would be a*

*warning to those in the hospital to obey the rules and regulations, which, after all, were made for the general welfare of all the patients. A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned."*

Private Andrew Williams Stevens was buried at 3 pm on 23rd November, 1917 in Cheltenham Cemetery, Gloucestershire, England – Plot number M. 9225 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private Andrew Williams Stevens - *Coffin was good - polished Elm with brass fittings. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military Funeral. The coffin was draped with the "Union Jack". Buglers and Pallbearers were supplied by the Volunteer Regiment stationed at Cheltenham. Several beautiful wreaths were placed on the coffin by Dr. Stevens (Cousin) and Miss Ratcliffe, Commandant of the V.A.D. Hospital, Cheltenham. The grave will be turfed immediately, and an oak cross will be erected by the A.I.F. London. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Names of relatives and friends present at the Funeral – Cousin- Dr Stevens, Mount Stuart, Grove Hill, South Woodford, London and Friend Lieut. R. C. Kimpston, 31st Bn, A.I.F. France.

Newspaper item – Gloucestershire Echo, England – 23 November, 1917:

### **AN AUSTRALIAN'S FUNERAL**

*The interment took place, with military honours, on Friday afternoon, in the Cheltenham Cemetery, of Pte Andrew William Stevens, of the Australian Infantry Force, who died in the Cheltenham Racecourse Hospital on Monday from injuries sustained through a fall on Sunday under the circumstances published in our report of the inquest on Wednesday. Deceased, who was 25 years of age and a native of North Carlton, Melbourne, was admitted to the Hospital on Nov. 3rd. suffering from injuries received in fighting on the Western Front.*

*The service was conducted by the Rev. J. Wells (Wesleyan Circuit Superintendent), and was attended by all the Australians in the hospital who were sufficiently well to be present, together with a number of British comrades. The hospital staff was represented by the commandant (Miss Ratcliffe), Nurse Wanklyn, Mr R. H. Bagnall-Oakeley (hon. treasurer), and the sister and nursing staff of the "Cheltenham" Ward. Warrant Officer S. E. Yeomans represented the Australian Administrative Headquarters, London. Others present included Mr W. R. Carles, C.M.G. (hon. secretary of the Victoria League), Lieut. Kempton (31st A.I.F.) and Dr. Stevens, of Woodford, Essex, the latter a cousin of the deceased. The bearers were supplied by C Company of the 3rd Batt. G.V.R., as were the buglers, and were under Corpl. T. Wright. The buglers sounded the "Last Post" at the end of the service at the graveside."*

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Andrew Williams Stevens contains a letter from L. Ratcliff, Commandant, Racecourse V.A. Hospital, Cheltenham which reads: *"Re No. 5766 Pte A. W. Stevens 7th Bn. A.I.F. The above soldier was admitted to this Hospital on Novr. 3rd 1917 suffering from G.S.W. L. arm slight. The wound healed quickly and he was having massage while waiting for transfer to Australian Hospital. On Novr. 18th having been out on pass he reported punctually at 6 pm on the expiration of his pass but as it afterwards transpired – having left some friends on the road promising to slip out and see them again – This he did accompanied by a fellow-patient. It was a very dark night and they went across the grounds, and in getting over a high fence into the road with a steep bank below, slipped and fell down the bank striking his head on a stone which projected from the ground. He was brought in by the Gatekeeper and his companion and was in the Ward at 6.30 and the doctor attended immediately. He was never really conscious and died about 11 next morning, Novr 19th. A post mortem was made showing an extensive fracture of the base of the skull and haemorrhage on the brain. An inquest was held – in which a verdict of accidental death was brought in. It was with very great regret that this sad occurrence was reported. Pte Stevens was buried in Cheltenham Cemetery in a single grave, in the Methodist part of the cemetery. The Cheltenham Volunteers provided an escort and firing Company also a number about 40 wounded soldiers attended – also the Commandant and Secretary of the Hospital and several nurses. Pte Steven's cousin, Dr Stevens attended, also a representative of the Australian Headquarters, who made special arrangements with the Cemetery Keeper to attend to the grave. About 10 beautiful wreaths were sent – including one from the Australian patients in Hospital with streamers of the Bn. Colours, one from the British patients in the Ward, also from the Commandant and the staff."*

A War Pension was granted to Elizabeth Helen Stevens, of 221 Station Street, North Carlton, widow of the late Private Andrew Williams Stevens, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 24th January, 1918. A Pension was also granted to William John Stevens, son of the late Private Andrew Williams Stevens, in the sum of 20/- per fortnight from 24th January, 1918.

Base Records wrote to Mrs E. H. Stevens. of 28 Mark Street, North Fitzroy, Victoria in March, 1923 which reads in part: *“Appended hereunder is a copy of my communication of the 18th October last, to which no reply has so far been received:- “With reference to the issue of the Memorial Plaque and Scroll in respect of the services of your husband, the late No. 5766 Private A. W. STEVENS, 7th Battalion, for former memento has now been received at this Office inscribed in the name of – ‘Andrew William STEVENS’ but as some doubt exists regarding the correct spelling of the second christen name, I should be glad of your definite advice in the matter. I should also be glad to learn, on the event of the Plaque being incorrectly embossed, if you are prepared to accept same in the present form. Otherwise it will be necessary to arrange for the provision of a fresh Plaque, and I am afraid some considerable time must elapse before this can be obtained. Would you kindly let me know if the Scroll forwarded on 5.5.22, reached you safely....”* The file for the late Private Andrew Williams Stevens does not contain a reply from either of the above requests.

Base Records wrote to The Postmaster, Post Office, North Carlton, Victoria in February, 1925 stating that Mrs E. H. Brown *“draws a War Pension at the undermentioned Post Office on behalf of the son of the late No. 5766 Private A. W. Stevens, 7th Battalion, and shall be obliged if you can furnish me with her present address, as all communications forwarded to her at 28 Mark Street, North Fitzroy, V., are unanswered.”*

(Note: Elizabeth Helen Stevens – widow of the late Private Andrew Williams Stevens, married Henry James Brown in Victoria in 1922.)

Private Andrew Williams Stevens was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Stevens' widow – Mrs E. H. Stevens, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent May, 1922 & Plaque sent March, 1925 to remarried widow – Mrs E. H. Brown).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Andrew Williams Stevens – service number 5766, aged 24, of 7th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of John and Jane Stevens, of 3 Kambrook Rd., Caulfield, Victoria.

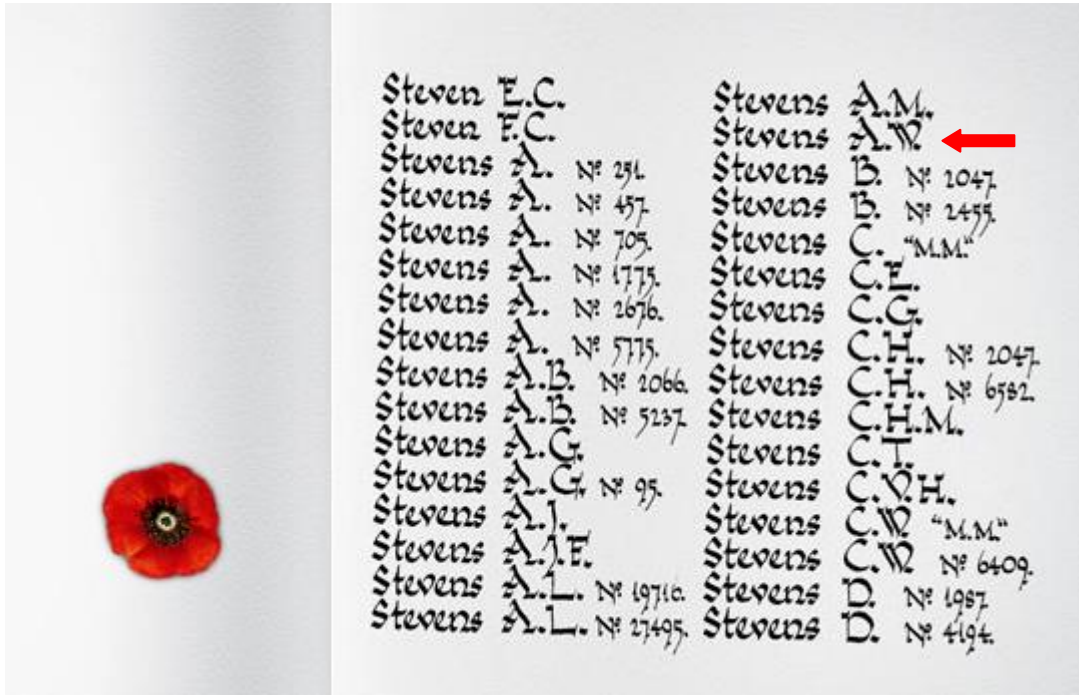
Private A. W. Stevens is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 51.



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



A. W. Stevens is remembered in the Book of Remembrance at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne, Victoria.



(69 pages of Pte Andrew Williams Stevens' 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*





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

DA15412

*Studio portrait of A W Stephens, probably 5766 Private (Pte) Andrew Williams Stevens, 7th Battalion. A stock cutter from North Carlton, Victoria prior to enlistment, Pte Stevens embarked with the 18th Reinforcements from Melbourne on HMAT Ayrshire on 3 July 1916. Whilst serving on the Western Front, he was wounded in action and evacuated to England. Whilst recovering at the VAD Hospital in Cheltenham, he accidentally fell and fractured his skull. As a result of this he died on 19 November 1917 and was buried in the Cheltenham Cemetery, England. This is one of a series of photographs taken by the Darge Photographic Company which had the concession to take photographs at the Broadmeadows and Seymour army camps during the First World War. In the 1930s, the Australian War Memorial purchased the original glass negatives from Algernon Darge, along with the photographers' notebooks. The notebooks contain brief details, usually a surname or unit name, for each negative.*





## Newspaper Notices

### FUNERAL OF AN AUSTRALIAN SOLDIER FROM RACECOURSE HOSPITAL

(Newspaper item – courtesy of David Drinkwater)

CHELTENHAM CHRONICLE AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE GRAPHIC, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1917.

**FUNERAL OF AN AUSTRALIAN SOLDIER FROM RACECOURSE HOSPITAL.**  
A SAD FATALITY OVERTOOK A YOUNG AUSTRALIAN SOLDIER NAMED PRIVATE ANDREW WILLIAM STEVENS, OF NORTH CARLTON, MELBOURNE, WHO WAS RECOVERING FROM A WOUNDED ARM AT THE RACECOURSE HOSPITAL, CHELTENHAM, IN ATTEMPTING TO GET OVER A FENCE WITH A COMRADE ON SUNDAY NIGHT, NOV. 18, TO GET OUT OF THE HOSPITAL GROUNDS TO MEET SOME FRIENDS, HE FELL AND FRACTURED HIS SKULL, DYING TWO DAYS LATER.

1.—Comrades lining the path at hospital. 2.—Funeral cortege just leaving hospital. 3.—The fence in climbing which deceased fell. 4.—Passing up Cemetery drive. 5.—Bringing coffin, covered with Union Jack, out of hospital.

[Photos by Cheltenham Newspaper Co., Ltd.]

(Cheltenham Chronicle and Gloucestershire Graphic, England – 1 December, 1917)

## DIED ON SERVICE

STEVENS – Officially reported died on November 19th, 1917, at Cheltenham, Eng., Private Andrew Williams Stevens, dearly beloved youngest son of John and Jane Stevens, loving husband of Elizabeth H. Stevens, dear daddy of William John (Jack), 221 Station street, North Carlton; loved brother of Frank V. Stevens (rep. of A. Agnew), late of Brunswick, and Doris L. Stevens, aged 24 years 11 months.

“He nobly did his duty.”

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 8 December, 1917)

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## THE 373rd CASUALTY LIST

The Victorian names are:

### DIED OF WOUNDS

Private A. W. Stevens, Nth Carlton

(*The Mildura Cultivator*, Victoria – 22 December, 1917)

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## TRIBUTE TO “AUSSIES”

### Anzac Day in Gloucester

The Gloucestershire Echo of May. 1 devotes a column to reports of the Anzac Day demonstrations, which were held the day before at Cheltenham, and in which Boy Scouts and Girl Guides took a prominent part. Beautiful wreaths were placed by the Scouts and Guides on the well-kept graves of 10 Australian soldiers, after the Deputy-Mayor gave a fervent address. The names of the 10 Australian were:— Pte. J. Warren, 5th Pioneer Battalion; Pte. S. G. Turner, 53rd Battalion; Pte. J. H. Fenton, 15th Field Ambulance; Sgt. W. R. B. Johnson, 15th Field Ambulance; Pte. A. R. Callaghan, 54th Battalion; Pte. W. R. Jerrom, 3rd Machine Gun Battalion; **Pte. A. W. Stevens, 7th Battalion;** Pte. R. W. Resso, 54th Battalion; Pte H. C. Vale, 3rd Pioneer Battalion; Lce.-Cpl. P. J. Penketh, 17th Battalion (the wreath of the last named was deposited by Miss Hattersley Smith). The following is a copy of a letter sent to the next-of-kin to those Australian soldiers by the Cheltenham Remembrance Day committee (represented in the signatures by Aid. C. H. Margret, Acting Mayor and Mr. T. H. Packer, acting Secretary: — We fell sure that you will be pleased to know that on Cheltenham's Anzac Day, the graves of the 10 Australian soldiers who died in Cheltenham from wounds and other, injuries received, in battle, and were buried in our beautiful cemetery, were visited and wreaths and flowers deposited thereon. In this way the memory of those sons of the Empire who have found a last resting place far from their homes, at the foot of the historic Cotswold Hills, will be kept fresh in the minds of Cheltonians. From our charmingly placed cemetery there are beautiful views of a long stretch of the hills and of the wide expanse of the vale of the Severn— indeed, there is no more charming or picturesque spot in the whole of the Western Shires. And bordering the cemetery are: — “A rise steeply sloping, a fence with stone coping, the last - we diverged round the base or the hill.”— The scene of Adam Lindsay Gordon's (a Cheltonion) famous poem "How We Beat the Favourite." Within sound are the “Chimes of sweet St. Mary's On far English ground,” and can be seen from it – “the mist of the Cotswold Hills Where I once heard the blast of the huntsman's horn, Not far from, the Seven rills.” —the source of the River Thames. The proceedings arranged by the Remembrance Day Committee commenced at the War Memorial — erected in memory of 1,400 men of Cheltenham, who, like their Australian comrades, “died that we might live.” To this spot were brought many wreaths and bouquets of flowers, which were conveyed to the cemetery — two miles away— by over 500 Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, a selected number of whom proudly carried large bouquets of red, white, and blue flowers— the national colours— and both wreaths and flowers were garnished with ribbons of the same colour, while a wreath sent by an Australian mother bore the black and green colours of the battalion to which her dead son belonged. The long procession headed by the bugle band of the scouts had a striking effect as it passed along the principal streets and timbered avenues, crowded by townsfolk, on its way to the cemetery. ... At the close of the proceedings the beautiful hymn, “Fight the good fight” was sung by the whole audience—more than 2,000 – the “Last Post” was sounded, and scarcely had its rallying echoes along the hillside died away when “God save the King” had been sung, and the simple, effective, yet reverent ceremony had come to an end, and the dead soldiers were “left alone in their glory.”

(*The Register*, Adelaide, South Australia – 19 July, 1922)

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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 A. W. Stevens does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*Beloved Husband Of Elizabeth Stevens And Loving Father Of Jack*

### **Cheltenham Cemetery, Gloucestershire, England**

*(Also known as Bouncer's Lance Cemetery and Prestbury Cemetery)*

This cemetery contains burials of both wars. The 110 First World War graves are mainly of men who died in the local voluntary hospitals. The burials are scattered except for a small plot of 10 Australian graves. The Second World War burials number 71, half of them forming a war graves plot in the eastern part of the cemetery. There are 2 Polish war burials and a further 4 Non World War service burials within C.W.G.C. care in this cemetery. Cheltenham Crematorium is situated within the cemetery and 28 servicemen and women of the Second World War whose remains were cremated there are commemorated on bronze panels within the crematorium cloisters.

*(Information from CWGC)*



**Entrance to Cheltenham Cemetery, Gloucestershire** *(Photo by julia&keld – Find a Grave)*





**War Graves in Cheltenham Cemetery, Gloucestershire** *(Photo from CWGC)*



**Cross of Sacrifice in Cheltenham Cemetery, Gloucestershire** *(Photo by Philip Halling)*



Photo of Private A. W. Stevens' Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Cheltenham Cemetery, Gloucestershire, England.



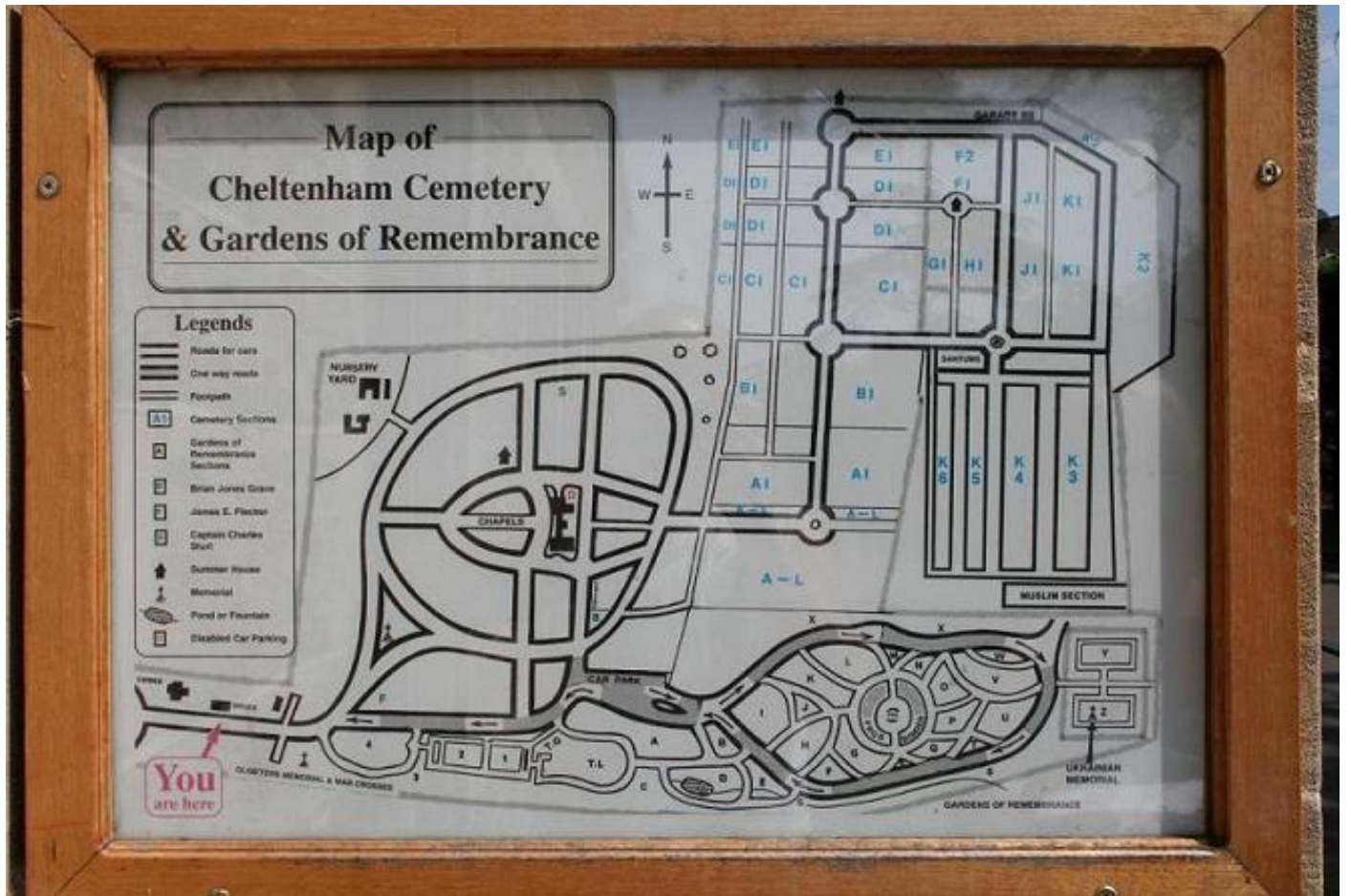
(Photo by ColinA – Find a Grave)





(Photo by Alf)





Map of Cheltenham Cemetery, Gloucestershire (Photo by julia&keld – Find a Grave)