

**St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard,  
Harefield, Middlesex, England**

**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**4585 PRIVATE**

**ARTHUR JOHN TAYLOR**

**10TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**16TH JULY, 1916 Age 35**

*"ANZAC"*

*As A Token Of Respect From*

*His Comrades In Hospital*

## Arthur John TAYLOR

Arthur John Taylor (jnr) was born at Port Adelaide, South Australia on 1st October, 1879 to parents Arthur John & Jane Taylor (nee Walsh).

Arthur John Taylor married Hannah Morris on 14th November, 1903 at Adelaide, South Australia.

Arthur & Hannah Taylor had the following children: Mary Taylor (born 9th March, 1904); Arthur Joseph Taylor (born 15th June, 1906); Thomas Taylor (born 24th November, 1908) & Morris Taylor (born 1912).

Arthur John Taylor was a 36 year old, married, Butcher from Stirling West, South Australia when he enlisted on 22nd September, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 4585 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs H. Taylor, Stirling West, South Australia.

Private Arthur John Taylor was posted to "E" Company (?) on 27th September, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to 1st Depot Battalion on 1st October 1915 then transferred to 14th Reinforcements of 10th Battalion on 16th November, 1915.

Private Arthur John Taylor embarked from Adelaide, South Australia on HMAT *Miltiades (A28)* on 7th February, 1916 with the 10th Infantry Battalion, 14th Reinforcements & disembarked at Suez on 11th March, 1916.

### 10th Battalion

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

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

Private Arthur John Taylor was transferred to England – no details recorded as to how or when he left Suez.

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 & also in the county of Dorset.

Private Arthur John Taylor was sent sick to Hospital on 9th June, 1916 from 3rd Training Battalion.

Mrs H. Taylor, Stirling West, South Australia, wife of Private Arthur John Taylor, was advised by Base Records on 21st June, 1916 that Private A. J. Taylor had been admitted to Devonport General Hospital on 12th June, 1916 suffering from Debility.

Private Arthur John Taylor was reported to have suspected Tuberculosis & was reported to be seriously ill as advised to London on 12th July, 1916.

Private Arthur John Taylor was reported to be dangerously ill with Tuberculosis as advised to London on 15th July, 1916.

Private Arthur John Taylor died on 16th July, 1916 at 1st Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield Park, Harefield, Middlesex, England from Tuberculosis (secondary cardiac failure).

A death for Arthur J. Taylor, aged 37, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of Uxbridge, Middlesex, England.

Private Arthur John Taylor was buried on 19th July, 1916 in St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England – Plot number Aust. 1. and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Mrs H. Taylor, Stirling West, South Australia, wife of Private Arthur John Taylor, was advised by Base Records on 20th July, 1916 that her husband – Private Arthur J. Taylor, was dangerously ill with Tuberculosis.

A War Pension was granted to Hannah Taylor, Stirling West, widow of the late Private Arthur John Taylor, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 16th September, 1916. Pensions were also paid to the following children of Hannah & the late Private Arthur John Taylor – Mary Taylor (£1); Arthur Joseph Taylor (15/-); Thomas Taylor (10/-) & Morris Taylor (10/-) - all paid fortnightly from 16th September, 1916.

Private Arthur John Taylor was entitled to British War Medal & Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Taylor's widow - Mrs H. Taylor, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent November, 1921 & Plaque sent February, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private A. J. Taylor – service number 4585, of 10th Battalion Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private A. J. Taylor is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 60.



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

A. J. Taylor is remembered on the National Soldiers Memorial in Adelaide. The Adelaide National War Memorial commemorates those from South Australia that served in the First World War. The names of those that died are listed inside the Memorial, which is located on the corner of North Terrace & Kintore Avenue, Adelaide.



**National War Memorial – Adelaide** (Photos by Bilby)

A. J. Taylor is remembered on the Aldgate War Memorial, located at Kemp Road, Aldgate, South Australia.



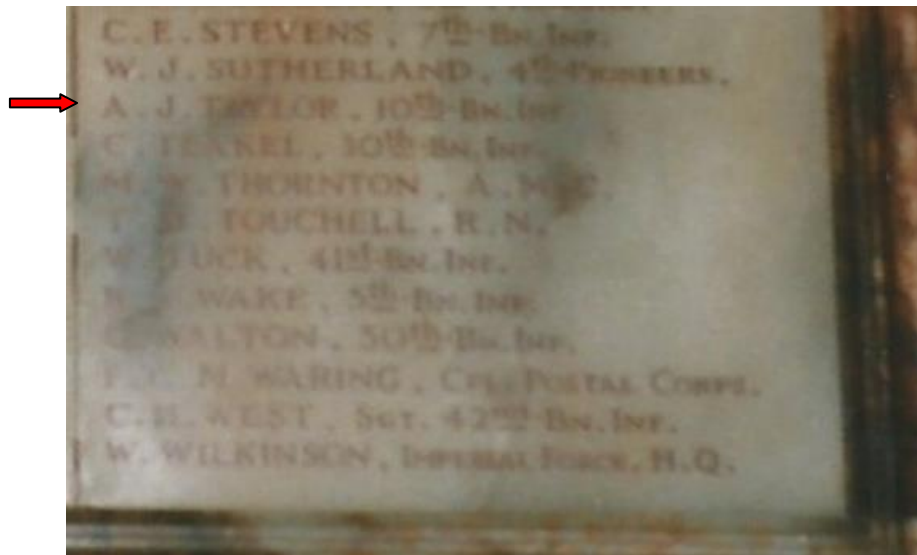
**Aldgate War Memorial** (Photos from Monument Australia – Mary Beaven)



A. J. Taylor is remembered on the Australian Soldiers' Memorial in St. Mary the Virgin Church, Church Hill, Harefield, Middlesex, England.



Australian Soldiers' Memorial, Harefield (Photo from War Memorials Online – B. Wood)



(34 pages of Private Arthur John Taylor'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

## **Newspaper Notices**

### **THE AUSTRALIANS**

### **MORE CASUALTIES**

### **182nd CASUALTY LIST**

### **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

ILL

Pte A. J. TAYLOR, Stirling West

(*Observer*, Adelaide, South Australia – 8 July, 1916)

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### **DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE**

TAYLOR – Died of illness, 7th July, Military Hospital, Devonport, London, Arthur John Taylor, dearly beloved eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. Taylor, Leadenhall-street, Port Adelaide, in his 37th year. Loved in life, honoured in death. Rest in peace.

(*The Express and Telegraph*, Adelaide, South Australia – 26 July, 1916)

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### **DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE**

TAYLOR – On the 16th July, at the First Australian Auxiliary Hospital, London, Private Arthur John Taylor, of illness, aged 37 years. R.I.P.

His life was all struggle and labor,  
His heart for his children beat time;  
He cheerfully did his duty;  
What more could a father do?  
Immaculate heart of Mary,  
Your prayers for him extol;  
Oh, sacred heart of Jesus,  
Have mercy on his soul.

-Inserted by his sorrowful wife, Stirling East.

(*The Express and Telegraph*, Adelaide, South Australia – 28 July, 1916) & (*Chronicle*, Adelaide, Sth Australia – 5 August, 1916)

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### **189th CASUALTY LIST**

### **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

Died of Sickness

4585 Pte A. J. TAYLOR, Stirling West, died July 16, 1916.

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia – 4 August, 1916)

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## BIOGRAPHICAL

### PTE A. J. TAYLOR

Pte A. J. Taylor, who died of illness in London on July 16, was the eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. Taylor, Leadenhall street, Port Adelaide.

(*The Register*, Adelaide, South Australia – 5 August, 1916) & (*The Journal*, Adelaide, South Australia – 5 August, 1916)  
& (*Observer*, Adelaide, South Australia – 12 August, 1916)

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### THE LATE PRIVATE A. J. TAYLOR

Private A. J. Taylor, who died on July 16, 1916, was the eldest son of



The late Private A. J. Taylor.

Mr and Mrs A. Taylor, Leadenhall street, Port Adelaide. Prior to enlisting he was a bacon-curer.

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia – 5 August, 1916) & (*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 12 August, 1916)

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## HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR

TAYLOR – In loving memory of our dear son, Private Arthur John Taylor (4585), died July 16, 1916, at the First Australian Auxiliary Hospital, London, of illness.

My thoughts often wander to a soldier's grave far away,  
Where they laid my darling son just a year ago today;  
When alone in our grief the bitter tears flow,  
There comes a fond vision of not long ago,  
Just as in a dream he stands by our side,  
And whispers those sweet words, death cannot divide.

-Inserted by his loving mother, father, sister, brother, E. and M. Taylor.

TAYLOR – In loving memory of our dear brother, Private A. J. Taylor, who died in England on July 16, 1916.

Far away from those who loved him  
Comrades laid him down to rest;  
A noble hero, true and brave,  
Peacefully sleeps in a soldier's grave.

-Inserted by his loving brother, sister-in-law, and nephew, Tom, Emily, Arthur Taylor.

TAYLOR – In loving memory of Pte Arthur John Taylor (4585), died July 16, 1916, Auxiliary Hospital, London, of illness.

Only a grave of a hero, only a mould of earth,  
Far from the land of the wattle, the spot that gave you birth,  
It seems but a day since dear Arthur bade us good-bye,  
His heart full of hope and his spirit so high;  
How little did we think when he left us that day  
The grim hand of death would soon bear him away.

-Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, C. and J. Holmberg, nephews, and niece.

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, Sth Australia – 16 July, 1917) & (*The Express and Telegraph*, Adelaide, Sth Australia – 16 July, 1917)  
& (*Chronicle*, Adelaide, Sth Australia – 16 July, 1917)

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## HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR

TAYLOR – In loving memory of Private Arthur John Taylor, died July 16, 1916, 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, London.

Farewell, my soldier boy, your time is passed,  
We loved you well while life did last;  
But now you lie in a soldier's grave,  
A hero noble, bold and brave.

-Inserted by his loving parents, brother, and sister, E. and M. Taylor.

(*The Express and Telegraph*, Adelaide, Sth Australia – 16 July, 1918)

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## **HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR**

TAYLOR – In loving memory of our dear son, Private Arthur John Taylor, died Auxiliary Hospital, London, July 16, 1916.

Dearest Arthur, thou hast left us  
Just three years ago to-day.  
Over in England our sad thoughts roam  
To a lonely grave so far from home.  
There is still one more blow we have to bear,  
When the boys return and you're not there.

-Inserted by his loving mother, father, sister, brother, E. and M. Taylor.

*(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 16 July, 1919)*

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## **HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR**

TAYLOR –In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private A. J. Taylor (4585), died on the 16th July, 1916, London.

Four years ago a message came  
From God, Who thought it best  
To take you from this weary world  
And give you peace and rest.

-Inserted by his loving mother, brother, sister, E. and M. Taylor.

*(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 16 July, 1920)*

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## **HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR**

TAYLOR – In memory of our dear brother, Private Arthur John Taylor, who died in England, July 16, 1916.

Though death divides, fond memory clings.

-Inserted by his brother Tom, and Emily, nephew Arthur.

*(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 16 July, 1921)*

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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 Arthur John Taylor does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

“ANZAC”

*As A Token Of Respect From His Comrades In Hospital*

## **St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England**

St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield contains 126 Commonwealth War Graves.

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.

Harefield (St. Mary) Churchyard contains war graves from both world wars. There are 120 First World War graves, mostly those of Australians who died in No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield Park. Uniquely, their graves are marked by scroll shaped headstones, chosen by the staff and patients at the hospital. In the centre of the Australian plot stands a memorial obelisk which was erected by Sir Francis Newdegate, late Governor of Tasmania and of Western Australia, and Mr. C.A.M. Billyard-Leake, of Harefield Park. The churchyard also contains six graves of the Second World War.

*(Information & photos from CWGC)*





**St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield**





**St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England c. 1918.**

*The Australian corner of Harefield churchyard, containing the graves of 111 AIF personnel and one nursing sister who died of wounds or illness at No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield Park. The graves have rectangular headstones with carved scrolls at top and bottom and all bear the words "Erected by his comrades" and "ANZAC".*

*Reading from front to back the headstones include:*

*Far left: 170 Private (Pte.) Robert Sydney Wake, 5th Battalion, died 1916-02-08 aged 24; 323 Private (Pte.) Cecil Rupert Rowlands, Australian Army Medical Corps (AAMC) died 1916-07-20;*

*Second row: 185 Private (Pte.) George Arthur Kelly, 2nd Battalion, died 1916-04-17 aged 31; 1562 Private (Pte.) Leslie Knox, 1st Battalion, died 1916-11-15 aged 21;*

*Third row: 196 Sergeant (Sgt) Thomas Regan, 8th Light Horse Regiment, died 1916-07-02 aged 27; 1748 Private (Pte.) Percy Albert Giddens, 14th Battalion, died 1917-01-01;*

*Fourth row: **4585 Private (Pte.) Arthur John Taylor, 10th Battalion, died 1916-07-16 aged 37;** 13810 Private (Pte.) Mervyn Francis Moffatt, 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, died 1916-10-10 aged 19.*

Photo of Private Arthur John Taylor's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield, Middlesex, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)*



**St Mary the Virgin Church, Harefield** (Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)



**St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield** (Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)



St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Harefield (Photos courtesy of Peter Bennett)

