

**Compton Chamberlayne  
War Graves Cemetery,  
Wiltshire, England**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**2772 PRIVATE**

**I. J. TURNBULL**

**60TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**27TH APRIL, 1917**

## Isaac James TURNBULL

Isaac James Turnbull was born at Horsham, Victoria in 1894 to parents George & Jane Turnbull (nee Cooper).

George Turnbull, father of Isaac James Turnbull, died on 28th February, 1904 at Murtoa, Victoria.

The 1916 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Wannon, subdivision of Horsham, Victoria, listed Isaac James Turnbull, Grocer, from Wilson Street.

Isaac James Turnbull was a 21 year old, single, Storeman from Wilson Street, Horsham, Victoria when he enlisted in Melbourne, Victoria on 14th January, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). (He had served for 4 years with the 73rd Infantry Militia, Horsham). His service number was 2772 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Jane Turnbull of Green Park, Horsham, Victoria. Isaac Turnbull stated on his Attestation Papers that he served for 4 years with 73rd Infantry Militia at Horsham.

Isaac James Turnbull was posted to Depot on 14th January, 1916. He was transferred to "B" Company, 23rd Depot Battalion at Royal Park on 31st January, 1916. Private Turnbull was transferred to 24th Depot Battalion at Royal Park on 1st February, 1916 then transferred to 6th Reinforcements of 59th Battalion at Castlemaine on 4th July, 1916.

Private Isaac James Turnbull embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Nestor* (A71) on 2nd October, 1916 with the 59th Battalion, 6th Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 16th November, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. These were located in the Salisbury Plain area in the county of Wiltshire.

Private Isaac James Turnbull joined the 15th Training Battalion at Hurdcott, Wiltshire & was transferred from 59th Battalion to 60th Battalion on 21st November, 1916.

Private Isaac James Turnbull was admitted to Fovant Hospital, Wiltshire on 20th December, 1916 & discharged on 5th February, 1917 where he was marched into 15th Training Battalion at Perham Downs, Wiltshire. Private Turnbull was a member of the 15th Training Battalion Band.

Private Isaac James Turnbull was admitted sick to Fovant Hospital, Wiltshire on 17th April, 1917.

Private Isaac James Turnbull died at 8.20 p.m. on 27th April, 1917 at the Military Hospital at Fovant, Wiltshire, England from pneumonia.

A death for Isaac Turnbull, aged 23, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire.

Private Isaac James Turnbull was buried on 30th April, 1917 Compton Chamberlayne War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Middle Row, Grave Plot # 7. From the burial report of Private Turnbull he was given a Military Funeral – Coffin was Oaken with polished brass mounts and name plate.

A War Pension was granted to Private Turnbull's mother - Jane Turnbull, in the amount of £2 per fortnight as from 4th July, 1917.

Mrs Turnbull wrote a letter in November, 1917 to the Officer in Charge of Base Records, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne – *"Please enclosed you will find receipt for Private I. J. Turnbull kit which I received with very great sorrow and I will now ask you please make inquiry about my son's cornet also a ladies ring which he was wearing. The reason I enquire for (?) is that my son had exchanged rings with his sweetheart which they were to return to one another when they met again. The young woman would give me my son's ring on returning hers so please try and find it for me. I am sure he would never part with it he was in the 15th Battalion Training Band, Salisbury Plains, Hurdcott, England."*

Private Isaac James Turnbull was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll (December, 1921) & Memorial Plaque (August, 1922) were sent to Pte Turnbull's mother – Mrs Jane Turnbull.

I. J. Turnbull is remembered on the Horsham & District War Memorial & Cenotaph, located in Sawyer Park, Memorial Drive, Horsham, Victoria.

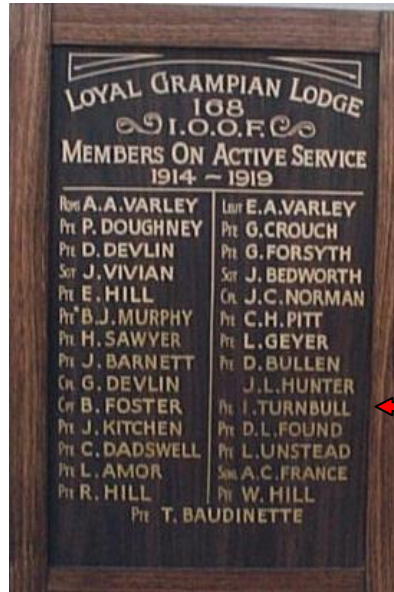


**Horsham & District War Memorial & Cenotaph**

*(Photos from Carol's Headstones)*



I. Turnbull is remembered on the Horsham Grampians Lodge Honour Roll for World War 1, located at Mechanics Institute, 33 Pynsent Street, Horsham, Victoria.



**Horsham Grampians Lodge Honour Roll** (Photo from VHD Heritage)

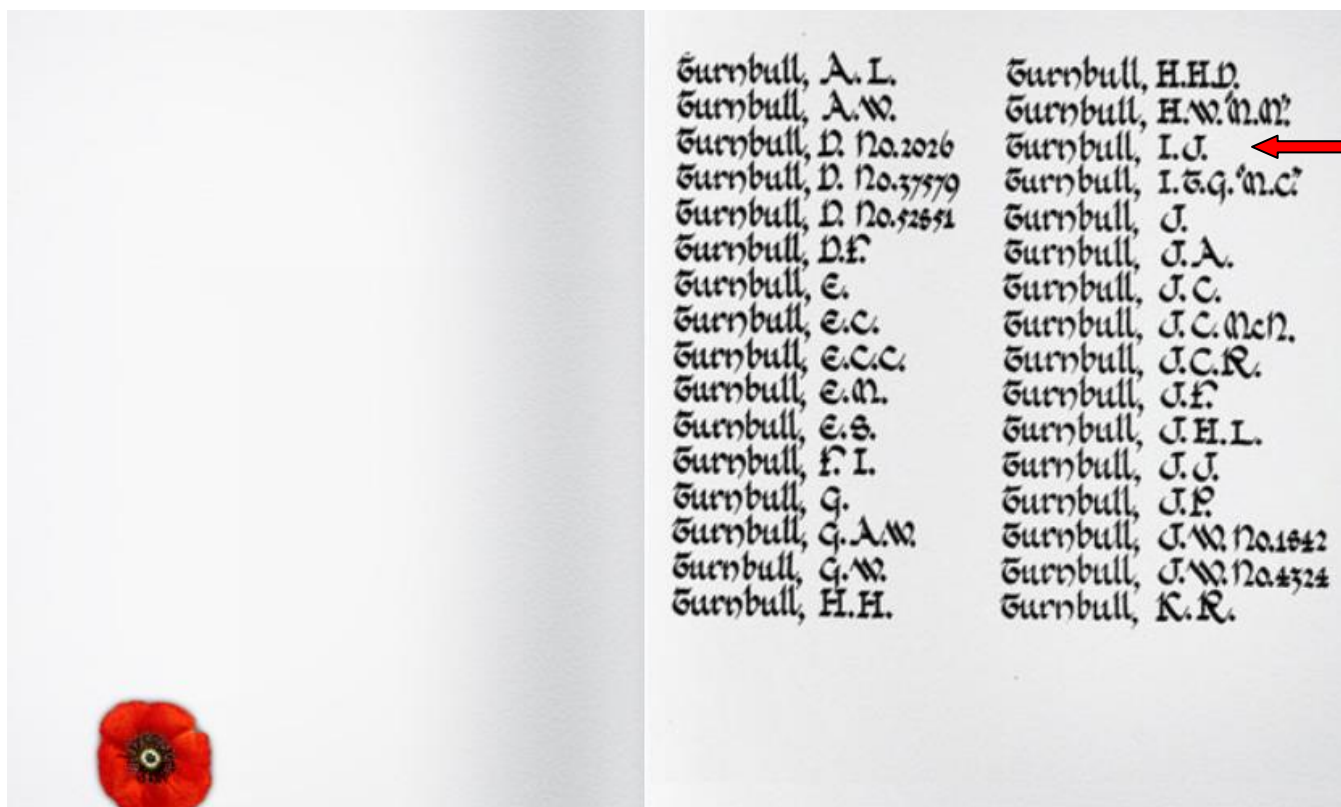
I. Turnbull is remembered on the Green Park Presbyterian Sunday School Honor Roll, located in Horsham Historical Society, 33 Pynsent Street, Horsham, Victoria.



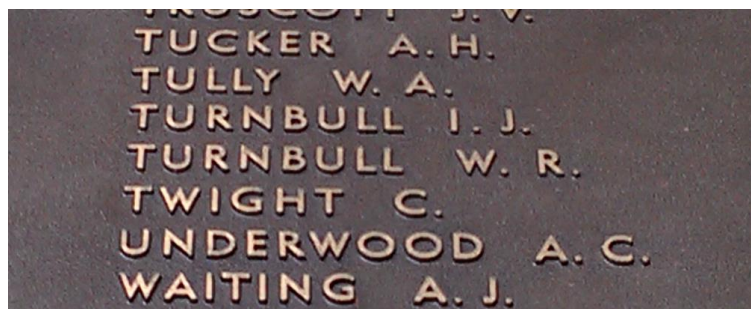
**Green Park Presbyterian Sunday School Honor Roll**

(Photo from Monument Australia – Graeme Saunders)

I. J. Turnbull is remembered in the Book of Remembrance at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne, Victoria.



Private I. J. Turnbull is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 171.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



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

(52 pages of Private Isaac James Turnbull's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

*Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives*



\*\* Pte Isaac James Turnbull's older brother – Joseph Charles Turnbull had enlisted with the A.I.F. on 18th September, 1914 – service number 1186. Pte Joseph Charles Turnbull was wounded at Anzac in August, 1915 & appointed to Driver in May, 1916. Driver Joseph Charles TURNBULL, 57th Bn, was discharged 31st January, 1919 & was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & Victory Medal.

\*\* Pte Isaac James Turnbull's younger brother – Thomas Stephen Turnbull had enlisted with the A.I.F. on 2nd July, 1916 – service no 48764. He was discharged by Medical Board on 11th August, 1916 with Chronic Rheumatism & unfit for active service.



## **Newspaper Reports**

### **BEREAVEMENT NOTICE**

MRS TURNBULL and Family desire to sincerely thank their numerous friends for their messages of consolation to them in the loss of her soldier son, Private I.J. Turnbull, who died in England, and also to the Rev. C.W. Meredith for his kindly sympathy in delivering the message.

*(The Horsham Times, Victoria – Tuesday 29th May, 1917)*

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### **Late Private I. Turnbull**

#### **MOTHER RECEIVES LETTER FROM A COMRADE**

Mrs Jane Turnbull, of Green Park, has received the following letter telling her of the death and burial of her son, Ike, whose death was reported some time ago:- Salisbury Plains, Hurdcott Camp, 30/4/17: Dear Mrs Turnbull: It is with the deepest sympathy that I write these few lines to you to let you know that I have posted all your dear boy's most treasured belongings that I could gather together. All that he had with him at the hospital will be forwarded to you from headquarters. I tried to get the rest of his things, but they would not break the rules. I hope and trust you will receive all safely. The poor lad's illness was very short. He took bad on the 15th of April, and passed away at a quarter to eight on the evening of the 27th. He was loved and respected by all. I can assure you that everything that was possible was done for Ike. On the morning of the 30th he was laid to rest with full military honors in the Compton Chamberlain cemetery, about one mile from the camp where we are training. The members of his band were at the graveside, and the pall-bearers were Ptes. E. Rissmann, Barnett and Martin of Horsham, and one of his company mates from Kew (F.J. Williams). I have several photos of Ike, taken with myself and other mates that I will forward as soon as possible. A member of the band took several photos of the funeral, which when finished, I will also send to you, as we thought you would like them. You will also hear from the bandmaster. A letter came from Joe from somewhere in France, but, as I have not got his address, I cannot answer it. I will give your address to the sister of the hospital, and ask her to write to you. I cannot write any more, but you can guess just how I feel, as we were such pals. Needless to say, we all miss him very much. Please accept my most sincere sympathy. From one of your dear boy's most loving chums, A. E. ( Bert ) Morrison.

*(The Horsham Times, Victoria – Friday 29th June, 1917)*

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### **IN MEMORIAM**

TURNBULL – In sad and loving remembrance of my dear son, Ikey, who died in England on April 27, 1917, aged 23 years.

In England's lonely graveyard,

Beneath the lonely sod,

There lies my dear son, Ike,

Resting in peace with God.

You are not forgotten, dear son,

For true love never dies;

The dearest spot on earth to me

Is where dear Ike lies.

Sadly missed.

-Inserted by his loving mother, brother and sisters.

TURNBULL – In loving memory of my dear friend, I.J. Turnbull, who died 27th April, 1917.

I think of you in silence, Ike,

When no eyes can see me weep;

For many a silent tear I shed

While others are asleep.

Gone is the one we loved so dear,

Silent the voice we long to hear,

Anchored by love death cannot sever,

We miss him sadly, and will forever.

Remembered in the grave.

-Inserted by his loving friend, Olive Bailey, Hopetoun.

(*The Horsham Times*, Victoria – Friday 26th April, 1918)

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### **In Memoriam**

TURNBULL – In sad but loving memory of my dear son Ikey, who died in England on the 27th April, 1917, aged 24.

Just two years have passed, dear Ikey,

But your sweet face will never fade,

For mother loves you just as dearly,

Though you sleep in your lonely grave.

When the flags are over the roadway,

And the troops come marching home,

Oh, God! have pity for the watching ones,

Whose loved ones can never come.

Too dearly loved to be forgotten.

-Inserted by his loving mother, brothers and sisters.

(*The Horsham Times*, Victoria – Friday 25th April, 1919)

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### **IN MEMORIAM**

TURNBULL – In loving memory of my dear son Ike, who died in England on the 27th April, aged 24 years.

O dove of peace, bring back the link

That was taken off our chain;

Bring back my son who went to fight

To home, sweet home, again.

'Twas joy for us when one returned,

But still our hearts are sad.

For one we loved will never return,

Our dear, brave soldier lad.

-Inserted by his loving mother, sisters and brothers.

Deeply regretted.

(*The Horsham Times*, Victoria – Tuesday 27th April, 1920)

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\*\*\*Newspaper notices were also placed in 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925 & 1926

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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 at Compton Chamberlayne 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 Turnbull does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

#### **Compton Chamberlayne War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire, England**

Compton Chamberlayne War Graves Cemetery contains 34 Commonwealth War Graves all from World War 1. Of these 28 are of Australian Soldiers.



*(Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey)*



**Left & right of Cemetery with central Plinth** (Photos courtesy of Andrew Stacey 2012)



**Photo taken from back of Cemetery looking towards the Entrance** (Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey)

Photo of Private I. J. Turnbull's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Compton Chamberlayne War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



*(Photo Courtesy of Andrew Stacey)*

## Compton Chamberlayne War Grave Locations


































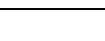



British Soldier



Irish Soldier



Australian Soldier

Front Row	Grave	Middle Row	Grave	Back Row	Grave
<i>Public</i>	1	 Oliver	1		1
<i>Public</i>	2	 Knowles	2	<i>Public</i>	2
 Haywood	3	 Skipper	3	 Turner	3
 Gilbert	4	 Wehrmann	4	 Evans	4
 Le Tisser	5	 Park	5	 Dreckow	5
 Jones	6	 Riley	6	 Cass	6
 Cook	7	 Turnbull	7	 Arnold	7
 Paiman	8	 White	8	 Sillar	8
	9	 Howard	9	 Ross	9
 Norris	10	 Tull	10	 Finn	10
 Lintott	11	 Snell	11	 McCarthy	11
 Redman	12	 Ferrow	12	 Trengove	12
<i>Public</i>		<i>Public</i>			13
<i>Public</i>		<i>Public</i>			14
<i>Public</i>				 Walsh	15
					16
				 Hooper	17
					18
				 Larkin	19



**Compton Chamberlayne War Graves** (Photo from CWGC)



*(Photo taken c March, 1919)*

Graves of Australian soldiers in the cemetery at Compton-Chamberlyne, each marked by a cross.

*Back row, left to right:* 55821 Private (Pte) Alfred Alwin Dreckow, 32nd Battalion (Bn), died 19 October 1918; 3712 Pte Thomas Cass, 10th Bn, died 17 August 1918; 3764 Pte William Joseph Arnold, 31st Bn, died 2 July 1918; Captain Roy Allan Sillar, Australian Army Medical Corps, died 30 June 1918; 1993A Pte Sydney Ross, 18th Bn, died 31 May 1918.

*Front row:* 1666 Sergeant Percy Robert Knowles, 9th Australian Light TM Battery, died 30 January 1918; 1995 Pte Thomas James Skipper, 51st Bn, died Fovant Military Hospital 7 January 1918; 687 Pte John Thomas Wehrmann, 32nd Bn, died 3 November 1917; 3462 Pte William Joseph Park, 60th Bn, died 23rd September 1917; 1725 Pte William Ernest Riley, 60th Bn, died 22 May 1917.