

**Netley Military Cemetery,
Hampshire, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



4796 SAPPER

A. D. TURNER

AUSTRALIAN TUNNELLERS

21ST JANUARY, 1917 Age 31

Gone But Not Forgotten

By His Loving Wife

And Three Children

Arthur Douglas TURNER

Arthur Douglas Turner was born on 13th January, 1886 at Oatlands, Tasmania to parents Peter Amos Turner & Emily Turner (nee Claydon).

Arthur Douglas Turner married Ina Maud Hurd in Tasmania in 1912. They had the following children – Randolph Douglas Gordon Turner (born 1913), Ivy Louisa May Turner (born 1915) & Marlene Barbara Ada Turner.

The 1914 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Franklin, subdivision of Oatlands, Tasmania listed Arthur Douglas Turner, Shoemaker & Ina Maud Turner, Domestic duties, of Oatlands.

Arthur Douglas Turner was a 31 year old, married, Bootmaker from Oaklands* (listed incorrectly on Embarkation Roll – should be Oatlands), Tasmania when he enlisted at Claremont, Tasmania on 15th October, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 4796 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Ina Maud Turner, Oaklands* P.O. Tasmania. Arthur Turner stated on his Attestation Papers that he had been convicted by the Civil Power – for fighting.

Newspaper item – *Daily Post*, Hobart, Tasmania – 1 December, 1915:

POLICE COURTS CITY

The case of Arthur Douglas Turner, who pleaded not guilty to assaulting Constable Berry on the 29th ult., was adjourned until Friday at 10 am.

Newspaper item – *The Mercury*, Hobart, Tasmania – 4 December, 1915:

POLICE COURTS HOBART

Arthur Douglas Turner, a member of the A.I.F. was charged with having, on Monday last, assaulted Constable Berry in Melville-street.

After hearing the evidence, the Bench decided to dismiss the information, the case against Turner not being sufficiently strong to warrant a conviction.

Arthur Douglas Turner was posted to 6th Military District for recruit training on 15th October, 1915. Arthur Douglas Turner was posted to No. 5 Tunnelling Coy (6th Military District) on 1st March, 1916 with the rank of Sapper. Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner was posted to No. 5 Tunnelling Coy (3rd Military District) on 29th April, 1916.

Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT Warilda (A69) on 25th May, 1916 with the Mining Corps. No. 5 Tunnelling Company & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 18th July, 1916. Sapper Turner had been written up on 2nd June, 1916 for being Absent without leave for 3 hours on 1st June, 1916 at Fremantle between the hours of 1 – 4 pm. He was awarded 1 day F.P. #2 (Field Punishment)

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.

Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner proceeded overseas from No. 3 Camp, Parkhouse, Wiltshire on 21st September, 1916.

Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner was marched in to 2nd A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) on 26th September, 1916. He was marched out to 1st Anzac Reinforcement Camp at Etaples on 12th October, 1916 & joined 1st Anzac Entrenching Battalion in France on 16th October, 1916.

1st Anzac Entrenching Battalion

The 1st Anzac Entrenching Battalion was formed at La Motte in France on 6 June 1916. Like the other British Empire entrenching battalions, the unit was initially used to hold reinforcement infantrymen for I ANZAC Corps. Soldiers were posted to the battalion after completing initial infantry training in the United Kingdom and further

training at the base depots of the AIF divisions in France. The role of the 1st Anzac Entrenching Battalion was to accelerate and improve the training process by providing reinforcement infantrymen with exposure to combat conditions while undertaking engineering works near the front line.

The battalion initially provided all infantry reinforcements for the I ANZAC Corps, but all of its personnel were posted to combat units as part of the response to the heavy casualties suffered by the Australian units involved in the Battle of Pozières between July and September 1916. While it ceased to provide training to infantrymen, the 1st Anzac Entrenching Battalion's headquarters and staff were retained and the unit absorbed the surplus reinforcements for the AIF's tunnelling companies; these comprised 9 officers and 203 other ranks. The battalion subsequently operated as a tunnelling unit on the Western Front alongside Canadian tunnellers. It was disbanded on 20 October 1917.

(Wikipedia)

Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner was attached to 1st Canadian Tunnelling Company on 26th October, 1916.

1st Canadian Tunnelling Company

1st Canadian Tunnelling Company was formed in eastern Canada, then moved to France and into the Ypres Salient for instruction in early 1916. Shortly afterwards, in March 1916, it relieved 182nd Tunnelling Company near Armentières. 1st Canadian Tunnelling Company then moved to The Bluff in May 1916, where it worked on tunnels until January 1917 when it was relieved by 2nd Australian Tunnelling Company. *(Wikipedia)*

Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner was wounded in action on 12th November, 1916. He was admitted to 4th London Field Ambulance on 12th November, 1916 with shrapnel wounds to hip, right thigh & abdomen. Sapper Turner was transferred to 10th Casualty Clearing Station on 12th November, 1916 then transferred & admitted to 3rd Casualty Clearing Station the same day with gunshot wounds to right thigh, left hip, right shin & abdomen. He was transferred to No. 18 Ambulance Train on 16th November, 1916 & admitted to 3rd Canadian General Hospital at Boulogne, France the same day with shrapnel wounds to thigh, shoulder s& abdomen. Sapper Turners was invalided to England on 19th November, 1916 on Hospital Ship *West Australia* with shrapnel wounds to thigh – serious.

Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner was admitted to the University War Hospital, Southampton, Hampshire, England on 20th November, 1916 with multiple gunshot wounds.



University War Hospital

Mrs I. M. Turner, wife of Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner, was advised by Base Records on 27th November, 1916 that her husband was dangerously ill with wounds. On 30th November, 1916 Mrs I. M. Turner was advised that her husband had been admitted to University War Hospital on 20th November, 1916 suffering from multiple gunshot wounds – severe. Mrs I. M. Turner was advised on 5th December, 1916 that her husband's condition was stationary. She was advised again on 8th December, 1916 that her husband's condition was improving.

Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner died at 4 am on 21st January, 1917 at University War Hospital, Southampton, Hampshire, England from wounds received in action in France – gunshot wounds to both thighs & secondary haemorrhage.

A death for Arthur Turner, aged 34, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Southampton, Hampshire, England.

Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner was buried on 23rd January, 1917 in Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England – Plot number C.E. 1892 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

A War Pension was granted to Ina Maud Turner, of Oatlands, widow of the late Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner, in the sum of 40/- per fortnight from 26th March, 1917. Pensions were also granted to the late Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner's three children from the same date – Randolph Douglas Gordon Turner, 20/- per fortnight; Marlene Barbara Ada Turner, 15/- per fortnight & Ivy Louisa May Turner, 10/- per fortnight.

Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Sapper Turner's widow – Mrs I. M. Turner, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent April, 1922 & Plaque sent August, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner – service number 4796, aged 31, of 5th Coy., Australian Tunnelling Corps. He was the son of Amos Peter and Emily Turner, husband of Ina Maud Turner, of High St., Oatlands, Tasmania.

Sapper A. D. Turner is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 27.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

A. Turner is remembered on the Oatlands State School Honour Roll located at Oatlands District High School, Church Street, Oatlands, Tasmania.



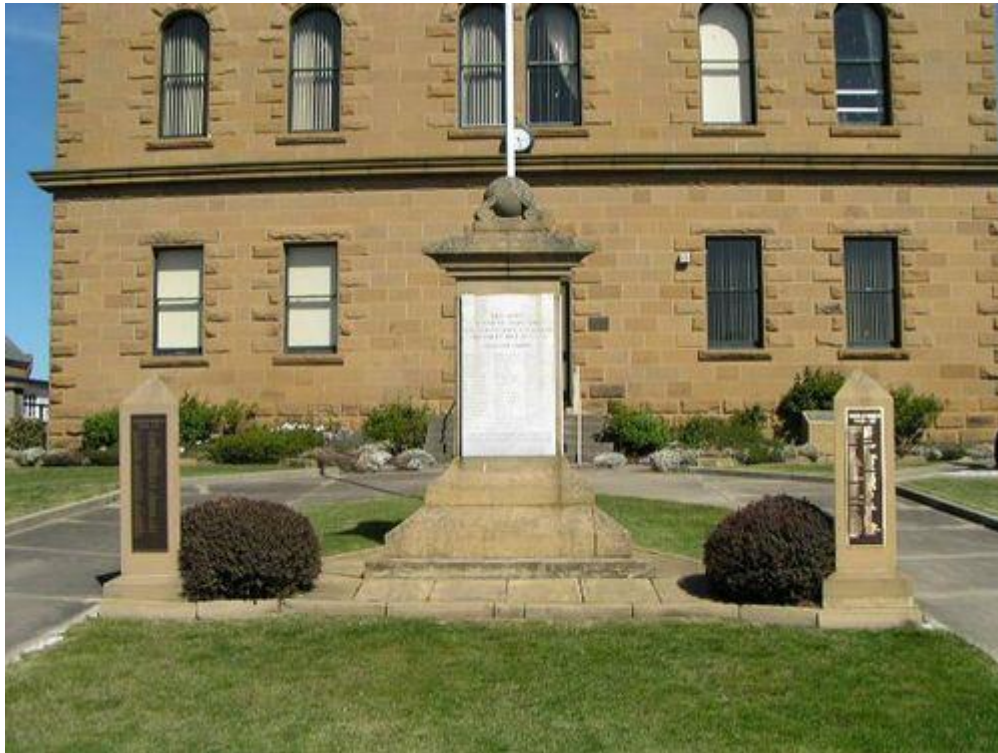
Oatlands State School Honour Roll (Photo from Monument Australia – Arthur Garland)

A. D. Turner is remembered on the St Peter's Church Memorial Vestry, located inside St Peter's Anglican Church, William Street, Oatlands, Tasmania.

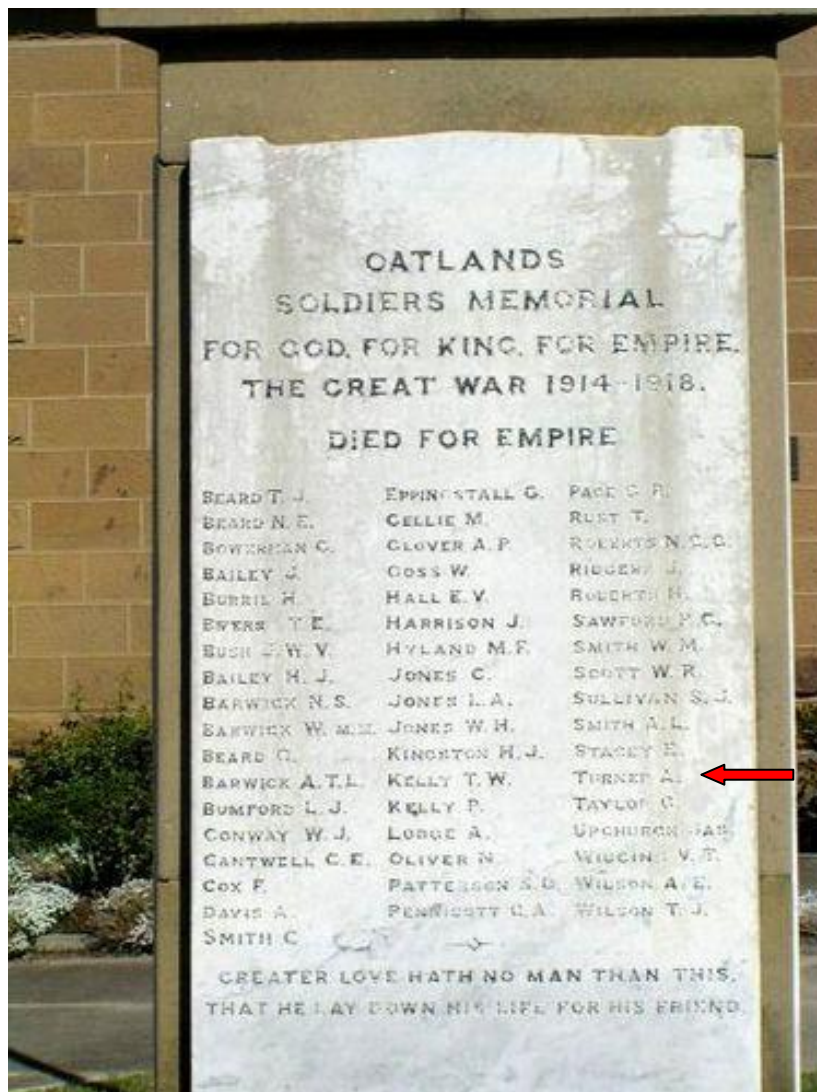


St Peter's Church Memorial Vestry (Photo from Monument Australia – Arthur Garland)

A. Turner is remembered on the Oatlands Soldiers Memorial, located in High Street, Oatlands, Tasmania.



Oatlands Soldiers Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia – Diane Watson)



Arthur Douglas Turner is remembered on the Wall of Remembrance, at the War Memorial, Cecilia Street, St. Helens, Tasmania. The Wall of Remembrance commemorates those from Tasmania who died in service or were killed in action in World War One.

Front Inscription

Tasmania's World War One Roll of Honour, 1914 - 1918

The names of 3165 soldiers, sailors and airmen who were Tasmanian by birth or residence and died from their service in WW1 are commemorated on these walls. Their names appear alphabetically, grouped by the year of death. These men served with Australian, New Zealand and British units.

"What these men did nothing can alter now. The good and the bad, the greatness and the smallness of their story will stand. Whatever of glory it contains nothing now can lessen. It rises, as it will always rise, above the mists of ages, a monument to great hearted men; and for their nation, a possession forever."



Tasmania Wall of Remembrance, St. Helens (Photos from Monument Australia – Arthur Garland)

2285	Pte	Torphy	Albert John	10.04.1917	23	12th Inf Bn	Longford	ANZAC
281	Pte	Towers	Adam	06.04.1917	25	12th Inf Bn	Launceston	ANZAC
3556	Pte	Townsend	William	27.02.1917	30	12th Inf Bn	Coppington	
5093	Pte	Townsend	Benjamin Goffar	04.05.1917	28	21st Inf Bn	Westbury	
295	Cpl	Townsend	Lionel George	19.09.1917	28	12th Inf Bn	Ridgely	ANZAC
2918	Pte	Townsend MM	Francis Frederick	08.10.1917	18	12th Inf Bn	Burnie	ANZAC
C/9099	Sgt	Travers	Rihard Wilfred	14.05.1917	40	BEF Palla Regt	Hobart	
33511	Gnr	Treloggan	Gordon Charles	28.10.1917	20	6th Fd Arty Bde	Goahen	
2733	Pte	Trethewis	Harold Raymond	05.05.1917	24	12th Inf Bn	Hegley	
998	Tpr	Trowbridge	Henry Charles	01.11.1917	21	3rd Lt Horse Regt	Derby	ANZAC
4000	Pte	Trueman	Gifford William	15.04.1917	19	12th Inf Bn	Dover	
520	Sgt	Tuck	Frederick Grant	31.01.1917	45	40th Inf Bn	Hobart	
6064	Pte	Tucker	William Frederick	15.04.1917	20	12th Inf Bn	Lapoinya	
4796	Sgtr	Turner	Arthur Douglas	21.01.1917	31	2nd Tunnel Coy	Oatlands	
521	Pte	Turner	Henry	31.01.1917	22	40th Inf Bn	Stanley	
1244	Pte	Turner	James Ernest	03.11.1917	28	12th Inf Bn	Kempton	ANZAC
7448	Sgtr	Turner	Lionel Albert	27.10.1917	25	8th Fd Coy Exgr	Launceston	
1571	L/Sgt	Turner	Leonard Henry	11.04.1917	23	12th Inf Bn	St Marys	ANZAC
6026	Pte	Taining	Thomas Alex	23.09.1917	21	12th Inf Bn	Hobart	
	Capt	Tyrrell	James Thomas	10.01.1917	49	40th Inf Bn	Wynyard	
1300	Pte	Upchurch	James William	30.11.1917	29	50th Inf Bn	Oatlands	
2923	Pte	Upchurch	Andrew	06.04.1917	22	12th Inf Bn	Wynyard	
3182	Cpl	Upchurch MM	Charles Ernest	16.07.1917	20	52nd Inf Bn	Wynyard	
	Lt	Uren	Harold Frederick	09.04.1917	28	12th Inf Bn	Hobart	ANZAC
288	Pte	Utteridge	Albert	26.02.1917	27	40th Inf Bn	Forn	
11/833	Cpl	Vaughan	Oswald De Wit	04.10.1917	41	RZEF W/B	Newtown	ANZAC
607	Pte	Vann	Mathew Syllas	15.12.1917	20	15th MG Coy	Pipers River	
287	Pte	Verigan	Oscar	18.01.1917	21	40th Inf Bn	Forn	
2303	Sgt	Von Bibra	Elbert Louis	30.09.1917	28	47th Inf Bn	Launceston	ANZAC
8381	Pte	Von Bibra	Charles	06.04.1917	37	12th Inf Bn	Launceston	
	2nd Lt	Wade	George	01.01.1917	20	BEF Infantry Regt	Cygnat	
15210	Gnr	Walch	Garnet	25.10.1917	21	13th Fd Arty Bde	Swansea	

(54 pages of Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner'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



Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner



Sapper A. Turner
(Died of wounds).



Newspaper Notices

AUSTRALIA'S

ROLL OF HONOUR

CASUALTY LIST No. 247

WOUNDED IN ACTION

TURNER, Sapper A. D., Oatlands, and dangerously ill.

(Daily Telegraph, Launceston, Tasmania – 11 December, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOUR

270th CASUALTY LIST

DIED

TASMANIA

Sapper Turner, A. D. Oatlands, of wounds, 21/1/17, previously reported severely wounded.

(The Mercury, Hobart, Tasmania – 5 February, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

TURNER – Died of wounds on January 21, 1917, Sapper A. D. Turner, aged 32 years, dearly beloved husband of Ina M. Turner, and fourth son of Anous and Emily Turner, of Oatlands. He gave his life for King and country.

(The Mercury, Hobart, Tasmania – 10 February, 1917)

In Memoriam

On Active Service

TURNER – In loving memory of my dear brother, Sapper A. D. Turner, who died from wounds received in France, on January 21st, 1917.

No mother was there to soothe his brow,

 No sister to say good-bye,

No brother to take him by the hand

 When death was drawing nigh.

He gave his life, his best, his all,

He never shunned his country's call,

But gladly gave his life, his all-

He died the helpless to defend –

A noble soldier a noble end.

-Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Maud and Angus Gillies, Campbell Town.

(Examiner, Launceston, Tasmania – 21 January, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

Died on Active Service

TURNER – In loving remembrance of my dear husband, and our father, Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner, who died of wounds in a London Hospital on January 21, 1917.

A precious one from us is gone,

A ___ we loved is still

A place is vacant in our home

Which never can be filled.

He answered his country's call,

He died an Australian hero,

Which is the greatest death if all.

Inserted by his loving wife, Ina M. Turner and children Randolph, Malines and Ivy ____, Oatlands.

TURNER – In loving memory of our dear brother, Sapper A. D. Turner, who died of wounds in France on January 21, 1917.

A gallant hero, true and brave,

_____ sleeps in a soldier's grave;

Great is our sorrow, but God knows best,

He took our dear brother home to rest.

Inserted by his loving sister, Ada.

(The Mercury, Hobart, Tasmania – 21 January, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

TURNER – In loving memory of Sapper Arthur Douglas, who died of wounds received in France on January 21, 1917.

We pictured his safe returning,

And longed to clasp his hand;

But death has postponed the meeting,

'Twill be in the Better Land.

- Inserted by his mother and sister, Marjorie Button, Gormanston

(Daily Telegraph, Launceston, Tasmania – 21 January, 1919)

In Memoriam

On Active Service

TURNER – In loving memory of Sapper A. D. Turner, who died of wounds received in France, January 21, 1917.

A gallant hero, true and brave,

Peacefully sleeps in a soldier's grave;

Great is our sorrow, but God knows best

He took our dear one home to rest.

Somewhere in England he's lying,

He answered Australia's call,
He died an Australian hero,
'Tis the grandest death of all.

Far from the scenes of his childhood,
Away o'er the ocean deep,
In a foreign land our loved one
Lies sleeping his last long sleep.

-Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Maud and Angus Gillies, St. John-street, Launceston.

(*Examiner*, Launceston, Tasmania – 21 January, 1919)

IN MEMORIAM

TURNER – In sad and loving memory of my dear husband, Sapper A. D. Turner, who died of wounds, January 21, 1916.

This day brings back in memory fresh
One loved by us and sadly missed,
As true heart as ever beat
Has passed away from earth;
His memory dwells within the hearts
Of those who knew his worth.

For King and Country nobly died.

-Inserted by his loving wife and children, Ina, R., M., I., Turner.

(*The Mercury*, Hobart, Tasmania – 21 January, 1920)

In Memoriam

On Active Service

TURNER - In sad and loving memory of my dear brother, Sapper A. D. Turner, of Oatlands, who died of wounds, January 21, 1917.

Sadly a sister is thinking
Of her soldier brother brave,
Who died for the cause of freedom,
And rests in a hero's grave.

Though I am far away, dear Arthur,
And your grave I cannot see,
I am always thinking of you
As you used to think of me.

Sad and sudden was the parting,
Hard and cruel was the blow;
How we miss our darling Arthur
None on earth will ever know.

-Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Maud and Angus Gillies, 259 St. John-street, Launceston.

(*Examiner*, Launceston, Tasmania – 21 January, 1920)

ROLL OF HONOUR

TURNER – In loving memory of Sapper A. D. Turner, of Oatlands, who died of wounds received in France on the 22nd January, 1917.

I, who love you, sadly miss you
As it draws another year;
And in lonely hours of thinking
Thoughts of you are ever near.

-Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, M. and A. Gillies, 259 St. John-street, Launceston.

(Daily Telegraph, Launceston, Tasmania – 24 January, 1922)

IN MEMORIAM

TURNER – In sad and loving memory of my dear brother, Sapper A. D. Turner, of Oatlands, who died of wounds on January 21, 1917.

Just a token of remembrance
To show we think of you.

-Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, M. and A. Gillies, St. John-street, Launceston.

(Examiner, Launceston, Tasmania – 22 January, 1923)

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)

A letter from Base Records, dated 10th August, 1920, to Mrs I. M. Turner, widow of the late Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner, advised that the personal inscription on the headstone of her late husband could only be 66 letters & it would be necessary for her to abbreviate the inscription.

A letter from Base Records, dated 7th September, 1920, to Mrs I. M. Turner, widow of the late Sapper Arthur Douglas Turner, advised again that the personal inscription on the headstone of her late husband could only be 66 letters & *“it will not be practicable to have the whole of the inscription you desire inscribed.”* Mrs I. M. Turner replied & requested the following inscription *“Gone but not forgotten from his loving wife I. M. Turner and children.”*

Sapper A. D. Turner does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Gone But Not Forgotten By His Loving Wife And Three Children

Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England

Netley Military Cemetery is a permanent military cemetery, the property of the Ministry of Defence. The cemetery was at the back of the Royal Victoria Military Hospital and was used during both wars for burials from the hospital. The cemetery contains 637 First World War burials but only 35 from the Second World War. In addition to the Commonwealth graves, there are a number of war graves of other nationalities including 69 German graves dating from the First World War.

(Information & photos from CWGC)



Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire





Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire (Photo above - Andrea Charlesworth; below - darealjolo)



Photo of Sapper A. D. Turner's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England.





Original Cross markers – Netley Military Cemetery

Arthur Douglas Turner is remembered on the Turner Family Headstone located in St. Peter's Anglican Cemetery, Oatlands, Tasmania.



Gravesites Of Tasmania

Sapper ARTHUR DOUGLAS TURNER

Died 21st Jan, 1917. Aged 31 Years

Buried in Military Cemetery Netley, England