

**Trinity Cemetery,  
Aberdeen, Scotland  
War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**7048 PRIVATE**

**G. TURNER**

**1ST BN. AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN CORPS**

**13TH JULY, 1918 Age 29**

## George TURNER

George Turner was born at Brixton Hill, London, England in 1889 to parents George & Elizabeth Turner (nee Munro). He attended Public School in Aberdeen, Scotland.

According to Information supplied for the Roll of Honour (by his widow) – George Turner came to Australia when he was 18 years old.

George Turner married Grace Eva Newcombe on 26th December, 1911 at Holy Trinity Church, Erskineville, Sydney, New South Wales. George Turner was recorded as a 22 year old Plumber from Redfern & his father was listed as a Policeman. Grace Eva Newcombe was recorded as a 23 year old & her parents were listed as Charles Newcombe (Carter) & Alice Emblem. Their marriage was registered in 1912 in the district of Newtown, NSW.

The Australian Electoral Roll for Burwood, George's River Road, Enfield for 1913 recorded George Turner, plumber & Grace Turner, domestic duties, both living at Boyle Street, Enfield, NSW.

George Turner was a 27 year old, married, Plumber & Gasfitter from "Minnesota", Boyle Street, Enfield, Sydney, NSW when he enlisted on 29th May, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Presbyterian & his next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs G. E. Turner of "Minnesota", Boyle Street, Enfield, Sydney, NSW. George Turner stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served 3 years with 29th Infantry & resigned. From information proved by George Turner's widow for the Roll of Honour – he attended Duntroon Military College and passed as a Sergeant. In France he passed as a Machine Gun Instructor.

George Turner was posted to Camp at Cootamundra, NSW & was attached to "B" Company, 1st Battalion from 30th May, 1916. Private George Turner was transferred to "A" Company of 1st Depot Battalion on 28th August, 1916. He was transferred to Camp at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW on 11th September, 1916 & promoted to Acting Sergeant with 2nd Battalion, Liverpool on 12th September, 1916.

Acting Sergeant George Turner, Service number 7048, embarked from Sydney, N.S.W. on HMAT *Benalla (A24)* on 9th November, 1916 with the 2nd Infantry Battalion, 23rd Reinforcements & disembarked at Devonport, England on 9th January, 1917. He had been promoted to V. O. (Voyage Only) Sergeant while on the voyage to England.

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.

V. O. Sergeant George Turner's rank reverted to Private on 10th January, 1917 while attached to 1st Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire.

Private George Turner was appointed Corporal on 1st February, 1917 while attached to 1st Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire.

On 9th April, 1917, it was noted that Corporal George Turner qualified 1st Class at the 8th Rifle course held at the School of Musketry, Tidworth, Wiltshire from 26th February, 1916 to 22nd March, 1917 & had a fair working knowledge of the Lewis Gun.

Corporal George Turner was admitted to 1st A.D.H. (1st Australian Dermatological Hospital) at Bulford, Wiltshire on 8th May, 1917 with V.D. His rank reverted to Private on 13th May, 1917 (owing to reduction in establishment). Private Turner was transferred to Parkhouse Hospital on 15th May, 1917 & discharged the next day.

Private George Turner proceeded overseas to France from Nos 7 & 8 Camps, Durrington, Wiltshire via the port of Southampton on 9th July, 1917. He was marched in from England to 1st Australian Divisional Base Depot at Havre, France on 10th July, 1917 & was taken on strength with 2nd Battalion in France on 10th August, 1917 from 23rd Reinforcements.

Private George Turner attended the School of Instruction in the field from 28th September, 1917 & rejoined his Battalion on 24th October, 1917.

Private George Turner was on leave to Paris from 9th January, 1918.

Private George Turner reported sick on 16th February, 1918. He was taken to 2nd Australian Field Ambulance with Epididymitis, then transferred & admitted to 1st Australian Field Ambulance. Private Turner was discharged to duty & rejoined his Battalion from Hospital on 24th February, 1918.

Private George Turner was on furlough to UK from 6th March, 1918 & rejoined his Battalion on 24th March, 1918.

Private George Turner was transferred & taken on strength with 1st Australian Machine Gun Battalion on 9th April, 1918 in France.

Private George Turner was wounded in action in France on 14th April, 1918. He was taken to 1st Australian Field Ambulance then transferred to No. 26 General Hospital at Etaples on 16th April, 1918. He was invalided to UK on Hospital Ship "*Ville de Liege*" with shrapnel wounds to buttock & wrist on 3rd June, 1918.

Private George Turner was admitted to Royal Victoria Hospital (British Red Cross Hospital) at Netley on 4th June, 1918 dangerously ill with Gunshot wound to buttock, right hip & chest.

Private George Turner died of wounds (received in action) - G.S.W. Hip Empyema at 6.20 pm on 13th July, 1918 at Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, near Southampton, Hampshire.

Mrs Munro, grandmother of late Private George Turner, was listed as next-of-kin – 59 Wales St, Aberdeen, Scotland. His body was taken on the 3.12 pm train from Netley on 17th July, 1918 in a zinc lined coffin.

Private George Turner was buried in the Family Grave at Trinity Cemetery, Aberdeen, Scotland at 3 pm on 19th July, 1918.

From the Burial report – Coffin was of polished elm. Relatives attending the Military funeral – grandmother – Mrs Munro 59 Wales St, Aberdeen. "*A Gun Carriage, was supplied and Firing Party, Pallbearers and Band participated. The cortege left the house at 3 pm and walked to the Cemetery headed by the Band. Among the mourners were several "Anzacs" who were on leave in the City. Rev. Alex Campbell, Albion Street, Congregational Church, Aberdeen, officiated at the graveside and three volleys were fired over the grave as the remains were lowered. The coffin was draped with the "Union Jack" and there were many wreaths. The relatives of the late Pte Turner were well represented and hundreds of the townspeople line the route to the Cemetery. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London, were represented at the funeral.*"

Private George Turner is also remembered on the Memorial Screen Wall – Panel 9 located in Trinity Cemetery, Aberdeen, Scotland. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Individuals are commemorated on Memorial Screens when their loss has been officially declared by their relevant service but there is no known burial for the individual or in circumstances where graves cannot be individually marked, or where the grave site has become inaccessible and unmaintainable.

Sergeant (at the time of writing his will) George Turner requested in his Will, dated 3rd November, 1916 that all his real & personal property be bequeathed to his wife – Grace Eva Turner. She was also appointed Executrix of the Will.

Private George Turner was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Turner's widow – Mrs G. E. Turner (Scroll sent December, 1921 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private George Turner - service number 7048, aged 29, of 1st Bn., Australian Machine Gun Corps. He was the son of Elizabeth and the late George Turner; husband of G. E. Turner, of 34 Boyle St., Enfield, New South Wales. Born in London, England.

Private G. 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 175.



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

G. Turner is remembered on the Enfield War Memorial located on the corner of Coronation Parade and Liverpool Road, Enfield, NSW.



**Enfield War Memorial** (Photo by I. J. Bar)

(84 pages of Private George 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*



*(Aberdeen Weekly Journal, Scotland - 26 July, 1918)*

## **Newspaper Notices**

### **ABERDEEN CASUALTIES**

#### **Died of Wounds**

Mrs Munro, 59 Wales Street, Aberdeen, has been notified that her grandson, Private George Turner, has died of wounds received in action. Before joining up he was a plumber to trade in Sydney, Australia, where his widow and three children reside.

*(Aberdeen Evening Express, Aberdeen, Scotland – 18 July, 1918) & (Aberdeen Press and Journal, Aberdeen, Scotland – 18 July, 1918)*

## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

TURNER – At Netley Hospital, from wounds received in action, Private George Turner, A.I.F., aged 29 years, dearly beloved husband of Grace Newcom, Sydney, Australia, and only son of Mr and Mrs Turner, South Africa, and devoted grandson of the late George Munro, boilermaker. Funeral from his grandmother's house, 59 Wales Street, on 19th inst., at 3 o'clock, to Trinity Cemetery. All friend respectfully invited. This is the only intimation and invitation. So loved, so mourned.

*(Aberdeen Evening Express, Aberdeen, Scotland – 18 July, 1918) & (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, Aberdeen, Scotland – 19 July, 1918)*

---

## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

TURNER – Died of wounds received in France, July 13, 1918, Private George Turner, 1st Machine-gun Battalion (late 2nd Battalion), beloved husband and father of Grace, Evelyn, Dorothy and Ruth Turner, of Minnesota, Boylestreet, Enfield, aged 29 years.

Freedom's sacrifice.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 27 July, 1918)*

---

## **420th CASUALTY LIST**

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED OF WOUNDS

Pte GEORGE TURNER, Enfield

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 3 August, 1918)*

---

## **ON ACTIVE SERVICE**

TURNER – In loving memory of my dear husband and our father, George Turner, 1st Machine Gun Batt., who died of wounds received in France, July 13, 1918, aged 29 years. Inserted by his loving wife and children, Grace, Evelyn, Dorothy and Ruth.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 19 July, 1919)*

---

## Commonwealth War Graves Commission

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Private George Turner is named on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Memorial Screen Wall.

## **Trinity Cemetery, Aberdeen, Scotland**

Aberdeen (Trinity) Cemetery and Broadhill Extension are on either side of Park Road, north of the city centre. Park Road is close to the esplanade and runs past Aberdeen city football ground. The entrances to the cemeteries are on opposite sides of Park Road, south of the football ground.

First World War graves specified as (SP) in the entries are in a special Military Plot in Section I., those specified as (CMP) are in a Naval Plot in Section F, those specified as (CG) are in common ground in Section N and the remainder are scattered private graves in the cemetery.

Second World War graves are scattered throughout the cemetery.

The cemetery contains a Screen Wall upon which are inscribed the particulars of all the First World War graves in the cemetery.

There are around 170 burials of the First World War (including 1 unidentified sailor of the Royal Navy in F.3. 554(CMP)), and around 30 burials of the Second World War. In addition there is 1 Non World War burial.

*(Information from CWGC)*



**Trinity Cemetery, Aberdeen, Scotland** *(Photo by GariochGraver)*



**Cross of Sacrifice** (Photos from CWGC)







**CWGC Screen Wall** (Photos from CWGC)



Photo of Private George Turner's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Memorial Screen Wall at Trinity Cemetery, Aberdeen, Scotland.



**World War 1 Memorial Screen Wall at Trinity Cemetery, Aberdeen, Scotland** (Photos courtesy of Colin Milne)



**Panel 10 - Memorial Screen Wall**



**Panel 9 - Memorial Screen Wall**

*(Photos courtesy of Colin Milne)*



Photo of Private George D. J. Turner's name on the Family Headstone in Trinity Cemetery, Aberdeen, Scotland.



Private George Turner was buried in the Munro Family Grave, Trinity Cemetery, Aberdeen, Scotland

*(Photo courtesy of Colin Milne)*



*Erected*

*By*

**GEORGE MUNRO** *Boilermaker*

*In Loving Memory of His Sons*

**GEORGE MUNRO** *Stonecutter*

*Who Died 21 Oct 1896 Aged 27*

*Also* **SPENCE MUNRO**

*Chief Officer Barque Heathfield*

*Who Died at Valparaiso 10. Feb. 1902 Aged 26.*

*Also The Above*

**GEORGE MUNRO**

*Who Died 15. Sept 1905 Aged 61*

*Also His Daughters*

**CHRISTINA** *Wife Of* **JOHN MANSON**

*Who Died 27 Jan. 1911 Aged 34.*

*Also* **MARY** *Wife Of* **D. B. WALKER** *Fishcurer*

*Who Died At Vancouver 4 Dec. 1914. Aged 36*

*Also his Grandson* **PTE GEORGE D. J. TURNER** *A.I.F.*

*Died For His King & Country 13. July 1918. Aged 30*

*Also His Wife* **JANE GAY**

*Who Died 13. March 1930 Aged 85*