

**Western Necropolis Cemetery,
Glasgow, Scotland
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2670 PRIVATE

G. S. UPTON

AUSTRALIAN T. M. BATTERY

13TH NOVEMBER, 1918 Age 22

Greater Love Hath No Man

He Lay Down His Life

For His Friends

George Stephen UPTON

George Stephen Upton was born at Anna Bay, near Newcastle, New South Wales, in 1896 to parents Philip and Jemima Upton (nee Drury).

George Stephen Upton attended Public School at Anna Bay, NSW.

A death was registered in 1912 for Jemima Upton, mother of George Stephen Upton. She died on 19th May, 1912 in the Sydney Hospital, Sydney, NSW.

George Stephen Upton was a 20 year old, single, Farmer from Glencoe, Anna Bay, NSW when he enlisted at West Maitland, NSW on 26th April, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2670 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr P. Upton, of Anna Bay, Port Stephens, NSW. As George Stephen Upton was under the age of 21 years, his parents' consent was required for him to enlist in the Australian Imperial Force for Active Service abroad. Philip Upton, father of George Stephen Upton, signed his consent. His mother was deceased.

Private George Stephen Upton was posted to A.I.F. Depot at West Maitland on 26th April, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to Reserve Company, 34th Battalion on 6th May, 1916. Pte Upton was transferred to 34th Battalion, 5th Reinforcements on 6th October, 1916.

Private George Stephen Upton embarked from Sydney, NSW on SS *Napier* on 17th November, 1916 with the 9th Infantry Brigade, 34th Infantry Battalion, 5th Reinforcements. Pte Upton was admitted to Ship's Hospital from 22nd November, 1916 till 7th December, 1916 with Mumps. He was re-admitted to the Ship's Hospital from 13th December to 28th December, 1916 after having contact with Cerebro Spinal Meningitis. Pte Upton disembarked at Devonport, England on 29th January, 1917.

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 George Stephen Upton was marched in to 9th Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire from Australia on 30th January, 1917.

Private George Stephen Upton was sent sick to Fargo Hospital, Wiltshire on 13th February, 1917 with Influenza (Hospital Admission sheet states Bronchitis) & discharged on 7th March, 1917.

Private George Stephen Upton proceeded overseas to France via Southampton from No. 11 Camp Durrington, Wiltshire on 29th May, 1917. He was marched in to 3rd A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Havre, France on 30th May, 1917. Pte Upton was marched out to his Unit on 16th June, 1917 & was taken on strength of 34th Battalion in France from 5th Reinforcements on 19th June, 1917.

Private George Stephen Upton was detached for duty with 9th Australian Light Trench Mortar Battery on 3rd September, 1917. He rejoined his Unit on 15th September, 1917.

Private George Stephen Upton was transferred to 9th Australian Light Trench Mortar Battery from 34th Battalion on 26th October, 1917. He was taken on strength of 9th Light Trench Mortar Battery on 26th October, 1917.

Private George Stephen Upton proceeded on leave to England on 17th January, 1918 & rejoined from leave on 2nd February, 1918.

Private George Stephen Upton was sent to Hospital sick on 25th March, 1918. He was admitted to 9th Australian Field Ambulance with Gastritis then transferred to 15th Casualty Clearing Station. Pte Upton was admitted to 15th Casualty Clearing Station on 26th March, 1918 with infection in stomach. He was transferred to Ambulance Train 19 on 4th April, 1918 then admitted to 55th General Hospital sick on 4th April, 1918. Pte Upton was transferred to 7th Convalescent Depot at Boulogne on 10th April, 1918 with Gastro enteritis then transferred to 10th Convalescent Depot on 13th April, 1918. He was transferred to No. 5 Rest Camp at on 18th April, 1918. Pte Upton was discharged to Base Depot on 18th April, 1918.

Private George Stephen Upton was marched in to A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) at Havre, France from Hospital on 21st April, 1918. He was marched out to his Unit on 30th April, 1918 & rejoined his Unit from sick leave on 6th May, 1918.

Private George Stephen Upton was sent to Hospital sick on 16th May, 1918. He was admitted to 9th Field Ambulance on 16th May, 1918 with Scabies & was discharged to his Unit on 20th May, 1918. Pte Upton rejoined his Unit in the field on 20th May, 1918.

Private George Stephen Upton was transferred to Brigade Rest House from 23rd July, 1918 & rejoined his Unit on 30th July, 1918.

Private George Stephen Upton was on leave to England from 21st October, 1918.

Private George Stephen Upton was admitted to 4th Scottish General Hospital, Glasgow, Scotland on 5th November, 1918 – cause N.Y.D. (not yet determined), whilst on leave.

Private George Stephen Upton died at 13.00 hrs on 13th November, 1918 at 4th Scottish General Hospital, Glasgow, Scotland from Pneumonia.

Private George Stephen Upton was buried on 18th November, 1918 in Western Necropolis Cemetery, Glasgow, Scotland – Plot number N. 10 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Pte George Stephen Upton - *The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler and Pallbearers being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and surmounted by several beautiful wreaths sent from:- Lady Primrose, Staff and Patients of Ward 38A and Senior Chaplain. The Last Post was sounded at the graveside, and the burial service was conducted by the Rev. Polhill of Glasgow. The grave will be turfed and an oak cross 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 – Mrs Jarvis – Representative from Red Cross.

Philip Upton, father on the late George Stephen Upton, died on 5th December, 1918.

Base Records contacted Mr M. T. Upton, Mangawhare, Northern Wairoa, New Zealand in November, 1919 enquiring if his brother's mother was still living as they had been advised that their father was deceased. They requested that a Statutory Declaration be completed stating the details for the next-of-kin. Mr Morris Thomas Upton, replied to Base Records in October, 1919 advising that his mother had died in 1912. He also replied on 21st November, 1919 advising Base Records that his mother – Jemima Upton had died on 19th May, 1912 & his father had died on 5th December, 1918 & that he was the eldest surviving member of the family & therefore legal next-of-kin of his late brother - Private George Stephen Upton.

Private George Stephen Upton was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte George Stephen Upton's eldest brother - Mr Morris Thomas Upton, in New Zealand, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent June, 1922 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

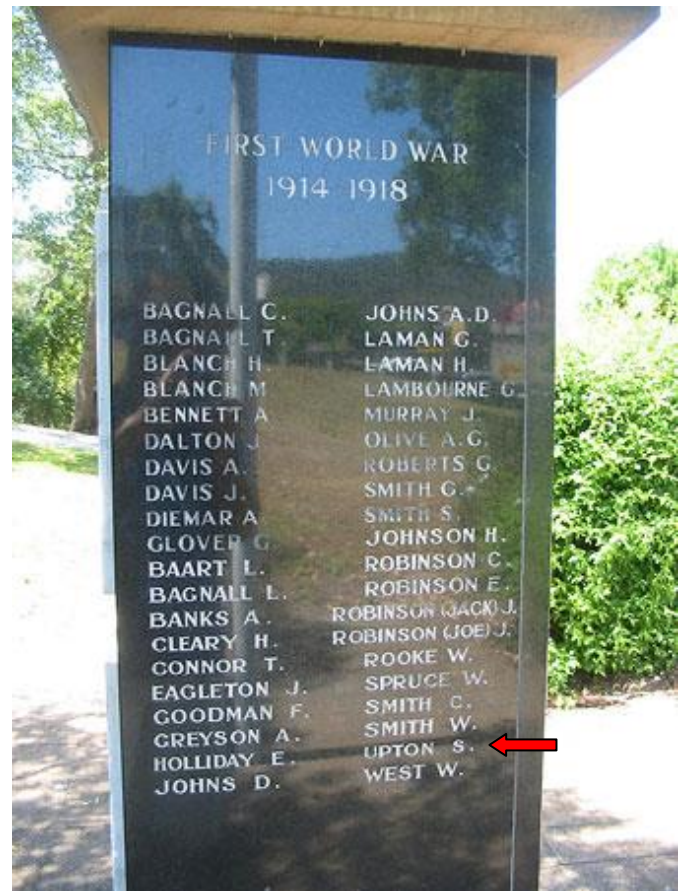
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private George Stephen Upton – service number 2670, aged 22, of 9th Australian Light Trench Mortar Battery. He was the son of Philip and Jemima Upton. Born at Anna Bay, New South Wales.

Private G. S. Upton is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 21.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

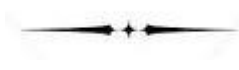
S. Upton is remembered on the Nelson Bay War Memorial, located in Apex Park, Government Road & Laman Street, Nelson Bay, NSW.



Nelson Bay War Memorial (Photos from Register of War Memorials in NSW)

(83 pages of Pte George Stephen Upton'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



Pte George Stephen Upton





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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Group portrait of the 9th Light Trench Mortar Battery at Meteren.

*Known to be in the photograph are: 1754 Gunner (Gnr) W. R. Blevin; 218 Gnr R. Roberts; 2084 Gnr S. Cronin; 7510 Gnr C. K. McDonald; 7119 Gnr W. H. Black; 1446 Gnr P. T. Healy; 7448 Gnr H. J. Bremham; 529 Gnr T. J. Olsen; 2216 Gnr G. Zonino; 24428 Corporal (Cpl) C. D. E. Parks-Smith; **2670 Gnr G. S. Upton**; 1752 Gnr A. V. Anderson; 1378 Gnr J. Dickenson; 1844 Gnr E. Purcell; 1444 Gnr E. C. Davison; 6562 Gnr J. Gordon; 551 Gnr C. G. Russell; 2281 Gnr R. D. Breeze; 1285 Gnr H. McGrath; 3415 Gnr P. O. Hamilton; 1597 Gnr J. H. Smith; 1102 Cpl E. A. Charters; 495 Cpl W. Murphy; 1284 Cpl T. Y. Wardhaugh MSM; 1656 Sergeant (Sgt) W. F. Pont Medaille Militaire; Lieutenant (Lt) E. D. Redfern; Lt W. H. Smith; Lt A. S. Varley MC; Lt J. F. Cameron; 448 Sgt A. E. Hapgood MM and Bar; 62 Lance Sergeant M. J. Doig; 1598 Lance Corporal (LCpl) E. C. Skinner; 2112 Cpl G. O. Nilson; 2027 Gnr C. W. Antaw; 3615 Gnr D. Cruickshank; 1765 Gnr E. L. Cox; 1799 Gnr P. V. O'Brien; 1227 Gnr T. Ramsey; 2600 Gnr R. A. Lees; 3049 Gnr P. Edwards; 3094 Gnr D. L. McLachlan; 2793 LCpl C. B. Doherty MM; 1490 Gnr H. C. Williams; 31127 Cpl D. J. Fraser MM; 1617 Gnr R. W. Druhan; 1577 Gnr B. S. Makim; 2793 Gnr A. P. Hutton; 1698 Gnr W. T. Taylor; 1448 Gnr J. Scott; 1603 Gnr B. Smith; 5099A Gnr W. R. Wade.*



Newspaper Notices

ROLL OF HONOUR

UPTON – Died of pneumonia, England, November 13, 1918, Gunner George Stephen, youngest son of Philip Upton, Anna Bay, aged 22 years.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 30 November, 1918)

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

Casualty lists Nos 450 and 450a were released

DIED OF ILLNESS

Pte G. S. Upton, Port Stephens, 13/11/1918

(The Maitland Weekly Mercury, NSW – 14 December, 1918)

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 G. S. Upton does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*Greater Love Hath No Man
He Lay Down His Life For His Friends*

Western Necropolis Cemetery, Glasgow, Scotland

The Western Necropolis is a large cemetery complex north of Glasgow City Centre. Adjoining this site are the following large cemeteries: Glasgow Lambhill and Glasgow St Kentigerns Cemetery, all three are separate but adjoin each other. Glasgow Garnet Hill Hebrew Burial Ground and Glasgow Crematorium Memorial is also at this site.

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.

Glasgow was one of the ports of embarkation for the British Expeditionary Force in 1914 and several military hospitals opened in the city during the First World War, including the 3rd and 4th Scottish General (1,200 beds each), and the Merryflats War Hospital (500 beds). Battalions of a number of Scottish regiments had their headquarters at Glasgow during both wars, most notably the Highland Light Infantry. The Clydeside shipyards were targeted by German bombers during the Blitz, and Glasgow suffered a particularly ferocious attack on the night of 13/14 March 1941 when many civilians and servicemen were killed.

Glasgow Western Necropolis contains 355 First World War burials, many of them grouped together in Section P, with a small group of Australian graves in Section N. A screen wall near the main entrance carries the badges of the regiments represented in Sections P and H. The 124 Second World War burials are scattered throughout the cemetery, although there are two among the earlier war graves in Section P. Also in this group are two inter-war service burials and two German war graves.

There are 11 Australian Soldiers from World War 1 buried in Western Necropolis Cemetery.

(Information from CWGC)



Cross of Sacrifice in Western Necropolis Cemetery, Glasgow, Scotland *(Photo from CWGC)*

Photo of Private G. S. Upton's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Western Necropolis Cemetery, Glasgow, Scotland.



(Photo from Ben – Find a Grave)



Some of the Australian Headstones in Western Necropolis Cemetery, Glasgow, Scotland (Photo from CWGC)

