

**Tidworth Military Cemetery,  
Tidworth, Wiltshire  
War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**2021 PRIVATE**

**E. URQUHART**

**17TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**4TH JANUARY, 1917**

## Edward URQUHART

Edward Alexander John Urquhart was born in 1883 at Sydney, NSW to parents William & Mary Ann Urquhart (nee Neaves).

The 1903-1904 Australian Electoral Roll for Pyrmont, NSW listed Edward Urquhart, Labourer, from 86 Harris Street. William Hector Urquhart, Labourer was also listed at the same address.

The 1913 Australian Electoral Roll for Darling Harbour, Point Street Polling Place, NSW listed Edward Urquhart, Labourer, from 86 Harris Street. Also listed at 86 Harris Street – Hector Urquhart, Furnace Man, Mary Urquhart, Domestic Duties, Walter Urquhart, Tinsmith & William Urquhart, Labourer.

Edward Urquhart was a 32 year old, single, Labourer from 86 Harris Street, Pyrmont, Sydney, NSW when he enlisted on 15th June, 1915 at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2021 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs M. Urquhart, 86 Harris Street, Pyrmont, Sydney, NSW.

Private Edward Urquhart was posted to 3rd Reinforcements of 17th Battalion (no date recorded).

Private Edward Urquhart embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Runic* (A54) on 9th August, 1915 with the 17th Infantry Battalion, 3rd Reinforcements.

Private Edward Urquhart proceeded to join M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) on 4th October, 1915 & was taken on ration strength of Unit at Gallipoli Peninsula on 12th October, 1915. He was posted to "D" Company.

Private Edward Urquhart was absent without leave from 9.30 am on 24th December 1915 until 1.30 pm on 28th December, 1915. He was awarded 3 days confined to Barracks at Mudros W. on 3rd January, 1916 & forfeited 1 days' pay.

Private Edward Urquhart was absent without leave for 1 day at Lemnos on 31st December, 1915. He was fined 1 days' pay & 4 days confined to Barracks on 1st January, 1916.

Private Edward Urquhart disembarked at Alexandria ex Mudros on 9th January, 1916 (after the evacuation at Gallipoli).

Private Edward Urquhart was awarded 4 days Confined to Barracks on 28th January, 1916 for being Absent without leave

Private Edward Urquhart was awarded 144 hours Field Punishment No. 2 for being Absent without leave from 6 pm on 25th January, 1916 until 10 pm on 29th January, 1916.

Private Edward Urquhart was absent without leave for 100 hours at Tel-el-Kebir on 29th January, 1916. He was awarded 168 hours Field Punishment No. 2.

Private Edward Urquhart was awarded 21 days Field Punishment No. 2 on 21st February, 1916 for Insolence & insubordination to an Officer on 19th February, 1916 at Gundaga (?) Post.

Private Edward Urquhart embarked from Alexandria to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) on 17th March, 1916. He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 23rd March, 1916. Private Urquhart had been written up on 23rd March, 1916 for Leaving Parade without permission on 22nd March, 1916 on board H.M.T. *Arcadia*.

Private Edward Urquhart was written up at Thiennes on 6th April, 1916 for 1. Drunkenness 2. Absent without leave from 8.30 pm on 2nd April, 1916 till 8.50 pm on 2nd April, 1916 – 20 minutes. He was awarded 168 hours Field Punishment No. 2.

Private Edward Urquhart was written up on 22nd July, 1918 while posted in France at Warloy – "On 20th July, 1916 Conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline in that he fell out on a march without permission." He was awarded 45 hours (Statement of Service form has 48 hours) Field Punishment No. 2.

Private Edward Urquhart was wounded in France on 26th July, 1916. He was admitted to 3rd Casualty Clearing Station on 26th July, 1916 then transferred & admitted to No. 1 Australian General Hospital at Rouen, France on 27th July, 1916 with GSW (gunshot wound/s) to left thigh. Private Urquhart was invalided to England on Hospital Ship *St. Patrick* on 31st July, 1916.

### **17th Battalion**

The 17th Battalion was raised at Liverpool in New South Wales in March 1915 as part of the 5th Brigade. It left Australia in early May, trained in Egypt from mid-June until mid-August, and on 20 August landed at ANZAC Cove.

At Gallipoli the Battalion participated in the last action of the August Offensive ' the attack on Hill 60 ' before settling into defensive routine in the trenches. For a short period part of the 17th garrisoned Pope's Hill, but for most of its time on the peninsular the Battalion was responsible for the defence of Quinn's Post, one of the most contested positions along the entire ANZAC front. The Battalion was evacuated from Gallipoli in December 1915.

After further training in Egypt, the 17th Battalion proceeded to France. Landing there on 22 March 1916, it took part in its first major battle at Pozieres between 25 July and 5 August. The Battalion returned to the Pozieres trenches for a second time, although in a reserve role, between 18 and 28 August. After a spell in a quieter sector of the front in Belgium, the 2nd Division, which included the 5th Brigade, came south again in October. The 17th Battalion was spared from having to mount an attack across the quagmire the Somme battlefield had become, but did have to continue manning the front through a very bleak winter.....

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

Private Edward Urquhart was admitted to 1st Southern General Hospital, England on 1st August, 1916 with bullet wound to leg - severe.

Mrs M. Urquhart, 86 Harris Street, Pyrmont, Sydney, NSW was advised by Base Records on 10th August, 1916 that her son Private Edward Urquhart was wounded.

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. In the later years of the War convalescing camps were also located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Private Edward Urquhart was taken on strength of No. 1 Command Depot on 24th August, 1916.

Private Edward Urquhart was granted furlough from 25th August, 1916 from No. 1 Command Depot, England.

Private Edward Urquhart was written up for an Offence while posted at No. 1 Command Depot on 8th September, 1916 – A.W.L. (absent without leave) from 3 pm on 8th September, 1916 until 9 pm on 12th September, 1916. He was awarded 5 days confined to Camp by Lieutenant Phillips & forfeited 5 days' pay.

Private Edward Urquhart was marched in to Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 13th September, 1916 & classified A (fit for active service).

Private Edward Urquhart was admitted to Brigade Camp Hospital from No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs on 15th September, 1916 with V.D. (Gonorrhoea). He was transferred & admitted to 1st A.D.H. (Australian Dermatological Hospital) at Bulford, Wiltshire on 24th October, 1916 with V.D. (Syphilis – contracted at London). Private Urquhart was transferred from Bulford Hospital to Park House Hospital on 20th November, 1916.

Private Edward Urquhart was transferred to Military Hospital at Tidworth, Wiltshire (Hospital Admissions form states transferred to Delhi Hospital) on 2nd January, 1917 – dangerously ill with Pneumonia.

Private Edward Urquhart died on 4th January, 1917 at Military Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire, England from Pneumonia.

A death for Edward Urquhart, aged 33, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Andover, Wiltshire/Hampshire, England.

Private Edward Urquhart was buried on 6th January, 1917 in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Plot number C.243 (The Field Service form – Report of Death of a Soldier has the Grave No. as 244 Plot “C”) and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Edward Urquhart contains a letter on behalf of the Matron, Military Hospital, Tidworth which reads: *“No. 2021 Pte E. Urquhart was admitted into Hospital suffering from Pneumonia. He was seriously ill on admission, and was only in Hospital for a very short time, in fact a day or two before his death. The sister in charge of the ward to which he was admitted, wrote at once to his friend, giving all details. He was unconscious most of the time and delirious. He is buried in the Military Cemetery, Tidworth.”*

A War Pension was granted to Mary Urquhart, mother of the late Private Edward Urquhart, in the sum of £1:10 per fortnight from 9th March, 1917. A later advice showed that Mary Urquhart was awarded £4-10-0 per fortnight. Mary Urquhart died 10th March, 1918. A War Pension was then granted to William Hector Urquhart, father of the late Private Edward Urquhart, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 23rd March 1918 (without adequate means).

The Public Trust Office, 67 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, NSW requested on 5th September, 1917 a death certificate for Edward Urquhart, 17th Battalion, A.I.F.

Private Edward Urquhart was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Urquhart’s father – Mr W. H. Urquhart, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent September, 1921 & Plaque sent April, 1922).

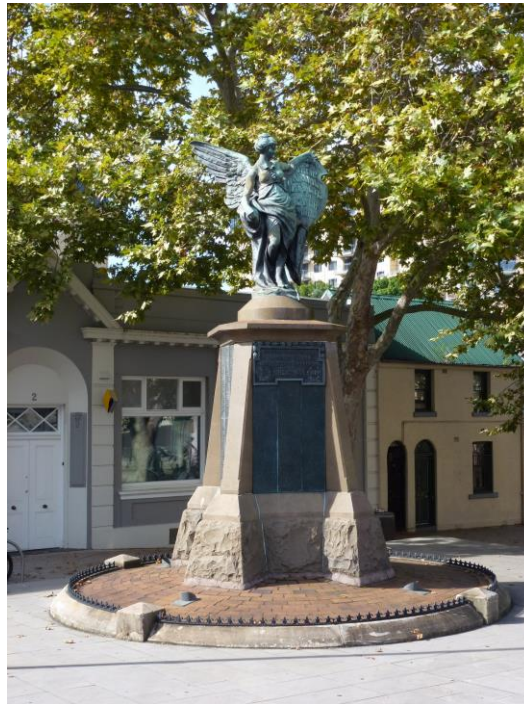
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Edward Urquhart – service number 2021, of 17th Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private E. Urquhart is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 84.

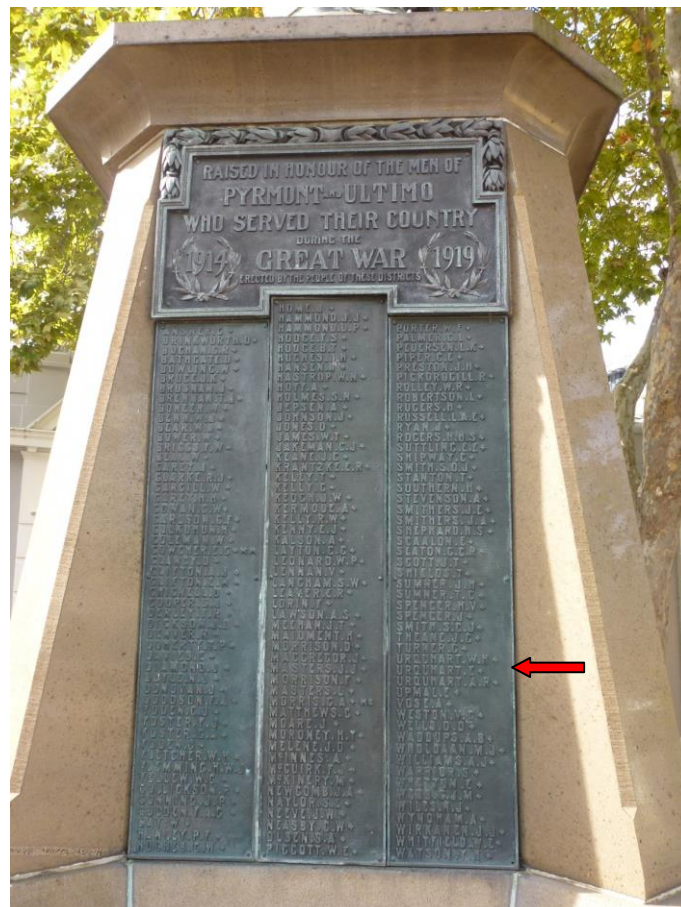


*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

E. Urquhart is remembered on the Pymont and Ultimo Great War Memorial, located at corner of Harris & Miller Streets, Pymont.



**Pymont and Ultimo Great War Memorial** (Photos from War Memorial Register NSW – David Roden)



(56 pages of Private Edward Urquhart'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*



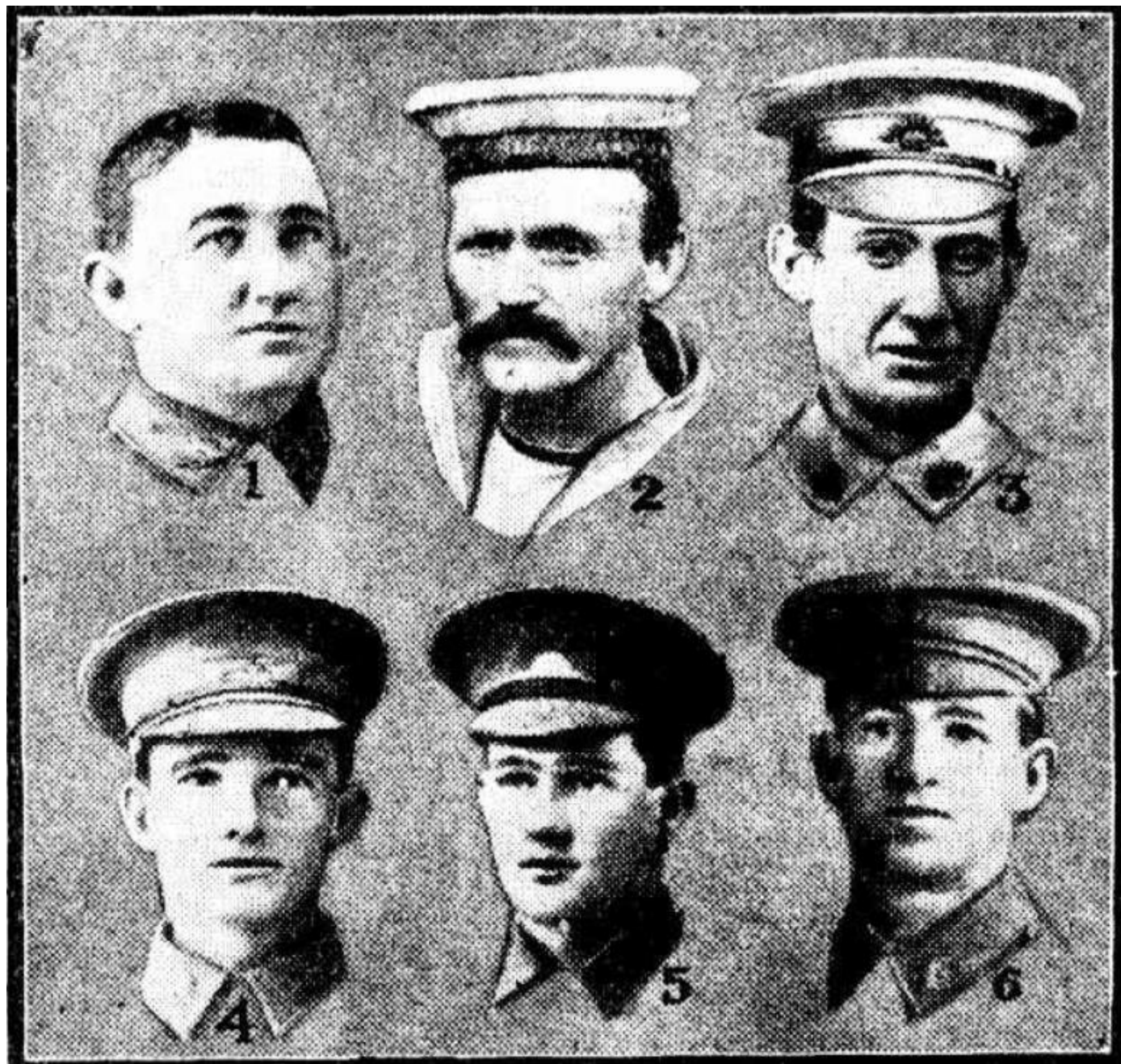
**Private Edward Urquhart**

*(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 23 November, 1915)*



## Newspaper Notices

### FAMILIES WHO HAVE ANSWERED THE CALL



The top block shows Mr William Urquhart, of Harris Street, Pymont, and his soldier sons. The personnel of the group is as follows:- (1) **Private Edward Urquhart**, in the firing line; (2) Mr William Urquhart (father), for many years in the Naval Brigade; (3) Private Hector Urquhart, missing since August 23; (4) Private Leslie Urquhart, in the firing line; (5) Private Norman Urquhart, in the firing line; (6) Private Albert Urquhart, wounded for the fourth time, but since returned to duty.

*(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 23 November, 1915)*

## **CASUALTIES**

### **197th LIST**

NEW SOUTH WALES

WOUNDED

Pte E. URQUHART, Pymont

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 22 August, 1916)*

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## **FOR AUSTRALIA**

### **TWO CASUALTY LISTS**

Two casualty lists, the 266th and 267th were issued this morning....

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED OF ILLNESS

Pte E. URQUHART, Pymont

*(The Sun, Sydney, NSW – 22 January, 1917)*

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## **ROLL OF HONOR**

URQUHART – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Edward Urquhart, died of pneumonia, Lidworth Hospital, England, January 4th, 1917, aged 33 years.

Far away from all who loved him,  
In a hero's grave he lies,  
And though his body resteth,  
His memory never dies.

Inserted by his loving parents, brothers, and sisters.

*(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 4 January, 1918)*

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **On Active Service**

In loving remembrance of our dear son and brother, Private Edward Urquhart, 17th Battalion, died of pneumonia, Tidworth Hospital, England, January 4, 1917, aged 33 years.

We who loved you sadly miss you  
As it dawns another year,  
In our lonely hours of thinking  
Thoughts of you are ever near.

Inserted by his loving father, brothers, and sisters.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 4 January, 1919)*

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## IN MEMORIAM

URQUHART – In fond memory of our dear brother and uncle, who died from pneumonia, Tidworth Hospital, January 4th, 1917, aged 33 years. Inserted by his loving sister and nieces, Ivy and Eugenie Kermode.

*(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 5 January, 1920)*

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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 E. Urquhart does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00327

*The AIF Tidworth cemetery under snow. – March 1919.*

## Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England

Tidworth Military Cemetery, which contains burials of both wars, was directly connected with training grounds on, or near, Salisbury Plain.

During the First World War, the cemetery was used for burials from Tidworth and Fargo Military Hospitals and the 417 graves, many of them of Australian or New Zealand servicemen, are scattered throughout the cemetery.

There are 106 Second World War graves in the cemetery, two substantial groups of which can be found in sections F and D. The rest are scattered.

The cemetery also contains 40 war graves of other nationalities, many of them Polish.

*(Information from CWGC)*



**Tidworth Military Cemetery** *(Photo by julia&keld – Find a Grave)*



**Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire**

Photo of Private E. Urquhart's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Selena Hardie)*



Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire (Photo by Chris Talbot 2009)

