

**St Gabriel's Churchyard,  
Middleton Junction, Lancashire**

**War Grave**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**7112 DRIVER**

**A. WADSWORTH**

**AUST. ARMY SERVICE CORPS**

**6TH NOVEMBER, 1918**

## Arthur WADSWORTH

Arthur Wadsworth was born on 13th May, 1893 at Wyndham, New Zealand to parents Walter & Elizabeth Maria Wadsworth (nee Jenkins).

Arthur Wadsworth was a 21 year old, married, Farmer from corner of Gotch Street & Victoria Road, South Northcote, Victoria when he enlisted at Melbourne, Victoria on 21st December, 1914 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 7112 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr W. W. Wadsworth, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Arthur Wadsworth was posted to Training Depot from 21st December, 1914. He was appointed Driver on 31st December, 1914.

Driver Arthur Wadsworth was transferred to 10th A.A.S.C. (Australian Army Service Corps), 8th Reinforcements on 26th May, 1915.

Arthur Wadsworth married Isabella Mary Burn in 1915 in Victoria. The next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Isabella M. Wadsworth, corner of Gotch Street & Victoria Road, South Northcote, Victoria.

Driver Arthur Wadsworth embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Anchises* (A68) on 26th August, 1915 with 1st Australian Reserve Park (10th A.S.C.) 8th Reinforcements.

Driver Arthur Wadsworth was taken on strength of 10th Company from Base on 23rd October, 1915.

Driver Arthur Wadsworth was transferred to 28th A.A.S.C. (Australian Army Service Corps) at Alexandria on 3rd March, 1916.

Driver Arthur Wadsworth embarked from Alexandria on 17th June, 1916 to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) on *Kalifan*. He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 24th June, 1916.

Driver Arthur Wadsworth was on leave to UK from 15th May, 1917 & rejoined his Unit from leave on 1st June, 1917.

Driver Arthur Wadsworth was on leave from France from 15th February, 1918 and rejoined from leave on 5th March, 1918.

Driver Arthur Wadsworth was detached to 4th Army Rest Camp in 27th July, 1918 & returned from Rest Camp on 9th August, 1918.

Driver Arthur Wadsworth was on leave to England from 26th October, 1918 & was to rejoin his Unit on 10th November, 1918.

Driver Arthur Wadsworth was admitted to 2nd Western General Hospital, Manchester on 30th October, 1918 whilst on leave, cause of illness was N.Y D. (not yet determined). He was reported dangerously ill on 5th November, 1918.

Driver Arthur Wadsworth died at 6.50 am on 6th November, 1918 at Alexandra Park Military Hospital, Stockport, England from Pneumonia (Influenza).

*Note: - The Burial Report & the Service and Casualty Form for Driver Arthur Wadsworth, 7112, 5th Divisional Train, A.S.C., states he died at 2nd Western General Hospital, Manchester. Army Form A. 27 "Morning State of Sick" has details of 6th November, 1918 2nd Western General Hospital, Manchester with the section on the form "Time and Place of Death" recorded as Military Hospital Alexander Park, Stockport 6.50 am 6.11.18. The Statement of Service form records the place of death as Alexandra Park Military Hospital, Manchester.*

A death for Arthur Wadsworth, aged 25, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Stockport, Lancashire/Cheshire, England.

The "remarks" section of Army Form A. 27 "Morning State of Sick" records the following:- "A Mrs Horrock, 33 Andrew St, Middleton Junction nr Manchester has come forward to claim the body being a cousin of deceased and intends interment to take place on Wednesday next at Middleton Junction in their private family grave."

Driver Arthur Wadsworth was buried on 13th November, 1918 in St. Gabriel's Churchyard, Middleton Junction, Lancashire, England – Plot number F. 29 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Driver Wadsworth - *Coffin was Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler and Pallbearers being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and surmounted by many beautiful wreaths sent from:- Mrs Horrocks, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Wood, Mr Jackson and Mr Wood, Mr Brooks, Mr J. Wadsworth, Misses Sidebrothers, Mrs Kenyon, Miss Brooks. The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside, and the burial service conducted by the Rev. Lloyd. Deceased was interred in a private family grave. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral. Names and addresses of relatives & friends present at the funeral:- Aunts – Mrs Horrocks, Mrs Jackson and Mrs Wood. Uncles – Mr Jackson and Mr Wood. Cousins – Mr Brooks, Mr J. Wadsworth, Misses Sidebrothers, Mrs Kenyon, Miss Brooks.*

Driver Arthur Wadsworth was afforded the opportunity of making a will but declined to do so on 5th June, 1917.

Driver Arthur Wadsworth was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Driver Wadsworth's widow - Isabella Mary Davis, as the closest next-of-kin (of 13 Agnes St, Northcote). (Plaque signed for in March, 1923). Isabella Mary Wadsworth married Arthur Bernard Davis in Victoria in 1919.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Driver A. Wadsworth – service number 7112, of 5th Div. Train, Australian Army Service Corps. No family details are listed.

Driver A. Wadsworth is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 181.



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

(60 pages of Driver Arthur Wadsworth'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*







**Driver Arthur Wadsworth**



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **CASUALTIES TO NEW ZEALANDERS**

#### **WITH THE AUSTRALIAN FORCES**

##### **DIED OF SICKNESS**

Wadsworth, A., 7112 (W.W. Wadsworth, Kaikorai Valley, f.). 6th Nov.

*(The Evening Post, Wellington, New Zealand - 18 November, 1918)*

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##### **DIED ON SERVICE**

WADSWORTH – On the 6th November, officially reported died of influenza at Alexander Park Military Hospital, Manchester, England, Driver Arthur Wadsworth, 28th A.S.C., dearly loved husband of Isabella Wadsworth, after 3 years 10 months' service, aged 25 years 6 months. Late Ivanhoe and Carnegie. (New Zealand papers please copy).

Sadly Missed.

The shock was great, the blow severe,  
To part with one I loved so dear,  
My loss id great, I will try not to complain,  
But trust in God to meet again.

- (Inserted by his sorrowing wife, Isabella Wadsorth (nee Burn), 32 Dally Street, Northcote.)

*(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 7 December, 1918)*

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##### **THE ROLL OF HONOUR**

Driver Arthur Wadsworth, who died from influenza at Alexandra Park Military Hospital, England, on November 6, was the fourth son of Mr Walter Wadsworth, Shetland Street, Kaikorai. He was born at Wyndham 25 years ago, and was educated at Gore. He went to Melbourne nine years ago, enlisted, and never had a scratch. He leaves a widow in Melbourne. His younger brother, George Ashcroft Wadsworth, was missing, believed to be killed, on August 29.

*(Otago Daily Times, New Zealand - 26 November, 1918)*

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##### **THE 450th CASUALTY LIST**

###### **VICTORIAN NAMES**

###### **DIED OTHER CAUSES**

Driver A. Wadsworth, Northcote

*(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria, Australia – 7 December, 1918)*

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## BEREAVEMENT CARDS

Mrs A. WADSWORTH, of Dally Street, Northcote, desires to sincerely THANK her many kind friends and relatives for visits, telegrams, letter, cards of sympathy in the loss of her dear husband, Driver Arthur Wadsworth, who died in England 6/11/18.

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 7 December, 1918)

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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*)

Driver A. Wadsworth does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

### **St. Gabriel's Churchyard, Middleton Junction, Lancashire, England.**

St. Gabriel's Churchyard, Middleton Junction, Lancashire contains 17 Commonwealth War Graves – 7 from World War 1 & 10 from World War 2.



(Photo from IWM – Elaine Barnett)



Photo of Driver A. Wadsworth's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Gabriel's Churchyard, Middleton Junction, Lancashire, England.



*(Photo courtesy of @Bill4112 – Twitter)*