

**Sutton Veny,
Wiltshire, England
War Graves
World War 1**



Lest We Forget



1197 CORPORAL

E. WALKER

26TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

23RD SEPTEMBER, 1918 AGE 25

Remembered

CWGC Headstone for Cpl. E. Walker is located in

Grave Plot # 357. E. 9. of St. John the Evangelist Churchyard, Sutton Veny

Edward WALKER

Edward Walker was born at Yarraville, Victoria in 1893 to parents James and Frances Arndell Walker (nee Drummond).

Edward Walker attended Viticultural College, Rutherglen, Victoria.

Frances Arndell Walker, mother of Edward Walker, died on 21st June, 1909, aged 52 at Collingwood, Victoria.

Edward Walker was a 22 year old, single, Labourer from Launceston, Tasmania when he enlisted at Claremont, Tasmania on 18th March, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Presbyterian & his next of kin was listed as his sister – Mrs W. Sydes of P.O., Launceston, Tasmania.

Private Edward Walker, Service number 1197, embarked from Brisbane, Queensland on HMAT *Aeneas (A60)* on 29th June, 1915 with the 7th Infantry Brigade, 26th Infantry Battalion "D" Company & disembarked at Egypt (date not recorded).

Private Edward Walker entered VD Hospital on 12th July, 1915 & was discharged on 19th August, 1915.

Private Edward Walker embarked from Alexandria on 4th September, 1915 to join the M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) – Gallipoli Peninsula.

Private Edward Walker was taken to 5th Field Ambulance while at Gallipoli Peninsula on 22nd November, 1915 – cause NYD (Not Yet Determined). He returned to duty on 26th November, 1915.

Private Edward Walker disembarked at Alexandria from Mudros on 9th January, 1916 (After the evacuation of Gallipoli).

Private Edward Walker was sent to 6th Field Ambulance on 10th March, 1916 with Ostronia of right tibia then transferred to No. 1 Australian Stationary Hospital at Moascar. He was discharged the same day & proceeded to join B.E.F. from Alexandria on 15th March, 1916 (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 21st March, 1916.

Private Edward Walker was sent to 6th Field Ambulance at Rue Marle on 11th April, 1916 – NYD. He was transferred & admitted to 1st Canadian Stationary Hospital with Oncychia on 11th April, 1916 then transferred to Australian General Hospital at Wimereux on 13th April, 1916 with Ostoematitus. Private Walker was transferred to No. 5 Convalescent Camp in France on 9th May, 1916. He was readmitted to Australian General Hospital on 18th May, 1916 & transferred to England on Hospital Ship *Cambria* on 10th June, 1916.

Private Edward Walker was admitted to 1st Eastern General Hospital on 10th June, 1916 & then transferred to No. 1 Auxiliary Hospital in England on 15th June, 1916 with Ostoema tibia. He was again transferred to Woodcote Park Hospital, Harefield on 29th June, 1916 then transferred to Convalescent Hospital at Epsom on same day.

Private Edward Walker was written up for an offence while at Perham Downs – absent without leave from 15.00 hrs on 23rd August, 1916 till reported at 15.00 hrs on 30th August, 1916. He was awarded 8 days detention & a total forfeiture of 16 days' pay.

Private Edward Walker was sent to 7th Training Battalion on 2nd September, 1916. He reported back from furlough (Date not shown) & medically classified as A (fit for Active Service).

Private Edward Walker proceeded overseas to France on 29th September, 1916. He was admitted on 2nd October, 1916 to 2nd Divisional Base at Etaples then transferred to No. 18 General Hospital at Etaples on 3rd October, 1916. Private Walker was then transferred to Base Depot at Camiers on 20th November, 1916 & proceeded to join his Unit on 25th November, 1916. He rejoined his Battalion in France on 28th November, 1916.

Private Edward Walker was sent to 6th Australian Field Ambulance with Influenza on 27th February, 1917 then transferred to 2nd Divisional Rest Station. He was discharged to duty on 6th March, 1917 & rejoined his battalion on 7th March, 1917.

Private Edward Walker was to be Temporary Corporal vice 4893 Corporal Sergison wounded – on 23rd May, 1917.

Temporary Corporal Walker was sent to Divisional Gas School on 31st May, 1917 & rejoined 26th Battalion on 5th June, 1917.

Temporary Corporal Walker was appointed to the rank of Corporal on 28th July, 1917 vice 4893 Corporal Sergison wounded.

Corporal Edward Walker proceeded on leave to England on 16th August, 1917 & rejoined his Battalion on 31st August, 1917.

Corporal Edward Walker proceeded to join 7th Training Battalion in England on 30th September, 1917. He was marched in to 7th Training Battalion at Rollestone, Wiltshire on 4th October, 1917. He was then marched out to 5th Training Battalion at Fovant, Wiltshire on 7th November, 1917.

Corporal Edward Walker was written up for an offence – “(1) *Absent without Leave from midnight on 18th November, 1917 till 7.28 am on 19th November, 1917* (2) *Neglect to obey A.I.F. Dep. Orders in UK 22-6-17 in that he at Tidworth 19-11-17 did travel by a train when not in possession of a leave pass entitling him to do so*”. He was reprimanded by Major P. J. Higgins on 21st November, 1917 & forfeited one days’ pay.

Corporal Edward Walker was attached to permanent cadre of 5th Training Battalion at Fovant on 21st November, 1917.

Corporal Edward Walker attended the 15th Rifle Course at the School of Musketry at Tidworth, Wiltshire from 1st to 30th November, 1917 & qualified as 1st class with a fair working knowledge of Lewis Gun.

Corporal Edward Walker was sent sick to Bulford Hospital & then admitted to 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital at Bulford, Wiltshire on 24th April, 1918 with VD. He was discharged on 16th July, 1918.

Corporal Edward Walker was marched in to No. 3 Command Depot at Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 16th July, 1918. He was marched out to No. 1 Command Depot at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 6th August, 1918 & medically classified as B1 A4 (fit for overseas training camp when passed dentally fit).

Corporal Edward Walker was marched in to Overseas Training Brigade at Longbridge Deverill, Wiltshire on 17th August, 1918.

Corporal Edward Walker was sent sick to Group Clearing Hospital at Sutton Veny then transferred & admitted to the Military Hospital at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 9th September, 1918 with appendicitis. He was reported seriously ill on 22nd September, 1918.

Corporal Edward Walker died at 8.15 pm on 23rd September, 1918 at the Military Hospital, Sutton Veny of Appendicitis Generalised Peritonitis.

A death for Edward Walker, aged 25, was registered in the September quarter, 1918 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

Corporal Edward Walker was buried on 27th September, 1918 in St. John the Evangelist Churchyard at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire, England - Grave no. 357. From the burial report of Corporal Walker - *Coffin was good polished Elm with Brass Mountings – Deceased was buried with full Military Honours, the body being conveyed to the graveside on a Gun Carriage preceded by a Firing Party and band of the Australian Overseas Training Brigade. Six of deceased's comrades acted as Pallbearers. A floral wreath from Australians in Sutton Veny Hospital was placed on the grave. Headquarters A.I.F. Depots in U. K. were represented at the funeral.*

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Corporal Edward Walker contains a request from the Red Cross on behalf of the relatives of Corporal Walker asking for the fullest details possible into his death & burial. The Assistant Matron of the Military Hospital, Sutton Veny replied: “*Pte Walker died in this Hospital after an operation for appendicitis. He never recovered from the effects of the operation although he lived for several days. The Sister of*

the Ward wrote direct to his people. He was buried at Sutton Veny and a large number of patients and men from the Camp attended his funeral, as his death was universally regretted."

Corporal Edward Walker requested in his Will, dated 6th June, 1917, that all his real & personal Estate be left to his two sisters – Mrs W. Sydes of 9 Ferrall St, Launceston, Tasmania & Mrs R. Mitchell 166 Cromwell St, Collingwood, Melbourne, Victoria to be equally divided between them.

Corporal Edward Walker was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also to be sent to Corporal Walker's next of kin. Base Records wrote to Mr J. Walker, father of late Corporal Walker in July, 1921 stating that "*upon enlistment Cpl. Walker nominated as next of kin, Mrs W. Sydes, in the relationship of sister, but I am informed she is his step-sister. Will you kindly favour me with advice as to whether you desire deceased's war medals etc or whether you would have any objections to their being handed over to the nominated next of kin.*"

The Memorial Scroll was sent to Corporal Walker's father – Mr J. Walker in August, 1921 & J. Walker signed as receipt of the Memorial Scroll on 28th August, 1921. Base Records were advised by internal memo on 3rd April, 1921 that Mr J. Walker of Collingwood, father of late Corporal Walker was now deceased & the next-of-kin was now Mrs Mitchell of Northcote South.

Base Records wrote to Mrs Mitchell, sister of late Corporal Walker in April, 1922 stating that it was understood that the parents of the late Corporal Walker were deceased & to advise if the soldier had any brothers. Mrs Mitchell replied that she was the eldest sister & there is only a step sister older but her late father (Mr J. Walker) was not her father. It is unclear who received the War Medals of the late Corporal Walker – usually signed receipts are included in the Service Record file but Corporal Walker's Service Record file does not have any signed receipts except for the Memorial Scroll. The Memorial Plaque was recorded as "*Pending*".

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Corporal Edward Walker, 1197, of 26th Battalion, Australian Infantry, A.I.F., as the son of James and the late Frances Walker. Born at Yarraville, Victoria.

Corporal E. Walker is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 109.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Edward Walker is remembered on the Evandale State School Roll of Honour, located in Evandale Community Centre, 18 High Street, Evandale, Tasmania.



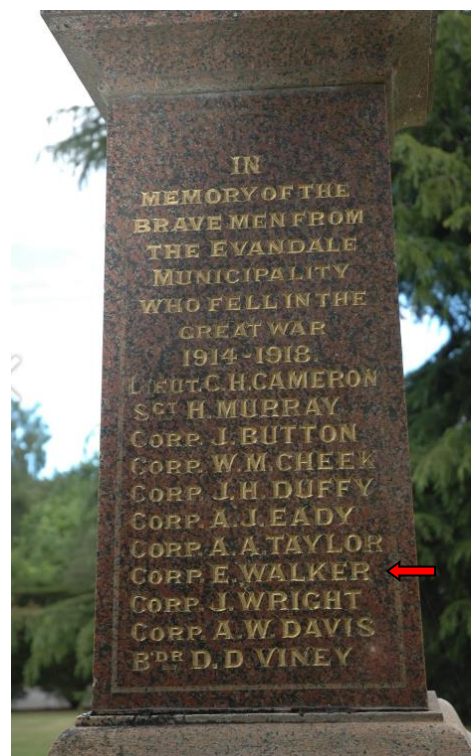
Evandale State School Roll of Honour (Photo from AWM Places of Pride – Arthur Garland)

Cpl. E. Walker is remembered on St. Andrews Presbyterian Church Honour Board located in St. Andrews Uniting Church, High Street, Evandale, Tasmania.



St. Andrews Presbyterian Church Honour Board (Photo from *AWM Places of Pride* – Arthur Garland)

Corp. E. Walker is remembered on Evandale War Memorial located at High Street, Evandale, Tasmania.



Evandale War Memorial (Photos from *AWM Places of Pride* – Arthur Garland)

Edward Walker is remembered on the Evandale Municipality Roll of Honour, located in Evandale War Memorial Hall, 8 High Street, Evandale, Tasmania.



Evandale Municipality Roll of Honour (Photo from AWM Places of Pride – Arthur Garland)

Edward Walker 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. "

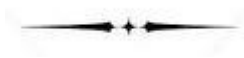


Wall of Remembrance, St. Helens, Tasmania (Photo from Places of Pride – Henry Moulds)

6358	Pte	Van Driel	William	01.05.1918	29	12th Inf Bn	Launceston	
(4938)	Lt	Vaughan	Ben	21.04.1918	24	12th Inf Bn	Hobart	
8078	Pte	Vaughan	Arthur Edward G	25.08.1918	20	12th Inf Bn	Launceston	
3204	Pte	Venn	John Henry	13.06.1918	25	2nd Pioneer Bn	Launceston	
1395	Sapt	Vernon	Thomas Arthur	29.09.1918	24	2nd Tunnel Coy	Wilmot	
56619	Pte	Vincent	Frederick Allan	11.10.1918	21	12th Inf Bn	Burnie	
7909A	Pte	Von Schil	William Alfred	24.08.1918	24	10th Fd Amb Coy	Latrobe	
84815	Pte	Wainwright	Charles	16.04.1918	0	NZEF Trenching Bn	Launceston	
2898	Pte	Wakefield	William Bertram	07.11.1918	24	40th Inf Bn	New Norfolk	
2294	Stkr	Walkden	Harold Gordon	04.10.1918	28	HMS M L10 (sub)	Launceston	
2590	Sgt	Walkom MM	George	08.08.1918	27	58th Inf Bn	Launceston	
1197	Cpl	Walker	Edward	23.09.1918	25	26th Inf Bn	Evandale	ANZAC
101	L/Cpl	Walker	Albert Ernest	01.09.1918	23	40th Inf Bn	Mathinna	
	Matron	Walker RRC	Jean Miles	30.10.1918	39	AANS	Hobart	
7351	Pte	Waller	Sydney Murray	12.11.1918	21	40th Inf Bn	Ranelagh	
	Capt	Ward	Kenneth Hilary W	30.08.1918	33	8EF Rifle Regt	Hobart	
4399	Pte	Ward	James Henry	08.08.1918	25	15th Inf Bn	North Hobart	
3582	Pte	Warren	Thomas Searle	15.06.1918	28	40th Inf Bn	Launceston	
4788	Pte	Webb	Frank Charles	12.06.1918	28	24th Inf Bn	Launceston	
(183)	Capt	Webber MID	Harry	10.03.1918	23	12th Inf Bn	Launceston	ANZAC
	F/Lt	Webster MC	John	21.09.1918	22	14 Sqn RFC	Launceston	
550	L/Cpl	Weeks DCM	William Sylvester	27.08.1918	28	41st Inf Bn	Somerset	
8051	Pte	Weir	Claude Ashton	17.06.1918	20	12th Inf Bn	Queenstown	

(110 pages of Corporal Edward Walker's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing file) & National Archives.



Newspaper Reports

ROLL OF HONOUR

442nd CASUALTY LIST

TASMANIANS

DIED OTHER CAUSES

Cpl. Walker, Edw., Launceston, 23/9/18, illness

(The Mercury, Hobart, Tasmania – Tuesday 19 November, 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 at St. John the Evangelist Churchyard at Sutton Veny. 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)

Corporal Edward Walker does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Remembered

St. John the Evangelist Churchyard, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire, England

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. The 26th Division was concentrated at Sutton Veny in April 1915 and No 1 Australian Command was there from the end of 1916 to October 1919. There was also a hutted military hospital of more than 1200 beds at Sutton Veny for much of the war and No 1 Australian General Hospital was stationed there after the Armistice. Sutton Veny (St John) Churchyard contains 168 First World War burials, 167 of them in a plot at the north west corner of the church. Of these, 143 are Australian. There is only one Second World War burial in the churchyard.

(Information & colour photos from CWGC)





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00376



Photo of Corporal E. Walker's Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone in St. John the Evangelist's Churchyard, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of David Milborrow)