

**Chichester Cemetery,  
Chichester, West Sussex  
War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**1003 PRIVATE**

**E. YATES**

**42ND BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**24TH MAY, 1918    Age 28**

*Greater Love*

*Hath No Man Than This*

## Edward YATES

Edward Yates was born at Booval, Queensland on 5th June, 1888 to parents David & Mary Yates (nee Hayes).

The 1909, 1912, 1913 & 1915 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Moreton, subdivision of Ipswich, Queensland listed Edward Yates, Foreman, of Railway Street, Booval.

Edward Yates was a 27 year old, single, Engine Driver from Booval, Ipswich, Queensland when he enlisted in Brisbane, Queensland on 17th December, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1003 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Mary R. Yates, of Railway Street, Booval, Ipswich, Queensland. Edward Yates stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served 2 years with Cadets at Ipswich. He had also been previously rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service due to a Hernia.

Private Edward Yates was posted to "B" Company of 6th Depot Battalion on 17th December, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to "C" Company of 35th Battalion on 22nd January, 1916 then "D" Company of 36th Battalion on 31st January, 1916. Private Yates was transferred to "D" Company of 42nd Battalion on 14th February, 1916 & with the rank of Lance Corporal.

Lance Corporal Edward Yates embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Borda (A30)* on 5th June, 1916 with the 42nd Infantry Battalion "D" Company & disembarked at Southampton, England on 23rd July, 1916.

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.

Lance Corporal Edward Yates reverted to the rank of Private from 20th November, 1916 at his own request.

Private Edward Yates proceeded overseas to France via Southampton on 25th November, 1916.

Private Edward Yates was admitted to 10th Australian Field Ambulance on 26th January, 1917 with Scabies. He was transferred to Casualty Clearing Station on 30th January, 1917 & discharged to duty on 4th February, 1917.

Private Edward Yates was sent to Hospital on 8th February, 1917 & admitted to 9th Australian Field Ambulance with Scabies on 8th February, 1917. He was discharged to duty on 17th February, 1917. Private Yates rejoined his Battalion on 3rd March, 1917.

Private Edward Yates was written up for an Offence – A.W.L. (Absent without leave) from 2 pm on 22nd October, 1917 to 7 pm on 23rd October, 1917. He was awarded a forfeiture of 16 days' pay.

Private Edward Yates was sent to Hospital sick on 20th January, 1918. He was admitted to 1st Australian Field Ambulance on 20th January, 1918 with P.U.O. (Pyrexia (fever) of unknown origin). He was discharged to duty from 1st A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) on 14th February, 1918 & rejoined his Battalion in the Field on the same day.

Private Edward Yates was on furlo to England from 18th March, 1918 & rejoined from furlo on 9th April, 1918.

Private Edward Yates was wounded in action in France on 24th April, 1918. He was admitted to 11th Australian Field Ambulance on 24th April, 1918 with GSW (Gunshot wound/s) to leg then transferred to 4th Casualty Clearing Station. Private Yates was admitted to 12th \_\_\_ Hospital at Rouen, France on 25th April, 1918 then transferred to 12th General Hospital at Rouen on 29th April, 1918. He was invalided to UK on 29th April, 1918 on Hospital Ship *Aberdonian*.

### 42nd Battalion

The 42nd Battalion was raised at Enoggera, on the outskirts of Brisbane, in December 1915 and became part of the 11th Brigade of the 3rd Australian Division. Due to sharing its numeric title with the famous Scottish regiment the Black Watch, the battalion became known as the "Australian Black Watch". This association was recognised with a bagpipe band.

After training in Australia and Britain, the 42nd deployed to France on 26 November 1916 and entered the frontline for the first time on 23 December. The winter of 1916-17 was horrendous, and the 42nd spent much of it in the front line, the remainder being spent alternating between training and labouring in the rear areas.

In 1917, the operations of the 3rd Division were focussed on the Ypres sector of Belgium. The 42nd participated in major battles at Messines on 7 June, Warneton on 31 July, Broodseinde on 4 October, and Passchendaele on 12 October. Even though the battalion was in a reserve role, the battle of Passchendaele proved particularly costly. It lost over a third of its strength, principally from German gas attacks, and trench foot caused by the sodden condition of the battlefield.

Belgium remained the scene of the 42nd Battalion's activities for the next five months as it was rotated between service in the rear areas and the front line. When the German Army launched its last great offensive in March 1918, the battalion was rushed south to France and played a role in blunting the drive towards the vital railway junction of Amiens.

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

### War Diary – 42nd Battalion

*24th April, 1918:*

*At 3.30 am enemy commenced a heavy area shoot \_\_ back areas between the Somme and the Ancre and continued up to noon and during the remainder of the day fired intermittently. The Bosche used gas and HE \_\_\_\_.*

*Bonnay appeared to be the depth of his attack and our "B" Echelon had to evacuate hurriedly and take up a defensive position \_\_ north of the Ancre. A few casualties were sustained the greater number being from gas.*

*The battalion area began to suffer about 6 am and men all then casualties numbered 12 Killed 215 (?) wounded. "B" Company sustained 25. Lts Beatty and Needham were wounded early.*

*During the day the enemy attacked in large force south of Somme succeeded in capturing Villers Bretonneux. Simultaneously he made a diversion attack \_\_\_\_20th Batt in front of Sailly-le –Sec but failed miserably being cut to \_\_\_\_.*

*At 10 pm the 13th & 15th Brigades A.I.F. counter attacked from the \_\_\_\_ at Villers Bretonneux and succeeded in recapturing all ground previously lost by the Buffs \_\_\_\_ in all 19 Officers and 804 O.R. as prisoners.*

*(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)*

Private Edward Yates was admitted to Graylingwell War Hospital, Chichester, Sussex, England on 30th April, 1918 with shell wounds to left leg. His injury was to post tibial & peroneal artery in the upper calf. Secondary Haemorrhage occurred on 6th May, 1918 & again on 13th May, 1918. A patch of gangrene appeared on his heel so his leg was amputated below the knee on 18th May, 1918.



Private Edward Yates died at 9.50 am on 24th May, 1918 at Graylingwell War Hospital, Chichester, Sussex, England from wounds received in action – GSW leg, Secondary Haemorrhage & Septicaemia.

A death for Edward Yates, aged 28, was registered in the June quarter, 1918 in the district of Chichester, Sussex, England.

Private Edward Yates was buried on 28th May, 1918 in Chichester Cemetery, Chichester, West Sussex, England – Section 34 Grave No. 75 (CWGC presently records Grave at Plot number 134 75) and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private Edward Yates - *Coffin was good, polished Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military Funeral, The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and surmounted by several beautiful wreaths. Firing Party and Bugler were present. Prior to the interment, a service was held by Chaplain Birkett. C. F. in the Cemetery Chapel. A party of Australian soldiers (patients in the Graylingwell Military Hospital) and several of the Nursing Staff followed the remains to the graveside. The grave will be turfed and a temporary cross will be erected by the Chichester Corporation. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Private Edward Yates requested in his Will dated 13th June, 1917 that all of his personal estate be bequeathed to his mother – Mrs D. Yates, Railway Street, Booval, Ipswich, Queensland, Australia.

Private Edward Yates was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Yates' mother – Mrs M. Yates, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent May, 1922 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Edward Yates – service number 1003, aged 28, of 42nd Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Mary and the late David Yates, of Railway St., Booval, Ipswich, Queensland, Australia.

Private E. Yates is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 136.



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



E. Yates is remembered on the Booval War Memorial, located in Cameron Park, Green Street, Booval, Queensland.



**Booval War Memorial** (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Brendan Downs)



E. Yates is remembered on the Great War Roll of Honour in Soldiers' Memorial Hall, 63 Nicholas Street, Ipswich, Queensland.



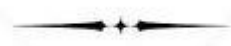
**Great War Roll of Honour in Soldiers' Memorial Hall, Ipswich**

*(Photo from Queensland War Memorials – Daniel W. Bowley)*



(48 pages of Private Edward Yates' Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

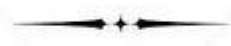
*Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives*



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P09390.001

**Private Edward Yates**



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **Military Items**

Mr and Mrs D. Yates, Railway-street, Booval, have been advised by the military authorities that their son, Private Edward Yates, has been wounded. They have since received a cablegram from their son, stating that he was wounded in the thigh, and was doing well.

*(Queensland Times, Ipswich, Queensland – 13 May, 1918)*

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### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

#### **LIST No. 402**

#### **WOUNDED**

Edward Yates, Booval.

*(The Queenslander, Brisbane, Queensland – 1 June, 1918)*

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### **Military Items**

Mr and Mrs D. Yates, Booval, have been advised by the military authorities that their son, Pte Edward Yates, had died suddenly at Graylingwell War Hospital, Chichester, England on May 24.

*(Queensland Times, Ipswich, Queensland – 1 June, 1918)*

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### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

#### **Casualty List No. 408**

#### **DIED OF WOUNDS**

Edward Yates, Booval, 24/5/18, p.r.w.

*(The Telegraph, Brisbane, Queensland – 13 June, 1918)*

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### **BEREAVEMENT NOTICES**

Mr and Mrs D. YATES and Family, of Booval, desire to express their sincere THANKS to all kind friends who sent cards and letters of sympathy or otherwise sympathised with them in their recent sad bereavement.

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 13 July, 1918) & (Queensland Times, Ipswich, Queensland – 13 July, 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)*

Private E. Yates does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*Greater Love Hath No Man Than This*

### **Chichester Cemetery, Chichester, West Sussex, England**

Chichester Cemetery has 174 Commonwealth War Graves. Also known as Portfield Cemetery.

Of the 89 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war, the majority are in a War Graves Plot in Squares 121 and 126 bordering a path on the far right hand side of the cemetery. This was constructed by the City Corporation, who also erected the War Cross at the eastern end of the enclosed plot especially designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield and closely resembling the Commission's own Cross of Sacrifice. The names of the 1914-1918 war dead in the cemetery are engraved on the base of the Cross. There are also 75 Commonwealth burials of the 1939-1945 war here, mainly in two adjoining Church of England dedicated Squares, Nos. 115 and 159, in the south-western portion of the cemetery enclosed by a hedgerow on three sides, on the fourth side a wall bearing the inscription 1939-1945 THE MEN AND WOMEN BURIED IN THIS PLOT DIED IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR EVERMORE. In the northern section a further Square, No. 42, is dedicated to Roman Catholic burials, there is a metal plaque bearing a similar inscription. There are also 7 non-Commonwealth war burials and 4 non World War burials in the care of C.W.G.C. within the cemetery. *(Information from CWGC)*



**Chichester Cemetery** *(Photo by Adrienne – Find a Grave)*



**Some War Graves in Chichester Cemetery** (Photo above by Basher Eyre; below from CWGC)





Photo of Private E. Yates's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Chichester Cemetery, Chichester, West Sussex, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Allan Noble)*





*(Photos by Ross Wilson)*





**Chichester Cemetery** (Photo by Adrienne – Find a Grave)