



Codford War Graves



World War I

25860 RIFLEMAN A. G. GLASTONBURY

N.Z. RIFLE BRIGADE

5TH DECEMBER, 1916 Age 34



Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Rifleman A. G. Glastonbury is located in Second Row (Left Hand Side) Grave Plot # 45 of Codford War Graves Cemetery (Using Map by Brian Marshall) (CWGC Reference - Grave # 27)

Alfred George Glastonbury (known as Jack) was born 26th June, 1882 at Havelock, New Zealand, the son of Alfred & Matilda Glastonbury (nee Godbaz).

Alfred George Glastonbury married Eliza Taylor on 30 January, 1904 in Wellington, New Zealand. Eliza Glastonbury died on 14th December, 1908.

Alfred married Minnie Ann Leaks (Leeks) on 28th December, 1910 at Mangaweka, New Zealand. Alfred & Minnie had 3 children – Alfred (Born 2 February, 1908 at Wellington), John Edward (Born 21 October, 1911 at Wellington) & Norah Alice (Born 23 October, 1912 at Ohingaiti).

He was a 33 year old, married, Surfaceman for N.Z. Govt. Railways, from Ohingaiti, New Zealand when he enlisted on 29th May, 1916 with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. His service number was 25860 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Minnie Anna Glastonbury, 8 Alfred St, Palmerston North, New Zealand.

Rifleman Glastonbury embarked with 11th Reinforcements, 1st Battalion, E Company of New Zealand Rifle Brigade from Wellington, New Zealand on HMNZT *Devon* (64) on 25th September, 1916. He disembarked at Devonport, England on 21st November, 1916. Rifleman Glastonbury had been admitted to the Ship's Hospital from 9th November – 13th November, 1916 with Influenza

He marched in to Sling Army Camp, on 21st November, 1916. and was posted to A Company on 21st November, 1916.

Alfred was admitted to No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital on 3rd December, 1916 with Gastritis, slight.

Rifleman Alfred George Glastonbury died on 5th December, 1916 at No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital at Codford, Wiltshire of Gastritis Morbis cordis.

A death for Alfred G. Glastonbury, aged 34, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire, England.

Rifleman Alfred George Glastonbury was buried at St. Mary's New Cemetery, Codford. The CWGC lists Rifleman Alfred George Glastonbury, 25860 as the husband of Mrs M. A. Glastonbury of Ohingaiti.

Alfred was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Rifleman Glastonbury's wife Mrs M. A. Glastonbury (June, 1921 & February, 1922).

(19 pages of Rifleman Glastonbury's Service records are available for On Line viewing at Archives New Zealand website).

Information obtained from the Archives New Zealand, Auckland War Memorial Museum, Commonwealth War Graves Commission & PapersPast, National Library of New Zealand.

Albert George Glastonbury had four brothers who also served in WW1: Frank, who was killed in action at the Somme on 14th July, 1916; Leonard, William Henry and Andrew Glastonbury all returned safely to New Zealand after the War.

A. G. Glastonbury is remembered on the Ohingaiti First World War Memorial.

Ohingaiti War Memorial (Photo from NZhistory – Glennis Austin)



Photo of Rifleman A. G. Glastonbury's Headstone at Codford War Graves Cemetery

(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)

Newspaper Reports

GLASTONBURY – On the 14th December, 1908, Eliza, beloved wife of Alfred George Glastonbury, No. 26 Horner-street, Newtown, aged 22 years.

(Evening Post, Volume LXXVI , Issue 142, 15 December, 1908)

AUSTRALASIAN HONORS ROLL

NEW ZEALAND'S LIST

Reported Died of Sickness

N.Z. Rifle Brigade

Private A. G. Glastonbury (December 5th)

(Oamaru Mail, Volume XLVI , Issue 13025, 12 December, 1916)

PERSONAL NOTES

Private A. G. (Jack) Glastonbury, recently reported died of sickness, was the eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. Glastonbury, of Canvastown. He left with the 17th Reinforcements, in the nest of health, not knowing what sickness was. He was 34 years of age. He was several years in the Government employment on the railway, and was granted leave of absence to enlist. He leaves a widow and three children. The widow had previously lost three brother killed, whilst a fourth is still in the firing line in France. There are still two of the Glastonbury brothers, Len and Will, in France.

(Marlborough Express, Volume L , Issue 288, 16 December, 1916)

Rifleman Alfred George Glastonbury has a Commonwealth War Graves Headstone. None of the New Zealand CWGC headstones at Codford have a personal inscription.