

Codford War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I

13890 SERJEANT

W. P. DUNNE

N.Z. OTAGO REGT.

19TH JUNE, 1918 Age 31



Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Serjeant W. P. Dunne is located in Third Row (Left Hand Side) Grave Plot # 70 of Codford War Graves Cemetery (Using Map by Brian Marshall)

(CWGC Reference - Grave # 113)

William Patrick Dunne was born on 17th March, 1887 at Alma, New Zealand, the son of Patrick & Catherine Dunne (nee Hannigan). He was a 29 year old, single, Ploughman from Alma, Otago, New Zealand when he enlisted on 8th March, 1916 with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. His service number was 13890 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Catherine Dunne of Totara, Oamaru, New Zealand.

Private William Patrick Dunne embarked with 14th Reinforcements, Otago Infantry Battalion, D Company from Wellington, New Zealand on either the Transport *Maunganui* or *Tahiti* on 26th June, 1916, destination England. He disembarked at Devonport, England on 22nd August, 1916.

Private William Patrick Dunne was marched in to Sling Army Camp, Wiltshire on 23rd August, 1916 & posted to 1st Brigade Training Battalion. He left Sling Army Camp on 19th September, 1916 for France.

Pte Dunne joined 2nd Battalion of Otago Infantry Battalion at Rouen, France on 5th October, 1916 & was posted to 4th Coy.

Pte Dunne was appointed L. Corporal (unpaid) on 2nd February, 1917 whilst still at Rouen. He was then promoted to Corporal on 12th June, 1917.

Cpl Dunne was On Leave in UK from 11th November, 1917.

Corporal Dunne was again promoted on 15th November, 1917 to the rank of Serjeant.

Serjeant William Patrick Dunne was promoted to L. Serjeant on 2nd November, 1917.

L. Sjt. Dunne rejoined his Battalion from Leave in UK on 27th November, 1917.

L. Sjt. Dunne was wounded in action – Gunshot wound to leg on 21st January, 1918 & admitted to Hospital on 22nd January, 1918. He was transported back to England via Transport Ship *Cambria* on 30th January, 1918 & admitted to London General Hospital. He was transferred to 1st NZ General Hospital at Brockenhurst, Hampshire on 15th February, 1918 then transferred to a Convalescent Hospital at Hornchurch on 22nd February, 1918.

L. Sjt. Dunne was attached to NZ Command Depot at Codford, Wiltshire on 6th April, 1918.

Sjt. Dunne was admitted to 3rd New Zealand General Hospital on 26th May, 1918.

Sjt. William Patrick Dunne died on 19th June, 1918 at No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital at Codford, Wiltshire of Septicaemia.

A death for William P. Dunne, aged 31, was registered in the June quarter, 1918 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire, England.

Sjt. William Patrick Dunne was buried at St. Mary's Cemetery, Codford on 21st June, 1918.

Sjt. William Patrick Dunne, 13890 was last attached to Otago Infantry Regiment. He had served in the Western European War Front in 1916, 1917 & 1918.

Sjt. William Patrick Dunne was entitled to British War Medal & Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Sjt, Dunne's father – Mr P. Dunne of Totaratahi, Oamaru (June, 1921 & February, 1922)

(19 pages of Serjeant William Patrick Dunne'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.

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Newspaper Reports

NEW ZEALAND CASUALTIES

OTAGO DISTRICT

DIED OF SICKNESS

Dunne, W. P., 13890, Sgt., O.I.R. (Mrs C. Dunne, Totara, m), 19th June

(Evening Post, Volume XCV, Issue 148, 22nd June, 1918)

Serjeant W. P. Dunne has a Commonwealth War Graves Headstone. None of the New Zealand CWGC headstones at Codford have a personal inscription.

Photo of Serjeant W. P. Dunne's Headstone at Codford War Graves Cemetery (below)



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)